

See why Elias Benda thinks the mayoral pickings are slim **P. 5**



Read about undocumented students' fight for a college education **P. 6**



Check out a play-by-play of Wilson's history-making homecoming victory **P. 8**



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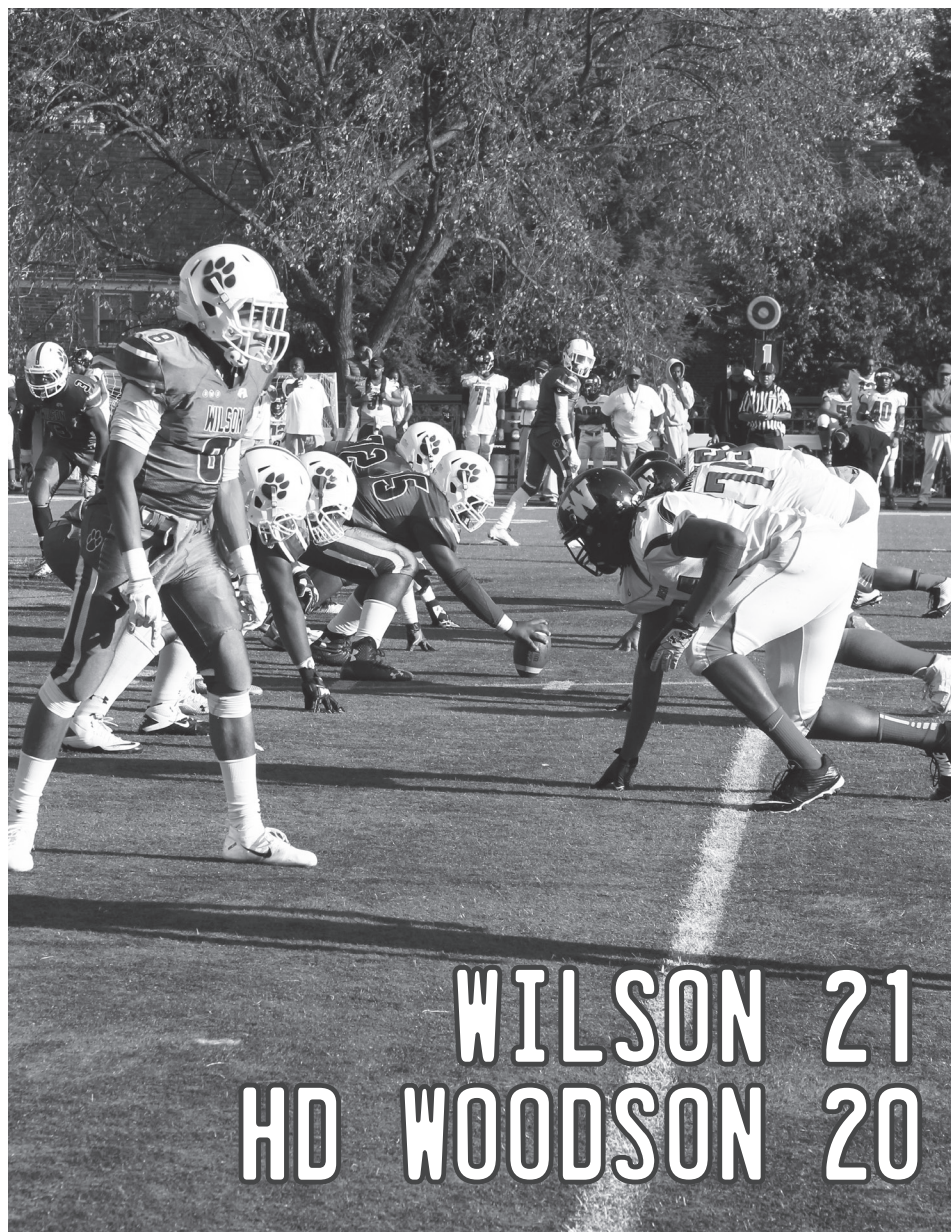


Photo by Ellie Le Blanc

HISTORIC HOMECOMING- The Wilson Tigers beat the H.D. Woodson Warriors for the first time in Wilson football history. The Tigers come off the win looking into the post-season. For more pictures of the game see thewilsonbeacon.com

DC Council to Vote on "Offensive" Mascots

Rachel Page
Features Editor

On September 23, DC Councilmembers Kenyan McDuffie and David Grosso introduced a bill to ban the use of race-based nicknames, logos, mascots, and team names in DC educational institutions. If passed, the bill would insert the ban into DC's Human Rights Act of 1977, which already prohibits acts of racial discrimination.

The bill comes after the DC Council's unanimous vote last November in favor of a resolution urging the DC football franchise to change its name. McDuffie, who supported the statement, said that it forced him to think about the racial issues in his own backyard. "It seemed hypocritical of us as councilmembers to pressure the team to change its name, yet we still allow schools here to have race-based mascots," he explained.

Before being voted upon in the DC Council, the bill must first go through the Committee on the Judiciary and Public Safety, where McDuffie hopes there will be a hearing on it. Any Wilson student

who wants to can give testimony at the hearing either for or against the bill, or write a letter to the Council stating their opinion.

According to American Indian Cultural Support, there are seven DC schools with Native American mascots, either "Indians" or "Warriors." At least two have changed these names, deemed offensive to some, since the report was released in the early 2000s.

Some DC residents, however, are uncertain about the proposed ban. A petition on Change.org to oppose the ban, started by an alumnus of Anacostia High School, has gained over 250 signatures in less than a month. "I am proud to be an Indian," read multiple comments below the petition. "It was once all Native American land," says another.

Anacostia gets its name from a Native American tribe that settled along the Anacostia River in what is modern-day DC. The tribe's original name, the Nacotchtank, was later anglicized to "Ana-

Queen Candidate Controversy Prompts Homecoming Court Cancellation

By Annie Rosenthal

It all started as a joke. Senior Emiliano Muñoz was listed in the yearbook twice last year—once as "Emiliano" and once as "Emiciano." When it came time to sign up for Homecoming Court elections, he had an idea: "I wanted Emiliano to be king and Emiciano to be queen," he said. "But I wasn't allowed to do both. So I just ran for queen. It went from a joke to a message saying a male could be queen if he really wanted to."

Muñoz won by a landslide. The next day, Principal Pete Cahall called him in for a meeting before the homecoming game, when the members of the court were set to be announced.

"He told me how he takes offense to this act because he thought I was being homophobic...I apologized that it was poor judgment, that it could be seen as homophobic. I would renounce my title and step back," said Muñoz.

However, after further conversation around what he understood to be Muñoz's motives, Cahall made a summary decision to cancel the court entirely. He interpreted Muñoz's behavior as a personal attack. He said: "I've got a young man who thinks it's a joke to say he's queen when I suffer for 50 years of my life being gay. And I don't think he saw it on those terms, and the hundreds of students who voted for him didn't either. But to me it's a slap in the face. It doesn't say we are a community of tolerance when people think it's a joke to say you're gay."

The court's cancellation came as a disappointment to many students who ran for positions. Said senior Angel Cox, who ran for queen, "This is my senior year and I spent a lot of time and money in hopes of becoming Homecoming Queen. It was very disappointing that there was no homecoming court this year. I think whomever is responsible should apologize to the participants."

Senior Jazmin Bunn, who also ran for queen, agreed: "Honestly at this point I don't care anymore, but

for the underclassmen it's not fair."

Some students feel that the cancellation was excessive. "Some boy ran for Homecoming Queen as a joke, just to be funny. It was nothing against being gay. I think Mr. Cahall called it off



because he felt that it was towards him being gay," said senior Brandon Sharp, who was a candidate for king.

Cahall says the decision to cancel the court was a product of multiple factors. One candidate for queen had been left off the ballot, and several students ran unopposed. Additionally, he was disappointed with student behavior at the pep rally.

"I expect our seniors to be leaders and when we're at a pep rally shouting obscenities that's not leadership," he said. "I loved the energy. What I didn't like was the negativity." Next year, he said, he hopes cheerleaders will develop interactive cheers that "channel the energy in a positive way."

In the coming week, Cahall plans to visit senior English classes to explain his decision. "I want to talk about how hurt I was and continue to be, as well as say I made the decision and this is why," he said.

The complications surrounding the court raised questions about whether a homecoming court will be included in Spirit Week festivities in coming years. "If we're going to continue to have Homecoming King and Queen, which is a 78-year tradition, we're going to have to reevaluate the process. But if it's a big joke, why are we doing it anyway?" said Cahall.

Student Government Association faculty adviser Eden McCauslin remains optimistic about future elections. "We're actively looking at how we nominate and vote for Homecoming Court and we hope to have a new and improved way starting next year so that it's fair and inclusive for everyone," she said. "Overall, I think Homecoming was a great, positive week that got a little dramatic. And hopefully we can keep that positive energy into winter break."

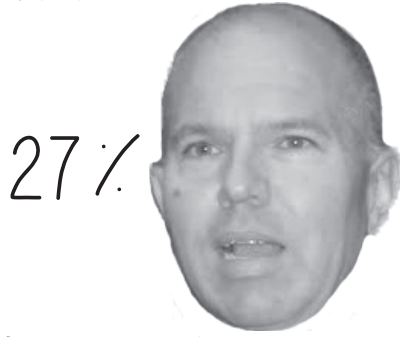
Photo by Carl Stewart

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Get To Know the Mayoral Candidates

By Emma Buzbee

For the first time in more than 20 years, when DC residents go to the polls and vote in the mayoral general election on November 4, a clear victor will not be apparent ahead of time. While the Democratic party's primary elections for mayor have been hard-fought battles in recent years, the fact that 75% of the District's registered voters are Democrats has in the past almost always assured a Democratic mayoral victory. Until this year: Independent candidates Carol Schwartz and Councilmember David Catania are narrowing the gap between themselves and Democratic Councilmember Muriel Bowser. On October 27, all six mayoral candidates gave a presentation to students in Wilson's auditorium. For more on the presentations, see the story on thewilsonbeacon.com



27% Catania - Independent

WHAT PEOPLE LIKE...

