



The Bromfield Mirror

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Academic Bowl Team scores a television show *National team members will appear on new PBS quiz program*



COURTESY PHOTO

Members of the Academic Bowl team focus intently on the game moderator during a recent tournament at Harvard University. From left to right are Andrew Hong, Danny Eisenberg, Brett Keating and Jacky McGoldrick.

by Kate Shelton

The Bromfield Academic Bowl Team, coached by Mr. McGarty, has been selected as one of twenty schools in Eastern Massachusetts to compete in a new PBS television series, High School Quiz Show, airing this spring.

Originally begun in the 1990's by former Bromfield teacher Marilou Spash, the team shifted to McGarty in 1998 when Spash retired, since his daughter Caitlin became interested in the group. Since then, the club has gone from competing in two regional competitions each year to weekly online games, national tournaments and now the television series, which will hopefully add a new dimension to the team's playing skills.

Similar to the National Championships, the High School Quiz Show has a limit of six students per team, so McGarty has put together one "elite" team to compete in both tournaments this year. Needless to say, the competition has been especially intense.

"They play each other for the right to be on the National Team," says McGarty. "Danny Eisenberg and Andrew Hong had been on the team last year, so they automatically came on because they have the needed experience. That left four other spots on the team to fill up. So, the rest of the general team plays buzzer matches against one another to see who ends up on the team. And I ask a full range of questions to see who's best."

A full range of questions means that no topic is exempt. Baseball scores, world news, quantum physics, classical literature, and politics, among a long list of other subjects, are all fair game. In the end, four students stuck out with the most expansive span of trivia knowledge. The final list includes seniors Danny Eisenberg, Becca Turner, Jacky McGoldrick, and Lewis Pacheco; and juniors Andrew Hong, and Brett Keating. The show will tape at the end of January, and air on

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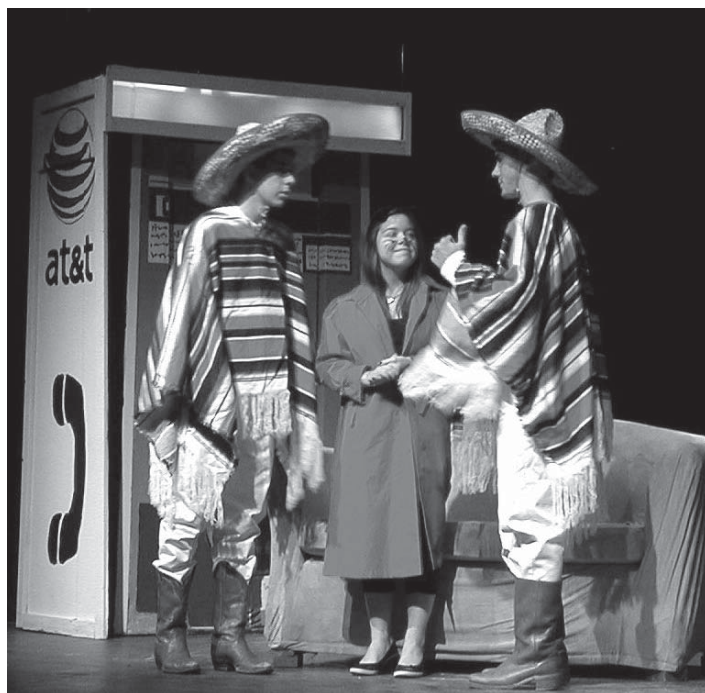
Drama Society honored as one of nation's best *Stage Directions magazine lists thespians in "High School Programs That Rock"*

by Elisabeth Swain

In this November's issue of Stage Directions magazine, The Bromfield School's theater program was chosen as the best in the Northeast, and one of the best in the nation. Once a year, the magazine features one high school from each of five regions in America and one in Canada.

Stage Directions is a monthly theater magazine that focuses on the technical aspects of production, such as design, equipment and personnel. This November's issue highlights the second annual High School Theatre Honors Program.

Bromfield's student population is among the smallest of the schools honored, especially in comparison to Hilliard Davidson High School in Columbus, Ohio whose program services over 5,300 students. The magazine cites the high quality of the productions



COURTESY PHOTO

Audiences enjoyed the recent Drama Society production of "Alarms & Excursions" which featured a scene with (left to right) Mitch Williams, Catherine Spacciapoli and Jack Landry.

and the passion of those involved with the clubs.

"I think because of the size of the school [at Bromfield], everyone knows everyone and wants to support each other," says Laurie Hirsch Wisneski, drama alum from the class of 1992.

Recent graduate and actor Connor Davy agrees, "There was no real drama clique. Kids from all areas of the school come out to audition and perform," he adds. "It's really great and something totally unique to Bromfield."

"You spend so much time with these people preparing for shows. They really do start to feel like your family," adds Wisneski. "Bromfield is a really special place and I hope that all of its current students know this. It wasn't until I moved away that I really understood how lucky I was to grow up there."

Theater teacher and program director, Michael McGarty, plays a huge role in the success of Bromfield's drama productions.

"I had my time working on Broadway and I realized that I could make a much bigger difference here," says McGarty. "The town has allowed me to develop a high standard program that teaches all students an appreciation of theater."

"I think McGarty is part of what makes the drama program unique," comments Wisneski. "He is so supportive of his students and really knows how to work with them to get the best out of them".

Davy adds, "McGarty puts an incredible amount of hard work into the program, which clearly shows through the productions. He finally got

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Living an American life

by Diana Li

This year Bromfield welcomes foreign exchange students Alejandro Martinez, Amelie Auve and Shannon Ottmann from Ecuador, France and Germany.

They have all come to Bromfield to experience the “American way of life.” Each has his or her own culture, rituals, and lifestyle, but they all wish to experience American high schools, American sports and, of course, American food.

All of the exchange students agree that there are many cultural lessons to be learned, “Everything in school, including grades, uniform, size, and people [is different],” shares Martinez, a junior from Ecuador. Despite the differences, he says he has not experienced any problems fitting in and has made many new friends at Bromfield.

