



# DEL AWARE

Delaware Valley High School - Milford, Pa.

## Relay Season Begins

BY GIA RIZZO  
Entertainment Co-Editor

In support of the American Cancer Society, each year Delaware Valley holds a Relay for Life fundraising event. This year's event will be held on June 2nd and 3rd on the stadium track from 10 a.m.-10 a.m., allowing for volunteers to spend 24 hours raising awareness and funds for the cause.

This year's Relay is run by seniors Aoife Dowd and Lauren Grady who are in their second year of chairing the event. Their goal for this year is to increase participation and to raise 55,000 dollars.

During the 24-hour period, individuals on teams of eight to 15 people walk the track in order to relay for the cause. While some members of teams walk, others enjoy activities, fundraising and competing with other teams for spirit points that are calculated at the end of the event. Each participant must raise 100 dollars prior to the event, a goal both Dowd and Grady hope participants can reach.

The Relay's official kickoff took place during all lunches in the 9-10 and 11-12 cafeterias on Jan. 19 and 20. At the event, Dowd, Grady, committee members and their staff

partner, Loriann Fontanella, from the American Cancer Society, spoke about the event and handed out information.

"The kickoff got me excited for Relay and wanting to participate," said senior Ginamarie Canepa.



**Relay for Life Chair Aoife Dowd hands out information in lunches.**  
Contributed Photo

The main goal of the kickoff was to raise awareness among students and to inspire them to create their own teams. After doing an activity with each lunch that showed that almost every student had been affected by cancer, students flooded to the Relay booth for information.

"When they spoke about Relay for Life, we got motivated to create a team and show our support for cancer research," said juniors Manny Balines and Joe Santiago.

With a high goal of 55,000 dollars this year, DV's Relay for Life committee is heavily relying on student involvement.

## Sommer Receives Heart

BY SABIHA BARY  
News Co-Editor

This holiday season, sophomore Chris Sommer was given the gift of a lifetime: a heart.

Chris was recently at the most crucial stage of Congestive Heart Failure and has since then undergone various operations, including the VAD surgery early in November that caused hemorrhaging.

Battling infections, blood clots and fevers, Chris' condition still continued to worsen, so much that even the doctors decided he was too weak to undergo a heart transplant, placing him on a lower position on the donor list.

It wasn't until two days before New Years Eve that Chris was placed back on the donor's list.

Miraculously, Chris received a heart within a week of being put on the donor's list.

"It was a wonderful feeling, but at the same time you're a little sad too, because you have to understand that somebody has to die for Chris to live," said Iris Rose, Dean Sommer's girlfriend and Chris' maternal figure.

The anonymous donor was most likely on life support and his or her organs were donated through the Gift of Life program.

"Please everyone at 12:00 please take a moment and pray for the family that lost there loved one for Chris to receive this heart..." said Rose in a post on the Facebook page, Have a Heart for Chris Sommer, which provides daily updates on Chris' condition.

Notified at 8:00 p.m. that Chris' heart was on its way, the heart had only a four-hour window because it could only last in suitable condition for four hours. In addition, the organ was constantly checked for possibilities of rejection, even in the operating room.

"It was a high tension day," Rose said. "You're very happy but at the same time you're very scared."

Nevertheless, Chris' family, surrounded by support and prayers from all over the country, held on to the hope that Chris

would survive.

"Chris wanted to live. He gave it a good fight. He is an amazingly strong kid. He's got inner strength, spirit, like I have never seen before, more than most adults," said Rose in awe.

Sommer has yet another challenge to overcome: recovery.

"Now we're on a different journey. Now we're on the journey of making sure Chris doesn't reject his heart," said Rose.

This first year is one of the most crucial time in this process. Chris will spend the next few months under constant watch, undergoing constant tests and biopsies.

Not allowed to live any more than two hours away from the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia where he currently being treated, Chris will likely stay in Philadelphia until around April, when he is allowed to return to school.

In the meantime, Chris' family struggles to make ends meet.

Dean Sommer, a single working father, is the primary caregiver of Chris and Chris' sister, Brianna. This responsibility, combined with piling bills and missing days of work to be with Chris, has overwhelmed him and his family. In addition, Rose, who also cares for the two, is dealing with various medical issues going on with her son, Johnny, who has been recently diagnosed with encephalitis, the irritation and swelling of the brain and thus, will also be treated at CHOP.

Fortunately, with the many donations and fundraisers, their burden of problems have been alleviated.

Of the many fundraisers, HOSA's efforts have been greatly appreciated as they have raised thousands of dollars through bake sales, selling of "Have a Heart" T-shirts and "Team Chris" bracelets.

"They have warmed our hearts for how much they [Nick and Michele Hoffman] and their students have done to help Chris. It's such a nice thing," Rose gushed. "It brings tears to my eyes."

A dance will be held at the Dingman Delaware Municipal Building to raise money for Chris in the coming weeks.



Source: hope.edu

# SCHOOL NEWS

## Alumnus Helps New York Say Thank You

BY LAUREN GRADY  
Editor in Chief

While DV alumnus Tracy Vitchers has traveled halfway around the world before most even dream of leaving home, fate has brought her back to the U.S. to work with a foundation that hits close to home.

Vitchers moved to Milford after attending school at Wallenpaupack and attending boarding school. The move to DV was due to the attacks on the Twin Towers.

"My parents got really freaked out because I was in boarding school. I had a lot of friends who lost parents," said Vitchers.

Instead of moving back to Wallenpaupack, Vitchers headed to DV to swim, an activity that her former school did not have. With this drive for swimming also came the drive for academic excellence.

"I've always had the single focus to do well," commented Vitchers.

As an only child, she was driven by both her parents and her innate competitive drive. By working hard, she ensured her acceptance to the highly competitive Williams College.

Success continued to follow Vitchers as she swam,

played rugby and double majored in English and Womens and Gender Studies. Even with a busy schedule, she had time to create an honors thesis that would influence her further education.

Vitchers focused on violence against prostitutes in 19th century New York and London and how it related to issues of domestic violence in the upper class.

"Men no longer owned the street. They no longer owned the public sphere. It was a violent backlash to keep women in their place," said Vitchers.

The thesis led her to London where she furthered her research so that she could "look at things on a real world level." With a 5,000 dollar grant from Williams, she ran around Europe for eight weeks and on the way, fell in love with the Netherlands.

This love for the Netherlands inspired Vitchers to study at Utrecht University.

"Living abroad and traveling abroad is very important. It gives you a completely different perspective on the world," said Vitchers.

By taking a leap of faith and moving, Vitchers experienced something completely new.

"It's surreal to me that I moved back in May. Seven months ago I was living in a completely foreign country,"

said the DV alumnus.

Upon her return to the states, Vitchers received a job with "New York Says Thank You Foundation," a non-profit organization inspired by her now boss' kids who, following a fire storm in California, packed up a U-Haul full of supplies and drove to California; the side of the U-Haul read "New York Says Thank You."

The organization has grown ever since with the goal of helping those in disaster situations and inspiring overall positivity. A movie featuring the organization premiered at this year's Tribeca Film Festival.

As Program Manager of "The 9/12 Generation Project," a youth-focused part of the foundation, she is working to bring the foundation to schools nationwide.

"There will always be kids born after 9/11 who won't understand. Teachers can't teach it. We need to use this event to make something positive," said Vitchers.

DV plans to help with "Stars of Hope" in the spring, a movement that works to inspire positivity by placing stars in disaster-stricken areas. Whether the organization's plans involve the 9/11 attacks or not, the main goal of the foundation is to rebuild and revive disaster areas.

"9/11 is the day the buildings came down, 9/12 is the day we're going to put buildings up," concluded Vitchers.

## Inquiring Photographer

WHY DO YOU THINK NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS DON'T STICK??

BY GIA RIZZO Entertainment Co-Editor



"Because their resolutions are too hard for them to accomplish."

**Jeanine Roe**  
Class of 2013



"They make resolutions that aren't obtainable."

**Dominick DeNella**  
Class of 2012



"People are lazy non-a-days."

**Sean Prudhoe**  
Class of 2014



"Because people are careless when they make them."

**Dan Larson**  
Class of 2015



"It's hard to stick to a routine."

**Lindsey Lockwood**  
Class of 2015



"People just don't commit enough to them."

**Evan Gutman**  
Class of 2014

## TATU 'Kicks Butts' to Fight Tobacco Use



Members of Teens Against Tobacco Use (TATU) united in their fight against the use of tobacco for Kick Butts Day. The club is helping to campaign for the organization Tobacco Free Kids. Kick Butts Day is on March 21 and TATU will be holding activities at the school to raise awareness for the importance for students to be tobacco free. A group of students in TATU took part in a public announcement contest by making an original video that was intended to mortify the public's attitudes about raising awareness about why teenagers should be smoke free. The group is trying to push for a smoke free state, including the use of tobacco in casinos. Their video showed the dangers that take place inside casinos that allow smoking.

Photo by Brooke Houseknecht/Caption by Sam Famularo

# SCHOOL NEWS

## HOBY Ambassadors Chosen to Attend Leadership Seminar



Each May Delaware Valley sends two sophomores to participate in the Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership Seminar (HOBY), a prestigious three-day event held at Millersville University. Grace Farrell and Maisha Shamim were chosen as the HOBY ambassadors

for the 2011-2012 school year after a long process. Last year's ambassadors, Alex Testino and Katie Krause, were significant in promoting the seminar to present the selected sophomores who were encouraged to apply and submit an essay on leadership. This year, the essays were reviewed by the 9/10 guidance counselors who chose six candidates to

interview with Mrs. Colleen Corry, Miss Jen Cosentino and Miss Carrie Westgate. The final candidates were interviewed by Principal Ron Collins. Photo by Kristin Carofano / Caption by Katelyn Anderson

## How AWARE Are You?



Can you spot where this photo was taken? The first student to e-mail the.del.aware@gmail.com with the correct answer will win an exclusive prize.

## A Day in the Life of Mr. Gonzalez

By EMILY MCKINNEY  
Opinions Editor

If teaching wasn't a job enough, teacher Mr. Daniel Gonzalez balances teaching two AP World History classes along with coaching both middle school boys' basketball and JV boys' lacrosse and planning a wedding.

Mr. Gonzalez starts off his day by waking up around 5 a.m. and arriving at the school around 7:30 a.m. He then spends whatever time he has before his

first period running around making copies and going about the typical duties that teachers have. He has his AP World classes 1st and 5th period.

After school, Mr. Gonzalez spends his time coaching either boys' basketball or lacrosse. As a former graduate of DV himself, he likes to stay involved through coaching.

"Coaching [helps] build the community and connects the school to the community while promoting leadership and skills that can be used in the classroom," Mr. Gonzalez said.

Mr. Gonzalez has also been spotted in numerous non-sports related events such as the after school karaoke which

*"I would like the community to embrace what teachers do."*

- Mr. Daniel Gonzalez

was hosted by the student council.

Another thing that Mr. Gonzalez is involved in besides the school is the

planning of his own wedding. He is marrying fellow colleague Miss Lindsay Sabo.

"I am more involved than other grooms [are]. There are certain things that I have a say in but there are others I hardly have a say in," noted Mr. Gonzalez.

One thing that Mr. Gonzalez is excited about is going to Hawaii for the honeymoon. The rest of the time is spent watching Miss Sabo run around planning the other aspects of the wedding.

Mr. Gonzalez reports that the most difficult part about planning the wedding is not going bankrupt.

"It's difficult trying to stay within budget while accommodating all family members," Mr. Gonzalez says.

He acknowledges that the economy is not doing so well and that weddings are

expensive. He makes it a priority to make sure that all family members are taken care of and they aren't being too financially stressed by the wedding as well.

