Councilman Andreuzzi

By DEEKSHA UDUPA, junior

THE MAJORITY of the student body knows Mr. Louis Andreuzzi as a history teacher and The Hawkeye advisor, but what many do not know is that he is also involved in various other activities, including serving as a councilman in the Borough of Union Beach. After 32 years of participating in different intergovernmental projects, Mr. Andreuzzi decided that he wanted a more prominent role in the lives of the people of Union Beach and consequently ran for councilman. His responsibilities as a councilman include helping to establish policies and handling financial affairs.

Mr. Andreuzzi credits his father as the reason for his active involvement in community affairs. Although both his parents were never involved in the political arena, they both dedicated a large portion of their lives to volunteer activities, as his mother was an active member of the PTA and his father was a captain in the Perth Amboy Fire Department. However, their roles in the community were not what led him to pursue a career in public service.

JP Showcase

By KELLY CHEN, junior

THE SIXTH ANNUAL JP Day, held on October 15, was an event that guaranteed a fun-filled afternoon for students and faculty alike. When students arrived on the front lawn of JP Stevens, they found themselves surrounded by a variety of activities to participate in. The Animanga Club organized a station for students to make Teru Teru obos, while FCCLA members prepared cupcakes to distribute during JP Day.

A Stronger School

By NEHA CHOUDARI, sophomore

LOOKING TO GET EXTRA TONED for the new school year? One of the most prominent changes in JP this year is the replacement of rooms 141A, 141B, and 141C with a fitness center. All students now have the opportunity to take charge of their own physical health with the various new equipment.

Preparation for the new fitness center commenced in April of 2016, though the actual construction took about twelve weeks. “The Board of Education had many plans when it came to physical education,” commented Physical Education supervisor James Maloney. “These included providing our students the opportunities to learn to use state of the art equipment and to maintain a healthy lifestyle that will benefit them for the rest of their lives.” After the initial plan was decided, a group of teachers, administrators, and board members created a Physical Education Committee that visited professional centers in New Jersey for more information on fitness centers. The committee also carried the responsibility of listening to three presentations from fitness companies the school would potentially buy equipment from. Much of the workout equipment in the fitness center today comes from various vendors including Lifestyle Fitness, True, and Octane Fitness. The fitness center had opened unofficially at the end of the 2015-2016 school year for student tutorials, but this September marked the beginning of its first full school year in use. Physical education teachers

OPINION

“Georgetown owes a perpetual debt for each life that was stolen by the horrors of bondage.”

By DEEKSHA UDUPA, junior

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By SATHYIK RAVI, sophomore

IT IS DIFFICULT to fathom that one of America’s most prestigious academic institutions, Georgetown University, was involved in the mass-marketing and the exploitation of thousands of slaves over its tenure. As a matter of fact, Georgetown University is notorious for the sale of 272 enslaved men, women, and children from Maryland Jesuit plantations in 1838. In response to the outcry initiated to correct this deplorable act, the president of Georgetown University, John J. DeGioia, announced an initiative to provide recompense to descendants of slaves who were financially harrowed by the sale of the 272 slaves, as this action also intensified racial tensions and hatred within nearly Maryland communities. In its appeal to move forward, Georgetown University behaved contrarily in its actions by excluding millions of blacks in America who were direct victims of the oppressive and tyrannical establishment that has created existing tensions to this day.

In this wave of post-civil rights reflection, Georgetown seems to be attempting a swift maneuver to repair its deeds. However, Georgetown owes a perpetual debt to each and every one of the descendants residing in the modern era. According to The Advocate, Louisiana ranks at or near the bottom in most education metrices.

This is especially descendant of the slaves are denied the right to education that by our rights provide preference to black descendants of the infamous trade in scholarship considerations. Though the admissions preferences for these specified descendants is generally valid, Georgetown’s policy does not introduce any solutions to tackle obvious financial inequities that may be present. Scholarship considerations, especially ones that are altruistic and pay off a majority of the tuition, can greatly save the families from financial burden from one of the most expensive universities in the United States. Furthermore, the university must finance national causes to end race discrimination, so that of Colin Kaepernick’s efforts to recognize black issues, and to provide financial endowment to the Maryland public school system. Although Georgetown University does not rank in the top in endowments from transactions such as alumni donations, the university must purify its name and set a precedent among indecisive colleges to lay the path of moral rectitude. While the intentions of the university to show remorse are definitely honorable, its approach is misguided and is not conducive to equalizing the non-existent opportunities for blacks that are highlighted by reformers. Because of its especially incriminating and clearly defined past with slavery, Georgetown University has a responsibility to see the precedent for atonement. While the institution and its horrors will never be forgotten, the university must lay at the forefront of the movement to recognize and spread the message of equality for minority groups. The most appropriate way to tackle this polarizing issue is to give the blacks a true righting chance by propelling them to the Everest of higher education.

Georgetown University is notorious for the sale of 272 enslaved men, women, and children from Maryland Jesuit plantations in 1838.
A Final Plea for Peace

By SARA DAVE, junior

ON FEBRUARY 13, 2014, Belgium became the first nation to legalize euthanasia (a mercy killing to end a patient suffering from an incurable disease) without any minimum age requirement for terminally ill children. Two years after this piece of legislation was passed, it was discovered that a boy was euthanized in Belgium. Although Wim Distelmans, the head of Belgium’s Federal Council and Examination Committee on Euthanasia, saw euthanasia as an end to suffering, the death of a minor by euthanasia sparked great controversy and hostility, with many calling it “assisted murder.” Protesters quickly took to the streets with signs that said “Protegemos los humanos,” or “protect the humans.”

Although many view the recent legislation passed as unreasonable and immoral, the reality is that the children affected by this law are suffering through unbearable pain with no hope for relief or recovery and that they have the right to exercise free will.

Additionally, despite the fact that euthanasia is often described with morbid and a painful death, it has very specific and strict rules, especially for minors, making it nearly impossible for “unconsented” to order it.

A frequent misconception of euthanasia is that it is assisted suicide. However, euthanasia is possible for children under the age of six who are forced to be euthanized. When the parents have the intention of ending a life in order to relieve suffering, while assisted suicide is providing someone with the means of taking their own life, regardless of whether or not they are in pain. The law passed by the Belgian Parliament specifically states that for a patient to be qualified for euthanasia, the patient must be “terminally ill, facing unbearable physical suffering,” and have the consent of doctors and their parents or guardians. The term “terminally ill” is often misinterpreted by the public, with children under the age of six who are being euthanized simply described as suffering from a terminal illness. In most cases, the patient is experiencing constant pain and has no chance of recovery. Euthanasia is a humane (and harmless) method of putting terminally ill patients out of their misery, to let them pass away at the time of their choosing rather than unfortunately and painfully. As a protective measure, the child must also make repeated requests for it and must be fully aware of the meaning of euthanasia. It is an unbearable and painful death, it has very strict and specific rules, especially for minors, making it nearly impossible for “unconsented” to order it.