Going to school and learning in an unfamiliar language that be unfamiliar can create obstacles for these students. “When we have to read books, short stories or academic texts I have problems ... [understanding] them,” explains Ottmann, the sophomore from Germany. “Especially in history and in biology, I don’t know a lot of words,” she adds. Although she has had some problems understanding what teachers are saying, she has been able to maintain a solid average.

Many agree that the best way to make friends and to fit in is to play a sport. Unfortunately for Ottmann, her attempt was short-lived. “I started [with] cross country team,” she explains, “but because of problems with my knees I had to stop.” Since cross country did not work out, she is looking for a horseback riding venue since she has two horses at home.

Martinez, on the other hand, simply “hangs out with friends after school.” He and Auve quickly became friends and have spent many afternoons together at the General Store or watching soccer games. Auve, however has left Bromfield after just a month to attend college in France.

Ottmann and Martinez both come from large cities, so both had to adjust to the small town life in Harvard. “They told me that I was going to live in a small town, so I knew it all along,” explains Martinez, “but when I arrived and saw almost no houses, it was like, ‘Wow, what am I going to do on Friday nights?’” Fortunately, Martinez says, he has met friends to hang out with on weekends.

Living with a new family and attending a new school is a big change in these students’ lives. The transition affects not only the life of the student, but their host family’s lives as well. “We have twisted our daily routines a bit, but everything is about the same,” explains eight-grader Heidi Nocka, Ottmann’s host sister.



PHOTO BY OLIVIA KRUTZ

Shannon Ottmann and Alejandro Martinez enjoy a moment together between classes .

“Nothing big has changed; mostly little adjustments have been made.”

An exchange year is not something that everybody experiences. “It is an incredible opportunity,” Martinez says. “And one, where I mature and learn to do things by myself.” Learning to speak English fluently is a large part of this experience.”

An exchange student must be “flexible and ... should want to learn and [gain] new experiences,” says Ottmann. “Everything is different and someone who does not like changes would not be ideal to make an exchange year. ”

Austrian exchange student tries the Bromfield experience

by Jake Reed

This year, Bromfield welcomes exchange student Diani Li to the sophomore class. Austrian-born Li is one of several new foreign exchange students in the high school. She is living with the Newsham family, including host sisters seventh-grader Colby Newsham and her sister, freshman Haley.

After living in Vienna, Austria’s capital city, Li says that life in Harvard is very different than life at home. In the city, she always had the “opportunity to go out with friends.” Her favorite things to do were to “just go to the movies, or go for ice cream.”

She notes, like many other students at Bromfield, that there is little to do in Harvard. “It’s just easier to...do something [in the city],” she explains.

“I like the whole school [here],” she notes. While she has similar courses in Vienna, including “biology, English, Math, German, French, and chemistry,” she explains that the class schedule is arranged much differently in Vienna than at Bromfield. “The schedule is per week, not per day,” she states. “We have bio twice a week, Math four times a week, [etc.]” She likes the fact that here she has tests every week, “so I don’t have to [study as much] for them because [the information] is fresh in my memory.” Her favorite classes are Math and chorus.



COURTESY PHOTO

Austrian student Diana Li busies herself writing a recent article for *The Mirror*.

When she came to America, Li took the opportunity to join Bromfield’s field hockey team. “I love it,” she explains. “It’s a team game, so it doesn’t just depend on you.”

“If I didn’t go to field hockey practice before school began,” she continues, “I wouldn’t have known anybody.” In a way the game made coming to a new school easier. The only downside, she notes, is that “I have so many bruises, injuries and stuff.”

Li’s favorite activities in Austria include playing piano, soccer, dancing, and swimming. “Dancing is my thing,” she says. While she likes to swim, she does not plan on participating on Bromfield’s swim team. She is, however, “trying to dance after the field hockey season ends.”

Li says that her host family is great

so far. “My host mom is friendly and she is happy to do anything...if I want or need anything.” Her host sisters are great as well. “One is in middle school so I don’t really have [any classes] with her, and my other host sister is in ninth grade,” she explains. “I just have one class with her.”

Although she enjoys the new experience, Li misses her life in Vienna. “I really miss my friends,” she states, “[but] we chat on Facebook.” She keeps contact with her father through Skype, but feels homesick when he brings his camera through the house. “I’m seeing my house,” she says, “but I can’t be there.”

While Li says she is enjoying her tenth grade year at Bromfield, she jokes that “everybody thinks I am in ninth!”

Stopping the spread of H1N1

by Meaghan Katz

This year, Bromfield is implementing a series of new preventive measures to stop the spread of the H1N1 virus, commonly referred to as the “Swine Flu.” However, the success of the program depends completely on student and staff involvement.

The H1N1 virus is easily spread, especially when students share food or drinks, and make contact with others. In an attempt to encourage cleanliness, Purell hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes have been made available throughout the building.

“It’s interesting to watch the students,” says Vice Principal Scott Hoffman. “There are more than a few people that are using the Purell... I think everybody’s taking it fairly seriously.”

The school nurse, Colleen Nigzus, and the administration have high hopes for their cause. Although it is impossible to completely prevent the disease, there are ways to slow its spread. “If we all just do the simple things,” explains Nigzus, “using tissues, washing our hands... not only will it help with the flu, but with all the other stomach bugs and colds we get as well.”

Unfortunately, many students still come to school despite being sick, and the most concentrated spreads so far have been among the sophomore class and seventh grade. “I missed one day, came in the next, and then missed again,” says sophomore Margaret Frothingham.

Sophomore Natasha Coleman missed two days as well because of the flu. “I had to make up three quizzes,” comments Coleman. “I feel like I can’t miss school because there’s so much work to do.”

Team Spirit fails to whip up support

by Tyler Papazian

On September 25, Bromfield principal Jim O'Shea held a meeting with team captains to discuss what he calls "excessive" team spirit days. Players have been choosing costumes recently that he believes are too distracting. At the meeting, he asked the teams to keep the themes simple.

"Team spirit is supposed to be a fun thing" says Principal O'Shea, "but, also, sometimes it's taken a little too far." The term "carnival atmosphere" is one of the concerns brought up in the meeting. "I think we get caught up with trying to outdo each other," says O'Shea.