- Has been on the Council for 17 years
- Solid understanding of education issues

WHAT PEOPLE CRITICIZE...

- Known to be very aggressive

ENDORSEMENTS...

- Endorsed by VT Governor Peter Shumlin

ACHIEVEMENTS...

- Helped cut the # of DC residents without health insurance in half
- Pushed for marriage equality
- Has created college tuition assistance program (DC Promise)

SPECIAL CONSIDERATION...

- Openly gay & was a Republican before switching to Independent



44% Bowser - Democrat

WHAT PEOPLE LIKE...

- Considered to be relatable because she is young & black

WHAT PEOPLE CRITICIZE...

- Ties to Adrian Fenty, who was unpopular with many black DC residents

ENDORSEMENTS...

- Endorsed by President Obama, the Washington Post, and Eleanor Holmes Norton

ACHIEVEMENTS...

- Kids Ride Free, allowing DCPS students free passage on public transportation
- Alice Deal for All, bill to decrease achievement gap in DCPS middle schools
- Supports the legalization of marijuana



10% Schwartz - Independent

WHAT PEOPLE LIKE...

- Most experienced in public service
- Strong believer in political honesty

WHAT PEOPLE CRITICIZE...

- Has run for mayor five times without winning

ACHIEVEMENTS...

- Co-sponsored medical marijuana legislation
- Helped create Banneker High School
- Spearheaded sick leave for city workers

TAKES A STAND ON...

- Boundaries, "I don't want the Wilson & Eastern HS boundaries to take us backwards from Brown vs. Board of Education"

SPECIAL CONSIDERATION...

- Unlikely to win due to being far behind in poll #s
- Recently switched from Republican to Independent

Graphic by Jane Martin

Show Us the Money

Arrival of NMSI Money Questioned



Graphic by Jane Martin

Story Sullivan
Staff Writer

After months of anticipation, the 196 Wilson students who passed their English, math, or science AP exam taken last spring will be receiving their \$100 checks. As promised, the checks will be delivered by mail at the end of October or beginning of November; courtesy of a federal grant.

Wilson received the National Math and Science Initiative (NMSI) grant from its College Readiness program back in the summer of 2013, which was just in time to be put in place for students preparing to take last year's Spring AP exams.

According to the NMSI Communications Director Tara Marathe, the money will be distributed in the form of a check made out to the student and will be delivered any time between October and November. Marathe explains that in Wilson's first year partnered with their College Readiness programs, AP exam scores have already gone up. "In 2013, 57.8% of the students who took the AP Statistics exam received a passing score and in 2014, 59.4% of students received a passing score. (On AP tests, a passing

score is three or higher.) AP Physics C: Mechanics AP test scores have also been raised by about 3%."

Although the increases in passing scores are small now, as more students become aware of the incentives it will could increase the studying and passing rates.

Junior and AP English student Jaemison Tenwalde was not aware of the incentives for passing scores. "Knowing that I can earn money by doing well in my classes motivates me to study hard because I could really use the money to put towards college tuition and textbooks," Tenwalde said.

While the incentives serve as motivation to students, they also reward teachers for hard work and effort. Teachers of AP math, science, or English courses will receive \$1,000 bonuses for reaching a set goal of passing students and \$100 for each additional student.

"Fourteen Wilson teachers will receive awards for the qualifying scores earned by their students and/or a stipend for attending NMSI-supported professional development and student study sessions," Marathe said.

The ultimate purpose of the grant is to motivate students and teachers to get high AP test scores. The increase of passing scores on many AP tests in 2014 demonstrates that the NMSI College Readiness Program is motivating many students and preparing them for college-level classes and work.

DC Votes on Marijuana Legalization

On November 4, DC residents will be able to vote on whether or not to legalize marijuana. If the bill passes, adults 21 and over will be allowed to possess two ounces of marijuana and can grow up to six plants in their personal residences. While all sales will still be illegal, adults will be allowed to give away one ounce. People under 21 will remain under the current law, which makes it illegal to possess or use marijuana, but offenders will receive a fine instead of criminal punishment. The possession or use of marijuana will still be illegal with criminal charges on federal grounds such as the Capitol.

The issue of legalization has become increasingly prominent recently in DC, with racial prejudice an important part of the discussion. In a report of arrest statistics from 2009 to 2011, Blacks received nine out of ten charges for simple drug possession, hugely disproportionate to the ratio of Blacks to whites in the city. This inequality was a large reason for the DC Council's decision to decriminalize marijuana in the summer of 2014. DC residents favor legalization by almost two to one, demonstrating that Washington DC is a city on level with the liberal giants of Denver and Seattle.

By Emma Buzbee

Council Bill to Settle Mascot Dispute

FROM PG 1

costine,” and finally “Anacostia.” Some Anacostia alumni still believe that commemorating this history is worth the price of a possibly offensive mascot.

This reluctance to change sheds new light on an issue that is often seen as the direct influence of a white settler-colonialist mindset. It was a band of white English settlers that ambushed the Nacotchtank tribe in 1622, and English-borne diseases that led to their mass depopulation in 1668. Under colonial rule, Native Americans and native Africans alike were exploited and dehumanized by white settlers.

Considering this history, the 99% Black student body of

Anacostia High School clearly has a unique relationship to its mascot. Most, however, would argue that this is no excuse for appropriating the image of Native American people.

One District Heights resident who signed the petition described her awareness of “the connections of many African-Americans to Native Americans.” Jenna Macaulay, a Syracuse-based lawyer from the Tuscarora Nation, agrees that coalitions between native and non-native communities are important. However, she argues that using the image of a Native American for a sports team mascot is not a good way to form this bond. Instead, schools should encourage students to spend time “learning about these people, what they

went through, what they did to survive, how they used to live. Learning history and culture is the best respect and homage you can give.”

Macaulay points to the National Museum of the American Indian in downtown DC as a perfect alternative to offensive appropriation. In Syracuse, where there is a thriving Native American community, non-native neighbors are encouraged to partake in festivals and cultural celebrations. Although this is more difficult in DC, schools could include more discussions of Native American history and culture rather than dressing up as stereotypical native chieftains for high school football games.

The proposed bill attempts to find a balance between ap-

propriation and homage by exempting schools that have agreements with federally-recognized tribes. The Seminole Tribe of Florida, for example, has officially sanctioned the name and mascot of the Florida State Seminoles; the same cannot be said for the DC football franchise.

There are still some loose ends. Macaulay says that even when there is official consensus from a tribe, the responsibility still falls on the members of the educational or athletic institution to make sure that they are acting with respect. The exemption would not, for example, prevent fans from wearing redface or appropriating stereotypical images of native peoples. She says that one of

the biggest problems she sees is “when you go to a football game and everyone is dressed up as a cartoonish Indian.”

At the end of the day, McDuffie and Macaulay agree that the problem with the cultural appropriation of Native American people cannot be fixed with sole legislative change. It requires non-native people to understand the fact that it is an issue at all.

“We still exist,” Macaulay says. “We’re still a thriving culture. It’s important to realize that.”

To read a story about Wilson’s recent progress reports see thewilsonbeacon.com

OPINIONS

Early School Start Times Are Bad for Students

David Fadul
Contributor

From Oxford, England to Arlington, Virginia, parents and students are petitioning for later school starting times. The reason is simple: schools start way too early.

A 2011 survey of 18,000 public high schools found that 86% of them began before 8:30. According to the Wall Street Journal, on average teenagers do not feel like going to bed before 11 p.m. Since teenagers need eight and one-half to nine and one-half hours of sleep each night, this means that we shouldn’t be waking up before 8 a.m. “I almost fell asleep in my free [period], during assembly, during math class... It’s not ‘cause I’m uninterested... It’s ‘cause I’m just tired,” says Daniel Crippen, a New York City high school student. His school begins at 8:30, but to get there on time he and his brother must wake up at six in the morning. The same exhaustion that affects Crippen affects many Wilson students as well.

Wilson is one of the few schools that starts later than 8:30, but the distance between some scholars’ houses and the school means that waking up at 8 will make them late.

Some people believe adolescents only want later sleeping times because they are lazy. However, the American Academy of Pediatrics has recommended later high school starting times because of teenagers’ sleep schedules. Our bodies are wired to fall asleep at around 11 p.m. and to wake up at about 8

a.m.

The benefits of later sleeping times are substantial. They are also directly related to some of the problems Wilson is trying to fix. For example, tardiness would be reduced and students would pay more attention in class. Other benefits include lower risks of diabetes, obesity, heart disease, and psychiatric disorders. Adequate sleep also leads to safer driving and less aggressive behavior. All of the aforementioned benefits are extremely important for high school students, especially those taking multiple challenging classes that require focus.

Later starting times could have academic benefits as well. Many people at Wilson receive so much homework they have to stay up late and, as a result, get fewer than 7 hours of sleep each night. “When I have crew practice in the afternoon [I don’t] get home until after 7 p.m. and then I have to do hours of homework,” junior Rachel Snyderman says. Later school starting times may not change how late these people stay up, but could reduce the effects of this late night studying on their mental states the following day.

So if the times were to change, you ask, what time would they be changed to? Researchers have considered this question as well. A study in 2009 at Monkseaton High School in the UK showed that when schools started at 10, grades went up. People have also considered 9 or 9:30 a.m. as possible starting times. I believe that schools should begin no earlier than 9:30. Another hour

does not seem like much, but considering the adolescent sleep schedule it works better than an 8:45 start.