Since the school year has started, Mr. Gonzalez says the wedding

planning has been put on hold. With Mr. Gonzalez both coaching and teaching, planning a wedding on top of it all isn't the easiest thing. However, even with all of these events going on in his life, Mr. Gonzalez makes it a priority to stay involved with the school.

"I would like the community to embrace what teachers do," said Mr. Gonzalez.



Photo by Emily McKinney

# OPINIONS

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## Facebook is a Drug

People often stress about all the drugs there are in the world today: heroin, cocaine, methamphetamine, crack cocaine, LSD, ecstasy, opium, marijuana, etc. The list goes on and on. The more drugs there are, the more addicted people there are. The more addicted people there are, the more rehabilitation programs there are. However, there is no recovery place for one of the newest, most addictive drugs – Facebook.

In 2009, Facebook was ranked as the most used social network by worldwide monthly active user. There are more than 500 million active users on Facebook. Each day, 50 percent of active Facebook users log in and 55 million status updates are made. Facebook has a larger population than the United States (500 million to 307 million).

While it is a nice way to keep in touch with friends in far places, it seems the primary purpose of Facebook is a convenient way to stalk friends that people see every day. People are very dependent on this! I have had friends come over to my house for an afternoon or evening for only a couple of hours and they have asked to check their Facebook on my computer. I have also gone over to friends' houses and watched them waste time doing absolutely nothing on Facebook. They are so addicted to Facebook that they cannot fight the want, the need, to log on and see that Sally Sue has added another cow to her farm.

Whatever happened to the people who would log onto Facebook once or twice a week for 15 minutes to see if anything new happened? Did these people even ever exist? If not, it is a breed of people that is desperately needed. We need the times when new events in a person's life are found out by talking to them, not by reading his/her status update. This does not mean people have to delete their Facebooks; they just need to limit themselves with how much they check it. By doing this, the number of brainless addicts should significantly decrease. I know that it will be hard but I promise you that the world will not blow up if you do not immediately post that you got a new pair of shoes.

**EMILY BELSTERLING**  
*Class of 2013*

## Writer Discovered

I'm sure you've seen them; those very quiet people sitting at the edge of their chair scribbling down paragraph after paragraph into a beaten down notebook. Many of you try to avoid them and I don't blame you. Get too close and you might become the next main character of their short story, or perhaps the villain in their next horror novel.

As a writer myself, I know how the writing world functions. There are multitude of cliques among the writers and the "writing community" as some cleverly call it.

There are the quiet type, the pretentious type, the mysterious type, the downright flamboyant type and the jock-who-writes-poetry-but-doesn't-want-to-admit-it type. It is like a whole new society or planet. The quiet types tend to carry around moleskin diaries full of tear-stained pages and inkblots from when they stabbed the page after getting into a fight with their "unreasonable" parents.

The pretentious type writes love poems in 15 minutes and eagerly publishes them on their blog, usually Tumblr, but then gets angry because no one reads it. The mysterious type is the one who takes days just to write one line of a prose piece and eventually shows other people but, sadly, the piece is so hard to follow and so cluttered with random metaphors that nobody actually understands it.

The flamboyant type is the one who attends every jam session and poetry reading in the neighborhood and yells out their happy-go-lucky poems into a microphone in some local café.

Finally there is the jock -who-writes-poetry-but-doesn't-want-to-admit-it type. He is the guy who secretly cries himself to sleep dreaming of that really pretty girl who doesn't like him but then acts like a complete and total -bleep- in front of her when he's around his "buddies."

So before you go assuming that the only people you have to watch out for are the quiet, my-notebook-is-my-best friend type of writer then beware. The writers are everywhere, waiting for you.

**ROBERT VARGAS**  
*Class of 2012*

## Congratulations to the December students/athletes of the month:

### Students of the month:

9th - Sarah Kendl  
10th - Taryn Ficken  
11th - Nicole McTernan  
12th - Aoife Dowd

Achievement: John Fox,

Vo-Tech: Margaret Sylvester

Athletes: Jalen Palmer,  
Lisa Gatto

Fine Arts: Tom DiAgostino

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# SCHOOL NEWS

## Drama Students Perform in Showcase

By **SABIHA BARY**  
News Co-Editor

Tears were shed and shrieks of laughter were heard at the Drama Showcase, where students from all classes and backgrounds strutted their stuff, acting, dancing and singing on stage in front of a live audience on Jan 13.

Participants, looking fresh in their crisp white button-down shirts and black slacks or skirts, accessorized their outfits with simple bowties in sync with the spring production, "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying."

An energetic ensemble, all participants joined together and performed "Show People" for the opening act. Various acts followed, from a Ferris Bueller comedy act by freshman Nathaniel King to a duet sung by sisters, sophomore Kendall and senior Shannon Baird, all were hosted by junior Dustin Fouse who also displayed his share of talents.

The host himself starred in, "Teleportation," a homemade comedy/sci-fi thriller produced and directed by King and sophomore Jeremy Block, was a hit among the audience as it contained many comedic features, such as Fouse's French accent and dramatic, suspenseful



**Dustin Fouse plays guitar and sings.**  
Photos by Sabiha Bary

choreographed by senior Anthony Reyes, featuring junior Katie Krauss and Edelman.

Yet, amid the many heart-wrenching and soulful solos, came one that couldn't stop the crowd from roaring with laughter.

With an outraged expression, sophomore Kendall Baird stamped on stage, stirring up a storm as she belted

music.

"I heard in order to be a good spy, you need a good disguise," Fouse's cool voice declared, as he slipped on a pair of Groucho glasses.

Acts such as the tap-dancing number performed by freshmen Mikaela Edelman and Paige Bodner to "Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy", delivered "a blast from the past," much to the audience's pleasure.

"That was back when I was a little girl," viewer Pat Ottinger said, smiling.

Other dance numbers included ballet, one even

out to "Whatever Happened to My Part."

"I'm constantly replaced by Britney Spears... Britney Spears," her voice boomed.

"They've been out searching for a shrub... Well, they can kiss my tush!"

The show concluded with a sneak preview of the spring musical as the participants played "Company Way," a performance learned in only three rehearsals.

Altogether, the showcase raised enough money to rent about 20 costumes for the upcoming musical, a huge feat, said drama director, Kim Golden.

The Drama Club would like to thank everyone for their support and reminds them to mark their calendars for the spring musical on April 13-15.



**Junior Katie Krause and Freshman Mikaela Edelman perform a duet dance performance.**



## FBLA Heads to States

The members of FBLA buttoned up their suit jackets and tightened their ties on Jan. 10 as they headed to Keystone College for their Region 22 conference, otherwise known as their state competition. They competed against ten other schools, both individually and as a team in events such as banking and financial systems, business math, computer applications, sports management, entrepreneurship and a handful of other categories. "Overall they did very well. As of right now we have 71[students] who are going onto the state competition and that's the largest we've ever had; it's actually the largest in the region," said Mrs. Maura Angle. Members of FBLA plan on organizing an "FBLA week" that will consist of events such as Professional Dress Day and Teacher Appreciation Day, which will take place in February.

Photo and caption by Valerie Lannon



## New Alliance Forms

The Gay Straight Alliance (GSA) club is a newly formed club branch of the Rachel's Challenge. The club was founded by seniors Star Irizarry and Robert Vargas to provide tolerance for Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender (LGBT) teenagers within the school who feel uncomfortable with their sexual orientation. During GSA meetings with the current, steady 12 members, discussion usually involves current events that affect the LGBT community. The GSA also has some upcoming events planned, such as a movie screening of "Prayers for Bobby," a tolerance festival, and a Day of Silence in remembrance of the gay teenage suicides. The current project the GSA is focusing on now is creating posters showing celebrities who have been influential in the LGBT community, such as Lady Gaga. Meetings are held every Wednesday until 4:30 after school in Mr. Tom Burns' room (M5).

Photo and caption by Gia Rizzo

# WORLD NEWS

## L.A. Arsonist Apprehended

BY EVAN BECK  
*World News Co-Editor*

Harry Burkhart, named "the most dangerous arsonist in L.A. history," was apprehended just before the holidays by the Los Angeles Police Department. Law enforcement officers were told to keep an eye out for a white male between the ages of 20 and 30 years old with a receding hairline and a short ponytail.

"That was very distinctive information about a person, and as I pulled next to him and shined my spotlight at the car, I saw a male, white, receding hairline and short ponytail and that was ... a big key," said Shervin Lalezary, the officer who identified Burkhart.

Burkhart, the accused arsonist, was recognized in a surveillance tape circulated by the Los Angeles Police Department.

"Over the New Year's Eve weekend, that task force put out a video showing a person of interest exiting a parking lot and asked for the public's help," said Los Angeles Police Department spokeswoman Victoria Nuland.

While initially just a person of interest, Burkhart was placed as a prime suspect of the Los Angeles fires. After extensive interviews by the State Department, Burkhart was arrested.

Burkhart, who appeared in court early January, will be charged for the 52 fires set ablaze in the Los Angeles area over a period of four days. Los Angeles authorities were confident in arresting the man who claimed he "hated America."

In reports officials emphasized Burkhart's anger toward America, specifically with U.S. immigration authorities. As he was escorted out of the courtroom, Burkhart was heard using profane words directed at the U.S.

At the moment Burkhart is being held on \$250,000 bail.

## Iowa Caucus Recount Results in Tie

BY SAM FAMULARO  
*News Editor*

As the race for the Republican nominee begins, campaigning is at an all time high.

Originally it was said that former Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney won Iowa, and coming in second by a mere eight votes was former Pennsylvania Senator Rick Santorum.

However, these results have changed after the voting results came to a close recount. The outcome was very different after the recount. Now Santorum has been declared the front runner by 34 votes a complete reverse of the original outcome.

These two Republican nominees will be going into New Hampshire as the front runners, having high hopes to continue to be the front runners in next week's caucus.

Coming in third was Texas

Representative Ron Paul, bringing in voters to back up his anti-big government message.

The results ended up at a tie with

Although he started with low numbers in Iowa, Santorum slowly but surely started to rise in the polls. He drew in huge crowds when speaking, which helped build his support group.

Romney, having failed the last time in Iowa, was sure to not make the same mistake this time through. Spending more time and even more money, the candidate was sensing a victory, though after the recount he did not come out on top.

The candidates will move to New Hampshire for a second round for the presidency. The New Hampshire primary is already showing signs of more aggressive competition after the results in Iowa.

The candidates have high hopes in persuading some voters to change their minds before the people go to vote. Gingrich has started to attack Romney with different types of negative media portrayal for all of New Hampshire to see.

With Santorum now going in as the front runner and negative media floating through the air the New Hampshire's primary is going to be a critical indicating primary.



Romney and Santorum getting 25 percent. Paul was third with 21 percent, and former Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich with 13 percent.

Santorum was declared the biggest winner in Iowa. Spending a lot less money than Romney and producing almost the same results proved to be a surprising victory for his campaign.

## Egypt Holds First Election in Decades

BY AUDREY-RENEE CREEGAN  
*Circulation Co-Manager*

Al Noor Salafi Movement, a hard-line Muslim group, had the second-highest total, 20 percent, in the first round of voting for the lower house of parliament, according to Yousri Abdel Kareem, head of the executive office of the Higher Judicial Election Council.

In the first election after the toppling of President Hosni Mubarak, the tallies reflected similar results in Morocco and Tunisia. Moderate Islamists in those North African nations prevailed in recent elections amid the wave of political discontent across the Arabic-speaking world this year.

Secularists weren't surprised at the result but they were stunned that some longtime secular groups performed poorly. Voters were turned off by some secular candidates because they come from Mubarak's old National Democratic Party.