Traditionally, team spirit was a day for the players to dress respectfully to look good on the day of a game. Over the years it has evolved into more of a themed look that's less about looking good and more about having fun. "You want to stay away from the real 'costumey' things," says O'Shea "that are going to disrupt the

classroom environment."

One boys' varsity soccer spirit



COURTESY PHOTO
Ben Landry sports the latest in Mario Brothers fashion during a recent team spirit day.

day included changing clothes in the bathroom between each period. The idea only became a problem when O'Shea noticed students wearing shirts with large rips and holes that were not "school appropriate".

In addition, spandex is becoming increasingly popular for girls to wear to school, whether it is for team spirit or simply casual wear. O'Shea believes that spandex is too revealing and does not fit within the school's dress code. The Bromfield Student Handbook states, "outfits with exposed undergarments, bare midriffs and/or low-cut necklines" are prohibited. O'Shea says "even some of our athletic outfits are appropriate for the athletic field, but they're not really appropriate for the classroom."

Most team captains seemed to share the same opinion on team spirit days. They all believe that the purpose of the activity is to pump up the players for the game. It promotes team unity, by giving them a chance to have fun with their team-mates. Field hockey captain Jenny Duckett summed it all up very well, "The purpose of team spirit is to keep a team motivated throughout the day and to keep them thinking about the game. It's also a bonding experience for a team. Some team spirits might seem crazy or lame, but when all your friends look strange too it's fun."

Bromfield students have always been hard working and the captains don't think that team spirit distracts them from their work. Senior soccer captain Nikki Snyder says, "No matter how ridiculous your clothes are, they shouldn't and don't affect the overall level of concentration or studiousness in class."

Environmental club members renew their vow to go green

by Jackie McHugh

In a world that is increasingly "going green," the Bromfield School has quickly followed the environmentally friendly trends with the Environmental Club heading up the "green" change.

Last year, Helen Kilian, now of '09, saw her efforts realized with the formation of the club. "Before... Helen Kilian," says Will Blackwell, the current co-president of the club. "I had been concerned about environmental problems and done a little bit of activism around town."

Kilian suggested the acquisition of a solar panel for Bromfield to the club. She believes that not only would a solar panel use clean energy and reduce Bromfield's carbon footprint, but it would also help spread alternate energy awareness among the student body.

"As someone who really pushed for a solar panel to be installed when I was at the school, I am incredibly excited to hear that plans may be finally going through," says Kilian. "Many people are skeptical about the worth of say a 2kW system, since it really wouldn't be providing a substantial amount of power, but I believe that using the panel as a teaching tool would be invaluable."

Currently, the community faces two "green" investment options. One option involves purchasing a \$1,500 Solar Harvester that would power appliances, lights, and outdoor equipment. If this does not appeal to the community, the town could purchase outdoor solar-powered lights for a public building or park, which would only cost \$100.

Unfortunately, Bromfield was unsuccessful in their efforts last year to raise enough money to fund the project. However, the group may resume their efforts this year.

The club has focus has added a new focus to its activities. Now, an anti-disposable water bottle campaign is

underway.

"Our main goal this year is to get the school more environmentally-friendly," says co-president, Mariah Katz. She says that the club believes getting rid of bottled water all together would be great for the environment.

Lately, students are noticing signs around the school concerning this campaign. The posters state facts regarding the number of disposable bottles that are discarded by Americans. Club members hope these facts will increase student awareness of the damage caused by disposable bottles. One sign, for example, states that Americans throw away 845 bottles per second.

"The idea of buying [bottled] water is flat out ridiculous," says Blackwell. "It would be like a future where most of the air is un-breathable or just kind of gross, and so people buy oxygen tanks from vending machines."

The club instead suggests buying reusable bottles. It is important to note that disposable water bottles should not be reused because the water can eventually absorb the chemicals in the bottle.

"It's not like bottled water is the only clean source," says Blackwell, "just the most convenient one. Aquafina bought in Harvard is actually the same thing as Ayer tap water."

However, if people buy reusable water bottles, the club says, the earth will suffer less. Not only are they better for the earth, but reusable bottles are also better for humans' health as people would no longer be consuming chemicals from disposable bottles. Also, purchasing a few reusable bottles is actually more economically friendly than the continuous purchasing of disposable bottles.

"First off, we're trying to get new water fountains with filters in them for the school," says Blackwell. "They'll



have spigots to fill water bottles from in addition to the little nub things you drink from. This will hopefully combat the 'tap water is gross' idea. [The club is] in the beginning steps of grant writing to fund these filters."

"[The new fountains] filter [the lead] out of the water," says Katz. "They have really big spigots so people can fill up their water bottles with really nice, cold, filtered water."

These new water fountains will prevent kids from wasting money while also preventing more bottles from ending up in landfills.

While obtaining the fountains is possible, the task will be difficult. "To achieve the goal, we really have to stay focused since this is a lot of work," states Katz. "We have to talk to the administration and the janitors, and we also have to get kids to buy into it too."

"There are a few different [water fountains] that we are looking at, but they could cost between \$450 and \$650 for one," Katz continues. "And then to get the spigot, it would be about an extra \$125. It's a lot of money, so we will have to do a lot of fundraising, but we think it's worth it."

The club hopes to get the fountains by the end of this year.

Drama Society receives best program honor

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recognition for all that he has done."

McGarty feels Stage Directions selected Bromfield "because of the strong feeling that current and alumni Drama Society members feel about the organization and its achievements."

The honor comes at a special time this will be McGarty's final year directing Bromfield's theater program after working with the students here for 34 years. "It's time for me to move on," says McGarty. "But I'll be around to help make sure the strength of the program is ensured for the future drama students."



Science department introduces new faculty member

by Meaghan Katz

This year, Bromfield welcomed Mrs. Jacqueline Travers to the faculty to teach ninth grade honors physics.

Travers has a master's degree in both environmental and chemical engineering from the University of Texas. Before coming to Bromfield, she worked for 6 months teaching chemistry at Concord-Carlisle High School, and for 18 years as an engineer.

"I feel much more qualified to be a teacher now, because I've been out working and I know how [physics] can be applied," says Travers. "I know what learning this material in high school might achieve for somebody out in the working world."