Some people have expressed their concerns with changing the time schedule. “I think it might throw some kids’ schedules off balance... Even if you do get the right amount of sleep students may still feel tired because their biological clock is off,” junior Drew Glick says. This concern has been voiced by many critics of the school schedule change movement.

There are a couple things I would like to point out. The first is that kids’ schedules have been based around the school times that we have in place today. If they are changed, then people would find that the new time better fits their biological clocks. Secondly, after-school activities could be altered to fit the new schedule. Starting school at 9:30 or 10 a.m. means that extracurriculars would have more time in the mornings to practice and prepare, if they so desire. Some activities, like soccer games, could not be played in the mornings. These could easily be changed to later times if more and more schools adopted the later sleep policies.

The only obstacle between Wilson students and the later sleeping policy is our preconceived notions that the way we are living is the only way. Studies are trying to spread the message that there is a better way to live, and it all starts with one or two more hours of sleep.

Let Them Be The Pros of Listening to Music in Class

Iskander Lou
Contributor

Some teachers forbid students from listening to music while working during class. What they don’t realize is that the music doesn’t interfere with work, and it even helps to get the job done. Teachers should let their students listen to music in class, since it does more good than bad.

Music can increase a student’s productivity by improving their mood. When a person is in a positive mood, he or she is able to do the job better.

According to The New York Times, music therapy assistant professor at University of Miami Teresa Lesiuk has found that those who listened to music completed their tasks more quickly and came up with better ideas than those who didn’t.

Another reason that teachers should let students listen to music is that it can isolate them from noise and chatter that can interfere with classwork. If your classmates are noisy, it’s harder

to focus on tasks. If you are listening to music, you won’t be distracted by your classmates’ conversations.

Chatter in the classroom always prevented me from getting the job done during class. But with the teachers who allow me to listen to music, I always have time to do all the work and stay in a great mood.

On the other hand, there are some people (mostly teachers) who think that music can distract students from work, meaning productivity will decline. Some people like to work in silence and should have the option to not have music. Those who want to listen to music should be required to have headphones so the class will be quiet for those who prefer that environment.

Music can be a great help to students and may improve their concentration and grades. This means that the average level of grades would also improve, which would be good for the reputation of our school.

The Beacon has recently made the decision to change our spelling of the abbreviation for “District of Columbia.” AP Style dictates that it be written “D.C.,” but we find the dots extraneous, distracting, and downright offensive. DC is our city, not a conglomeration of punctuation marks, gosh darn it! And what’s a copy editor to do when she finds a double period at the end of a sentence? “It’s just annoying,” says News Editor Emma Buzbee. The new spelling will be easier on both our eyes and yours, dear reader. Look forward to a period-free DC, period.

Spirit Week Taken To Extremes

By The Beacon Staff

Spirit Week has always been a student and staff favorite. Every year at the end of October, you can see Principal Cahall greeting people in his pajamas, students taking selfies with their identically-dressed twins, and teachers sporting painted faces (and bodies) at the pep rally. But this year the week leading up to Homecoming did not go exactly as planned. Tensions ran high, with incidents including excessive inter-grade animosity at the pep rally and the cancellation of the homecoming court (see front page article).

The court's cancellation is unfortunate for students who spent time, money, and energy campaigning. It is especially sad for seniors who missed this last opportunity. Students, including members of the Beacon editorial staff, are confused as to why Cahall felt such extreme measures were

necessary.

We understand that this Homecoming week provided frustrations. Students yelling profanities at each other during the pep rally was unnecessary and inappropriate. And a student probably should not have run for Homecoming court as a joke, when others take it seriously. At the same time, however, such excess is part of what makes Spirit Week spirited. For all the years we've attended Wilson, the pep rally has emphasized class pride. Different grades yell at each other, not in malice but in good fun. We cannot speak for the entire student body, but we do not feel that any Wilson students have ever felt personally offended by pep rally chants.

Whether a male student ran for Homecoming queen for fun or to make a point about gender remains unclear. Maybe the school should not have let him run in the first place, or should have asked him to

step down if administrators were worried about offending people or sending the wrong message. But it was not necessary to cancel Homecoming court altogether. It was not fair to ruin the fun for all those running and for all those excited to see the traditional announcement of the court at the homecoming game. Wilson should not be a school at which Homecoming court is canceled because a boy ran for queen. We are smarter than that.

Spirit Week is supposed to be fun, but this year everyone went too far. Students went too far at the pep rally. The administration went too far in threatening to kick the seniors out. A student may have gone too far with a joke. And Cahall went too far in cancelling Homecoming court. We hope that next year people will remember what Homecoming is really about: school and class spirit, and celebrating a new school year in a way that is fair, inclusive and fun for everyone.

AP World: Doing Too Much

Sam Masling
Staff Writer

If you projected the history of the Earth onto a 24-hour clock, the portion including mankind and all its achievements would be in the last 20 seconds of the 24th hour in the 59th minute. Alas, Earth's history is not 24 hours long; it's more than four and a half billion years old and modern-day humans have existed for over 200,000 years. We, the species known as Homo sapiens, have worked, toiled, fought, died, and strived for greatness since then, and along the way have done some truly remarkable things. To try and fit all of these accomplishments in a single year's course, known as AP World History, is next to impossible. That inevitably takes meaning and understanding away from these accomplishments.

From the beginning of the assigned textbook, you can tell this is going to be one of, if not the most, dense and complicated things you have ever read. And it has to be. To understand the history of the world, you need to go back to the beginning and look

at every aspect that has contributed to our modern society. The goal of AP World is to cover almost every one of them in less than a year.

By looking at each factor that influenced world history, we barely scratch the surface in any one specific topic in the history of the world. Sure when the course is done you might be able to analyze how ancient Greece's trade techniques were prevalent in the age of colonization years later, but what good is that when the goal of looking at history is to learn from it and apply it to our modern day standard of living? To do this you need to delve deeper into the influential civilizations of ancient history instead of spending one 90-minute period discussing a few of the most important people in world history.

I think AP World History is a really great class, and is taught by some of the best teachers at Wilson, but it could be improved by making it a two-year course in which the first year focuses on early civilizations through the Middle Ages, and the following year is centered around the Age

of Discovery and onwards.

The curriculum is set by College Board, Wilson teachers have no choice but to fit it all into a year's worth of teaching, but an edit to the timeline of the curriculum could be changed by the organization.

This obviously isn't a perfect solution and other variations could probably be even more effective, but it would help AP World students to get a better understanding of the world they live in and how it came to be.

"That was my least favorite history class," junior Duncan Fitzgerald said, "because we didn't study any specific civilizations or cultures in depth." The class prepares you to pass the AP exam by feeding you facts and teaching you how to formulaically write an essay.

"We only go over a few things in this one year," agreed sophomore Sam Alten. "Two years would give us more time to learn more things in more detail."

This class should help us learn history and enjoy it, instead of feeding us a small amount of facts from every part of the history of the world.

THE BEACON

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Our mission is to provide an accurate representation of the diverse views, opinions, and concerns of the students of Wilson High School. We aim to serve as the voice of the students. Through responsible, ethical journalistic practices, we strive to provide thorough, reliable news coverage of issues relevant to Wilson.

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The Beacon is a public forum created for the purpose of expressing the views of and providing information to the Wilson student body. Thank you for reading *The Beacon*.

TOP 10 Questions We Ask After Homecoming

1. Where was the after-after-after party actually at?

2. Is GLOstick liquid actually toxic?

3. Why do teachers like the smell of our breath so much?

4. Why was the bathroom was so live?

5. Were there actually bagel bites?

6. Was the person working the lights drunk?

7. Dude, where are my shoes?

8. Should I text that person back?

9. How many of my teachers saw me?

10. Where can I get bandages for my feet?

Capital Mayoral Ballot Lacks Competitive Candidates

Elias Benda
Opinions Editor

This Monday, Wilson was lucky to have all six mayoral candidates come and speak in a forum to social studies classes. The turnout was good, and students posed thought-provoking questions. But the really underwhelming aspect came from the centerpiece of the show, the candidates.

The Washington Post might have put it best when it (ironically) said “DC residents have reason to be disaffected with city government and politics” in the Editorial Board endorsement of Muriel Bowser. This article itself was disillusioning, with its less than eloquent endorsement lacking critical analysis of all the candidates, including Bowser, as well as the support of specific objectives or statistics for the Bowser campaign. With the Post’s attacks on David Catania and Carol Schwartz echoing those of Bowser’s political advertisements, and their reasoning limited to the vague messages they received from Bowser, I have attempted to draw my unprofessional conclusions independently.

Of the three major candidates, Bowser seems to be in a somewhat obvious lead, as many (including myself) have come to the conclusion that she is a

shoe-in for the win. Her appeal is two-fold as a Black woman, in a city that has elected only Black mayors, and with the allure of a female in power in the capital city. Despite this, I find her to be a soft candidate lacking any concrete goals or decisions. Her list of positions on issues, titled

“Moving Forward Together: Priorities for the District’s Future,” reflected this lack of a solid plan, and her speech was

similarly void of content. Bowser made a wise and safe choice by offering to keep both Education Chancellor Kaya Henderson and Police Chief Cathy Lanier in their positions, as both of their departments have seen recent movement in a positive direction and both are strong female leaders. Bowser’s support of Henderson may come back to bite her though, as one of her biggest points of contention with Catania is over her support of the Common Core curriculum.