The Muslim Brotherhood is entrenched in mainstream Egyptian politics. Most are highly educated doctors, lawyers, engineers,

professors and businessmen that come from solidly middle-class backgrounds.

Al Noor Salafi is the first Salafist group to register as a political party in Egypt. Salafist's views are conservative. This



week's voting in Egypt marked the starting point of a complex, multiple step process that will first pick members of the lower house of parliament.

Voting for the lower house of parliament takes place in three stages, corresponding to three sets of governorates. Polls open in Cairo, Alexandria and seven other provinces on Nov. 28, with a second

round of voting to decide seats with no outright majority scheduled for Dec. 5. Voting in provinces including Giza, Aswan and Suez begins on Dec. 14, with run-offs on Dec. 21.

The third round of voting, for the North and South Sinai

and seven other governorates, takes place on Jan. 3 with a run-off on Jan. 10. Each round of voting will take two days. Final results are due by Jan. 13.

# WORLD NEWS

## Republican Primary Heats Up

BY EVAN BECK  
World News Co-Editor

After a highly anticipated Iowa Caucus, both the media and the heat of the Republican Primary quickly transferred to both New Hampshire and South Carolina, completely unaware of the head-turning results.

On Jan. 10 Mitt Romney won the New Hampshire Primary with 39.3 percent of the vote, followed by Ron Paul with 22.9 percent of the vote. Placing third with 16.9 percent of the vote was Jon Huntsman, and tied at 9.4 percent of the vote were Newt Gingrich and Rick Santorum.

In South Carolina, on the 21st, results were unexpected as Newt Gingrich led with

40.4 percent of the vote. Mitt Romney had 27.8 percent of the vote, and trailing in third and fourth places were Rick Santorum with 17 percent and Ron Paul with 13 percent, respectively.

"It is not that I'm a good debater, it is that I articulate the deepest held values



Source: politico

of the American people," said Gingrich. Although Gingrich's comeback is not historically unexpected, many political analysts are claiming his victory in South Carolina stunning.

"The South Carolina Primary was a surprise because Gingrich was not supposed to win, much less win by this much," Steffen Schmidt, professor of political science, commented. "The Gingrich win has raised a lot of red flags and the Romney campaign is very worried."

Entering Florida, analysts have stated that it is "up for grabs." Gingrich is projected at holding approximately 40 percent of the vote once again. Even with Gingrich's stunning win in South Carolina, Romney is not done.

"Romney has money, organization and endorsements and can still afford to lose Florida. I still think Romney will be the nominee, but there is still a chance for Gingrich if he wins Florida," said David Peterson, associate professor of political

science.

"I have no idea now who is going to be the nominee," Schmidt said. "Romney is going to have to prove himself in Florida."

## Kim Jong-Un Assumes North Korea

BY AOIFE DOWD  
Managing Editor

After nearly 20 years of rule under the man known as a "supreme ruler" and "dear leader," North Korea has sustained a power shift following the death of the revered Kim Jong-Il.

Dying of a suspected heart attack on Dec. 17, the North Korean dictator severely changed the geography of not only Asian but world politics and now his son Kim Jong-Un fills his shoes.

With the death of the radical leader concerns of the world community were raised in relation to how his son would react on a global scale and what military actions he now may put into place.

The long standing tension between North and South Korea specifically became a hot spot of political and military fortification as the South prepared for potential instability.

Kim Jong-Il's death itself was kept secret as to keep up a semblance of order in the power shift.

Yet despite the fear and confusion felt by the rest of the world, North Korea

grieved the loss of the leader they so loved or were coerced into supporting.

An elaborate funeral and memorial was broadcasted throughout the country featuring military displays and the faces of inconsolable citizens.

Yet the country always prepared to appear strong released statements from the Worker's Party stating that "Under the leadership

of our comrade Kim Jong-Un, we have to turn sadness into strength and courage, and overcome today's difficulties."

Despite the will to move forward it is

unclear the level of preparation Kim Jong-Un, the third son of the late dictator, has received in anticipation of his father's death.

While the heir recently topped the list of 232 military officials on the funeral committee, this power compares in no way to the arduous task of ruling a country of 23 million people.

Intelligence inside of the country has communicated the internal hesitation regarding the new leaders usurpation of power in a

paranoid country of great nuclear power.



Source: awdalpress

## Stocks Rise with New Year

BY RONNIE RYDER  
World News Editor

Typically, going into the new-year the stocks rise, this year is no different, signaling a little economic improvement heading into 2012.

The Dow Jones Industrial has jumped 180 points while the S&P 500 gained 19 points and the Nasdaq added 43 points.

The gains came after reports on manufacturing growth in China and India came in better than expected over the weekend. On Tuesday, a report showed U.S. manufacturing activity grew at a faster rate in December.

U.S. markets were closed Monday Jan. 2 for the New Year holiday.

"There were no major negative headlines out of Europe, and we had some data suggesting the global economy is expanding," said Dan Greenhaus, chief global strategist at BTIG.

Investors scooped up shares of companies that would benefit from a strengthening global economy.

Bank stocks, which were among the worst performing sectors last year, led the Dow higher, Bank of America, Citigroup and JPMorgan all posted strong gains.

Meanwhile, oil prices surged more than four percent on continued anxiety over Iran's growing threat to shut down the Strait of Hormuz.

Industrial names Caterpillar and Alcoa were also higher, as were multinationals such as GE, Microsoft and 3M.

But traders say the market is vulnerable to concerns about the debt crisis in Europe, which has been the main drive of stock prices for several months.

# WORLD NEWS

## Auto Industry Improves

By ZACH SMICKLE  
Staff Writer

The recession hurt business globally, but arguably no other industry was hurt more than the United States auto industry. General Motors Corporation (GM), Chrysler Corporation and Ford Motor Company all took a hit. While Ford managed to adapt and stay afloat, the other two suffered.

Lack of innovation, quality and most importantly smaller fuel efficient vehicles, coupled with poor business strategy and competition with imports like Honda, Toyota and Volkswagen, doomed GM and Chrysler; plummeting sales two years in a row forced both companies to file for bankruptcy in early 2009.

However, like a phoenix rising from the ashes, both have reemerged, ready to begin anew.

The new General Motors Company and Chrysler Group LLC, now majority owned by the Italian auto manufacturer FIAT S.p.A., have made major strides in rebuilding themselves. Both have streamlined their businesses, cutting many of their subsidiaries that lost money, such as Saturn, in favor of more direct marketing of vehicles under more prominent names such as Chevrolet and Dodge respectively.

President Barack Obama praised the turnaround; however, he acknowledged that there is much more work to be done.

"There are always going to be bumps on the road to recovery," said President Obama during a speech at a Chrysler Plant in Toledo, Ohio. "We're going to pass through some tough terrain that even a Wrangler would have a hard time on."

"I don't want to pretend like everything's solved," he said. "There's nobody here who doesn't know somebody who's looking for work and hasn't found something yet, but this is a start."

## Pipeline Attack Brings Syrian Disaster

By FATIMA IBRAHIM  
Arts & Literature Editor

Recent attacks on a pipeline, that services two power stations, have caused an explosion in the homely city of Homs, Syria. This has created an uneasy environment for the country because the government has accused their own civilians for the cause of the explosion.

A few explosions also occurred in mid March, prior to this incident. The government officials are calling the individuals who attacked the pipeline terrorists. This controversy aroused the Syrian government and angered them profusely. President Bashar al-Assad, sent out troops and police forces to search and attack any person who they believe were a part of causing the explosion.

Approximately 30 people had died; three of them were killed by government troops in Homs. Along with these deaths, approximately 18 members of the security forces were killed in Jaseem, a city a couple

of miles outside of Homs after the troops deserted the pipeline attack. Syrian officials did not respond to the media about the incident and would like to keep it under wraps.

The Local Coordination Committees of Syria said police and a few troops, who were still loyal to Bashar al-Assad's government, killed 11 more people in Damascus, Hama and Homs. The information given is not completely accurate because the Syrian government would not allow outside press, in order to cover the event thoroughly. Many activists stated that the government blew up the pipelines themselves to distract the Arab League Monitors, who were currently in the country to help protect civilians from violence.

"The regime did that intentionally. They don't care about Homs; what difference does it make to them to have no power? We don't have any of the necessities: medication, heating fuel, food. And garbage is everywhere," said one activist.

Another activist said that the Arab League Monitors were closely monitored by the government officials, disabling them from being able to get information from the observers openly. The city has become hostile and strict by introducing

checkpoints and security forces with heavy machine guns. U.S. and French officials have become suspicious about why the Syrian government won't allow outsiders to cover their countries status.

"Across the country, the Syrian people continue to suffer at the hand of the Assad regime, as indiscriminate killing of scores of civilians continues," Carney said.



Source: CS Monitor

## Iran Warns U.S. Air Craft Carrier

By RONNIE RYDER  
World News Editor

In early January Iran warned the United States not to return a U.S. Aircraft Carrier to the "Persian Gulf Region".

United States officials quickly rejected the warning, as well as another threat from Tehran regarding the closing of the Strait of Hormuz. The U.S. is taking both of these threats as signs that the current sanctions against Iran dealing with its nuclear activities are working.

"The Islamic Republic of Iran will not repeat its warning," said Maj. Gen. Ataollah Salehi, commander of Iran's Army, according to the state-run news agency IRNA.

"Salehi said the country will not adopt any irrational move but it is ready to severely react against any threat," the report added.

Iran was referring to the USS John C. Stennis, part of the U.S. Navy's fleet in the region. It moved last week from the Persian Gulf into the North Arabian Sea, as part of what the Navy's 5th Fleet called a pre-

planned transit.

Iran said the ship's movement during Iran's naval exercises showed that the United States "understood" that Iran's maneuvers were not "suicidal or aggressive," but rather about Iran protecting its own "interests and

it has for decades."

"These carrier strike group deployments are necessary to maintain the continuity and operational support to ongoing missions in the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility," said Pentagon Press Secretary George Little.

The United States has had forces in the Persian Gulf since World War II. Its ships sail through the Persian Gulf frequently, many on their way to and from the 5th Fleet's headquarters in Bahrain. The 5th Fleet's area of responsibility covers about 2.5 million square miles, including the Persian Gulf, which the Navy also refers to as the Arabian Gulf; the Red Sea; the Gulf of Oman and parts of the Indian Ocean.

The dispute has resulted in higher oil prices. Nearly 17 million barrels of oil a day pass through the strait, according to the U.S. Energy Information Agency. "Flows through the Strait in 2011 were roughly 35 percent of all seaborne traded oil, or almost 20 percent of oil traded worldwide," the agency said.



Source: UsaToday

power."

After the warning from Iran, a Pentagon spokesman issued a statement saying "deployment of U.S. military assets in the Persian Gulf region will continue as



# ARTS AND LITERATURE

## Spotlight Musician: Yesenia Mercado

BY VALERIE LANNON  
*Staff Writer*

Inspired by an array of artists from Justin Bieber to Celine Dion, senior Yesenia Mercado is passionate about her music. From an early age, Yesenia realized she had an ear for music and constantly found herself singing.

"I think my sister and I played Celine Dion's 'My Heart Will Go On' when we were younger over and over again until that tape broke," Yesenia laughed.

Although she admits to being a shower singer, Yesenia also lends her soprano voice to the 11/12 chorus; the class she looks forward to all day.

"There are times when I just want to sing so badly and I'm singing in my classes all day to myself, by the time chorus comes around I feel like yes! I get to sing!" said Yesenia.

So far, her most memorable choral experience has been a recent one, her first solo.