Although Travers enjoyed her previous work, becoming a teacher was something she had always wanted. "I'd been thinking about it for awhile," affirms Travers. "I just decided that if I was going to do it, it was time to make the switch."

Despite her newness to Bromfield, she is adjusting well to the school community. "There's not much difference [from Concord-Carlisle], [Bromfield] is just a little smaller," says Travers. "It's easier for me to feel like a part of [the school]. When there are fewer teachers, you're depended upon more, not just for your teaching, but for other things, like interactions with the student body."

The average lesson includes going over the previous night's homework, practicing sample problems, and taking notes while Travers lectures. Most students are comfortable with her teaching style, though some dislike strenuous note taking in general.

"We take notes on the sections in the textbook or we have a worksheet on what we are learning," says freshman Lily Alfano. "It's always straightforward work and never too long." Students say that the homework is not difficult, but they do have assignments almost every night.

They also agree that her tests and quizzes are fairly moderate as well. "[We have quizzes] once every few weeks, not more than any other class," describes freshman Daniel Jackson. "They're easy if you study."

According to her students, Travers's lessons are instructive and mostly understandable. "I think she explains things pretty well, and I understand what she says and what's going on in class," says freshman Clara Wang. "Sometimes she uses some pretty complicated jargon that I don't know, but it eventually turns out that it's one of the vocabulary words in the chapter, and I understand later."

Students admit that the year may have started out a little tense, but as Travers relaxes, the students do, too. "In the beginning of the year we all thought she was going to be really strict and it would be a horrible year," comments freshman Sarah Waldman. "Now that she knows us a little better and we know her a little better, it isn't so bad."

Travers implemented a rule for her class about signing out that has sparked much controversy, but recently, it has been discontinued. Students could leave the room five times a quarter to go to either the bathroom or the nurse. However, if there was an emergency a student could leave without permission.

"I understand that people have to go



COURTESY PHOTO

Mrs. Travers takes a break from setting up shop in the science wing.

to the bathroom, and that there's not a lot of time in between classes," says Travers, "but what I think the bathroom pass does is that it forces someone to think, 'Do I really have to go, or do I just want a break right now?'"

She hopes to cultivate a little more responsibility in her students, although many think this is unnecessary. "I disagree [with the rule], because I think that by this point we're not going to abuse sign-out privileges," says Jackson. "When I sign out, it's because I need to leave, not because I want to get out of there."

"I know it can seem kind of harsh," Travers admits. "Any rule that I make is to help the students get the maximum amount of learning out of class that they can." Ultimately, Travers says she

wants to teach her students as much as possible and to have them become a little more accountable, resourceful, and considerate.

Travers tries to remain open with the students, and, like most teachers, she offers help before and after school. However, she does not have high expectations about students coming to her for advice.

"I'm new here," Travers says, "so I don't expect that I'm going to be the first person someone will turn to, but if they're not relating to someone else and they see me as someone they can relate to, then that's great." She adds, "It's any teacher's and administrator's hope that there's somebody in the school every student relates to."

Plans for flu clinic underway

H1N1, continued from page 3

When students come to school sick, they run the risk of infecting others. Although teachers try to help students who miss school, making up so much extra work can be stressful. However, "If you're really feeling sick, even without a fever, [you should] just stay home," Nigzus advises. "[Students] come in just to take a test and then they want to go home, but if you're so sick... you probably won't do well, and you need to take care of yourself."

"If you're sick, don't come to school," says gym teacher David Boisvert. "Students should have the amount of days they're absent to make up their work. They shouldn't be exempt from doing any homework. If you come to school sick, you'll just end up being sick longer."

This problem is unavoidable, but it can be improved if students are more aware of the contact they make, and more importantly, what they share. It is common to see students sharing water bottles and food, and in some cases even lip balm. After reflecting on how she became sick, Frothingham says, "I think I got it from Natasha [Coleman]. She was already getting sick and we shared an ice cream at the Fall Fest. We saw a lot of other kids doing the same thing, too."



Some students wonder why more basic issues haven't been addressed. "Half the sinks in the bathroom don't work," says sophomore Elizabeth Durham, "How are we supposed to wash our hands if the sinks don't work?"

Despite these issues, the situation is still under control, and to help keep it that way, a flu clinic will be held in the school cafeteria on Tuesday, December 1st, from 3:00-7:00. A list of the other schools hosting clinics to administer the H1N1 vaccine can be found at www.Nashoba.org.

The vaccine is currently available for those considered "high risk," including pregnant women, children from six months to 24 years, any adults with underlying medical conditions up to the age of 65, and anyone living in a household with a child under 6 months. Anyone under the age of sixteen must have their parents with them at the clinic, and those between the ages 16-18 need signed permission from a parent or guardian. Children 10 years and younger must return for a second dose of the vaccine.

The clinic is free, and though it is not required, students are encouraged to get the Swine Flu vaccine from a clinic or from their own personal doctor.

Quiz team prepares for new television program

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Monday nights at 7:30 pm on Channel 2 from March 22nd through May 24th. For the first episode, PBS has invited the public to cheer on their teams during the filming in January.

Danny Eisenberg, who joined as a freshman, is the most experienced member on the team, and also the group's typist during online tournaments. "It's not necessarily the one who has the answer in first who gets the most points," says McGarty, "but the one who answers first with the most complete response." Complete responses require correct spelling, capitalization, punctuation, and grammar.

Eisenberg only has about three seconds to type in each answer. "The kids are shouting out the answers, and Danny has to filter out right and wrong answers and type it in before the other teams do," says McGarty.

In the PBS challenge, however, the team will not be typing into a computer. "I think I'm most excited about getting a chance to do a buzzer tournament that really counts for something," Eisenberg says. "The other tournaments are fun, but if we were ever to win one of them, I'm not sure that we would do more than high-five each other and drive home... On the other hand, since it's [the High School Quiz Show] broadcast on television,

there's the chance that we inevitably say something really stupid in front of a lot of people."

McGarty is excited that the team is able to take part in this experience. "I've been hoping that we could have something like this for years, because there's a TV show in Western Massachusetts called As Schools Match Wits. We tried years ago to get involved in that, but they said we were too far away," he explains.