While it is possible for such violations to occur, this law affects a select few and has such high regulations that such is unlikely. If a transgression does occur, it is unwise to blame the law itself—rather, the people who committed the crime should be blamed. There are psychologically unstable people all over the world who regularly commit atrocious crimes, and often these people are indistinguishable at first. To not pass a law that would be beneficial to suffering children out of fear of transgressions would not only deny terminally ill children the option to pass away peacefully, it would also set a precedent of vetting laws out of fear rather than impartial judgment. Crime is an unfortunate subset of human behavior, and if a rare case of a violation does occur, then the criminals, not the law, should be responsible.

The only time euthanasia can truly be unsoiled is if it is forced upon an individual; this sparks the concerns of many, especially if the individual is a child. Opponents of child euthanasia but it would still protect the few rare cases of children under the age of six who are forced to be euthanized by abusive or mentally unstable parents. However, this restriction would only provide a false sense of security, as many Belgian doctors and officials report that only an extremely small percentage of Belgium’s terminally ill children will undergo euthanasia, and they will most likely be in their teenage years, a time far from the six year old age restriction.

We must keep in mind that euthanasia is simply a painless alternative for children suffering from a terminal illness. If these children are denied the right to pass away peacefully, it is very likely that they will take matters to their own hands and take their own lives in a less peaceful way. Many oppose this law due to moral reasons, but “morality” will not end a child’s perpetual suffering— which is not being done by a helping hand. The only time euthanasia can truly be unsoiled is if it is forced upon an individual; this sparks the concerns of many, especially if the individual is a child. Opponents of child euthanasia but it would still protect the few rare cases of children under the age of six who are forced to be euthanized by abusive or mentally unstable parents. However, this restriction would only provide a false sense of security, as many Belgian doctors and officials report that only an extremely small percentage of Belgium’s terminally ill children will undergo euthanasia, and they will most likely be in their teenage years, a time far from the six year old age restriction.

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Do you support child euthanasia?

Yes - 37.7%

No - 62.3%
Unheard Voices: Barred from the Ballot

On the morning of September 29, 2016, I knew that I was scheduled to walk out of prison. I had been detained at the local county jail for a total of 13,583 days, since July 20, 1979. During my last days imprisoned, the thoughts of being able to start all over, rejoin society, and succeed intensified.

Throughout the past quarter century, I delayed on the preparations I could make after my release. I wanted to educate myself, prepare possible career options, and start a healthy and stable family. I looked forward in serving as a citizen again.

Two months passed since the cursed day of my release. I live in a stable family of three, and I have a job at the local grocery store. However, today is election day, and living in Florida means I cannot vote. My voice: ignored. My soul: suppressed.

Florida, along with many other states, has decided that felons cannot have voting rights as a consequence for their previous actions. These states have deemed those incarcerated “irredeemable,” claiming that felons cannot be trusted. However, if society has decided to levy a jail sentence, rather than a death sentence, then why is the felon still “irredeemable”? If society has decided that felons cannot be trusted, why release them? It is contradictory that the law has decided felons cannot have voting rights because they are assumed to have bad judgment, a lack of intelligence, and their actions. Felons belong back in society, not benefit from a two-way exchange of trust. A society in which felons cannot vote will fail to see the values of being prosperous over a long period of time. These individuals cherish opportunities to better their conditions. By incorporating felons in our society, we are attempting to remove a barrier and allowing the community to grow economically. We are taking care of the families of the next generation. Allowing felons to vote is a vital step toward helping them reintegrate into society.

Felons are often deprived of their voting rights because they are assumed to have bad judgment, a lack of intelligence, and a predetermined partisan bias. However, there is no reason to believe that felons are less able to vote than anyone else. Felons are often deprived of their voting rights because they are assumed to have bad judgment, a lack of intelligence, and a predetermined partisan bias. However, there is no reason to believe that felons are less able to vote than anyone else. They understand what it means to violate the law, having experienced it firsthand and many are sufficiently in touch with what is happening in the political realm. On the other hand, racists, anti-semites, and other uneducated voting blocs who do not spend enough time on staying informed about the current election are much less qualified to vote; yet they turn out to voting booths in larger numbers.

Supporters of felon disenfranchisement argue that denying felons’ right to vote protects harmful changes to the law. They affirm that if felons have the right to vote, they can swing an election in favor for the candidate who does not possess a hard-line crime policy. However, there is no evidence that supports that felons will vote in this manner; recent studies conducted in California, in fact, show that felons are more likely to vote in favor of anti-crime agenda. The terms felons serve are intended to teach them not to act in their own self-interest but rather to consider the well-being of the community. Thus, denying felons the vote does not make anyone safer, it is the policy and politics of the issue at hand that will make a larger difference.

President Obama once said that “the people who make some mistakes, and sometimes big mistakes, are also Americans.” It is in our best interest to include all American voices in decision-making. Most felons are citizens, and they should not be treated like foreigners. They have no home other than the United States. There is nowhere else under a government whose actions are their actions. Felons belong back in society, and giving them voting rights is the crucial acknowledgement of their assimilation and acceptance back into the real world.

Do you believe felons deserve the right to vote?

No: 55.1%
Yes: 44.9%

Do you think allowing felons to vote will have a major effect on the outcome of an election?

No: 85.5%
Yes: 14.5%

WISH YOU ALL A VERY HAPPY DIWALLI (FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS)

Diwali, or Dipawali, is India’s biggest and most important holiday of the year. The festival gets its name from the row (aval) of clay lamps (deepa) that Indians light outside their homes to symbolize the inner light that protects us from spiritual darkness. India was an agricultural society where people would seek the divine blessing of Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth, as they closed their accounting books and prayed for success at the outset of a new financial year. Today this practice extends to businesses all over the Indian subcontinent, which mark the day after Diwali as the first day of the new financial year! It is celebrated with family gatherings, glittering clay lamps, festive fireworks, strings of electric lights, bonfires, flowers, sharing of sweets, and worship to Lakshmi. Some believe that Lakshmi wades in the Earth looking for homes where she will be welcomed. People open their doors and windows and light lamps to invite Lakshmi in.

Source: http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/explore/diwali/didiwali_rangoli.jpg

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INDIANICA ACADEMY
THE 2016 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION was truly memorable due to the polarizing nature of both candidates and their highly divisive campaigns. Both campaigns made heavy use of traditional news outlets, social media, and rallies to not only appeal to voters but also denigrate the other candidate. However, the candidates also had their own unique strategies. Trump focused heavily on the people's opinions and conflict, Clinton's campaign was all about change, and that idea definitely stuck with the voters.

Clinton. This was visible in both national statistics, which showed Clinton gaining overwhelming majorities of the minority vote, and at Clinton's campaigning events. Clinton's campaign was a non-establishment, non-politically-correct campaign. For instance, Clinton invited many guests from different minority groups to speak on stage about their positive encounters with the presidential candidate. The display of average Americans on stage talking about Clinton's capability to solve everyday issues and connect with them produced a positive impression on the American population's desire for unity. The display of average Americans on stage talking about Clinton's capability to solve everyday issues and connect with them produced a positive impression on the American population's desire for unity.