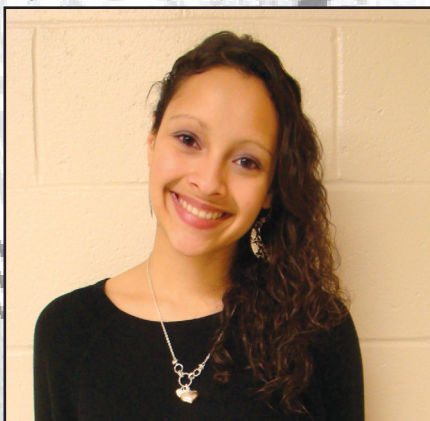
"I remember just standing up there and telling myself 'I can do this', I could feel my heart beating faster and faster and once I was up there singing I felt like all eyes were on me...but I just like to stay positive," she said.

Despite the nerves, Yesenia definitely sees herself participating in more solos in her future.

Yesenia's singing isn't only limited to the chorus room, she has also written her own music with guitar accompaniment. When she isn't working on a composition of her own, or working or doing AP work, she loves to sing along to Chris Brown, Justin Bieber and other R&B

artists. However, she listens to a large assortment of different genres. When it comes to vocals though, males' voices in particular are what move her.

"I myself love the sound of boys singing...it just makes my heart melt... like Justin Bieber because his voice is so natural," said Yesenia.



**Yesenia's passion for music is evident through her hard work and dedication.**

*Photo and caption by Valerie Lannon*

After high school Yesenia does not plan on a career down the musical path, instead she has dreams of becoming a nurse. However, her high school musical experience won't be easily given up.

"I'll miss working as a team to make that beautiful choral sound...at the end just the fact we all did it together is a great feeling, especially when we worked so hard for it," she concluded.

## Spotlight Writer: Valerie Ferguson

BY ANTHONY REYES  
*Staff Writer*

In the halls of DV it is rather hard to miss the bubbly personality that is Valerie Ferguson. She is energetic and gives off an air of simple happiness. Just being able to sit down with her and talk allowed me to feel lightened by the pleasant and wonderful mood she radiates.

Val started writing when she was around the age of thirteen. She is inspired by many things throughout the day and takes notes down on her iPod. Val loves to express herself—anyone who knows her will realize this—and many of her ideas are put into song. Some of her inspirations for writing are two of her teachers: Mrs. Jennifer Dwyer and former DV teacher Mr. Ryan Dippie.

"They made me realize I actually have a talent at it [writing]," said Val happily.

A lot of her work deals with the ideas of love and hate, and her family usually inspires the tone of her work. Living at home with seven sisters, she feels like the odd one out much of the time and tries to maintain peace among them. Sometimes she succeeds and sometimes she fails, and at these times she writes.

"I just want this to be a perfect world that's peaceful, but I know that can't happen, so I write to fantasize about it," Val said with a longing look in her eyes.

She hopes that her life experiences will continue to inspire her to write, even though she doesn't want to pursue writing as a career. Val hopes that writing will be useful to her as a creative outlet in order to stay sane during the tough and amazing times to come.

Valerie will be attending Sussex County Community College; she currently works at the Broad Street Coffee House and can be found there working at open mike nights on the weekend.

### Writer's Sample

"All is One"

*Existence creeps into the smallest cracks,  
Where blindly it does navigate around,  
But learns that it cannot retrace its tracks,  
And there in the darkness  
waits, hopes to be found.  
Outside the crevice not a soul remains,  
No one to rescue life from certain death,  
So stubbornly the world will sit in vain  
Until the end of time: its final breath.  
For one follows another into mist  
And trust his leader knows the consequence,  
He sees no reason why he should resist.  
The price is paid by all who follow hence,  
But hope can live if soon the cycle breaks;  
One man to make the change is all it takes.*

## In Style "Fashion"

BY EMILY MCKINNEY  
*Opinions Editor*

Big shapes, bright colors and odd textures are all trends seen on the runway this season. Many buy magazines, research and speculate about the latest fashions but do they even apply to our lives? Not once in the halls of DV are costumes with feathers or sequins spotted, yet there are people here that are still considered trendy.

Most styles that are sported around the school are based off of what the

celebrities are wearing while strolling around town. While these styles are still risky and fashion forward, they are also a much more toned down version of what is seen on the runway.

People look at runway fashions and wonder how anyone can see the beauty in the carefully crafted designs. What they don't realize is that these outfits, or rather costumes, which are sent down the runway are not designed to be worn but rather to inspire. The trends for the season are not taken directly off the runway; the trends are formed from the colors, shapes

and textures that are used.

The trends we see are very toned down compared to not only the originals on the runway but even the styles celebrities wear. Common people, like the students of DV, follow trends which are formed from runway inspiration, not actually from the runway.

Although some are scared off by the big shapes, loud colors and bold textures, they are the things that provide complete inspiration for the toned down yet stylish clothes that we wear every day.

# Disaster Movies Hit Theaters

By MORGANNE MALLON  
Circulation Co-Manager

You've seen it a million times before; a catastrophe dooms the entire population, the outcast scientist who tried to warn everyone from the beginning saves the world, and along the way a major landmark or two is annihilated, the odd couple who no one thought would end up together fall in love while the world falls apart around them and the old guy who no one cared that much about sacrifices himself to save mankind.

From "The Day After Tomorrow" to "I Am Legend," disaster movies have become a staple of modern cinema. It appears that a new movie is coming out every season that features some sort of disaster, whether it's worldwide epidemic in "Contagion," genius and crazed monkeys in "Rise of the Planet of the Apes," or every natural disaster under the sun in "2012."

It's obvious that the movie industry has been banking on the recent theories of impending apocalypse, but why do audiences even want to

watch a movie in which everyone, except for the toned and tanned hero and his love interest, is killed?

There are a few theories out there. One of them is that since no one wants to die, people find enjoyment out of watching a situation in which if they have to kick the bucket, so does 95 percent of the population. A less pessimistic view is that the movies appeal to the kid in us that remembers the days of building Lego towers only to smash them to bits as soon as we are finished.

Then there's the fact that between the economy, destroyed environment and war, many of us feel that we truly are doomed. Not only can we relate to the world literally falling apart on screen, but also the dream of starting over once the volcanoes and floods have subsided. We too want to erase the mess that the world has become and create something better.

These feelings won't be going away anytime soon, so it is safe to say that even if we wake up perfectly fine on Dec. 22, we will still be seeing plenty more movies like "2012" and its counterparts hit the theaters.

# Mayan Calendar Predicts New Millennium

By DAN FAVARO  
Science & Technology Co-Editor

When people discuss the Armageddon apocalypse of 2012 the Mayan calendar, also known as the Mesoamerican Long Count calendar, always seems to come up in conversation.

Many people have misinterpreted why the calendar ends on December 21, 2012 assuming it can only mean the Mayans were predicting the end of the world. This, though, is not the case.

The Mayan calendar is cyclic – it repeats in millennia, very similarly to how the Gregorian calendar functions.

The calendar functions in sets of numbers that represent baktuns, katuns, tuns, unials and then days since the creation of the calendar. This is similar to how the Gregorian calendar counts years before and after Christ's birth.

In the Mayan calendar, the day 13.0.0.0.0, or in the Gregorian calendar 21 Dec. 2012, is the beginning of a new millennium, not the end of the actual calendar, or the end of the world for that matter.

Back in the year 2000 people claimed that electronics would stop working, governments would fail, etc, but why? It was because we were entering a new millennium in the Gregorian calendar. Despite all these claims, nothing happened.

In the words of Vern Scarborough, UC professor of anthropology, "I wouldn't cash in your life insurance any time soon... there's no evidence. And as a scientist, it's kind of ridiculous."

Graphic by Anthony Reyes

# Preparation for the Apocolypse

By FATIMA IBRAHIM  
Arts & Literature Editor

There have been many diverse beliefs of what is to come in 2012. Some individuals have become obsessed by the idea of "doomsday." prompting them to create complex preparation plans for what is commonly known as "doomsday."

The most obscure and expensive preparation method is to buy a specially made condo stable enough to block out any harm that may occur on Dec. 21, 2012. In these condos, there will be an abundance of food which will be able to sustain the family for a period of six months. People who have bought into these condos have spent most of their life savings on them; the price can reach into the millions.

Some websites have even made a checklist for what individuals must do before doomsday. Researching what could happen on this date is the number one thing believers must do. They need to know what exactly to do in a possible disaster circumstance.

# The End of Days... Again...

by Baptist preacher William Miller in 1844.

Miller, his friend Samuel Snow and their followers, known as Millerites, used numbers in the Bible and the Jewish calendar to predict the return of Jesus; on Oct. 22, 1844 the world would end. Miller convinced his followers to give away their possessions and pray to prepare for Jesus's return. The day before Miller and his followers gathered in a field in New Hampshire and camped out in anticipation that when they awoke they would be in Heaven. When they awoke, however, they were in for a shock. They remained right where they were, nothing had happened. This event became known as The Great Disappointment.

More recently the year 2000 was set as the end of the world. Proponents of the "Y2K" theory predicted that electronics that relied on abbreviating years to two digit numbers would fail in the New Year, unleashing chaos and nuclear war, again nothing happened.

The most recent theory, and the one to receive the most attention, was that of Engineer Harold Camping. The former engineer believed that he mathematically proved that the world would end May 21, 2011, then after a disappointing day, he stated that he made an error and the world would in fact end on Oct. 21, 2011. Although most thought nothing of his predictions, as he predicted the end in 1994, some journeyed to his compound in California to await the end. Nothing happened.

No one knows for sure what will happen in December, but if the prediction is as accurate as the ones before, we have nothing to worry about.

By ZACH SMICKLE  
Staff Writer

Dec. 21, 2012, the end of the Mayan Long Count Calendar, is the end of the world (for real this time.)

This year's Winter Solstice has been the latest in a long line of predictions stretching back for centuries. Engineers, religious leaders and just plain loons have prophesized the End of Days since the beginning of time and to be blunt, they have been completely wrong.

Although doomsday prophecies have existed long before the modern era, only within in the last 200 years, thanks to modern media, have these prophecies received much attention. The first widely publicized prophecy was that made

The recent changes in the weather patterns have increased the scare for the end of the world. People have been paying close attention to the numerous earthquakes, tsunamis and hurricanes that have been occurring in different places around the globe.

"The convergence I see here is the apocalyptic expectation, if you will, along with the fact that the environment is in the front of many people's minds these days," says Lynn Garrett, a firm believer. "Part of the appeal of these earth religions is that notion that we need to reconnect with the Earth in order to save ourselves."

Some believers suggest to carry a compact survival guide and to be highly aware of their location. Being prepared for any incident that may happen at any given moment is better than relying solely on chance. This compact survival kit should be stocked with a complete change of clothes, a hat, socks, gloves, sneakers and heavy duty winter boots. The number one concern for the survival kit is to make sure that it pertains to the individuals' needs. One major precaution is to make sure the survival kit is with the individual at all times.

If a true disaster does occur on the 21st, adapting to the major change in the environment is crucial for survival. For example, a noose or traps would be recommended to have, in order to capture food for what may be as long as days, weeks or maybe even months.



**Why do you think people get so hyped up about apocalyptic predictions?**  
By Katelyn Anderson  
News Co-Editor

**"Because they want to conquer certain goals before they die."**  
Sophomore Sarah Negron

**"I don't understand why, because it's not like it's the first time that we've heard of the world ending."**  
Senior Sarah Brennan

**"Because it gets advertised so much and people make a big deal out of it."**  
Sophomore Jennifer Janovsky

# ARTS AND LITERATURE

## Artistic Students Win High Ranking Awards

BY STAR IRIZARRY  
Entertainment Editor

Sculptors, jewelry designers, sketchers and painters all gathered at Marywood University on Jan. 22 to celebrate the 2012 Scholastic Art Awards.