At their first online game of the year on October 5th, the whole team was focused. As questions from a moderator, located 2,000 miles away in Utah, appeared on the screen above them, the room fell completely silent. Suddenly, the quiet was broken by five voices shouting "Cain!", and immediately Eisenberg types "Cain" on the screen. As the other teams scramble to put up their answers, the moderator types that it was a trick question, but Bromfield figured it out. "Bromfield, you're just too good!" he says, and the group wins the game with 370 points, more than 100 points above all the other teams. Then comes Eisenberg's favorite part of being on the team. "The incentive for joining AcBowl is that, when we win a game, Mr. McGarty gets up and dances on a table," he jokes. "Need I say more?"



PHOTO BY OLIVIA KRUTZ

Students make their way to the buses for their after school ride home. The addition of a new route has made travel time shorter.

Bus routes improved

by Jeff Yates

Shortly after the start of the school year, Harvard parents began to complain about the length of time their children spend on the bus each day. It seems that students from HES and Bromfield were spending up to an hour on the bus each day.

Several parents voiced their concerns to Superintendent Thomas Jefferson and the School Committee. Jefferson states that "the concerns came from people on Bus 1, specifically around the length of the ride."

According to the Harvard Post, the cost of adding another bus is \$199 each day. This will total \$33,830 by the end of the school year. Regardless of this additional fee, Jefferson decided to add the extra bus.

Despite opposition from many

residents, Jefferson believes he made the right choice in ordering another bus. "It seems to have worked," he says. "However, we will continue to fine tune the routes [in order to continue to reduce ride length]." Jefferson has not received any complaints about length since the new bus was added to the fleet.

"I think adding a bus was a good and sensible option, though quite costly," says Keith Cheveralls, School Committee Chairman. "Without adding that bus the problem was only going to get worse."

"We do believe that this extra bus will definitely help," Cheveralls adds. "We will be monitoring the situation on a regular basis using data from the bus company to determine the exact duration of every single bus run of each school. This will tell us for sure exactly what kind of service we are providing."

Farmers Market connects residents to the earth

by Elizabeth Swain

The Harvard Farmers' Market began in 2007 with a vision to create a fun place with live music where vendors sell various products. Founders Jen and Lisa Frackiewicz and Rochelle Greayer have now organized the market which takes place every Saturday morning in front of Harvard Elementary School from 9am to 1pm. Each week a musical performance by a local artist helps to create a festive atmosphere.

The Idea began simply. "We visited small farms," the elder Frackiewicz says. "We tapped trees for maple syrup. It started with getting to know our local farms and with the fact that there was no place here for people to buy local produce." When the market first began, vendors found themselves selling out of goods, returning home for more, and selling out again. Amy Sklar, Jim Cullinan, Sara Beth Tracey and Davida Bagatelle have since joined in to help organize.

"Last year, we had 20 to 25 vendors each week," says Jen. 2009's Market has as many as 30. The vendors' goods range from dairy products to all kinds of meat, baked goods, crafts and a variety of produce.

"We are looking for what comes from the Earth, what is grown from the Earth, grown in your own backyard," she adds. "It is about that connection to nature."

"It is an event," says Greayer, "Even the General Store might not meet that. Everyone shows up at the same time, and you see your neighbors."

"The General Store may have the stuff, but not the people who grow it," continues Lisa Frackiewicz. "It is a combination of supporting our local farmers and the products they sell. Seeing the smiles, the fun, and the festivity and to think we had a hand in creating that."

Jen Frackiewicz concludes with what she is most proud of with the Market: "the immense satisfaction of knowing that we are supporting the Earth and the connection that people have made to the Earth."

In the future The Harvard Farmers' Market plans to encourage more residents of surrounding towns to visit and enjoy more great music. They continue to support local farmers and businesses, providing good healthy food options for the community and to have a good time.

What's that smell?

by Kate Shelton

During the first hot weeks of school, students and teachers noticed a particularly rancid smell wafting into their classrooms through the open windows. Students traced the smell to the rear entrance of the school, where the school sewer tank was undergoing a routine cleaning of built up waste. There was speculation that the tank was broken, or that our old system needed to be replaced. The truth is, the school's sewer system is a part of a major project in Harvard's center, leading the way to a cleaner town.

Before pollution became a well-known concern, people in Harvard disposed of their waste without consideration for the health of the environment or future residents. After the

town discovered ground water contamination in the 1940's, awareness of pollution grew. Today, Chris Ashley is leading the way to a cleaner Harvard as the chairman of the Town Center Sewer Action Policy and Building Committees.

"It was an issue that people identified for years that the town center needed," Ashley says. He and several others started a campaign for a new sewer system back in 2005, but as his colleagues became more involved in other town matters, Ashley was left as the sole-leader of the task force. Today, both a Policy Committee as well as a Building Committee, are working to hook up this new system as soon as possible.

To understand their proposed plans, it is important first to look at how a sewer system works. Waste is transported to a water treatment facility, where it is poured into tanks that house tiny microorganisms. These organisms break down the waste, completing the chemical reactions, which result in pollutant-free liquids and gases that are

safe to put back into the environment.

Both Bromfield and HES installed a sewer system years ago that carries waste to the water treatment facility on Mass Ave. From the outside, it looks like a small hut, although underneath, millions of the microorganisms break down nitrogen and carbon.

However, the school system is not totally supporting these organisms. Most of the waste water is cold, unlike the warm water most households produce. The constant current of cold water maintains the organisms at a very low temperature. Also, both Bromfield and HES abruptly leave them without any nutrition for weeks at a time during our vacations. In addition, both schools' combined waste only uses a fraction of the facility's capacity. Hooking

up residents to the system will both help the microorganisms, and stop further pollution from old septic systems around the town center.

This change will even benefit Bare Hill Pond. Many of the town center systems currently installed are at risk of leaking.

"If we had failed septic systems that were breaking out," Ashley explains, "those nutrients could be carried directly to the pond." The nutrients would then cause eutrophication, allowing certain weeds in the pond to grow bigger and bigger, a problem that the Town Pond Committee is trying hard to prevent.