By ANDREW SHEN, political columnist

IN THIS CONTENTIOUS election cycle, both major candidates ran very active campaigns. Of those two campaigns, Trump's was by far the more successful. He was the opposite. Trump's strategy of saying whatever he wanted, whenever he wanted, was genius. He knew exactly what he was doing and he knew exactly how to remain composed despite the heightened drama surrounding the election. The first official presidential debate exemplified how Clinton and Trump were able to convert their poise into a tangible advantage. Clinton gave an honest performance, which led many analysts and voters to declare her as the winner. However, Trump's performance was more of a dissipation lead and prove to the American people that she was worthy of the presidency. It is evident that Clinton's substance and reason, a main focus of her campaign, ultimately swayed the American people and made her the better campaigner. Despite the fact that Americans still hold some reservations on her personality, it is apparent that Clinton's calm and calculated style of campaigning was able to help her progress in the election process. Her powerful message of unity was able to bring together all types of people and make her a new emotional dimension with which she was able to connect to voters. Many skeptics were also convinced by her skill of defending her record and maintaining a positive attitude in the face of such a hotly-contested election. Because these factors were all instrumental in allowing Clinton to appeal qualified and professional, as well as convince more Americans to trust her, Clinton undoubtedly held a more successful campaign.

A Campaign That Trumped All By YATI SANGHYI, political columnist

THROUGHOUT THE ELECTION, Trump was known for one thing: his lack of political correctness. Therefore, at first glance, many brushed off Trump's outspoken ways as ridiculous, believing that he clearly had a horrible campaigning strategy. What kind of skilled politician would say the things that Trump did? But that's just it: Trump is not a politician. In fact, he's not a politician at all. Donald Trump is a businessman, and the product he was selling was himself. The reason Trump won the Republican primary was because he knew how to advertise himself. Voters were responding strongly to his non-establishment, non-politically-correct campaigning strategy. To Republicans, Independents, and undecided voters, Trump's ideas resonated far more than Hillary Clinton's promise of another four years of the last, eight under Obama. Voters wanted change, and Donald Trump sold himself as the man to bring it.

Trump's words had been the topic of every media outlet from the start of the election season. Since the first primary debate, Trump focused on getting as much attention as possible. He thought that his lack of restraint when speaking was a problem and also the reason he could not run a successful campaign, but the reality was quite the opposite. Trump was woefully inaccurate in their positions and continuallyove what he wanted, whenever he wanted, been factored into her image. She was able to add to her narrative, which made her detractors seem narrow-minded and overly partisan. In addition, her ability to secure endorsements from new and interesting politicians who have worked with her, such as Barack Obama and Republican Colin Powell, allowed her to gain tremendous credibility on both ends. Clinton's ability to receive such notable endorsements from politicians of both parties reflected positively on her potential to appeal to a wide range of voters. In an election campaign, it is crucial for a candidate to reflect their political experience during their bid for the presidency. Many of her opponents claimed that her Senate career was unproductive and that her term as Secretary of State was dissipated due to her actions, such as her decision to vote for the Iraq War and involvement in the Benghazi scandal. Despite the criticism, Clinton was able to prove to voters that these controversies were trumped-up charges that should not have been brought up.

At the Democratic National Convention, Clinton was able to turn a very divisive campaign into one that was marked by division and conflict. Clinton was able to emphasize the importance of bringing the American people together. Therefore, she was able to run a better campaign by focusing on her qualifications, the topic of national unity, and her ability to remain composed despite harsh opposing campaigns and negative claims.

Several political outsiders gained popularity this year among the masses, as shown by Republican nominee businessman Donald Trump and neurosurgeon Ben Carson. However, Trump's campaign was able to successfully build on the momentum he gained because he knew how to reflect his political experience during his bid for the presidency. Many of his opponents claimed that his Senate career was unproductive and that her term as Secretary of State was dissipated due to her actions, such as her decision to vote for the Iraq War and involvement in the Benghazi scandal. Despite the criticism, Clinton was able to prove to voters that these controversies were trumped-up charges that should not have been brought up.

The phrases “Did you hear what Trump did yesterday?” or “I can’t believe Trump said that about her!” have been uttered by many people. Everything he said was true and it worked. The Republicans, after all, it was better to vote for someone not involved in politics. He entered the race without much anticipation and took over the Republican primaries by storm. The reason his campaign was so successful was because of his guarantee that voting for Clinton would be another four years of Obama—something that Republicans, as well as some Independents, were not keen on. While Democrats loved to argue that the country had always been great, Republicans as well as some Independent and undecided voters agreed that Americas was not doing as well, and Hillary Clinton was probably the last person who could possibly help change things. No wonder his campaign slogan, “Make America’s Great Again” resonated with voters; Trump’s campaign was all about change, and that idea definitely stuck with the voters.

Trump also was an expert in catering to his audience. He knew when to be riled up and galvanized; there were hunger for an outsider, and Donald Trump was the perfect candidate. The display of average Americans on stage talking about Clinton’s capability to solve everyday issues and connect with them produced a positive impression on the American population’s desire for unity.

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Follow Her Forward By ANDREW SHEN, political columnist

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Cherry Hill East
Badwell School
Manasquan High School
Piney Woods
Moorstown
Wissahickon High School
Great Valley
North Penn
Haddonfield
Methacton
Upper Dublin
Methacton HS
North Penn
Moorestown
Moorestown

2015-10-2015-3 College Board SAT Test 800 Scores

SAT Writing 800 (23 Students)

Aishah Eilo
Graza Ok
Amani Ayindo
Ludwig Bernet
Emily Ching
Griffon Kesti
Jessica Bai
Jenning Cheng
Justin Jhon
Katherine Hung
Kate Bsh
Council Rock North
Cherry Hill East
Abington
Cherry Hill East
Abington
Ridge High School
Methacton
Eastern Regional
Ridgewood
Princeton Day School
Kevin Zhao
Lily Kwak
Mohan Malhotra
Nicholas Kick
Nikita Saha
Pranees Warashee
Shreya Sortor
Suyao Tan
Verni Sadi
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SAT Math 800 (52 Students)

Aditya Kunte
Aishah Ross
Aishah Singh
Amar Wo
Amy Zhang
Angelica Sun
Aparna Sharma
Arora Shen
Christina Eng
Liu Xiong
Olivia Chen
Sudharsan Shan
Esha Aggarwal
Emily Cheng
Eric Wang
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Esther Huang
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Griffin Kao
Hazam Farhad Alameer
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Cherry Hill East
Moorestown
Old Bridge Public School
Spring Ford
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By HARSHITA JAIN and CHRISTINE NGUYEN, Juniors

JPSHAWKEYE.COM: CHECK IT OUT.
As young adults, we often find it tough to come up with ways to wisely spend our time that don’t involve property damage. Luckily, we are more than just young adults; we are students of JP Stevens. Nowhere else in the known universe is there a better outlet for spending one’s time than in JP’s extracurriculars. To fully appreciate your free time, participate in as many extracurriculars as you have toes—even if it means surgically attaching a few extra feet.