The awards show, which occurs annually in Marywood's Nazareth Hall, drew a collection of artists and their proud family members despite its being moved back a day for inclement weather.

"I'm so thrilled to see everyone here despite the rescheduling," said a gallery representative from the Times-Tribune, which sponsors the Scholastic Awards. "It's a beautiful day to recognize all of this talent."

Honors were delegated to winning art students by grade and level of merit; Honorable Mention 7-8 and 9-12 grade winners were announced first, followed by 7-8 and 9-12 grade 2nd and 1st place winners.

DV students who received an Honorable Mention: Jessica Bullis, Eileen Carofalo, Alexandra Connolly, Abigail DeVizia, Rose Fernandez, Scott Jakubowski, Lauren Jones (with five

Mentions), Saige Krisanda, Aaron Lynch, Erin Mommsen (with two Mentions), Taylor Moran, Alexandra Paino, Jessie Raynis, Natalie Rosen, Michelle Schafer, Jason Sladika, Matthew Tidridge, Tara Trutt, Douglas Wilklow and Moriah Wolfe (with four Mentions).

DV students who received 2nd place and a Silver Key award were: Alexandra Connolly, Michael Divis, Lauren Jones (with five Keys), Brittany Minetti, Alexandra Paino, Michelle Schafer, Tabitha Schmidt, Lindsey Soares, Matthew Tidridge, Caitlyn Trabucco and Moriah Wolfe (with three Keys).

DV students who received 1st place and a Gold Key award were: Ruslan Dzhatdoyev, Emily Favaro, Sarah Hartmann, Lauren Jones (with three Keys), Danielle Misiaszek, Erin Mommsen, Anthony Reyes, Michelle Schafer and Moriah Wolfe (with three Keys).

Seniors Lauren Jones and Moriah Wolfe also earned Gold Keys for their respective art and photography portfolios. These Keys allow Jones' and Wolfe's work to continue on to the national Scholastic level in New York City. The two additionally qualify for scholarships.

Following the formal awards ceremony, the artwork of Gold and Silver Key winners was displayed in the near-by Mahady Gallery. Artworks will continue to be showcased at the Mahady until Feb. 12. The public is encouraged to view.



**Gold Key winner, senior Lauren Jones, displays her jewelry collection.**  
Photo by Star Irizarry

## Book Review: "Will Grayson"

BY MORGANNE MALLON  
Circulation Co-Manager

The novel "Will Grayson, Will Grayson" is about just that: two teenagers named Will Grayson who have a chance encounter in Chicago that eventually ends up altering their perspectives on life. In order to avoid confusing the two main characters, each Will Grayson has his own chapter; the odds are written by John Green and the evens by David Levithan.

Each author employs his own writing style, creating the feeling that you're reading two entirely different

books that just happen to both have appearances by some of the same characters. This works against Levithan, whose subpar story looks even worse when sandwiched in between Green's excellent writing.

Levithan's Will Grayson is supposed to be one of the heroes of the story; however, I did not find him likable for a single page. His constant complaints on how hard life is go beyond the average level of teen angst and just come off annoying, and he is downright awful to everyone around him.

The absolute worst part of Levithan's chapters is his inability to use correct grammar. Not a single word

## Spotlight Artist: Lily Buchanan

BY SABIHA BARY  
News Co-Editor

Senior artist Lily Buchanan has taken the challenge of recreating the oldest form of art: Mother Nature.

Drawn to its rawness, mystery and absolute perfection, Lily incorporates the nature's elements in nearly all of her artwork.

Of the elements in nature, Lily finds herself lured to aquatic life, particularly jellyfish.

This translucent blob's carefree nature and peculiar appearance fascinates her.

"The freedom of their figure, the way they catch light attracts me," said Lily.

But her respect and admiration for nature does not end there.

Sticking a lily or a sunflower in her long wavy, flaxen hair, Lily, often dons her favorite color green, "a fresh and natural color," and "other earthy tones."

Jamming to classic rock from groups such as the Doors and Led Zeppelin, she paints on an unlikely canvas – cardboard.

Such simplicity is further demonstrated in her "art studio," as the hard floor and an old t-shirt act as her easel, situated near a miniature Zen garden, incense burner, and a cardboard box of art supplies.

"I really enjoy taking hikes, and just sitting by the river and observing

nature," she explained. "Through this, I keep that same soothing feeling in my art."

Therefore, it's not surprising that Lily, a person so in sync with Mother Earth, shares many of beliefs of Native American theology, and incorporates such elements in her art, such as dream catchers.

"I find that dream catchers have a very beautiful and organic structure to them," said Lily.

Aside from nature, Lily also blends surrealism and realism in her art, as she often attempts to revisit dreams on her canvases.

Her own favorite piece of artwork, "Dream Fish," combines this surrealism with nature.



**Lily incorporates her works with acrylic paint upon a piece of cardboard.**  
Contributed Photo

"It's of a jellyfish swimming through rainbow waters. I was in a relatively good mood when I made it, the colors give that away," she said.

Altogether, with such a deeply rooted passion for nature, Lily plans to be a horticulturist in the future.

"Art has always been a part of who I am," Lily said. "And I can't see it disappearing, not in ten years, not in 100."

is capitalized in any of his writing. While this helps to differentiate between the perspectives of the two Will Graysons, I'm sure the author could have thought of a way in doing so that wasn't so distracting to the reader.

Although Green helps to greatly improve the novel, "Will Grayson, Will Grayson" is by far not his best work. I felt he was trying so hard to avoid creating stereotypical characters that they became stereotypes anyway.

Tack on a slow start, and an anticlimactic and unbelievable ending, and you get the disappointing novel that is "Will Grayson, Will Grayson."

# ENTERTAINMENT

## Music Column

### End Game

BY JIM HERZOG

Science & Technology Editor

Hailing from Chicago, punk rock band Rise Against's latest album *Endgame* is nothing short of amazing. Immediately off the bat, vocalist Tim McIlrath comes in strong with his now refined vocals in the song "Architects."

Rise Against is a band that accomplishes something most bands refuse to even attempt; speaking about sociopolitical matters and pushing for awareness and human rights. McIlrath took a trip to post-hurricane Katrina New Orleans and from that experience wrote the song "Help Is On The Way." The entire song is enthrallingly eerie, as it comes from the perspective of someone trapped in the wreckage.

What may be the most prevalent song on the album, "Make It Stop," strikes a chord with most people who are still in their teenage years. The song is about the idiocy of rejecting and bullying others over homosexuality or differences in religion.

"And too much blood has flown from the wrists of the children shamed for those they chose to kiss," sang McIlrath. The climax of the song is an extremely chilling reading of the names of children who have committed suicide due to sexual orientation based bullying over a children's chorus.

The title track from the album *Endgame* is the last to be heard, and it has an outright stunning effect. The song details the end of the current world structure.

"The city lines are down. The kerosene's run out. The fracturing of all we relied upon," McIlrath sang in what would seem to be a negative song but is truly extremely optimistic.

Many fans of the band feared that after their previous album, *Appeal to Reason*, Rise Against would keep the mellower and less punk influenced sound from that album. These fans will be pleased to find out this is not the case at all.

## 69th Golden Globes Winners Announced

BY MIRANDA ZINN

Arts & Literature Co-Editor

The Golden Globes Awards "are just like the Oscars but without all that esteem," raunchy British host Ricky Gervais said during the Golden Globes telecast, his third time hosting the annual show. The ceremony—featuring awards distributed by the Hollywood Foreign Press—included nice surprises as well as great disappointments.

Simultaneously serving as an indicator of Oscar potential, the Golden Globes crowned "The Artist" and "The Descendants" as the early favorites by virtue of each one's enjoying multiple wins, including in the Best Comedy or Musical and the Best Drama categories, respectively. In addition, Morgan Freeman received the Lifetime Achievement award.

Jean Dujardin and George Clooney landed acting accolades, with Meryl Streep's

role in "The Iron Lady" and Michelle Williams' role in "My Week with Marilyn" both won as lead actresses. Streep's victory came primarily at the expense of Viola Davis in "The Help" whose fellow cast

unexpected winners. The first shocker of the night was when actor Idris Elba took home Best Actor in a miniseries for his role in "Luther." He was up against some tough contenders such as Hugh Bonneville's role in "Downton Abbey."

Kelsey Grammer took home the Globe for Best Actor in a drama for his role in "Boss." He prevailed over "Breaking Bad" and "Boardwalk Empire" actors Bryan Cranston and Steve Buscemi, respectively. Matt LeBlanc won Best Actor in comedy over Alec Baldwin's "30 Rock" and Johnny Galecki's "The Big Bang Theory." LeBlanc's role in "Episodes" is not as prominent as the other two contenders; however, it was important and popular enough for him to win the Globe.

As for the festivities, Gervais toned down his act due to controversy concerning his previous hosting at the Golden Globes. Many believe that his act this year was a huge disappointment.



Source: Hollywood Reporter

member, Octavia Spencer, did prevail in her bid for Best Supporting Actress.

The award show served several

## Bootleg Movies at All Time High

BY AUDREY-RENEE CREEGAN

Circulation Co-Manager

Piracy and bootleg movies have been long time problems for the movie industry. There have been many attempts to try to end this form of theft, but the fight has been getting more challenging due to the easier ways to download files straight onto computers and mobile devices.

Piracy comes in the form of P2P networks or hard copy bootlegs. One main cause for increased piracy is how new movie releases debut different times throughout the world. Users growingly prefer digital media since going to the movies can be expensive, especially when considering the cost of snacks and beverages.

Another reason why movie lovers pirate films is that they want to watch them conveniently on their own schedule. This is part of how the digital format has helped make piracy so prevalent; people can download or watch the movie whenever they want.

The advantages of the digital format include exact replication and almost no costs. Also, distribution is inexpensive and lacks a need for effort. Anyone can download movies easily using P2P networks or torrent files.

The most prevalent reason why movies are pirated is because ticket prices are extensively high. Ticket prices have doubled in the last decade, making going to the movies a luxurious pastime, especially for families. College students are one of the most avid illegal downloading groups because their tough financial situations.

## Movie Review

### "The Devil Inside"

BY BROOKE HOUSEKNECHT

Sports Co-Editor

"The Devil Inside" led the box-office sales on its opening weekend of Jan 6. The previews started a hype and drew moviegoers such as myself to the theatres, expecting a thrill.

The movie poses as a documentary about a young woman named Isabella who is in search for answers about her mother's tragic exorcism.

When Isabella was three years old her mother received an exorcism and killed the three priests aiding her. Isabella's search takes her to Rome, Italy, where her mother is held at a mental institute for the possessed.

When her questions were not being answered by the professors at the institute, she turned to two young priests who performed secret exorcisms.

The camera man follows Isabella and the priests into an exorcism to give her the feel of what she will have to go through with her mother. I too felt like a witness to the exorcism; it was so gruelingly graphic that it had me gripping my seat.

When they went through her mother's exorcism things only got worse, proving that no soul is safe from the devil.

The movie proved to be a gruesome thriller, but the ending was a true let down. If you're looking for an eerie movie with disturbing scenes, you'll find it in "The Devil Inside." I went expecting to be creeped out and I did leave the theatre scared.

# ENTERTAINMENT

## Copyright Protection Bill Sparks Debate

BY AOIFE DOWD  
Managing Editor

In the interconnected and social media driven world of the modern day, the internet has become a flea market of choices ranging from the legitimate to the wildly popular pirated materials.