Overall, I think Bowser might be a safe choice, with the success of Ward 4 a sign of some economic and social know-how, though it is a step too far to contribute the entire Ward 4 growth to Bowser’s policies. Her continuation of many of Mayor Gray’s successful policies expresses an awareness

of the political landscape, but could lead to dangerously loose footing later if she is elected.

Catania is seen as the greatest opposition to Bowser’s lead, and faces the heightened scrutiny of DC voters. The most immediate and alarming aspect of the 46-year-old’s

17 years as an at-large Councilmember are the reports on his lack of filter and his temper. For example, his calling beloved former-mayor and now Councilmember Marion Barry a “despicable human being,” according to The Washington City Paper. Despite his personal flaws, the biggest obstacle to Catania is his relatively conservative platform in a strongly liberal city. As a former Republican turned independent, his economic stance shies away from the public

investment that has seemed to have great success in expanding the public sector economy, while accomplishing the city’s largest year-end surplus in 2013. His opposition to publicly-funded projects such as Nationals Stadium and the National Convention Center, both of which have seen extensive and beneficial use, leads to my questioning of his future public investment decisions, though his investments in health care have increased the availability of services, especially to poorer citizens. His favoritism toward business does not appeal to me (or to the majority of far-left young liberals in DC), and I am confident that voters will shy away from this approach when it comes to the election, and in turn the future of the city.

Schwartz is seen as the lagging candidate, with her poll numbers distantly trailing behind the other two candidates. Similarly running as an Independent instead of Republican, Schwartz seems to be more conscious and proactive when it comes to the issues of economic and racial disparity in the city, and mirrors this in her policies. She contributed her previous mayoral losses to an attack by Catania against policies she proposed that intended to support workers’ benefits and paid sick leave, as well as subsidies

for the working poor, a socially liberal and attractive stance. Her previous establishment of a perpetual fund for street and sidewalk upkeep as a Councilmember appeals to me at a time when I think the city is seeing some of its worst infrastructure problems in conjunction with major traffic problems and an influx of people.

After all of this critical thought and synthesis of information, I still cannot bring myself to a real choice, between what I see as the worst of three less-than-optimal candidates. I am fairly confident that all three would be able to at least run the city, as they all come to the plate with lengthy experience, but I find their stances unappealing almost across the board. Even though I do not have the chance to vote this election (shoutout to minor candidate Faith Dane and her proposed “puberty” voting age), I can still hope that whoever the voters choose will not bury the city. I just hope that by the time I am of voting age for the mayoral election, the competition will have something to show for themselves.

The Washington Post might have put it best when it (ironically) said “D.C. residents have reason to be disaffected with city government and politics”

FEATURES

Greenhouse Club Grows Environmental Enthusiasm



Photo by Elena Remez

GROWING ENTHUSIASM- Wilson’s greenhouse club promotes enthusiasm for the environment. Among their projects is planting sprouts in the greenhouse located by Ms. Riesner’s classroom.

Maria Brescia-Weiler
Features Editor

During my first three-plus years at Wilson, I had no idea what went on in the spaceship-like structure propped in the middle of the rose garden, and

if I hadn’t been assigned by The Beacon to discover it, I probably never would have found out.

The enigmatic greenhouse can be reached through Environmental Science teacher Gabrielle Riesner’s second floor classroom, room 224, where two girls sit

waiting for the weekly Thursday meeting of the Greenhouse Club to start.

Senior Margaret Bass, president and co-founder of the roughly nine-member club, is ready to get to work. The club members recently planted their

first batch of sprouts, including sunflowers, wheatgrass, and arugula. “Right now we’re growing for eating,” says Bass, “but we’re gonna start selling them to teachers and eventually move to farmers markets.”

All proceeds from these sales will go back to the greenhouse and toward buying more seeds for future projects, such as growing seedlings in the spring to sell. This is what they did last spring, when the club was first starting up. “We’re (also) planning on working with the urban ecology class, taught by Steve Dryden, to grow native plants for the Soapstone Creek project,” a new Wilson initiative with the goal of revitalizing a polluted branch of Rock Creek, says Bass.

The club was founded last year by Bass and Class of 2014 alumnus David Rojas-Rosario. It was originally completely student-run, but received help last spring from DC Greens, a non-profit that helps schools cultivate gardens. Representatives of DC Greens came in once a week last year to plant seeds with members of the greenhouse club. This year, the club is once

again run by Wilson students, with support from staff sponsor and substitute teacher Jaqueline Scotland as well as Riesner.

Club members take turns watering the sprouts every day, in addition to the Thursday meetings at which they also do cleaning, maintenance and planting of future batches of sprouts. Today, they are harvesting their first batch. Once they have more sprouts, they plan on adding a second weekly meeting as well as weekend sales.

“There’s also a small aquaponics system in there that is semi-successful,” says Bass casually, as if I know what that means. It turns out that an aquaponics system uses fish waste to clean water and fertilize plants.

“[Greenhouse Club] is really different from all the other clubs at Wilson,” says junior Molly Wackler. “I just feel like it’s our creation, we kind of did all of it.”

Students who want to be a part of this creation, or who want to purchase Wilson-grown sprouts, can contact Ms. Riesner for more information.

A DREAM DEFERRED: Undocumented Students Struggle to Go to College

Claire Parker
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Debbie was 14 when she made the journey from rural El Salvador, where she had grown up, to the capital city of the United States. She came to join her mother, who had left on the same journey five years earlier, leaving nine-year-old Debbie behind. She started attending Wilson in 2010. Because of her background and undocumented status, she never considered college, until former Bilingual Education teacher Mary Ball told her about Wilson's Dream scholarship. Thanks to the scholarship, Debbie is working towards a degree from UDC, despite the many obstacles she has encountered in her quest for a college education. But other undocumented students are not as lucky.

"Sometimes undocumented students think they cannot pursue higher education at all because there is not financial aid," said Bilingual Education teacher Mary Ann Zehr.

Without a valid social security number, students cannot file a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid), making them ineligible for federal grants. Private scholarships often list U.S. citizenship as an eligibility criterion. And many schools won't give undocumented students money unless they apply as international students.

"We have a lot of very smart kids who are undocumented, and schools won't give them

money," said College and Career Counselor Sandra Bean. "They become very disheartened."

Bean said undocumented kids come to her every year, and she has to tell them that their options are limited to NOVA, Montgomery College, Prince George's Community College, or UDC.

The DREAM Act is a piece of legislation introduced by Senators Dick Durbin (D-IL) and Orrin Hatch (R-UT) in 2001. The Act would provide a pathway to legalization for undocumented youth who have lived in the U.S. for more than five years, demonstrate "good moral standing," and pursue either higher education or military service. "The DREAM Act is something that's really really important for everyone -- not just for immigrant families -- because if we want our future to get better, we need to make sure our young people have ways to get into college."

The Act has failed to pass twice -- once in 2007 and once in 2010.

Vigil said he is hopeful that the DREAM Act will eventually be enacted. "I'm hoping that with the elections coming up, hopefully we'll get more progressive voices in these cabinets, so they can say, 'Look, this is legislation that needs to pass,'" he said.

For Hispanic Heritage Month this year, LAYC partnered with Wilson's New Heights program to organize events during October to raise awareness about the DREAM

Act. Students put posters up on atrium pillars, and the LAYC dance team performed during lunch to attract attention to the cause.

After the DREAM Act failed to pass, President Barack Obama's administration authored a memorandum in 2012 establishing Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), protecting undocumented youth who are at least 15 years old, and who apply for DACA status, from being deported for two years. Applicants must submit documentation and pay a \$465 application fee. "It was something, but it really wasn't what people needed, because it's not a pathway to legalization," said Vigil.

Wilson established its own Dream scholarship three years ago, after former English teacher Joe Riener proposed using non-refunded AP exam fees to fund it. Wilson students have contributed enough money for the past two years to pay for one undocumented student per year to go to UDC for two semesters.

While the scholarship eases the financial burden on undocumented students, it does not fix all problems. The first Wilson Dream scholarship recipient was unsuccessful in college, and Zehr says she was not surprised. "It was hard to hit the ground running for someone who didn't know much about college," said Zehr. Undocumented students are often the first in their families to go to college, so tasks like registering for classes and

buying books are difficult to navigate.

In addition, many are working to support themselves. Debbie works full-time at a Union Station restaurant.

The process of planning for college is also difficult. "Just where to go for help [is challenging]," said Vigil. "Every DCPS high school has a college and career center, and they're really geared towards helping students who don't have these kind of extraordinary problems."

Debbie urges current Wilson students who are undocumented to seek out a mentor who can help them plan for the future. "It's about having a connection with a person who can help you," she said. "You never know how one person may change your life."

Identifying students who are undocumented is a challenge. Because of the implications of the status, many are unwilling to reveal their status to faculty or staff. No staff members we talked to were able to estimate how many undocumented students there are at Wilson. Zehr says she never asks students if they are undocumented; she waits for them or their counselors to approach her and express interest in the scholarship.

Sometimes, even the kids themselves do not realize they are undocumented until they begin applying for college, when their parents reveal that they do not have a social security number. "That's a big challenge,"

Resources for Undocumented Students:

- To apply for Wilson's Dream scholarship, see Ms. Zehr or Ms. Geisler, or speak to your guidance counselor.

- The Latin American Youth Center offers the New Future Scholarship to students who want to go to vocational school or two-year training programs regardless of legal status.

- TheDream.US is a national scholarship for undocumented students with DACA or TPS (temporary protected status) who plan to attend one of several partner institutions nationwide. While the 2014 scholarship's October 26 deadline has passed, applications will open up for 2015 next fall.

said Vigil. "[They think] 'I lived a certain way, I thought I was a part of this community, but on paper, I'm not.'"