Why limit yourself to just the Academy of Science when you could also join the Science League, Olympiad, Bowl, and Honors Society? Nobody would deny themselves the beautiful privilege of being a Theater Company member, Improvisist, and International Thespian. You’re not proving to anyone just how fast your pulse can race unless you’ve secured a couple dozen membership cards from clubs you carefully handpicked to join. You need to fill every waking second with as many activities as possible, or else you risk becoming boring and useless.

Let’s not forget about the promise of a successful career. Everyone knows that Student Council is only one step away from the Presidency of the United States of America, and Model United Nations is just a few feet away from being Secretary General of the actual United Nations. If you are not a member of thirteen different honor societies, what college could possibly accept you? By not taking part in every extracurricular possible, you are guaranteeing yourself a life on the streets, plain and simple.

Once you’ve become an honorary Nailed It/Gent and SWAT kid, you will appear to have reached the epitome of success in time well spent. Unfortunately, while we would all love to build robots or speak Italian 24/7, there is a minor little six-hour block of our days commonly referred to as ‘school’. School has a stack of tasks a person must complete in a set period of time, referred to as ‘homework’. Homework tends to take up multiple increments of sixty minutes known as ‘hours’. Hours are what a person needs to be able to participate in extracurriculars. Are you sensing the conflict of interest? Homework needs hours. Extracurriculars need hours. The Surgeon General says sleeping and eating need hours. But do you know why the Surgeon General is so intent on keeping you from your extracurriculars? That poor chap never joined his school’s Courtyard Club. You can give that fool a run for his money. Join every extracurricular AND do all your homework! That’ll show him!

To accomplish this, of course, you’ll have to be efficient. Allow me to demonstrate: a person needs about 7 hours of sleep each night; all you have to do, then, is hibernate for 49 hours straight per week. Moreover, each weekend, eat 14,000 calories so you won’t have to waste time worrying about food. You should also put on seven layers of clothes every Sunday. Take one layer off each day as the week progresses. Taking showers, brushing your teeth, and doing other such bathroom chores have not been factored in, but you can get that all done when a leap year rolls around. These precious seconds you save are gifts not to be taken for granted!

Once you get into the rhythm of your daily schedule, you will have nothing else to worry about. You can become a proud fixture of both the DJ and Ski Club, without having to fret about eating or sleeping or any other of life’s so-called necessities. Now, whether such obsessive time management can cause the premature end of your long, happy life is another question altogether. Luckily, there is no “Ponder Philosophical Questions” Club, and you’ve already wasted enough time as it is reading this article. Get back to work!
It's lab day. The classroom is empty. You look up, and your life flashes before your eyes. You stride, staggering towards the open door. The bell suddenly rings, and without thinking, you dive headfirst into the classroom.

It's a close call, and you can feel time slipping away. The hallways are abandoned, as though the band had decided to go on another field trip, but you backtrack and race toward your backup route. As the crowd thins, you realize that you've lost a lot of time. With determination, you reinstate your plan to make it to class before the bell.

You make Bigger Doors to the Cafeteria, or in short, WDTMBDTTC (patent pending). A torrent of heads floods the hallways before you can even think to grab your backpack. It's a phenomenon you can only refer to as Why Don't They Make Bigger Doors to the Cafeteria.

But you come to realize that you forgot to consider one of the greatest pitfalls in the history of JP. It's going to be an uphill battle to remember where the blockades are located, the lovebirds, the pencil… As you travel down into the heart of the school, you'll face roadblocks along the way.

You trip and falling into a perpetual abyss of darkness and despair. They say no man left behind, but this is a one man mission. Everything looks like an obstacle course. You drop a pencil on the floor, but you don't dare pick it up, opting to leap over it instead. You just can't risk getting caught in a situation that you can't recover from.

You find a garbage can on wheels nearby the bathroom doors. With lightning speed, you shove the can towards the middle of the hallway, directly into their line of sight. The bait works, and the group pounces on the confection, clearing your path to victory.

The bell rings. The moment you step out of the doorway, you already know what to expect. Countless nights memorizing the school map have ensured that you'll reach study hall not only on time, but with time to spare. As you bolt past the science cartoons at lightning speed, you set your plan in motion.

From Lateness to Greatness
By ANNA JIANG, sophomore

HOMEROOM MAY ONLY last for five minutes, but it's one of the most important parts of the day. It's where you find out about that vocab assignment that was due today, or where you cram-study for that math quiz you have first period. If you're an early bird, you can always enjoy those extra few minutes in the beginning of school; the vast majority of us, however, do not experience this privilege. It's hard to wake up before 7:40 and make it to school on time. Being late is a part of life, and it's bound to happen. If you find yourself constantly tardy, however, try using the following tips.

Travel time can really bite into your morning routine, and if you live far from school, you're losing precious minutes on the drive. Buses are a prime example; if you're on a bus, you're bound to get caught up in the chaotic morning traffic, leaving you with less than two minutes to rush to your locker and sneak into your homeroom. Instead of fretting over the early morning traffic, opt for a closer starting location. Skip the drive entirely by building a shack in the woods right next to school. The material you use is of little importance, as building the shack itself ensures a punctual arrival into homeroom. (Added bonus: sneaking out of pep rallies has never been easier!)

If your homeroom is on the second floor, it's always a hassle to climb all the way upstairs. Just think of all those valuable seconds wasted trying to go upstream in a sea of people! To avoid this, invest in a laser beam and cut a hole in the ceiling right under your homeroom right next to your seat. Then, using your handy dandy grappling hook, grab hold of your chair in homeroom through the hole in the ceiling and launch yourself up and into your seat just in time for attendance! It's a fast and easy fix to climbing the stairs, and you'll feel like a professional spy every morning.

Despite all these possible solutions, sometimes it's not enough for the genetically tardy. You could live right next to school and have a homeroom on the first floor and still be late everyday. But do not fret; there's still a foolproof way to make it to homeroom on time. All you have to do is acquire superpowers, such as teleportation or superspeed. There are plenty of crazy scientists out there who like to experiment with supernatural abilities, and if you sign up for a test trial and pick the correct scientist, you can become the next superhero! With these powers, you're guaranteed to be on time; in fact, you can leave at the last second and not be late! (The Hawks is not responsible for any genetic mutations caused by the aforementioned experimentation.)

Or you could try getting late arrival. But who's got time for that?

Hallway Hurdles
By LUCIA CHOI, sophomore

THERE'S ONE MINUTE until the bell rings. One minute until this class ends and another begins. Standing between you and your saving grace, study hall, is something so nefarious that the slightest mention of it will strike fear into the hearts of all freshmen passing. Five minutes are the only thing keeping you from strike three and a Saturday filled with litter silence. It's a race against time to reach your safe haven.