In an attempt to regulate the surplus of illegal Internet material, the United States House of Representatives introduced the Stop Online Piracy Act (SOPA) and the Protect IP Act (PIPA) in the Senate, a radical piece of legislature that would potentially shutdown major social media websites and file sharing sites.

The explosion of Internet piracy has been an issue since the earliest beginning of social media in the form of sites such as Napster and Limewire.

With lobbying from some of the largest industry groups such as movies and music in conjunction with the Chamber of

Commerce, the acts were introduced.

The stipulations of these acts that would simultaneously attack major websites and focus more upon censorship than piracy



have caused major protest from not only citizens but politicians as well.

President Barack Obama in official statements from the White House declared he would not support the bill and multiple politicians have pulled support of the bills

heading into deliberation on the acts, which was officially shelved on Jan. 20.

Most notably the internet community has voiced their opinions on SOPA as popular websites such as Wikipedia and Google "blacked out" in protest on Jan. 17. These protests and petitions signed by Google users totaling over 7 million aimed to inform and gain support in opposition.

"I have heard from the critics, and I take seriously their concerns regarding proposed legislation to address the problem of online piracy," Representative and SOPA supporter Lamar Smith said in a statement following the shelving. "It is clear that we need to revisit the approach on how best to address the problem of foreign thieves that steal and sell American inventions and products."

The shelving of such legislation is intended to allow the bill to be amended in order to fit the needs of anti-piracy and support the users of the Internet.

## Music Column

*Edith Piaf*

BY STAR IRIZARRY  
Entertainment Editor

Known as "the little sparrow" to her generations of die-hard fans, French cabaret singer Edith Piaf possessed a voice as incredible as the life from which she came.

Raised in absolute destitution by a group of prostitutes, Piaf was discovered singing on the Parisian streets in the late 1930s. She quickly established a reputation for herself and became one of France's most celebrated musicians within a matter of years.

Tragically, her life was cut short by the liver cancer her troubled life undoubtedly caused. She died at the age of 47 in the early 1960s, but her reputation far outlived her brief life. She is regarded today as one of the world's greatest singers—and with good reason. The majesty of her powerful voice is truly a wonder of music.

Although Piaf is accredited with hundreds of songs, a recently released compilation entitled *The Very Best of Edith Piaf* is as good a place as any for a Piaf novice to begin their musical journey.

*The Very Best of Edith Piaf* includes some of Piaf's most popular songs, such as "La Vie en Rose" (covered by Louis Armstrong) and "Non Je Ne Regrette Rien" (popularized two years ago by Inception). Also featured in order to give first-time listeners a full range of Piaf's vocal abilities, are lesser-known hits like "Mon Dieu," "Mon Manage a Moi" and "C'est l'amor."

Piaf's voice radiates on each and every track this record supplies. Close your eyes, and you will truly feel as though you are indulging in the genuine street music of a Paris café.

Piaf never fails to captivate and her talent sparkles so brilliantly on this collection of some of her greatest hits that it remains difficult to describe her talent in petty words.

## Grammy Noms. Announced

BY KRISTIN CAROFANO  
Staff Writer

The Grammys are highly regarded awards in the music industry and it's every artist's dream to win one.

Although the Grammys aren't happening until Feb. 14, the nominees have been announced.

Adele's *21*, Lady Gaga's *Born this Way*, Bruno Mars' *Doo-Wops and Hooligans* Rihanna *Loud* and The Foo Fighters' *Wasting Light* are all facing off for Album of the Year.

Record of the Year is between, "Rolling in the Deep" by Adele, "Firework" by Katy Perry, "Grenade" by Bruno Mars, "Holocene" by Bon Iver and "The Cave" by Mumford & Sons.

Battling for Song of the Year is, "All of the Lights" performed by Kanye West, Rihanna, Kid Cudi and Fergie; "Rolling In the Deep" performed by Adele; "Grenade" performed by Bruno Mars, "The Cave" performed by Mumford & Sons; and "Holocene" performed by Bon Iver.

Best New Artist nominees are Nicki Minaj, J. Cole, The Band Perry, Bon Iver and Skrillex.

The artists hoping for Best Pop Solo Performance are Adele for "Someone like you," Lady Gaga for "You and I," Bruno Mars with "Grenade," Katy Perry for "Firework" and Pink for "Perfect".

Best Pop Duo/Group Performance nominees are "Body and Soul" by Tony Bennett and Amy Winehouse, "Dearest" by The Black Keys, "Paradise" by Coldplay, "Pumped Up Kicks" by Foster the People and "Moves Like Jagger" by Maroon 5 and Christina Aguilera.

## Movie Review "Colombiana"

BY SABIHA BARY  
News Co-Editor

In the mood for a dose of girl power, I watched "Colombiana" in hope of catching some thrilling action starring a woman other than Angelina Jolie. Wish denied. Zoe Saldana stars as the Cataleya, a Colombian girl, who after witnessing her parents death in Bogota, Colombia, is determined to seek vengeance by killing the men associated with the mobster responsible – Don Luis.

That she does, surprise, surprise. After the first scene, where young Cataleya escapes from Don Luis' gang, (successfully, of course) everything goes downhill. Columbiana is entirely predictable and most importantly, this so-called "action" film doesn't have real, teeth-biting, fist-punching action. The only action scene where I felt slightly amused wasn't until the end where Saldana fights off a guy with toothbrushes and finally stabs him in the head with a gun.

Altogether, "Columbiana" was a shame. As convincing as Saldana was as a stone-cold killer, the storyline and script ("She is like mist, under the door, a mouse in the wall!") ruined it. Every aspect of the movie was cliché, from her traveling through air-vents to her short romance with an artist.

Despite all this, I still hoped to find some depth in Saldana's character. No luck. Besides being traumatized about her family's death, Cateylana, who also works also professional assassin on the side, rarely exhibits emotion and never realizes the murders she commits could be seen as equally as wrong as the murder of her family.

# ENTERTAINMENT

## Top 2011 Artist Review

BY ANTHONY REYES  
Staff Writer



From being the top earning woman in music today, having made over 90 million dollars in 2011, being the Twitter Queen and having her hotly anticipated album *Born This Way* sell over 33 million copies in its opening weekend, Lady Gaga can easily be called the goddess of the music industry.

Not only has she risen to the top of the charts with her hits such as “Bad Romance” and “Edge of Glory,” but she also has an entire floor of Barney’s in NYC dedicated to her merchandise. She performed on New Year’s Eve and dropped the ball with the mayor. She has walked the runways of high fashion, performed with Tony Bennett and even had her own Thanksgiving special: “A Very Gaga Thanksgiving.” Not bad for someone who once lived on the streets.

Gaga rose to the top from having nothing and she taught us all that it’s okay to be who you are because you were born this way, baby.



Source: fanpop.com

BY LAUREN GRADY  
Editor in Chief



As much as I hate to admit it, I find myself being sucked into gimmicks more often than I would like. Infomercials require my attention, two-for-one specials call my name and flashy advertisements draw me in. One gimmick I don’t have a problem resisting is the ever popular, Lady Gaga.

My iPod isn’t exactly well acquainted with pop and dance music, but in reviewing the infamous *Mother Monster*, I buckled down, listened to the music and looked past the meat-covered outfits.

Even after shutting my eyes to the antics of the pop queen, I still saw the word “gimmick” flash on my eyelids. Cliché phrases and yells of being “born this way” didn’t allow me to enjoy much. Sure, some things were catchy and fun, but Rebecca Black’s “Friday” was catchy too, wasn’t it?

Gaga, ooh la la- I appreciate what you stand for, Ms. Monster, but I do not want your bad romance or bad music.

BY MIRANDA ZINN  
Arts & Literature Co-Editor



In an increasingly fragmented music world of sub-genres and ear bud isolation, she somehow united teens and Boomers, grandmas and hipsters, head bangers and rap fiends. Adele owned 2011.

During a prolonged recession overwhelmed by piracy, the 23 year old British artist managed to sell 13 million copies worldwide of her second album *21*, a classic, Motown-kissed diary ruminating on the anguished split from her first true love. But at its heart was that voice: giant, classic-sounding, promising emotional depth way beyond its years.

Named for Adele’s age during the album’s recording, *21* marks the moment the perpetually brokenhearted singer reached the top of Britain’s soul-revival scene. Full of gospel-tinged pain, remorse and longing, *21* is a nuanced breakup album that is steeped in sadness but never veers into cornball territory.

It’s refreshing when the year’s best-selling album is by a natural, talented artist free of a distorted voice. Hopefully *21* is a sign of things to come.



Source: fanpop.com

BY STAR IRIZARRY  
Entertainment Editor



If Dante Alighieri was to construct for me my own personal hell, it would consist of three worsening levels in which the following songs would loop eternally: “Rolling in the Deep,” “Set Fire to the Rain” and “Someone Like You.”

I’m not exactly sure what it is about Adele that makes me want to take an ice pick to my eardrums so dearly, but I’m starting to think it may have to do with radio repetition. When I wake up in the morning, Adele is playing. When I drive to school, Adele is playing. When I get on the bus, Adele is playing. When I walk in my front door, Adele is still playing.

Frankly, if I have to hear one more of her ex-boyfriend sob stories, I may go postal. It’s not that I don’t appreciate hearing an artist who isn’t water-logged with auto-tune—it’s just that the re-play value of her songs is starting to remind me of medieval torture.

So no Adele, “you’ll never find someone like me,” because if I have to ever hear you again, I’m going to have to be committed to an asylum.

BY ASHLEY RANIERO  
Staff Writer



When Katy Perry arose in the music world in 2008 with her single “I Kissed A Girl,” many viewed her as a one hit wonder. However, just three years later she has proven to be a multi-hit wonder, producing five No. 1 singles from the same album.

Her third album *Teenage Dream* was released in August of 2010 where her songs “California Gurls,” “E.T.,” “Firework,” “Last Friday Night (T.G.I.F)” and “Teenage Dream” all reached the Billboard Hot 100 chart. Katy Perry is the first female artist and second artist overall to achieve this accomplishment after Michael Jackson who reached this milestone in 1987 from his album “Bad.”

Her music easily became a huge hit to many teenagers with her lyrics because the meaning behind her songs relate to the typical teenage life.

Katy Perry is known now not only for her unique style of music, but also matching a musical record with the “King of Pop.”



Source: fanpop.com

BY JIM HERZOG  
Science & Technology Editor



The music world has a new scourge in recent days, Katy Perry. Being the most pure embodiment of evil to arise in the last 30 years, her upbeat pop music makes me wish I was deaf. Some people praise her as the next big thing in music, but I believe her music career should have just stayed a teenage dream.

I respect that she is trying to bring happy music to the usually dismal radio stations full of commercials; however, she need not have her songs played every 30 seconds by today’s DJs. The fact that Perry has almost broken all-time great Michael Jackson’s record for number one singles from a single album is an utter embarrassment to the taste of American radio listeners.

Please, for the love of my ears, stop insisting Katy Perry is the greatest thing ever - she isn’t.

# SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

## Health Aware “Avoiding Acne”

BY FAITH TORKILDSEN  
Staff Writer

Katy Perry may spend tons of money on acne products to boost her confidence and keep a blemish free face, but there are plenty of ways to be proactive without Proactiv.

Big companies such as Proactiv, Epiduo, and Skin ID use advertising to persuade others into believing the only way to clear acne is with their heavy chemicals. In reality though, there are simple and free ways to keep a clear face.

Pimples form due to the many oils that are on the human body. Oils are not always bad; they make the skin moist which helps prevent dry skin. Too much oil though, causes pores to clog which ultimately leads to break outs.

Everything has oils and bacteria on it. To prevent acne it is necessary to keep things away from the face. People with bangs are more likely to have acne due to their hair touching their face and causing excess oil to enter their pores.