Now that Harvard voters have approved the project, a proposed expansion of the school system to include the town center residents has to be approved by the Department of Environmental Protection. At this point, the committee is finalizing its reports, and will soon be looking into the construction details of the project. They estimate that by fall of 2010, work on the installation of systems will be under way.



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Parents and teachers work to support the classroom

by *Kate Shelton*

The Harvard Parent/Teacher Organization (PTO) is a well-known organization of school supporters, yet many students are unsure of its function.

Both the Parent Teacher Association (PTA) and the PTO trace roots to Washington D.C. in 1897, and have been strong advocates of children and their families. Some of their first efforts were to create a bureau of health to decrease the number of childhood deaths due to measles and diphtheria, and reform the juvenile justice system. By 1912, they had convinced schools to start serving hot lunches to students, reinforced in 1946 by the National School Lunch Act. Since then, the organizations have been very influential supporters of children's rights; from starting school health programs to encouraging parents to be more involved in their children's school. The PTA, which today has over 6.5 million volunteers in the United States, works nationally and locally to create a better overall environment for children, both inside and outside of school.

Despite all the PTO does for Harvard's schools, many students are unclear about the support group. "I'm not sure what the students know," says Ellen Leicher, a ten year veteran of the PTO, "and whether they know the difference between the PTO and the Harvard Schools Trust... or for that matter FanFare and For Art's Sake, all entities that are trying to raise funds for their cause." Current PTO President Koralia Franklin is trying to change that as she encourages Bromfield students to volunteer at PTO events, an especially good way to earn community

service hours while helping the school at the same time. "The key thing about the PTO," Franklin summarizes, "is that we're here to enhance what is available to the school."

On October 17th, the PTO hosted the Fall Fete, one of the group's biggest fundraisers, in which both individuals and businesses from the community donate prizes which are then auctioned off to



parents. The prizes range from a pair of front-row tickets to this year's graduation ceremony, donated by Mr. O'Shea, to a Greek dinner party prepared by PTO president, Mrs. Koralia Franklin. "What's nice about auctions," says Franklin, "is if you can donate something that people can't just go out and buy, a really unique item that people really enjoy. I like to cook, so I figured that [a dinner] was something I could offer." The PTO will hold its second biggest fundraiser, the Fun

Fair, this spring.

The PTO uses some of the money raised to sponsor events for students. "I've been trying to come up with some ideas for events that would be a little more targeted towards Bromfield students," says Franklin, since she realizes that most of the events are for parents and HES students. She encourages suggestions and feedback from students about what they

school students. Additional funds are used to purchase materials that are not in the school's budget, such as Smartboards and new furniture for classrooms. In addition, the PTO has also created the Apple Seed Fund, which allows the schools to reimburse teachers who have spent their own money on classroom materials, such as new books or art supplies.

Franklin has learned to handle the stress of all of her responsibilities as head of the organization in just a few months. "You get a lot of people to help you," she says. "The PTO is run by a lot of volunteers, so it's great to have people who work with you to help in different areas, and people are really stepping up to the plate to do that." Franklin had only been volunteering at Harvard PTO events for a short time before receiving her position from former PTO president Katherine Noyes last year. Her term lasts until the spring of 2011, and so far, she is not sure what her plans are after it ends. "We'll see how this goes," she says smiling, "I'm still trying to sort out my time and where to be involved."

Ellen Leicher has run several different programs for the group. "I joined when we moved to Harvard and [my daughter] Rachel was in first grade," Leicher says. "I was a member of the PTA in Acton where Rachel went to kindergarten and knew that the purpose of the PTA was to support the schools, both financially and programmatically. I'm also a big believer in giving back to the community, be it the school community or the town." She has worked on the Fun Fair, the Scrip Program, and has brought Market Math, Wellness Day, and the PTO Newsflash to the organization.

Taking time to get ready for the SAT and PSAT

Students prepare for the college board exams

by *Jackie McHugh*

With new school year, students are preparing to take the PSATs and SATs. While some take classes to learn helpful test-taking techniques, others study on their own. Some students even feel that they do not need to prepare for these exams at all.

Junior Kim West is taking the SATs in November. She chose to take a class with the Summit Educational Group, which meets for three hour sessions two times a week at Bromfield. "I am preparing very diligently," she says. "This class helps students to prepare by providing them with methods and techniques [for testing] prior to taking the SAT."

Senior Brittney Davidson is planning on using the colleges' early application option. In order to meet this deadline, she took the SATs on October 10th. She prepared in a few ways. "I did take the PSATs... but the daily SAT question from College Board, believe it or not, has helped a lot!" This College Board feature emails students previously administered SAT questioners each day for practice.

Other students plan, like Senior Tyler Lahanas, to study on their own. Like West, he is taking the SATs in November. However, he plans only to review a study

book. "I wanted to take them ... to start looking at colleges more seriously and begin applying." When asked about his method of preparation, he plans to "just review the book, get a good night's rest and pray I do [well]."

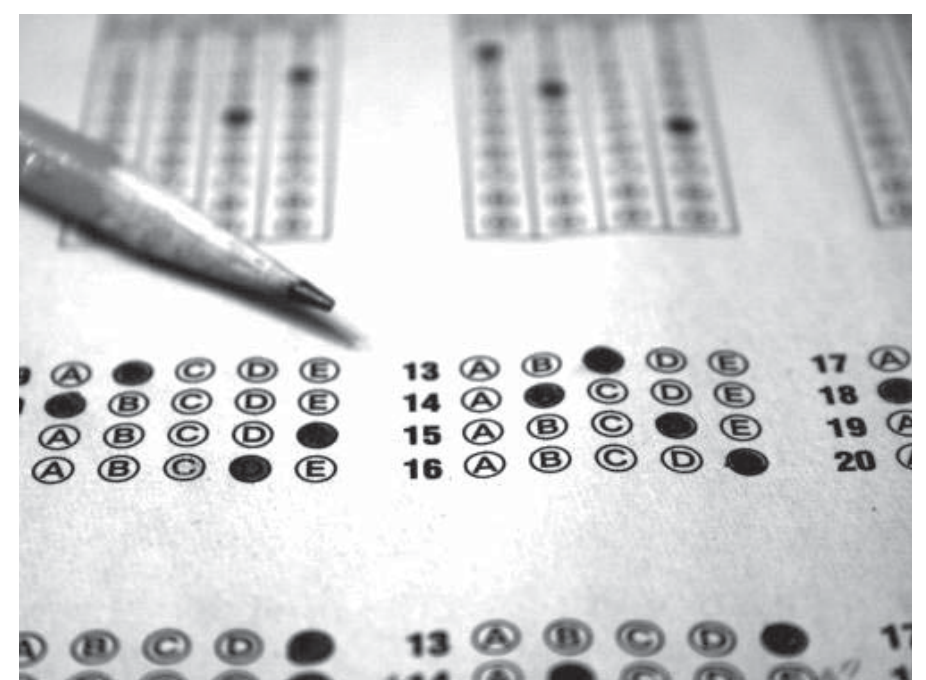
Many sophomores and juniors are taking the PSATs this fall to get a feel for the SATs. "The PSATs are a good way to practice for the SATs," says junior Rachel Leicher. "[Both tests have] a similar format including the reading... and math sections."