The bell rings. The moment you step out of the doorway, you already know what to expect. Countless nights memorizing the school map have ensured that you'll reach study hall not only on time, but with time to spare. As you bolt past the science cartoons at lightning speed, you set your sights on your first obstacle. It's a wall of people large enough to please Trump, and wide enough to fill the entire hallway. A not-so-lovely group of friends has found its home right in the way of your pre-planned route. Any other day, you'd have a nervous breakdown; however, being the winner you are, you came prepared. In a single motion, you grab the white chocolate Gertrude Hawks bar hidden in your sleeve and chuck it across the hallway, directly into their line of sight. The bait works, and the group pounces on the confection, clearing your path to victory.

It's thirty seconds later when the second hurdle appears: a couple. Their intertwined fingers and unawareness of personal space traps you in a complicated situation. You can't exactly lure them away with sugar. Your precious time ticks away, and with every passing moment you think faster and faster how you could get them out of the way. Someone drops a pencil on the ground, but you don't dare pick it up, opting to leap over it instead. You just can't risk getting caught in a situation that you can't recover from.

You find a garbage can on wheels nearby the bathroom doors. With lightning speed, you shove the can towards the middle of the hallway, directly into their line of sight. The bait works, and the group pounces on the confection, clearing your path to victory.

You reach the history wing, and are greeted with utter bedlam. Shouts echo across the halls, notes fly everywhere, and everyone is latched onto their own two-ton textbook. Someone drops a pencil on to the ground, but you don't dare pick it up, opting to leap over it instead. You just can't risk tripping and falling into a perpetual abyss of darkness and despair. They say no man left behind, but this is a one man mission. Everything looks like it's going according to your color-coded schedule. The blockade, the lovebirds, the pencil… As you travel down into the heart of the school, you'll come to realize that you forgot to consider one of the greatest pitfalls in the history of JP.

You've only heard legends about this, but your nightmares have come true. The only thing worse than a group of strangers, an inseparable couple, and a pencil, is a larger group of strangers composed of inseparable couples holding pencils. It's a phenomenon you can only refer to as Why Don't They Make Bigger Doors to the Cafeteria, or in short, WDTMBDTTC (patent pending). A torrent of heads floods the hallways before you can even regret the costly mistake you made. How could you have possibly forgotten about the terror that is fourth period lunch? Thinking on your feet, you backtrack and race toward your backup route. As the crowd thins, you realize that you've lost a lot of time. With determination, you reinstate your speed-walking abilities (running while walking is not an option) and increase your speed.

It's a close call, and you can feel time slipping away. The hallways are abandoned, as though the band had decided to go on another field trip, but your next class is in sight. The doorway beckons through the dimly lit hallway, promising you a detention-less Saturday. Gasping, you extend your strides, staggering towards the open door. The bell suddenly rings, and without thinking, you dive headfirst into the classroom.

You are in pain. You are scarred. You will have to do this again in another 45 minutes. Regardless, there's a grin plastered to your face as you ready yourself for the probable anger seething from your teacher.

You look up, and your life flashes before your eyes. The classroom is empty. It's lab day.
A Warm Welcome

MR. BRUNO’S favorite quote is “A life is not improved every day by what impacts it has on other lives.” This principle exemplifies the reason why he pursued a career in teaching, as he believes that “teaching is the place where I am able to help the most people.” Initially, Mr. Bruno graduated with a degree in theater production and psychology from the University of Delaware and completed his master’s degree in education and psychology. He worked as a firefighter for 10 years and then served in the Air Force, a career path that led him to the University of Delaware, where he pursued his master’s degree in education and psychology.

MR. GLASSBERG, a former JP Stevens school counselor, was recently promoted to Supervisor of Guidance. After graduating from the University of Delaware and receiving a bachelor’s degree in both psychology and math education from Kean University, he knew that he wanted to help people and, therefore, became a math teacher at Old Bridge and JP Stevens High School. After teaching math and psychology for several years, he learned to make one more on his time with his students, so he transferred over to teaching psychology. Mr. Glassberg has counseled at JP Stevens and has inevitably learned a few lessons while on the job. “From my counseling career at JP Stevens, I have learned that it is very important to treat my students as individuals, and not as stereotypes,” he recalled. Aside from his job, Mr. Glassberg has passions such as traveling internationally to Southeast Asia and cooking sushi. He also finds an appreciation for culture that you can’t find anywhere else.

MS. GLYNN, who joined the staff as a new gym teacher this year, graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Physical Education and Health from Montclair State University. She was a competitive soccer player who played for the U17 Ireland National Soccer Team. After graduating, she went on to pursue a teaching career. As an eighth-grade teacher, she was inspired by her physical education teacher, who helped her develop a passion for sports. Now, she wants to impart that passion to her students the same way. Ms. Glynn described her first day physically and emotionally safe. Since then, Mr. Glassberg has counseled at JP Stevens and has inevitably learned a few lessons while on the job. “From my counseling career at JP Stevens, I have learned that it is very important to treat my students as individuals, and not as stereotypes,” he recalled. Aside from his job, Mr. Glassberg has passions such as traveling internationally to Southeast Asia and cooking sushi. He also finds an appreciation for culture that you can’t find anywhere else.

MS. HALLERAN, a business teacher, graduated from Ramapo College of New Jersey with a degree in Economics and Comprehensive Business Education. Her main inspiration for becoming a teacher is her family, as she saw both her mother and sister share unconditional passion for teaching through-out her life. Ms. Halleran wishes to follow in their footsteps and appreciate the rewards teaching offers. She states, “I really enjoy seeing students succeed and go farther than they thought they could be.” When Ms. Halleran is not teaching, she likes to play golf and enjoy spending time with her friends and family, especially her two baby nieces. A motto that Ms. Halleran lives by is to “have fun, do your best, and listen to your coach,” which she believes applies to almost any situation in life. She wants her students to do their best whether it is in maintaining a positive work ethic or playing part in group work. One piece of advice she would like to offer to her students is to find a subject they love and pursue it.

MR. LEIGHT, a physical education teacher at JP Stevens, but taught for a span of thirty years at various schools and countries. He has studied in England at Leeds Polytechnic and graduated from The College of New Jersey with a master’s degree in physical education. Mr. Leight connects his love for traveling to his teaching duties. “Being and teaching in different countries gave me an appreciation for the different cultures that you can’t find in one place or town. When you teach abroad, you see the way that other people live their life, and it’s fascinating to teach students who are so different from the people you see every day.” He wants to pass on the knowledge and experience he has gained to create a healthier and fitter world for future generations. When asked about his physical education career, Mr. Leight responded, “I love what I do. I’m focused on educating my students on the right kind of lifestyle to lead, and hopefully, about the importance of exercise from middle to high school. But freshmen were not the only people who benefitted from these presentations. HAWKS leaders had the opportunity to sharpen their communication skills. I entered high school being super nervous and shy,” recalled sophomore Shruti Venkat, “butAINLIN VERMA, sophomore MR. MONDANO, a paraprofessional, works one-on-one with children who are not the right kind of lifestyle to lead, and hopefully, about the importance of exercise from middle to high school. But freshmen were not the only people who benefitted from these presentations. HAWKS leaders had the opportunity to sharpen their communication skills. I entered high school being super nervous and shy,” recalled sophomore Shruti Venkat, “but

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A Warm Welcome, contd.