A bad habit that many people have is touching their face with their hands. People touch thousands of things a day and then transfer the bacteria to their faces which clogs their pores and causes acne.

Lastly, simply washing your face twice a day can cure black heads and pimples. A cheap acne wash from drugstores is all you need to keep pores from clogging. These simple tips can help you save money and have a picture-perfect face.

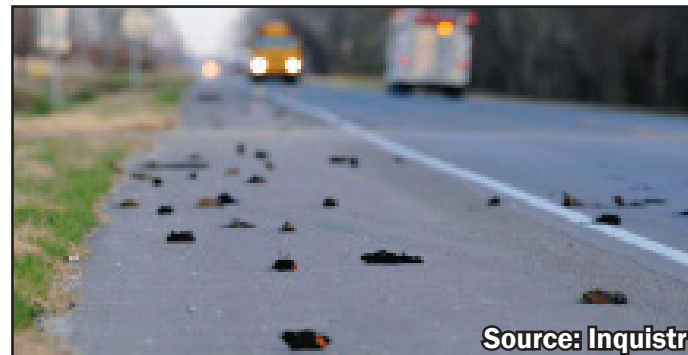


Source: Yourrealreview

## Dead Blackbirds Fall from Sky in Arkansas

BY DAN FAVARO  
Science & Technology Co-Editor

Just moments before midnight on New Year's Eve, thousands of dead blackbirds rained down within a one mile radius of Beebe, a small town in Arkansas, leaving



Source: Inquistr

local residents – as well as the rest of the world – in awe of what happened to cause this natural phenomenon.

The approximately 5,000 deaths seemed to come from massive blunt trauma, which could have been incited by a number of possibilities, both natural and man-made. There was no sign of disease in the examined birds.

One possible cause of death is the weather – a lightning strike or even high altitude hail are possibilities because a storm moved through the area earlier in the day. This would not be uncommon, as this has happened many

times before in many different areas of the country, as well as the world.

Another possibility is that the fireworks shot off at New Year's could have stressed the birds, causing them to leave their roosts in the treetops in fury. Blackbirds have trouble seeing at night, and there are a lot of things they could have flown in to, including houses, trees and telephone poles.

“The birds obviously hit something very hard and had hemorrhages,” said Karen Rowe, an ornithologist for the game and fish commission.

The U.S. Environmental Services coordinated the cleanup, properly disposing of any dead birds that residents had on their lawns, roofs and roads.

## NATURAL PHENOMENONS ON NEW YEAR'S EVE...

## Fishy Happenings Leave Norwegians Looking for Answers

BY DOM MONTEMARANO  
Sports Co-Editor

On Dec. 31, thousands of dead herring mysteriously blanketed a stretch of the Norway coastline, only to disappear by New Year's Day.

Experts have hypothesized that predators may have forced a large school of herring ashore. Other theories speculate that a powerful storm, which struck Norway on Christmas Day, may have caused the fish to wash up on the coastline.

According to Ole Kristian Berg, a professor of fish ecology at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology, predators such as pollock, cod and killer whales are most likely the culprits for causing the herring, which are forage fish that are usually found in the North Pacific and the North Atlantic oceans, to wash ashore. The predators, in theory, forced the herring into shallow waters, and since the shallow waters were not able to sustain the

life of herring, they were left to die.

“We have seen herring stranded before, but never this much,” Berg stated.

Originally, people thought that an earthquake may have forced a school of herring to the shore; however, this theory was quickly eliminated because there had been no reported seismic activity in the area on New Year's Eve.

Local Norwegian, Jan-Petter Jorgensen was walking his dog when he stumbled upon the estimated 20 tons of dead fish.

“People say that something similar happened in the 1980s,” Jorgensen said. “Maybe the fish have been caught in a deprived oxygen environment and then died of fresh water.”

According to local authorities, before the Norwegians could star with the cleanup, the fish had been carried out to the North Sea by the tides. Even though the fish were washed away, Jorgensen believes that the stench will

become “quite intense” over time.

The trade in herring is an important part of many national economies in Europe as the herring is often referred to as the “silver of the sea.”

This whole occurrence comes just days after an entire flock of blackbirds suddenly dropped dead over Beebe, Ark. for the second year in a row.



Source: Washington Post

# SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

## OnStar Provides Car Applications and Utilities

BY MIRANDA ZINN

*Arts & Literature Co-Editor*

While lawmakers are passing stricter regulations on cell phone usage in cars, OnStar appears to be challenging that trend with its new in-car 4G system that will stream video content and allow passengers to use applications.

OnStar showed off the system at 2012's Consumer Electronics Show (CES). CES is a major technology-related trade show held each January in the Las Vegas Convention Center.

OnStar is a daughter company of General Motors (GM) that provides subscription-based communications, in-vehicle security and turn-by-turn navigation throughout the United States, Canada and China.

"We are bringing the idea of a connected car to life by revolutionizing the way we stay connected to the world while we drive and with the vehicle while it's parked," said Steve Schwinke, Director of Advanced System

Development at OnStar.

This new technology was showcased in the Chevrolet Volt, a plug-in hybrid electric vehicle manufactured by GM.

Using the OnStar Remote Link App on their phone, owners can control their cars from their homes. They can receive a notification when their Volt is done charging and can lock, unlock and start it.

With the help of the Home Energy Management System, drivers can use

their car to control their homes. They can manage energy settings such as home thermostat temperatures and light settings through the in-vehicle system.

A dual-zone management system lets both passengers access streamed and cached content including music, videos and games. Rear passengers can also enjoy Skype video-calling.

Using Verizon's 4G LTE network, passengers can download and use various apps, including those created by third-parties.

Currently, some popular applications that are available include Netflix, YouTube, Slacker, Skype, Pandora and Angry Birds.

The Volt has two screens on the back of each front seat so backseat passengers can pass the time while traveling. The front driver can control what is being viewed on

the back screens via the front interface.

The other half of the Volt's new capabilities relates to smart grid technology. Drivers will get more information like charging status, remaining drive distance, vehicle diagnostics and nearby charging stations through its system.

All passengers will have the ability to stream content from a home computer or a cloud-based content provider, as well as share content with each other.

Some of the connected-vehicle functions sound as though they could distract drivers at least as much as talking or texting on a cell phone, but OnStar claims it will implement any such systems in a way that maintains the highest level of safety.

While this is still in its research stages, it could potentially inspire other companies to shift gears and create something similar.

"This is just a glimpse of what the future could look like for the cloud-connected vehicle," Schwinke concluded.



Source: Gizmodo

## Durable Silk Created

BY KATELYN ANDERSON

*News Co-Editor*

Scientists have recently created a genetically modified silkworm that spins a new kind of silk: a hybrid of silkworm silk and spider silk.

In the future, large scale production of artificial spider silk could lead to the development of stronger fibers for textiles, b a n d a g e s

for burn victims and bulletproof vests.

"This research represents a significant breakthrough in the development of superior silk fibers for both

medical and non-medical applications," Notre Dame Professor Malcolm J. Fraser Jr. said in a statement. "The generation of silk fibers having the properties of spider silks has been one of the important goals in materials science."

Silkworms have helped clothe

people for thousands of years by reliably producing large quantities of a soft, supple and luxurious material, but spider silk is much stronger.

Spider silk is a remarkable material, wonderfully adapted for trapping, crushing, climbing and more. It is extraordinarily strong and tough, while still being elastic enough to stretch several times its original length.

The new silk is a hybrid of spider silk and silkworm silk. It is stronger and finer than silkworm silk, but not quite as strong as spider silk. In this work the Notre Dame and University of Wyoming scientists replaced only one of multiple silk-producing genes in silkworms with spider silk genes. Eventually they want to replace multiple

silkworm silk-producing genes with spider silk genes.

"The next step will be to produce silkworms that produce silk fibers consisting entirely of spider silk proteins," said lead researcher from the University of Wyoming, Dr. Donald Jarvis.



Source: livescience

## Animals Travel Freely

BY DOM MONTEMARANO

*Sports Co-Editor*

Crossing the road may not be as perilous for animals or drivers anymore as newly designed animal underpasses aim to reduce the amount of collisions between animals and vehicles.

These underpasses which already have been constructed in areas such as the United States and Australia, allow wildlife to move from one side of a road to another without encountering vehicle transportation

In the U.S., a new route planned to connect with U.S. Highway 64 in Washington County, North Carolina gave researchers the chance to observe wildlife activity before and after the route was constructed.

The new road was built through an agricultural area, which included resident animals such as black bears, red wolves and white-tailed deer. Part of the highway included three underpasses that strived to funnel the animals through

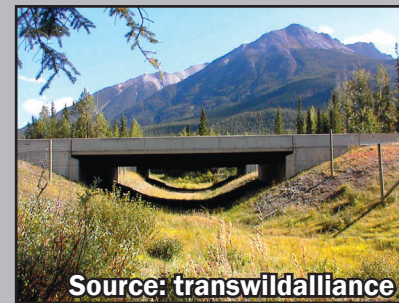
without any interaction with vehicles.

The new underpasses caused a 60 percent decrease in animal deaths on the new division and when compared to flanking sections of U.S. Highway 64, the new section's wildlife mortality rate was reduced by 58 percent.

This concept can be traced back to when Utah created a wildlife overpass in 1976 and since then, the idea has been replicated worldwide.

In August 2008, rope bridges were made in Australia in order to help small critters avoid major roads. Nowadays, the bridges are considered a success as the wildlife is taking advantage of the bridges and the mortality rates have dropped.

Around the world, wildlife underpasses are becoming more and more common as small pipes are being constructed to allow toads to migrate and large culverts have been designed to allow larger animals such as bears and moose to pass through.



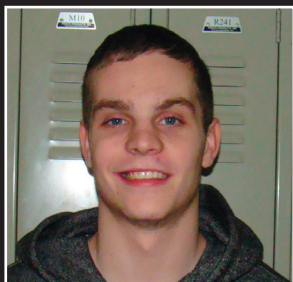
Source: transwildalliance



# SPORTS

## Warriors Shut Down Wallenpaupack Bucks

### SPOTLIGHT ATHLETE



Brent Fragola, JUNIOR

**"Brent is a co-captain and one of the toughest kids on the team. He scored 25 points in the championship game against East Stroudsburg North and received MVP of the entire Holiday Rotary Tournament"**

**-Coach Kris Holtzer**

BY FAITH TORKILDSEN  
Staff Writer

The Warriors shut down the Wallenpaupack Bucks 46-39 in overtime on Jan. 17.

Both teams came out ready to fight; however as the jump ball was released the Bucks made the first offensive play. They had control over the court for the first three minutes as the Warriors got their heads in the game.

"It is just as much mental as it is physical," head coach Kris Holtzer said on the sideline to his players.

The Warriors gained control of the game with five minutes left in the first quarter after senior Brandon Angradi scored the first basket of the night on the arc. The Bucks only answered with one point by the end of the first quarter.

The intensity grew in the gym during the second quarter. The Warriors received a majority of the rebounds and used patient plays to set up both junior Brent Fragola and Angradi. After eight long hard fought minutes Wallenpaupack closed the

scoring gap and ended the half with a call by the referees allowed the Bucks to tie the game up and put the game into overtime.

Warrior lead 17-14. The Warriors held the lead through the third quarter. The Bucks tied it up, but DV regained the lead shortly after. This game between rivals was a heated match and neither team was giving up until the very end. Junior post Bryan Schor had great takes to the hoop and came up with many rebounds on both offense and defense.

The fourth quarter brought fans to their feet as both teams worked hard to gain control of the game. Foul shots could have changed the game for either team but the charity stripe was not giving. With two minutes left, Wallenpaupack took the lead, but the Warriors fought and regained the lead. An unfounded



**Junior Bryan Schor drives to the basket in attempt to score.**

**Photo by Faith Torkildsen**

allowed the Bucks to tie the game up and put the game into overtime.