Sophomore Molly Papazian, is taking an individualistic study approach similar to Lahanas. She plans to study for the test three to four hours each week. "I use the practice booklet provided by the school and if I have time I will probably see what type of practice they have online," she says. "Also, I [answer] the official SAT question of the day."

Sophomore Erin Molinaro is taking the practice exam with Papazian. "I am kind of nervous," she says. "Only because I have never taken the SATs or PSATs before," "However, I know that these scores don't really count," Molinaro adds. "And it is a practice test." She has been studying roughly an hour a week with the PSAT Practice Test book provided by the guidance department, and plans to study

would enjoy. "A little fun for Bromfield students would be nice," she adds.

The committee divides the rest of the money among other educational programs and events, student awards, and materials for classrooms. Events at Bromfield include the annual NHS dinner, Celebration, and the Science Fair. Events for HES include Earth Day and Field Day. The PTO runs educational programs such as Wellness Day for seventh graders and the Festival of Cultures for elementary



more the weekend before the test.

Sophomore Brooke DeFlorio is taking the PSATs as well. She does not plan to study for the PSATs, but when the time comes for her to take the SATs, she plans to use a study book to prepare. She plans on using a process of elimination during the PSATs and skipping the hard problems, so wrong answers don't affect her score.

Bromfield students usually perform very well on the standardized tests. Earlier in the year, The Boston Globe ranked Bromfield fifth out of the thirty-five schools in the MetroWest region based heavily on its MCAS scores. "I have taken the SATs and they're not that bad," Davidson says. "The worst part is the length of the test."

Field hockey closes season with a playoff run

by Diana Li

The Bromfield varsity field hockey team welcomed many new members this season from their junior varsity squad to fill in the gaps left by last year's graduation.

This year's varsity team captains are junior Liz Smetana and seniors Sarah Collins and Jenny Duckett. "As captain, I feel it's my job to be a leader," says Smetana. "Not only do I have to get the team pumped and ready for games, but I also have to always keep a positive attitude. If someone is struggling on the field I am able to help them."

"We started out as a young team," Smetana adds, "but we have built an outstanding team and family." Coach Sue Silver notes "how well they play together."

The family atmosphere eased the transition for the newcomers to the varsity team. "Everyone is so nice to each other, and all the older girls make everyone feel welcome," says freshman Laura Jarvis. "Everything is just so fun."

"I didn't expect the Varsity team to

be this good," Silver explains, "because I wasn't sure that we could score." However, the team continues to improve as the season progresses.

"Our passing and communication on the field has improved from our first game," says Smetana. So far, the team has won 9 games, lost 4 and tied 5.

Even players who are not in the game are drawn in. They know "that other girls get more aggressive when someone is cheering them on," explains junior and player Jordan Davy.

Silver coaches both the varsity and junior varsity teams, but the two levels of gameplay vary. "The biggest difference in being on varsity rather than JV is how fast the games are played," says Jarvis. "The speed of the game is so intense, and you get out of breath very quickly."

As far as practices go, Silver always has the players run. "[It can be] ten minute jog around the school," explains Davy, "or a longer run that consists of hill sprints." Before practice even starts, the team begins to stretch in preparation for the work-out. After stretching, they

practice drills, work on their foot skills, and usually finish with a scrimmage. The practice closes with a few sprints, an exercise for the wrist muscles, and a cheer.

Aside from practices, the team also hosts pasta parties the night prior to each game. Dressing up as a team for "Team Spirit" is another method that brings the team closer.

The varsity team includes freshmen to seniors. However, not everybody can play at the same time. "I always put all the juniors and seniors on varsity because of their age," says Silver. The older players get to play more, because the younger ones have more time left with the team. When the underclassmen become juniors and seniors, they will then inherit that privilege.

"Field hockey is different [than other sports]," Silver adds as a final thought, "because it is made up of 99% women who want the best for all girls, and therefore it's awesome."



PHOTO BY ASHLEY JORDAN

Senior field hockey players celebrated their last season game. Left to right are Clara Verheyen, Andrea D'Eramo, Erica Bonnell, Elena Rivera, Jenny Duckett, Megan Vilcans, Sarah Collins.

Football faces its last season

Central district officials deny co-op

by Jeff Yates

The Littleton football team currently includes on its roster Bromfield juniors Dillon Duoba and Miles Jarvis. These students will be the last Bromfield players to participate on the Littleton Tigers football team. Central Massachusetts district officials made the decision to stop the co-operation team in 2008, but since Duoba and Jarvis were already members of the team at the time of the decision, they will continue to be eligible to play on the team for the remainder of their high school careers.

According to the Harvard Press, Littleton's athletic director, Mike Lynn, says that a co-op renewal request was sent to the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association in 2008 after gaining approval by both schools and the Division E football officials. It was not, however, certified by the MIAA district officials. "The exact wording was 'no longer meets the criteria for a co-op team,'" Lynn says.

"Football has always been my thing," says Duoba. "My life would be boring without it. I can't believe that no one else has the option anymore. They should just let kids play."