MS. PASKO knew ever since she was young that she wanted to become a teacher. She received her bachelor’s degree in English and master’s degree in English Education from Rutgers University. Having a Polish background, she enjoys being a part of the JP Stevens community because of the diverse and friendly environment. Ms. Pasko, despite her teaching role, is also a current advisor for the Class of 2020. Additionally, Ms. Pasko has always enjoyed traveling; she tries her best to explore a new place every year. Last year, she had the chance to visit London during a study abroad program. Ms. Pasko currently teaches ninth grade classes, and would like to influence them in a positive way. A few words of advice that she would like to give is to have confidence to ask questions, take time to do something even if it is difficult, and work diligently in order to be successful. The key to succeeding in her job is to achieve even more by working toward receiving a doctorate degree and becoming AP certified.

By ANDREA QUISPE, senior

MR. PRIMAVERA, a new math teacher, is a JP Stevens alumnus who graduated from the Class of 2009. He earned his bachelor’s degree in math and his master’s in Math Education from Montclair State University after a one-year stint at Princeton. Mr. Prima vera was introduced to become a teacher by his own teachers in middle school and high school, who made sure that all their students succeeded. When he initially started teaching, he was nervous about working with his former teachers, but they became one of his primary sources of constructive criticism and encouragement. As a JP alumnus, his advice to his students is to always try their hardes. He stresses that “effort is the key to achievement and the most important aspect of JP.” He knew that Mr. Prima vera also encourages his students to relax and get involved in sports or clubs. When not teaching, Mr. Prima vera enjoys watching professional football and is a devoted Minnesota Vikings fan.

By AMBIKA KANDASAMY, sophmore

MR. SALME, a new school counselor, graduated from Montclair State University after a two-year internship at the JP Stevens. Mr. Salme cites his hometown as a reason for choosing to become a counselor. He explains, “I lived around the people around me struggle, I wanted to give back to the community through the kids.” However, he realized that teaching was not his calling, and thus, he attended, was introduced to the idea of becoming a school counselor. He says, “I enjoy helping kids find the motivation to do well. Some of the kids I knew could have succeeded, but they just chose not to. I want to be able to prevent this.” However, when he found out he did not continue school in Newark, An activity he grew up enjoying was soccer, which Mr. Salme still plays on the weekends. He says, “Outside of school, soccer is just a way to get everything is about soccer. I grew up with it.” He partially attributes his passion for this sport to his Ecuadorian heritage. As a first generation American, he recognizes the value of education and wishes to instill that same respect for education in his students. By ERIN PARK, sophomore

MS. SCHWARTZ, a new arrival to the Edison School District, currently works as a secretary for the supervisors. After graduating with a Bachelor of Science in business administration from the State University of New York at Albany and working as a project manager for investment firms, she decided to change her career path once she had children. She started her transition to the educational field by volunteering in the Metuchen School District, eventually working there, and afterward working for the Bridgewater-Raritan Regional School District. Ms. Schwartz explains that because the school community is engaged and truly cares for others. Her job in the school allows her to explore new technology while also giving her an opportunity to be creative. During her free time, she loves to travel and cook. Ms. Schwartz tries to create new recipes, sometimes even for her dishes and also for her an opportunity to be creative. During her free time, she enjoys reading, writing, painting, and exercising. She also works as an advisor for the Class of 2020, and looks forward to working with the students at JP, getting involved in the JP Stevens community and events, and attending the games of the school’s sports teams.

By SRIRAM SKRINIVASAN, junior

MS. VASILIU, a new English teacher, attended West Windsor-Plainsboro High School and Rutgers University, where she majored in English and went on to earn a master’s degree in English Education. She has always enjoyed becoming a teacher, explaining, “I like to help students grow and improve.” Ms. Vasiliu was particularly inspired by the dedication and passion of her AP Language Arts teacher in high school. Ms. Vasiliu explains that her goal for inspiring students is to help students “understand why English is so important to their everyday lives and to society in general and to instill an enthusiasm for learning and pursuing their passions.” Apart from teaching, she enjoys reading, writing, painting, and exercising. Ms. Vasiliu is an advisor for the Class of 2020, and looks forward to working with the students at JP, getting involved in the JP Stevens community and events, and attending the games of the school’s sports teams.

By AKRITI TRIPATHI

Freshmen Social: Forging Friendships

By ANDREA QUISPE, senior

THERE IS NO BETTER WAY to start off the school year than to catch up with old friends and meet new ones. On September 29, the Freshmen Social allowed the students of the Class of 2020 to socialize with one another and meet new ones. On September 29, the Freshmen Social allowed the students of the Class of 2020 to socialize with one another and meet new ones. On September 29, the Freshmen Social allowed the students of the Class of 2020 to socialize with one another and meet new ones. On September 29, the Freshmen Social allowed the students of the Class of 2020 to socialize with one another and meet new ones.

The freshmen were divided into 18 groups—each led by a Student Council executive board member—and participated in different activities at stations set up in the new gym, Old gym, and cafeteria. Underclassmen volunteers hosted popular games such as Duck, Duck, Goose and Hot Potato to serve as icebreakers for the freshmen.

The freshmen introduced to many new aspects of JP through various activities. Freshmen Social is a miniature soccer field near the outside of the school. Project Sunshine and the Hindi Honor Society showcased their artistic talents by designing henna tattoos outside of the school. They are given the opportunity to maneuver Tenrix robots, provided by the Robotics Club, in a miniature soccer field near the outside of the school. Project Sunshine and the Hindi Honor Society showcased their artistic talents by designing henna tattoos outside of the school. They are given the opportunity to maneuver Tenrix robots, provided by the Robotics Club, in a miniature soccer field near the outside of the school. Project Sunshine and the Hindi Honor Society showcased their artistic talents by designing henna tattoos outside of the school. They are given the opportunity to maneuver Tenrix robots, provided by the Robotics Club, in a miniature soccer field near the outside of the school. Project Sunshine and the Hindi Honor Society showcased their artistic talents by designing henna tattoos outside of the school. They are given the opportunity to maneuver Tenrix robots, provided by the Robotics Club, in a miniature soccer field near the outside of the school. Project Sunshine and the Hindi Honor Society showcased their artistic talents by designing henna tattoos outside of the school. They are given the opportunity to maneuver Tenrix robots, provided by the Robotics Club, in a miniature soccer field near the outside of the school. Project Sunshine and the Hindi Honor Society showcased their artistic talents by designing henna tattoos outside of the school. They are given the opportunity to maneuver Tenrix robots, provided by the Robotics Club, in a miniature soccer field near the outside of the school. Project Sunshine and the Hindi Honor Society showcased their artistic talents by designing henna tattoos outside of the school. They are given the opportunity to maneuver Tenrix robots, provided by the Robotics Club, in a miniature soccer field near the outside of the school. Project Sunshine and the Hindi Honor Society showcased their artistic talents by designing henna tattoos outside of the school. They are given the opportunity to maneuver Tenrix robots, provided by the Robotics Club, in a miniature soccer field near the outside of the school. Project Sunshine and the Hindi Honor Society showcased their artistic talents by designing henna tattoos outside of the school. They are given the opportunity to maneuver Tenrix robots, provided by the Robotics Club, in a miniature soccer field near the outside of the school. Project Sunshine and the Hindi Honor Society showcased their artistic talents by designing henna tattoos outside of the school. They are given the opportunity to maneuver Tenrix robots, provided by the Robotics Club, in a miniature soccer field near the outside of the school.