"[Playing in] overtime doesn't make the team nervous. They knew exactly what they had to do; it was just a matter of doing it," said Coach Holtzer.

DV maintained the lead throughout overtime and intentional fouls by the Bucks helped the Warriors win the game 46-39.

"We took out the purple and painted the court black and white," said junior Cory Savarese.

## Lady Warriors Suffer Five Point Loss to Hornets

### SPOTLIGHT ATHLETE



Caitlin Hartey, SENIOR

**"Caitlin is an extremely competitive basketball player. She was recently named to the all-tournament team at the Rotary Tournament. She is the type of player that every coach wants."**

**-Coach Leslie Lordi**

BY BROOKE HOUSEKNECHT  
Sports Co-Editor

The DV Lady Warriors faced a tough game against Honesdale on Jan. 18. The Warriors fought for a victory on their home court but fell short, 45-50, Hornets.

Honesdale won the tip to start off the game and scored their first basket within ten seconds. They also used a full court press from the start, forcing the Warriors to turn over the ball. When DV broke the press and took possession over half court, senior MaryGrace Kennedy scored the first basket for the warriors and also took the first foul shots, making both. Right as the first quarter came to a close, senior Jenna Peters tied up the game 16-16.

Just like the start of the game, Honesdale came out strong the second quarter with a breakaway to gain back the lead. The Hornets could not be stopped and pulled ahead by ten points. Yet, just as

soon as the Hornets pulled ahead, junior Katie Murphy closed the gap to eight by scoring a jump shot.

Honesdale kept a steady lead



**DV attempts to block out Honesdale after a shot by the Warriors.**

**Photo by Brooke Houseknecht**

throughout the third and fourth quarter while the intensity in the gym was fierce with both teams fighting for a win. Senior Trish Pacella brought the Warriors back into the game. Pacella put up twelve

points and three assists for the Warriors during the game.

"I was really proud of how the team played. Everyone played together and it was the best game we have played all season. We lost by five but Honesdale won against more competitive teams, so it gives us hope for the rest of the season," said Pacella. "We can't wait to play them again."

Caitlin Harty contributed for the Warriors with four points, four turnovers, and two steals. Senior Megan Braunagel was a great asset to the Warriors, having twelve rebounds, four turnovers, and five blocks throughout the game.

"Megan played one of the best games so far this season," coach Lordi said. "It was nice to see her intensity back on the court."

The Hornets fouled the Warriors throughout the game but DV wasn't successful in sinking a majority of the foul shots.

Despite their efforts, the Warriors lost and had their record fall to 3-11.

# SPORTS

## Cheerleaders Achieve First Place

By KRISTIN CAROFANO  
Staff Writer

On Jan. 8, the varsity competition cheerleading team competed at West Morris High School, in Chester, N.J. The competition was hosted by Gotta Cheer, and DV placed first.

"In our first competition of the new year, we encountered something we were not expecting. Through the mishap, we did not give up. Rather, we stepped it up, joined our alien forces and united as a team," said junior Kayla Bowe and senior Lisa Gatto.

The team really showed its strength by placing first despite the fact that one of the DV cheerleaders received an injury during the warm up before the team's routine.

Junior Stephanie Nagy was performing

during the team's warm-up when another teammate accidentally elbowed her underneath her eye. She had to be taken off the mat and she couldn't compete with her team.

Even though the scoring procedure is quite complicated, the girls scored the highest on the tumbling portion of the routine.

"Although it wasn't our best

performance, we pulled through and showed great determination," said coach Jen Simonsen.

Despite the lack of spectator enthusiasm, the team was able to incorporate its new tumbling passes and remain positive.

The junior varsity team placed second in the competition.

"I'm proud of my team for pulling it together, and I'm looking forward to the next competitions," said senior Victoria Steiner.

The cheerleaders' next competition will take place on Jan. 28 at Minisink Valley High School.



DV Cheerleaders pose with the first place trophy.  
Contributed Photo

## DV Swim Avenges Last Year's Loss

By KELLY CAPPELLO  
Sports Editor

On Jan. 17, the DV Warrior swim team sought revenge for last year's defeat upon the Tunkhannock Area Tigers at the DV natatorium.

The Tigers were easily slayed by the Warrior boys, 108-75, and the Warrior girls, 141-43.

The meet began with a 10-4 Warrior lead for both the boys and the girls as DV teams placed first and third in the opening 200 Yard Medley Relay. The Warriors kept a prominent lead for the remainder of the meet.



Sophomore Jamil Mirabito swims toward a Delaware Valley victory.  
Photo by Sam Famularo

The DV boys dominated in the 200 Yard Freestyle, as freshman Collin Deans placed 1st with a time of 1:57.35, and sophomores Jonathan Ramirez and Evan Gutman took 3rd and 5th respectively to give the Warriors a 20-10 lead.

The DV girls matched the boys' intensity and slaughtered the Tigers in the 200 Yard IM. Senior Kendall Glaster placed 1st with a time of 2:31.58, and junior Yakira Mirabito and sophomore Alexandra DeVilliers followed with 2nd and 3rd place respectively to gain the girls 13 more points.

Both the Warrior boys and the girls were

successful in the 50 Yard Freestyle, adding 11 points to the boys' score for a 40-22 lead, and 11 points to the girls' score for an even more impressive 42-20 lead.

The Lady Warriors held 1st and 2nd place in the following events: the 100 Yard Butterfly, the 100 Yard Freestyle, the 200 Yard Freestyle Relay, the 100 Yard Backstroke, the 100 Yard Breaststroke and the 400 Yard Freestyle Relay. The girls finished the meet with a near 100 point lead, defeating the Tigers 141-43.

The boys held 1st place in the 100 Yard Freestyle, the 500 Yard Freestyle and in the 400 Yard Freestyle Relay. The boys satisfied their desire for a vengeance with a winning score of 108-75.

"We've been training for this meet, and we were very pumped to prove ourselves this time," senior captain Raymond Demasi concluded.

## SPOTLIGHT ATHLETE



Payton Reper, SENIOR

"Payton is a powerhouse backspot and an extremely hard worker. As a three year varsity athlete, her experience is a major asset to the team."

-Coach Jennifer Simonsen

## SPOTLIGHT ATHLETE



Noel Vellekamp, JUNIOR

"Noel won two individual events and was part of two winning relays."

-Coach Victoria Zielazny

## Girls Notch 200<sup>th</sup> Win

On Dec. 22, the girls' varsity swim team defeated Berwick, making it their 200th career win. This was an amazing accomplishment the team was able to experience. With last year's boys' team reaching this goal, the girls were focused on doing the same this year. With the help of all previous team members winning past meets, reaching number 200 was not too hard for the current girls' team. "It wouldn't have been possible without all the hard work of past teams. I am so happy I got to experience this one time accomplishment especially my last year on the team," said senior captain Katie Pandish.



Contributed Photos / Caption by Sam Famularo

# SPORTS

## Marc Wagner Receives Senior Scholar Athlete

By **KELLY CAPPELLO**  
*Sports Editor*

On Dec. 28, the Delaware Valley boys' wrestling team traveled to Bethlehem for the annual Bethlehem Holiday Wrestling Classic Tournament to compete for more than 1st place; the DV wrestlers competed individually against wrestlers from over 30 other teams for a \$500 scholarship, the John E. Fenstermacher Senior Scholar Athlete Award.

The scholarship was given to DV wrestling captain senior Marc Wagner for his wrestling ability, academic achievements and community involvement.

The Fenstermacher Senior Scholar Athlete Award was created by the Fenstermacher family after the tragic death of 45-year-old John E. Fenstermacher

who battled Lou Gehrig's disease from 1999 until his death in 2006. He was the co-founder of the Bethlehem Holiday Wrestling Classic Tournament, president of East Penn Youth Wrestling League and a devoted coach of numerous teams in the Bethlehem area.

Although Marc and the other contenders were informed of the scholarship before the start of the match, Marc wrestled with a clear mind.

"I didn't really think about the scholarship; I just focused on wrestling," said Marc.

Throughout his nine years as a wrestler, Marc's focus has been essential to his success, paving the way for his 100th varsity win on Jan. 18.

"You develop a certain mind set to



**Marc Wagner meets the Fenstermacher family and receives a plaque.**  
*Contributed Photo*

go out and wrestle hard no matter who you're wrestling," he said.

As a superior student enrolled in

many honors and advanced placement courses, including AP Micro and Macro Economics, AP Environmental Science and AP Calculus AB, Marc has learned to employ this same focus off the mat.

"It's really not that difficult for me. I've been doing it since freshman year, so I'm used to it," said Marc.

According to head coach Lou DeLauro, Marc's incredible self-discipline and his work ethic have earned him the respect of wrestlers in the district as well as in the state.

"Marc leads by example, and every wrestler in the room has great respect for him. He does the right thing on the mat as well as off the mat," said coach DeLauro.

Junior captain Jack Fagan agrees.

"It's nice to captain alongside Marc because he's a great leader with a great personality," Fagan concluded.

## DV Wrestling Hammers the Honesdale Hornets

By **ASHLEY RANIERO**  
*Staff Writer*

After placing 5th out of 32 teams at the Bethlehem Holiday Wrestling Classic over the holiday break, the wrestling



**Matt Wagner attempts to improve his position to score a takedown.**  
*Photos by Ashley Raniero*

team was ready for its match up against Honesdale on Jan. 4. The Warriors took control of the night and defeated the Lackawanna League competitor 47-20.

"It was a great win, and it was expected that we would get a victory over Honesdale. It's nice to have our first league win under our belts," said junior captain Jack Fagan.

The Warriors came out strong from the start with a pin fall from senior captain Marc Wagner at only 51 seconds. Immediately following, freshman Matt Wagner and junior Martin Strenk contributed to the win with technical falls. Juniors Jack Fagan, Jake Lang and Lucas Markowitz all pinned their opponents, totaling four pins for the night.

The Warriors continued to dominate on the mat as senior Jimmy Giannini, freshman Frankie Carrozza and juniors Anthony Colletta and Dan Favaro also won their matches, adding points to the



**Evan Wagner works to keep his opponent in-bounds.**

scoreboard, and thus, creating a victory over Honesdale.

Satisfied with the win, head coach Lou DeLauro said, "We have a lot of fight in us and are coming together as a team. As long as we continue to wrestle our best, we will continue to do well and succeed on the mat."

### SPOTLIGHT ATHLETE



**Jack Fagan, JUNIOR**

**"Jack finished in sixth place at the Hurricane Holiday Tournament. He also defeated the sixth ranked wrestler in the state."**

**-Coach Lou DeLauro**

### Upcoming Games

**Boys' Basketball**

**7:15 p.m., Jan. 31**  
**vs. Abington Heights HS**

**7:15 p.m., Feb. 3**  
**vs. West Scranton HS**

**Girls' Basketball**

**5:00 p.m., Feb. 1**  
**vs. Honesdale HS**

**7:15 p.m., Feb. 6**  
**vs. Scranton HS**

**Wrestling**

**6:45 p.m., Jan. 31**  
**vs. West Scranton HS**

**8:00 a.m., Feb. 4**  
**vs. League Meet**

**Swimming/Diving**

**4:30 p.m., Feb. 7**  
**@Abington Heights HS**

**4:30 p.m., Feb. 14**  
**vs. Scranton Prep. HS**

**Competition Cheer**

**TBA, Jan. 28**  
**@Minisink Valley HS**

**TBA, Feb. 4**  
**@Monroe WoodBury HS**