"It's a really touchy subject. Some kids are really courageous...others just don't want to come out, and some don't even know," he said. "I know they're out there, and I know they're part of our community."

Editor's Note: Debbie's last name is not being used to protect her identity.

Traducido En Español

Recursos para Estudiantes Sin Papeles:

- Para aplicar para la beca DREAM de Wilson, visita a Sra. Zehr o Sra. Geisler, o habla con tu consejero

- El Centro para Los Jóvenes Latinoamericanos (LAYC) ofrece la beca "New Future" (Nuevo Futuro) a estudiantes que quieren asistir a escuela profesional o programas de entrenamiento que duran dos años sin tener en cuenta su estado legal

- TheDream.US es una beca nacional para estudiantes indocumentados con DACA o TPS (estado protegido temporal) que quieren asistir a una de sus organizaciones compañeras. La fecha para aplicar en 2014 ha pasado, pero aplicaciones para el año 2015 van a ser disponibles el otoño que viene.

Debbie tenía 14 años cuando viajaba de su país, El Salvador, hacia Washington, DC. Vino a reunirse con su madre, quien la había dejado para hacer el mismo viaje hace 5 años. Debbie empezó a asistir a Wilson en 2010. Nunca había considerado a la universidad como opción para ella misma, a causa de su falta de papeles, hasta que su maestra de educación bilingüe, Mary Ball, la contó sobre la beca de Dream que ofrece Wilson. Gracias a esa oportunidad, Debbie ha superado muchos obstáculos para estudiar en la Universidad de DC, pero la mayoría de los estudiantes sin papeles no tienen esa fortuna.

"A veces estudiantes sin papeles creen que no pueden perseguir educación después de escuela secundaria porque no hay ayuda financiera," dijo maestra de educación bilingüe Mary Ann Zehr.

Sin carta de seguridad social, estudiantes no pueden aplicar para FAFSA y no tienen acceso a becas federales y la mayoría de las becas privadas requieren ciudadanía para aplicar. Muchas escuelas no dan ayuda financiero a estudiantes sin papeles a menos que aplican como estudiantes internacionales.

"Tenemos muchos estudiantes muy inteligentes y las escuelas no les dan dinero," dijo consejera de universidad y car-

retera Sandra Bean.

Bean dijo que cada año tiene que contar a estudiantes sin papeles que sus únicas opciones son NOVA, Montgomery College, Prince George's Community College o UDC.

El acto DREAM es un pedazo de legislación sugerido por senadores Dick Durbin (D-IL) y Orrin Hatch (R-UT) en 2001. El acto daría un camino hacia legalización para los jóvenes sin papeles que han vivido en los E.E.U.U. por más que cinco años, demuestran buen portamiento y persiguen educación alta o servicio militar.

El acto DREAM no tuvo éxito en pasar dos veces--en 2007 y 2010. Vigil tiene esperanza que el acto pasará eventualmente.

Para el Mes de Herencia Hispana este octubre, LAYC trabajó con la programa de New Heights para aumentar la conciencia sobre el acto DREAM. Pusieron afiches en el atrio y el equipo de baile de LAYC hizo una presentación para atraer atención a la causa.

Aunque el acto DREAM falló a pasar, la administración de Presidente Barack Obama escribió un memorando en 2012 estableciendo acción diferida para los inmigrantes que vienen de joven (DACA), protegiendo los sin papeles y con más de 15 años de edad de deportación por dos años. Hay que pagar \$465

para aplicar. "Fue algo pero en realidad no fue lo que necesitaban la gente porque no ofrecía un camino hacia legalización," dijo Vigil.

Wilson estableció su propia beca de Dream financiada por los pagos para los exámenes AP que no fueron reembolsados. En los dos años pasados Wilson ha recaudado fondos para pagar para un estudiante sin papeles cada año para ir a UDC por dos semestres.

Aunque la beca disminuye el peso financiero en los estudiantes sin papeles, no arregla todos los problemas. El primer recipiente de la beca no tuvo éxito en la universidad y, de acuerdo a Zehr, no fue una sorpresa. "Es difícil tener éxito sin saber mucho sobre la universidad," dijo. Eso es por gran parte debido al hecho que muchos de los estudiantes sin papeles son los primeros en su familia de ir a la universidad.

Además, muchos tienen que apoyar a sí mismos financieramente. Debbie trabaja de jornada entero en una restaurante en Union Station.

El proceso de planear para la universidad también tiene dificultades. "Solo saber donde buscar ayuda [es una reto]," dijo Vigil. "Cada escuela secundaria de DCPS tiene un centro de consejo para la universidad y carrera profesional, pero enfocan en los

estudiantes sin problemas tan extraordinarias."

Debbie aconseja a los estudiantes actuales de Wilson sin papeles a buscar un mentor para ayudarlos a planear su futuro. "Trata de tener una conexión con algo que puede ayudarle," dijo. "No sabes quien va a cambiarle la vida."

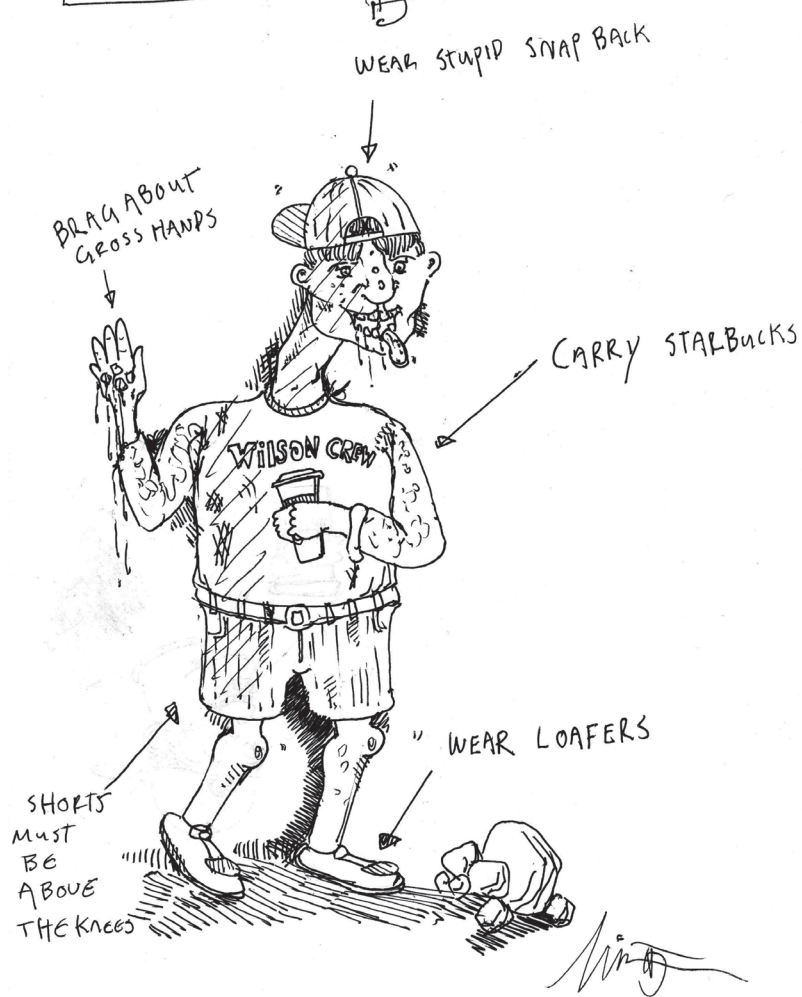
Por el peligro de ese estatus, es difícil identificar estudiantes sin papeles. Por eso, no podemos estimar exactamente cuantos estudiantes sin papeles tenemos en Wilson. Zehr dijo que nunca les pregunte a los estudiantes si faltan papeles; espera hasta que ellos o sus consejeros muestran interés en la beca.

A veces los estudiantes mismos no sepan que faltan papeles hasta que empiezan el proceso de aplicar para la universidad, cuando sus padres les cuentan que no tienen número de seguridad social. "Es una reto grandísima," dijo Vigil. "[Piensan] 'He vivido de cierta manera, pensé que era parte de esta comunidad pero en realidad, no soy.'"

"Es un asunto muy delicado. Algunos tienen mucho coraje, otros no quieren compartirlo... otros ni lo saben," dijo Vigil. "Se que están allí y se que forman parte de nuestra comunidad."

Nota del editor: No usemos el apellido de Debbie para proteger sus identidad.

CREW KID COSTUME



Last Minute Halloween Costume Ideas

By Greg Kopetsky

Mr. Cahall

What you need to do: Sling a dish towel over your shoulder. Cut your hair with kitchen scissors (consult junior Peter Maeder for any questions).

A Crew Kid

What you need to do: Come into first period holding a cup of coffee and looking really tired. Proceed to show everyone your blisters.

Mayflower Woman

What you need to do: Walk around with a scowl on your face. Accuse people of stealing things.

A Senior

What you need to do: Don't show up, post snapchat stories about what you did instead of going to school.

A Football Player

What you need to do: Wear your football jersey all day. Tell everyone you start regardless of whether it's true or not.

Angelicos Manager

What you need to do: Cut off the end of a mop and put it on your head. Put on crooked glasses. Yell at loyal customers to buy something or get out. Rub some dirt on your face to complete the look.

Check out Cop or Nah: Public and an article about annoying grading websites on thewilsonbeacon.com

ELLIE'S FOOL-PROOF TIPZ 4 STUDENTS!

It's that time of year again: the time of crisp air, colorful dried leaves, and cozy sweaters covering chilly families on hayrides through pumpkin patches. That's right, it's autumn. And if you're like me, you FALL for it every year!