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Hamlet, contd.

Mr. Andreuzzi, contd.

Fitness Center, contd.

A New Beginning

By AISLINN VERMA, sophomore

ON SEPTEMBER 30, the Class of 2020 gathered together to listen to their fellow classmates talk about how they would lead them through their first year of high school. The eighteen candidates faced tough competition, each running for the coveted positions of treasurer, secretary, vice president, and president.

Victory, however, required more than just a witty speech. The campaign endorsements began long before September 30, with all of the candidates promoting themselves through social media and posters around the hallways of JP. Freshman Kushav Gupta stated, “The most effective part of the campaigns were the posters. As a voter, clever posters made the candidate stand out and embraced the candidate’s spirit.”

The election day commenced with speeches from treasurer candidates. Each candidate had ideas on ways to conserve and make money through fun activities that the Class of 2020 could participate in. Candidate Mukund Ramakrishnan spoke of fundraising through activities acquainted to everyone’s interests. Other potential treasurers voiced similar opinions, sharing additional ideas for fundraising such as dances and raffle items.

The candidates for secretary followed, informing the audience of what they believed was the future for the newest students in JP. Sneha Pachanady talked of her responsibility of voicing student concerns while Abiram Potturu talked of the activities and events he would push for, such as dances.

The candidates for vice president, Megha Patel and Om Patel then took the stage, reassuring their classmates that their voices would be heard and stated they would not rubber things like free pizza for lunches. Megha Patel, however, implied that her job was simply to facilitate the transition of ideas from the students to the class council. “I am merely the elevator operator for our class, ready to voice your opinions.”

The class council elections required effective speeches. The elected candidates exhibited that quality, therefore they were elected. I wish these candidates the best of luck potential and will lead the freshmen into a very promising journey.

Councilman Andreuzzi poses with his running mate, Councilwoman Chen Roche.

Mr. Andreuzzi to pursue politics; during his childhood, Mr. Andreuzzi was encouraged by his father to interview the mayor of Perth Amboy, James J. Flynn. This meaningful experience inspired Mr. Andreuzzi to get involved in politics throughout his adulthood and eventually run for councilman.

Mr. Andreuzzi, along with the rest of the Council, handled relief efforts for Hurricane Sandy—one of the deadliest and most destructive hurricanes that ever hit the Northeast. Due to Union Beach’s location, the borough was greatly affected by the hurricane, and relief efforts are still in place today. To help the people of Union Beach, the mayor and Council aided in the distribution of food and clothing in public buildings and fire stations after the hurricane hit. The Council also held a massive clean-up of the entire borough, coordinated different intergovernmental programs. Besides Hurricane Sandy relief, Mr. Andreuzzi spearheaded a strategy to stop the construction of a wind turbine. While it was requested by a local sewerage authority, the creation of the turbine would have had numerous negative effects, including the depreciation of nearby properties and increased health problems. Additionally, Mr. Andreuzzi serves as a liaison to the Department of Public Works and the emergency medical services, where he consults on a road reconstruction program, a parks and recreation program, and the revitalization of the first responders.

As the center becomes more known by the day, more students have familiarized themselves with the unique features of each exercise equipment. The center is open from 2:30 to 4:00 every school day after school so they can work out at their own pace. When asked about his favorite machine, Mr. Jones, a gym teacher, stated, “My personal favorite is the Universal Machine because it works out various muscle groups at once. Machines like this make it seem like I’m in a professional gym.”

Student athletes are equally as exhilarated. Instead of having to work out at a local gym with a paid membership, they can work out any muscle group they want in the comfort of their own school. “Cross country requires a lot of strength training,” commented junior Saurav Datta. “The training is always available me work out in after school. It is really nice to have it so accessible.”

Now that the center is open and running, many students have different uses for it. Some stay after school to work out while others only visit the center with their gym teacher. “I’m really excited about the center,” confessed sophomore Nethra Jayaprakash, “but I like the fitness center. Since I don’t like working out in gym but still want to improve my running speed, I choose not to run on the track and use the exercise equipment instead. I also enjoy working out in particular really serves as a happy medium for me.”

Many of the freshmen this year and the first few months, and students are evidently thankful for the decision of the teachers and supervisors to create the fitness center. Because of the addition of the fitness center, JP has truly become a stronger school.
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295 students who graduated in the first class of JP Stevens
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165 2016 JP Stevens graduates who went to Rutgers University
New Coaches? No XCuses

Comback Queens

By ALISON PARK, sophomore

AFTER OVER A DECADE of coaching the JP Stevens cross country teams, Mr. Allen and Ms. Martinez handed their coaching responsibilities to Coach Marzano and JP alumni Anum and Maham Asher. Although this position may seem daunting, especially taking into account the triumphs of previous teams, new coach Anum Asher is unfazed, stating, “We’re taking this season one meet at a time. We’re not jumping ahead of ourselves, and we know the team has changed considerably since previous years. All we ask is to give 100% of yourselves, and we aren’t comparing athletes at a time. We’re not jumping ahead of ourselves and taking into account the triumphs of previous years.”

The captains of the girls cross country team warm up for a race.

By IRENE QUAN, freshman

THIS FALL, the JP girls volleyball team swung into their season with an incredible display of skill and energy. The Lady Hawks have defeated a number of long-time rivals, including Perth Amboy, Piscataway, and South Plainfield. Even in tense games that went to third sets, they have always been indomitable, coming back to win as a team. Of course, such a successful team wouldn’t be complete without its outstanding players. Among them, the team’s senior captain and setter Syerden Lin, who has contributed an incredible total of 186 assists and team highs of 37 service aces and 75 service points so far. In total, she has accumulated an exceptional tally of 1423 assists in her entire career. Additionally, outside hitter Meghan Traong is currently leading the team with 57 kills and 62 digs, while captains Jen Lazarowitz (12) and outside hitter Amanda Leary (11) each have 19 and 37 kills, respectively. In fact, Emily Tavares (10), Morgan Schleser (10), and libero Ashley Baidowsky (10) have contributed to impressive plays, placing themselves on the edge of breaking school records. Regarding the progress and performance of the team, Coach White remarks, “Our team is a mixture of new and experienced players. Everyday I see more and more growth with all levels of our team.”