It's a well-known fact that during the months of October and November, the youth of America go crazy with autumn spirit. Just thinking of sweater weather and pumpkin-spice-flavored everything is enough to get teenagers drooling. But sometimes it isn't enough to simply carve pumpkins and dress up for Halloween. Sometimes, if you really want to get in the spirit, you have to put in a little more work than just taking a cool picture of fallen leaves and posting it to Instagram. So I've put together these tips to help release the inner fall fairy in you, and ensure that everyone spreads more than a little fall cheer during these next few weeks.

n¹

This may sound a little extreme

SACRIFICE YOUR SOUL TO THE PUMPKIN SPICE GODS

I realize that, at first, this may sound a little extreme. You may not be up for sacrificing your soul to any popular Yankee Candle scent. But trust me, this is not an opportunity you want to miss.

Giving your eternal self to the PSGs (Pumpkin Spice Gods, duh) has a huge amount of benefits. Not only will they take care of your medical and dental care, but they'll also provide you with an unlimited supply of pumpkin spice lattes, pumpkin spice pop-tarts, and even pumpkin spice tampons for the ladies (yes, those exist). Sure, in return you have to attend mandatory twice-weekly services deep in the woods and eat a whole raw pumpkin every other day, but it's totally worth it. The PSGs really care about their followers.

And joining isn't an issue. There are local initiation services every Saturday night! All you need is an open mind, a signed legal waiver, and a vial of your blood to pour into a vat of bubbling pumpkin spice latte, and you'll be ready to go! Just ask anyone you see with a Pumpkin Spice Latte, and they'll be happy to give you the times for upcoming Saturday initiation ceremonies.

n²

BECOME THE PHYSICAL EMBODIMENT OF HALLOWEEN

Halloween is one of the most important parts of fall. On October 31, millions of people all over the country dress up in silly costumes and go trick-or-treating—but who says it has to stop there? True fall enthusiasts will participate in Halloween in the way it was originally intended: a month-long celebration of creepy crawlies and spooky stories culminating in the night of insanity that is All Hallows Eve. Let me explain what you have to do.

During the first three weeks of October, you must step into the body of a phantom and float around scaring unsuspecting children. It isn't hard to spook kids once you're an evil spirit—all you have to do is whisper "boo" and they'll be scarred for life! It's a rewarding experience for all. Then, on the night of Halloween, the climax of it all, you will drop the phantom you've embodied back at the graveyard where you found it, and change into some athletic clothing and sneakers. And be ready to sweat, because at precisely 6:30 p.m., you will begin a cut-throat competition in which you must run around and collect as many souls as possible before the clock strikes 12. Oh, and you'd better try your hardest, because the losing 50% of soul collectors will be brutally sacrificed to the PSGs. But it's all in good fun. Good luck!

Fall isn't all about Halloween

n³

WRITE, DIRECT, AND STAR IN A FULL THEATRICAL PERFORMANCE PORTRAYING THE FIRST THANKSGIVING

Fall isn't all about Halloween. November is just as important. Especially Thanksgiving, the holiday where we thank the PSGs for all they have done for us. And there is no better way to show our thanks than by writing, directing, and performing in a dramatic recreation of the First Thanksgiving (extra points if you make it a musical!) All you'll need is a venue, a set, and a full cast of people, as well as at least a few thousand dollars in revenue, to be donated later to the Pumpkin Spice Fund.

But the story you'll be recreating likely isn't the one you were taught about in school. No pilgrims, no Squanto, and definitely no corn. No, in the REAL Thanksgiving, there were only the Pumpkin Spice Gods and their grand creation of autumn. It was a lovely occasion—just the PSGs sitting around a giant Jack-o-Lantern, coming up with different pumpkin spice-flavored products one by one—and a story certainly worthy of recreation. Think of it sort of like a Christmas pageant, but more important. A Pumpkin pageant!

Go on, now, and get started on spreading all the fall cheer you possibly can. If you follow all my tips, you should be just perfect. And if you don't...well, let's just say you'll have the Pumpkin Spice Gods to answer to for that.

Wilson Football Makes History Against HD

Val Pehrson
Henry Shuldiner
Staff Writer, Sports Editor

The afternoon of October 25, 2014 will go down in the history of DCIAA football as a game to remember. Wilson took on the Warriors of H.D. Woodson for their homecoming game on a balmy Saturday afternoon. Woodson entered the game with a record of seven wins and only one loss, undefeated within the DCIAA Stars division and ranked 16th in the area by The Washington Post. Wilson, on the other hand, entered the game with a record of .500 with four wins and four losses. In addition to their superior record, Woodson had a psychological advantage on the Tigers: H.D. Woodson had never lost to Wilson in a football game. Nonetheless, the Tigers did not let that worry them too much, and when they rushed out of the tunnel at 2:00 p.m., it was clear they were ready to play.

Woodson won the opening coin toss, and elected to receive the ball first. On the first drive of the game, the Tigers experienced a brief scare when linebacker and University of Virginia commit, senior Kareem McDonald, went down with an apparent shoulder injury. However, the Wilson defense held the Warriors offense and forced a turnover on downs. McDonald would return the next time that Woodson possessed the ball and finish the game.

The first quarter was a story of the defenses. Neither team was able to score, despite both offenses having good starting field positions throughout the quarter. Along with their inability to score, both teams turned the ball over within the first 15 minutes of the game; Woodson's quarterback threw an interception to Wilson sophomore Sean Savoy. Later in the quarter, Wilson's starting running back junior Abdul Adams coughed up the ball on

a poorly timed hand-off. The defenses continued to dominate the game until midway through the second quarter when Tigers quarterback, sophomore Steve Williams, was intercepted by a Woodson defensive back. The Warriors drove the ball down the field, and were able to punch in for a touchdown on a seven yard pass completion. The Warriors netted the extra point and went into halftime leading 7-0.

The second half began the same way as the first, with a lot of defense. Neither team was able to score for the first 10 minutes of the second half. Finally, with five minutes remaining in the period, Woodson running back Marcel Foster increased the Warriors lead to 13 with a 20-yard scamper for a touchdown. Woodson missed the extra point, and gave the Tigers the ball back with 20 minutes left to tie the game.

On the ensuing Tigers drive, a sense of urgency was evident. The Tigers moved the ball well, getting down to HD's 39 yard line. On the next play, Abdul Adams made up for his earlier turnover by powering through the Warrior's defense for a 39-yard touchdown. Senior place-kicker Liam Walsh made the extra point and Wilson was back in business.

The Tigers defense forced Woodson to punt on the next drive, and with just under a minute left to play in the third quarter, the Tigers offense retook the field. After two plays without much gain, the Tigers faced a third-and-10 with just 15 seconds left to play in the quarter. Williams faked a handoff and threw a deep post to wide receiver, junior Navon Prince, who caught the ball mid-stride and torched the Woodson defense for a game tying 85-yard touchdown catch-and-run as time expired. Wilson botched the extra point on a bad snap, but entered the fourth quarter confident nonetheless.



WON BY ONE - Wilson wins 21-20 in a nail biting homecoming game. The Tigers won with a 2 point conversion pass.

Once again, the fourth quarter was all about the defenses. Although the Warriors offense appeared to click at times, Wilson's defense always managed to keep them in check. A pair of late game sacks and a crucial interception by senior Nate Jones with three minutes left to play helped accomplish this.

With time winding down, the Tigers offense retook the field. Williams drove his team down the field, and with under two minutes left to play the Tigers landed on Woodson's 45 yard line. On a fourth and long, Williams threw a Hail Mary pass to Prince, in the hopes of repeating their earlier success. Prince got slowed down by Woodson's secondary, and the pass fell incomplete. The Tigers were able to keep Woodson out of the endzone and, as the fourth quarter expired, both teams got ready for overtime.

Wilson won the coin toss for overtime, and elected to defend first. The rules for overtime in DCIAA are that each team gets one possession of the ball, and they start at the twenty yard line. Woodson quarterback Rashad Cooper threw a screen pass caught by Woodson wide receiver for a gain of 18 yards. On the next play, the Warriors would punch in for the touch-

down. They elected to kick a field goal, which was successful.

The ball was placed on the 20 yard line again, except Wilson had possession now. The first two downs Wilson did not make much significant progress. On the third down, the Woodson line blitzed hard against Williams, who escaped the pocket and threw an incomplete pass. However, a Woodson linebacker was penalized for roughing the passer, and the Tigers were awarded 15 yards and a first down.

Now with the momentum, Williams knew he had to step up. On the following play, Williams hiked the ball, read the defense once, and suddenly took off for the corner of the endzone. He shook off a Woodson cornerback and charged in for the touchdown.

Head coach Mark Martin was now faced with a difficult decision. Should he elect to go for the extra point and settle for overtime or go for the two-point conversion, with the chance of winning the game right there and then, but also at the risk of losing if it failed? A confident decision by the coach to go for two would prove to be genius.

On the two-point conversion, Williams hiked the ball and fired a bullet to the corner,

where Wilson cornerback Sean Savoy caught the ball, both feet in bounds, for the two points. Savoy was placed in the game because of his quickness and ability to run the arrow route, a brilliant decision by the coaching staff. "Coach always told me that big players make big plays," Savoy said. "[He told Williams] just throw it over there and it's another big play."

The fans stormed the field after Savoy's sensational catch, chanting, screaming, and rushing the team, which surrounded Savoy and Williams. There could not have been a better time for the Tigers to finally defeat the Warriors. "It has always been a goal of ours to beat Woodson," said senior running back Larry Frazier. "Last year the team worked extremely hard preparing for HD so it was heartbreaking losing to them in the regular season, and even more crushing losing to them in the Turkey Bowl."

This game marks a change in momentum for Wilson Football, which hopes to make another Turkey Bowl appearance. "If we play like how we played versus HD, then we can make it to the Turkey Bowl," senior Tyler King said. "We just have to play up to our full potential."