Since the beginning of the season, this year’s varsity team has shown its exemplary zeal and persistence through tough competition. With some impressive wins, the girls have fought through each and every game as a true team, no matter how high the stakes were against them. These ladies will continue to fight for the duration of the season, setting a prime example for next year’s varsity athletes. Best of luck, Lady Hawks!

Eenie, Meenie, Miny Moe...

By ADARSH NAGARAJAN, senior

ON JUNE 3, Muhammad Ali finally succumbed to Parkinson’s Disease after years of battling the illness, and in the process, left a legacy that can only be described as legendary. From a three-time world champion in boxing to a vocal supporter for civil rights, Ali has made countless contributions in and out of the ring that were nothing short of monumental. His passion for civil rights rivaled only by his fiery attitude in the boxing ring, and his rebellious attitude matched only his land and dignified presence.

Born Cassius Clay in Louisville, Kentucky, on January 17, 1942, Ali quickly took a liking to boxing, a sport that not only won him numerous fights but also artistry and charisma. At the age of 22, he was diagnosed with Parkinson’s disease, which limited his mobility and ability to communicate. As a result, he rarely showed his face, and he rarely gave interviews.

Though the reputation of Ali as the “People’s Champion” and “The Greatest” was tarnished by Parkinson’s disease, his legend is alive and well. Ali is widely regarded as a significant and celebrated sports figure in the 20th century. He has an incomparable personal style, his elegant boxing style, his controversial yet needed ideals and beliefs, his dignified attitude—these traits are what made Ali so special. And they continue to make Ali a hero, even after his passing.
Rio Olympics: A Display of Excellence... or Failure?

By SAMUEL CHEN

November 2016

Postal Service

Sports

By RISHABH KAPOOR, senior

Because of the prominence of sports in society, professional athletes generally tend to garner huge fan following. Many of them use their athletic careers as platforms for social issues. The great Muhammad Ali, who passed away earlier this year, was one of the first to do so, actively speaking out against and refusing to participate in Vietnam War because it was against his religion. As a result, he was incarcerated, but staying strong to his beliefs, he continued to be active in the civil rights movement and to win a Heavyweight Championship, setting a precedent that is being followed now more than ever before.

The headlines lately have been heavily focused on NFL quarterback Colin Kaepernick. When asked about his controversial decision to kneel during the national anthem before a game, he responded, “I am not going to stand up to show pride in a flag for a country that oppresses black people and people of color. To me, this is bigger than football and it would be selfish on my part to look the other way.” He has received serious backlash from critics who believe that he is disrespecting the flag and the country. However, Kaepernick has stayed firm in his thoughts, and the NFL released a statement soon afterwards stating that “players are encouraged but not required to stand during the playing of the national anthem.”

Similarly, during the ESPYS Sports Awards over the summer, NBA players Carmelo Anthony, Chris Paul, Dwyane Wade, and LeBron James opened with a speech protesting police brutality. They made a strong plea for change, with Carmelo Anthony “calling for all [his] fellow athletes to step up and take charge.” Paul, the former player of a police shooting the names of the victims of police brutality and asked for the audience to take a stand for those in need of help. The criticism and response did not end there; last year, Paul’s team, the Los Angeles Clippers, silently protested their team owner Donald Sterling’s racist remarks by wearing special uniforms during a game. Such protest has been increasing steadily over the years and will likely only increase in the near future.

Meanwhile, former Olympian Lilly King received a lot of attention over the summer for wagging her finger at her rival Katie Ledecky. King, who despite having been banned for doping scandals in the past, was seen wagging her finger for “number one” earlier in the tournament. When asked about the incident, King responded, “You know, you’re shaking your finger No. 1 and you’ve been caught for drug cheating, I’m just not a fan.”

Lilly later addressed the criticism that she has received after winning the gold, when she mockingly announced, “It’s incredible, just winning a gold medal. I’m doing it clean.” Her comment was portrayed as unpatriotic by many critics, but King is proud of her actions, saying that “it’s something that needs to happen. We need it. Sometimes.”

Perhaps Lilly King slightly trespassed the bounds of sportsmanship in her statement, but the sadness of drug scandals and enthusiastic protest is exactly what is needed in a world where controversial issues are so prevalent. There are only so many judges and courts in the world to decide what is right or wrong, and athletes seem to have caught on, realizing that they, too, have the power to make a difference.

Rio Olympics: A Display of Excellence... or Failure?

By SAMUEL CHEN

and AVI SURA, sophomores

In a captivating 2016 Summer Olympics, global athletes created indelible historical memories through their remarkable performances. Every Olympics, there is no shortage of pure entertainment and awe, and at Rio there was no exception. Throughout August, one day after another, the sheer greatness of almost inhuman athletic capability came to light, as the world's greatest was on display for all to be inspired.

At the very start, the world was introduced to the first ever refugee team, headed by 14-year-old Yusra Mardini. In full Olympic spirit, millions witnessed her encounter with the opening ceremony with triumph and pride. That very Olympic spirit was shared throughout the competition and was further exemplified during qualifications in the women’s 5000m race between American Abbey D’Agostino and Nikki Hamblin of New Zealand. While D’Agostino was able to get up after the collision, she stayed behind with Hamblin and the two finished the race.

Even with the historic success of the United States, in which the country completed the United States dominated the podium this year more than ever before. With 121 total medals, 46 of which were gold, the United States took home first place at Beijing for the highest number of total medals won in a Summer Olympics in the 21st century. Of the 24 countries between the United States and China, second in the medal race, was a formidable 51 medals.

The Rio Olympics was also a mix of results seen in the past, such as Usain Bolt's three golds, Michael Phelps’ six medals, and both U.S. basketball squad winning gold, as well as results with implications for the future. Katie Ledecky gave us a new glimpse of what was in store for the next few years. With five medals of her own this summer, she looks to continue her own winning legacy and follow in Phelps’ footsteps. At only 19 years old, New Jersey’s Shalour Stevenson, New Jersey’s own, holds as bright of a future after claiming silver over 20,000 Zita virus cases since June 11. These atrocious numbers brought conflicting reports on whether the Olympics should be moved to prevent a worldwide outbreak of Zika, but the overall health and safety of the millions of people was Brazil’s main priority. Athletes Stephen Curry, Rony Meloço, and Jordan Spieht cited their concerns toward the virus before withdrawing themselves from the games, as the health implications of the virus dissuaded them from participating. The Olympics in Rio was not without its faults; the preparation for the Olympics was intruded by governmental concerns and visitors alike was the threat of the Zika virus. Together, Rio de Janeiro, Salvador, Belo Horizonte, Brasilia, and Sao Paulo, five of the major cities in Brazil, had suffered in bantamweight boxing.

The university in Rio was not without its faults; the preparation for the Olympics was intruded by governmental concerns and visitors alike was the threat of the Zika virus. Together, Rio de Janeiro, Salvador, Belo Horizonte, Brasilia, and Sao Paulo, five of the major cities in Brazil, had suffered
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