Ultimate Frisbee Team Steps Up Game

Sam Radack
Staff Writer

The fall season for the Wilson Ultimate Frisbee team is coming to a close after a very successful campaign. The team is entering its third season, and is aiming to win the Maryland State Championship. Last year the team came in second to Bethesda Chevy Chase High School at the State Tournament for Maryland

Junior Duncan Fitzgerald, the team co-captain, is looking for redemption. "One of our biggest goals was to develop the less experienced kids on the team," Fitzgerald said, "[so] at States, everybody on the team is able to play at a high athletic and skill level." The team is looking forward to improving, and achieving success in the spring season.

Wilson Ultimate had their first and only fall tournament, Fall Fling, on the weekend of October 18. The team only had two substitutes, which made the games particularly challenging and tiring. Wilson's first game of the tournament was against Stafford High School. The Tigers were able to defeat their opponents seven to four.

Junior and Co-Captain Avi Taylor was proud of the team's performance, "it was exciting to see all the team's hard work at practice come together during the game." In the second game Wilson played archrival School Without Walls. The game ended in a nine to three Wilson win.

Freshman Dominic Fantuazzo was excited by his first tournament. "It was fun, and it had more competitive players than any other tournament I had played in," Fantuazzo said.

The final game was against the Briar Woods Ultimate team. Wilson also won that game ten to six. The tournament's leading scorers were all three Wilson captains: Duncan Fitzgerald and Jake Radack with 11 points each, and Avi Taylor with ten points.

Sophomore Sam Masling was pleased with the tournament's outcome. "It was really good to get our first couple of victories because although we didn't have a ton of people, we had a really good team showing," he said.

Overall Wilson played very well, went 3-0, and won the tournament.

The Wilson Ultimate team anxiously awaits its 2015 fall season and invites anyone who wants to play, no matter their experience level, to come and join.



TOSS UP - The Ultimate Frisbee team is improving this year, as the fall season ends. The team won the Fall Fling tournament on October 18.

Major League Baseball Player Derek Jeter Retires

Isaac Frumkin
Staff Writer

Derek Jeter: the man, the myth, the legend. After 20 successful seasons as a major league baseball player, Jeter is headed for retirement. During his career, Jeter became known not just as the face of his team, the New York Yankees, but the face of baseball. After winning Rookie of the Year in 1996, Jeter was named to the All-Star team 14 times and led the Yankees to five World Series victories. Over the past 20 years, Jeter has become an idol for young boys and girls across America.

On September 25, Jeter's last game at Yankee Stadium, fans took to Instagram and Facebook to say farewell. Sports sections of newspapers all over the country have paid tribute to Jeter's career. In the halls of Wilson you may have seen shirts with phrases such as "RE2PECT" or "Farewell Captain." But with all the shirts also come confused looks from other students. As a fan myself, I have been asked, "What does your shirt mean?" and "Why are you wearing that shirt?" Even, "Who is Derek Jeter?" So I set out to find what Wilson thinks of Derek Jeter.

Sophomore Owen Isaacs put it simply: "Derek Jeter is by far the best shortstop to ever set foot on a baseball field, period." Isaacs, a die-hard Yankees fan, admitted, "Jeter is the whole Yankees team. They are going to have a pretty tough time next year without him."

A dissenter would be senior

Will Oakley, a shortstop for Wilson's varsity baseball team. "Jeter is overrated," Oakley said. "To be honest, Jeter doesn't have any MVPs (Most Valuable Player awards) and was never really the best player in the game."

Still, Oakley respects what Jeter brought to the game. "You have to respect his consistency and ability to perform in the playoffs. Also, he has been the perfect role model for kids who play baseball and has avoided any negative attention while playing in front of the critical New York fan base." Unlike many superstar athletes, Jeter managed to keep his private life private.

As freshman Nate Bensing put it, "He's a player!" Still, Jeter has managed to keep his name out of tabloid headlines and out of trouble.

Meanwhile, freshman Alandra Corbett had no idea who Jeter was: "Never heard of him. I don't know who that is."

Sophomore Aman Efrem had heard of him, but remembered Jeter for something other than his legendary career. "Yeah I saw him on ESPN," he said. "Baldy really needs to get some Bosley hair cream."

So whether you just learned about Jeter from a post on Instagram or you have been a lifelong fan, everyone can agree on one thing: Derek Jeter is a class act. On and off the field, Jeter has proved to be an exceptional role model.

"Farewell captain!" Fittingly, freshman Lauren Brown added, "I saw that on Snapchat."

Wilson Sports Teams Reflect Upon Their Progress This Season

As the fall sports season comes to a close, Tiger athletes reflect on how their season has gone so far.

We started our season earlier than usual this year... We worked hard and put in a lot of effort, and as a result we are placing well in our races, but there's always room for improvement.

Thomas McCarren, 11th
(Boys Crew)

We got to go to the Charles which was a huge deal. That's where the fastest teams in the country compete. We're getting faster and faster... We have a really big team this year.

Julia Carroll-Cabanes, 12th
(Girls Crew)

We've improved a lot since last season. We haven't lost dramatically and the last game we played was one of our best. The team has grown and works really well together...

Emily Durr, 10th
(Field Hockey)

[Our season is] going well... We have a lot of seniors but it's a vast majority of younger kids... As they see the seniors picking up on things, they start to pick up things as well.

Tyler King, 12th
(Football)

We are a pretty united team. We just won the DCIAA for the 5th time and we're now trying to win the DCSAA.

Gorka Fraeters
(Boys Cross Country)

We're undefeated in DCPS [and] our private school competition is competitive.

Abigail Bibb & Alexis Coates, 12th

We came off to a rocky start... But we just tied Sidwell and I feel good about that... So we're looking to do well in the upcoming state tournament.

Lucy Kellogg, 9th
(Girls Soccer)

We are not only able to score goals (even though we can score some dirty goals), but we can also defend very well... This team may have a chance to do things other teams weren't able to accomplish.

RJ White, 12th
(Boys Soccer)

Compiled by Lauren ReVeal
Graphic by Jane Martin

ATHLETE OF THE MONTH

SARAH CARLETON

By Henry Shuldiner

Freshman Sarah Carleton has had a huge impact on the Wilson Field Hockey team this season. During the team tryouts this year, Carleton learned the team was lacking a second goalie and stepped up to fill the role. In addition, Carleton decided to learn the defender position, so she could play every game in goal and on the field. "Sarah is focused, determined, very coachable, and quick to learn," said Head Coach Sarah Whitener. "She never loses her cool when the chips are down but instead increases her effort."

The team recorded nine losses and a two ties this season, but with great young players like Carleton, there is tons of potential for improvement. "This season we

also improved immensely. Don't get me wrong, we were good to start with but as the season progressed, so did we," commented Carleton in an email. "If I have to say what our greatest accomplishment was as a team, it was how much we improved in such a short period of time."

Carleton also recognized how much the team supported each other through the good and the bad. "If it weren't for my supportive team and coaches, then I would not have the opportunity to play field hockey," she added. The field hockey team closed the season, unfortunately, with a loss to Brookewood, but hopes to improve next year and begin to make more of a name for Wilson Field Hockey.



Photo by Jarrah May

GOALIE GIRL - Freshman field hockey phenom Sarah Carleton (left) is recognized as athlete of the month. Carleton's ability to keep her cool has made her a crucial part of the team

Wilson Gears Up for “Into The Woods”

Nora Charles

Contributor

If you want to be entertained by song, dance, and your favorite fairy tale characters, come to Wilson’s musical production of “Into the Woods.”

The show is essentially a mash-up of all your favorite fairy tales, including Cinderella, Little Red Riding Hood, Jack and the Beanstalk, and Rapunzel.

In the beginning, the main characters each go on separate quests to fulfill their wishes, but their paths cross and their stories become interwoven.

Junior Zac Nachbar-Seckel, who plays Cinderella’s Prince Charming, describes the show as “misleading in a funny way...after the first act it becomes tragic and a lot of people die. But it’s not a dark show, it’s a comedy.”

“Into the Woods” has won several Tony awards, and has been produced many times since it opened in 1986, and a Disney movie version is due in January.

However, Wilson’s version will still be original. Choreographer Nikki Gambhir, who teaches at Joy of Motion, was hired to add dance to the show, which traditionally does not involve choreography. This way the musical will be enriched by Wilson’s many talented dancers. During the show the main characters are on stage almost all the time.



Photo by Ellie Le Blanc

INTO THE WOODS IT’S TIME TO GO - The Wilson Drama Program prepares for their fall musical, Into The Woods that will premiere on November 14. Check out our website thewilsonbeacon.com for photos of rehearsals.

American composer Stephen Sondheim, who wrote the musical, is known for putting together particularly challenging scores.

Nachbar-Seckel acknowledges this, describing the music as “lots of overlapping complicated things.”

Director Harriet Bronstein chose “Into the Woods” with this challenge in mind: “It is very worthwhile for student perform-

ers to know Sondheim and to perform Sondheim.” He is often admired for his use of vocal polyphony—many characters sing different melodies at the same time.

Sondheim also wrote the lyrics for “West Side Story,” which Wilson performed last year.

“This musical is so much about the music—more of the story is told through the music

than in the lines,” says Assistant Director Jill Roos, adding that it’s a very fast-paced show. “You enter and then you exit and then you enter again in five seconds.”

Senior Yana Madrid, who played Maria in last year’s musical “West Side Story,” is playing the role of an evil old witch. She says she loves playing an evil and magical character and working with the directors and cast. She’s excited for people to see

the show.

Everyone agrees that the audience has a lot to look forward to. “The great thing about this show is it is so relatable; everything you can relate back to your own life. It is full of emotions that you don’t expect,” Roos says.

Junior Michael Bayliss, who plays the wolf, suggests everyone stay until the very end because “the finale is the best number.”

He also recommends that parents bring their young children because they will be mesmerized by the witch’s voice.

The cast recommends that audience members go to the restroom beforehand, because the show is almost two hours long (but doesn’t feel like it unless you have to use the restroom.)

Performance Dates

Friday,
November 14

Saturday,
November 15

Friday,
November 21

Saturday,
November 22



Playlist and Illustration by Ella Feldman

Top 10 Disney Halloween Movies

By Brian Keyes and Kellik Dawson

You can almost smell it in the air. Those “so bad they’re good” Disney Channel made-for-TV Halloween movies. Most of these flicks aren’t exactly critically acclaimed, but hey—if Halloween isn’t about marathoning questionable movies with your friends and eating potentially dangerous amounts of candy, then really, what’s the point?

****Warning:** These films are quite the tbt to your childhood and may induce violent flashbacks.

10 - Casper Meets Wendy

This is definitely the height of 90’s Halloween movies: bad CGI animation and a young Hilary Duff. Do you even need anything else? The clichés range from fart jokes to an evil witch business man, and everything in between. So just go watch little Hilary Duff do magic and fly around on her broom/pet. It’s fun.

9 - Return to Halloweentown

The fourth Halloweentown movie, Return to Halloweentown, features a re-cast main character and a cool college for witches, that now lets in other magical creatures like trolls and fairies. Now, why those trolls and fairies don’t have their own college we do not know—probably something to do with a Halloweentown version of Brown vs. Board of Education. This movie is pretty cool; we especially like the friendly genie who hides from her problems in her bottle and the brother whose only magical ability is speed reading.

8 - The Little Vampire

Now this wasn’t originally a Disney Channel made-for-TV movie. It was a box office bomb that was so bad that they tried to pass it off as a Disney Channel made-for-TV movie. It features vampire cows and a punk 90’s child vampire who kind of looks like Jacob from Twilight. There’s also a mean older brother who was really bad at first but with some clichéd character development turned out really good. So as a normal movie, this is terrible and you should never pay to see this film. But as a Disney Channel made-for-TV movie, it is still terrible but relatively enjoyable as it only costs as much as your cable bill.



Scan the code to find the rest of the movies!

See numbers 7-1 on our website thewilsonbeacon.com/disney/

Artist Spotlight:

Emilia Majersik
Clare Shaw
Contributors

RINA HOLZMAN-CASTELLANDS



Sophomore Rina Holzman-Castellands has been making art since she was in the third grade. It all started when she took a cartoon drawing class at the Fillmore Arts Center and discovered how much she loved making art -- even though she considered herself very bad at it.

From third grade to fifth grade her art was always cartoon drawing; things that she'd see on TV, like Bugs Bunny. But by the time she got to seventh grade she started trying out new styles.

"My art went from things that weren't mine to things that were," she explains about this period of change. She now draws her inspiration from the people she meets. She frequently draws different versions of the same people.

Rina says that being at Wilson has influenced her artistic style. "It's really affected my art. I...always go to Mr. Walters and he [is] always very helpful with my art."

Her favorite artists are her friends because they influence her and help her out every day. Rina shared some advice for aspiring artists "Everyone's an artist in their own way. All it takes is your creative imagination and you can do it!"

Like many artists, Rina also has times where she wants to stop creating. "Almost every

other week I think about stopping...

you see everyone else's art and it's just so overwhelming, like you want to make just as good art as them - but you never can because it's just not your style."

But Rina continues to make art nonetheless. She can't imagine her life without it, saying, "Without art I don't even think I'd be Rina...because of my art I am who I am." When she feels discouraged or runs out of inspiration, she sits down and draws whatever she can. "It's not the best and it's not perfect, but I do it just because if I stop and I just give up then I don't really think I would be an artist." For her, sitting down and starting is the hardest part of art - just picking a certain point on the paper and drawing it and not stopping.

But the best part of art for Rina is the feeling she gets when everything's going perfectly - like she knows exactly where everything should be.

However, Rina doesn't exactly see herself having her whole future in art. "Art is such a difficult thing to have as a career...I don't think I'll be doing anything in my career that specifically involves art. I will always tie it into my life but it's not something that...I can make a living off of."

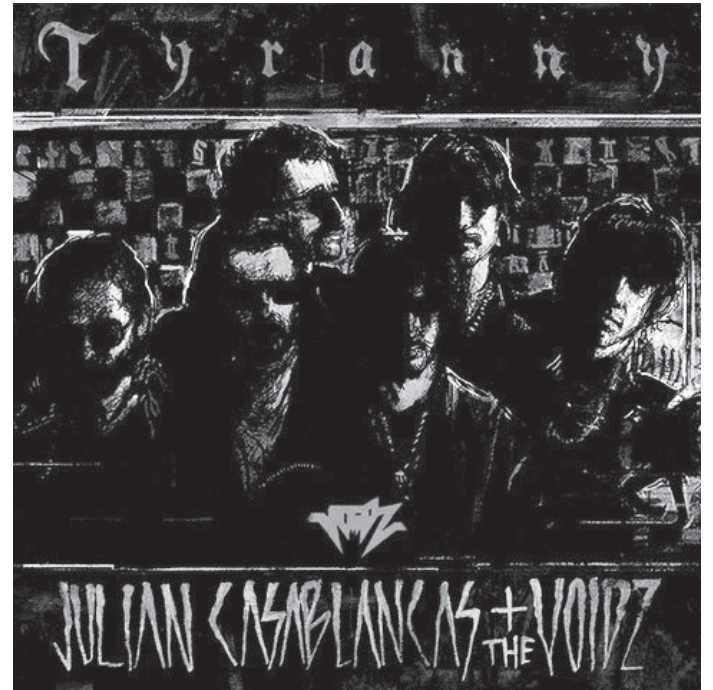
Rina may not be pursuing art as a career, but that does not make her any less of an artist. Art will always be a part of her, and while she is at Wilson she will continue to create beautiful pieces. For Rina, art is a part of life, and a part of the world; "I think art can impact the world in such a positive way...art is part of freedom of expression, which I believe is one of the most important rights we have."



Check out some of Rina's art to the left!



Strokes Frontman Takes a New Turn



Sarah Robinson
Contributor

Julian Casablancas... hmm, sound familiar? You probably recognize him as the front man for the classic NYC indie rock band The Strokes. For all you Strokes fans out there, like myself, who were expecting another upbeat rock album, his new group won't deliver you another "Is This It."

You may want to keep an open mind.

Julian Casablancas + The Voidz have crafted a new sound with their first studio album, "Tyranny." The name itself implies an edgier sound, but "Tyranny" delivers 12 completely unexpected songs. "Human Sadness," an eleven-minute synth-rock ballad, and "Where No Eagles Fly" were the first two singles dropped for eager Casablancas/Strokes fans to grab. These two songs are also my personal favorites off the record.

Some of the other songs on "Tyranny" go farther to prove that keeping an open mind is important. "Father Electricity" combines Latin music with electric pop. "Xerox" begins its track with an ominous bass line and drum pattern. I enjoyed both of them and frankly have never

heard anything like either song in this genre of music.

Casablancas has had some experience with synth with certain tracks on his solo album "Phrases for the Young," and on the Strokes album "Angles." Listeners should easily find similarities between J.C.+ Voidz and The Strokes in the grabby bass lines and bouncing guitar riffs in songs like "Where No Eagles Fly," "Johan Von Bronx," and "Business Dog."

In a video interview posted on Cult Records' YouTube channel, Casablancas said his new album is a "protest record" -- which is not-so-subtly hinted at in his songs. This isn't surprising to fans who have heard a similar message before in Strokes songs like "New York City Cops" and "Juicebox." But as extreme as some of the songs may seem, the musicianship remains professional and fresh.

With J.C. on vocals, Jeremy "Beardo" Gritter and Amir Yaghmai on lead and rhythm guitars, Jake Bercovici on bass and synth, and Jeff Kite on the keyboard, The Voidz create a sound that is unique. This album is different, but in all the right ways. Music lovers who are interested in giving something new a try should definitely check out "Tyranny."

Spirit Week of Outfits: Principal Cahall Edition

Photos Compiled by Ellie Melick and Annie Rosenthal

KIDS IN THE HALL

October 30, 2014

Compiled by Maya Edwards and Anna Bucknum

What's the strangest Halloween costume you've ever seen?



"A green sumo suit."
Chiamaka Anosike, 10th



"A shower."
EJ Rogers, 12th
Adrianna Hidalgo, 10th



"Slutty corn."
Patrick Mulderig, Ella Feldman,
Calvin Wagner, Sam Radack, 10th



*"Transformer; Tampon; Angry Bird;
A Boy Hannah Montana."*
Janea Johnson, Urjii Tahir,
Kanita Wilson, Amara Evering,
Sophie McDowell, 11th



"A woman giving birth."
Jazmin Bunn, 12th



"Ostrich."
Leah Huang, 10th



"Tissue box; Whoopee Cushion."
Lucia Fox-Shapiro, Ally Bau-
man, Sarah Thompson, 10th



"A menorah."
Nicole Davies, Nathalie
Mitchell, 10th



"Jellyfish; Dog as a rabbit."
Zach Essig,
Page Harrison, 11th



"A piece of paper."
Queenie Madrid, 11th



"Sexy strawberry."
Kellik Dawson, 11th
Damani Macadoo, Rina
Holzman-Castellands, 10th



*"Naked lady with an extra
butt."*
Olivia Toggas,
Carolina Bayon, 9th