Since 1997 Bromfield never had enough students to create its own team kids who wanted to play football have had the opportunity with Littleton. Unfortunately Littleton now has enough students to form its own team and cannot use players from other schools.

Sophomore Clayton Galeski was planning on joining the team, however he was turned down. "I think that I will probably never play again," he says. "I love the sport and if I could I would love to play for another team if the MIAA lets me."

Bromfield athletic director Pam Alexander says "Since some students are interested in playing football, we tried to set up a co-op team with Ayer but they weren't interested in our offer. If the Littleton team numbers decrease then we may have a chance with them again but for now we can't do anything."



Cross country team rebuilds its roster

by Tyler Papazian

After losing three of their seven varsity members to graduation last year, the boys' Cross Country team began the season knowing that success would require hard work from the athletes. Led by Coach Kevin Foster, the team has a record of four wins and one loss.

Last fall, the team finished with six wins and two losses to Oakmont and Hudson. However, Bromfield will not compete against Hudson this year because their team now competes against Division II schools. The boys hope that Hudson's absence will give them a chance to improve their record.

Although the boys defeated a total of 22 teams at the district meet last year, which was enough to qualify for the state meet, they are not optimistic about repeating that feat this year. In order to qualify for the state meet, a team must

finish among the top three teams in the district.

In 2007, Bromfield qualified to run at the state meet for the first time in five years.

"We tried to calculate the scores, and we thought we had finished fourth or fifth, so when we saw that we actually finished third, we were really excited," recalls

team captain, Max Flaton. Qualifying this year would be Bromfield's third straight year running at states. However, the boys do not think they will qualify due to the loss of graduated seniors.

Next year, the team will lose

three more seniors from the top seven: Max Flaton, Tyler Papazian, and Ryan Williams. This will no doubt further impact the team's success.

"We have gotten progressively better, so I think we can do very well."

Kevin Foster

district meet could severely impact Bromfield's fate.

Even if the team does not finish in the top three, runners can still qualify

With sophomore Nick Kronauer out for the season, the runners are training harder to try to improve their times. Kronauer's absence at the

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Pond drawdown threatens Crew season

by Elizabeth Swain

Each year, the Pond Committee must lower Bare Hill Pond's water levels in order to reduce the number of invasive weeds in the pond. However, Bromfield's rowing team takes exception to this decision because the pond is their only location for rowing practice.

When water levels drop and the rocks rise, so does the threat of damaging the rowing team's \$15,000 racing shells.

In 2006, the Pond Committee pumped to final depth as quickly as possible, which

severely limited the Rowing Association's practices. In 2007, the pond was pumped to four feet and held at that depth with no reported problems. Last year there

was a gravity drawdown to approximately three-and-a-half feet, and a \$20,000 racing shell was severely damaged by a rock hidden less than 1 inch under the surface. This fall, so far,

damage has been limited to one broken propeller.

The committee begins to draw down the water levels in the third week

of September with a "gravity drawdown" by removing boards from the dam. This results in a drop of about one foot per day until the water level reaches about 18 inches. At that point a pump further lowers the pond up to a foot each day.

According to a statement released by committee chair Bruce Leicher, "Drawdowns need to be accomplished prior to the first freeze of the season. If species such as mussels and frogs have started hibernating before we have finished dropping the pond level, these creatures that have settled near the surface will freeze to death once the levels have dropped and the pond has frozen over."

Although many pond users reported that the invasive species were significantly worse this year, the committee further adjusted the drawdown schedule by

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"We, the Bare Hill Rowing Association, see the Pond Committee as partners, not as adversaries to engage in conflict"

Dan Justicz

Crew club and Barehill Pond committee search for compromise

DRAWDOWN, cont. from page 8

delaying the deeper portion of the drawdown till after the rowing season.

“We have received input from many other recreational users who are frustrated that we are not pumping deeper due to the increase in invasive species during this year as a result of not pumping last year,” Leicher adds. “We have informed them that we are trying to be responsive to competing concerns... We believe that the health of the pond should be our primary priority.”

“I support the drawdown as a concept,” says Dan Justicz, director of the Bromfield Rowing Association, “if only for the hope that it might control weed growth. We, the Bare Hill Rowing Association, see the Pond Committee as partners, not as adversaries to engage in conflict... At the root of this issue is timing.”

He adds, “It is our belief, however, that the drawdown can be commenced much later in the fall and still achieve a full draw down on schedule before the end of November.”

Since the rowers’ fall races cover much longer distances than spring races, a large area for practicing is ideal. However, during a drawdown, finding a long stretch on the pond to use for practice is harder than ever.

Both the Rowing Association and the Pond Committee hope to learn from the drawdown rates this year and reach a compromise that better meets the needs of everyone in future years. “We are here for the long term,” says Justicz, “and the pond’s health benefits us all.”

“It is our belief that the drawdown can be commenced much later in the fall.”

Dan Justicz



COURTESY PHOTO
Barehill Pond has drained at the town beach area exposing the rocks and the pond floor to the elements. Crew team practices on the pond were forced to end near the end of October.



Bromfield bands battle out a fanbase

Exit 38 and Friday Night Delight tell their story

by Jackie McHugh

Eleven local bands performed at the Battle of the Bands on Friday, September 18th, sponsored by the Harvard Police Department. Two Harvard bands, Exit 38 and Friday Night Delight, were among the entertainers.

"I've never really not been into music," says Tyler Borton, the lead singer of Friday Night Delight. "My mother has always had classical music playing in our house and that's really the first stuff

I listened to, even though I didn't like it at the time. From there it was Buddy Holly, Chuck Berry and Jerry Lee Lewis, then on to Elvis, and shortly after, U2."

"My dad is really what got me into music," says Phil Stapleton, Friday Night Delight's bassist. "He was in numerous bands in his teenage years and mid-20s. He had all the equipment sitting around, not being used, so I figured that I may as well try it all out... The obsession [with] music followed shortly after."

"My mother helped my sister and [I] to fall in love with [Broadway] musicals," Borton explains. "Ever since chorus has been an option in school, I've been a part of it." Without Tyler's participation in the school chorus, the band may not have been the same.

"Ethan was the real one who got me into music," says Will Byler, who plays guitar alongside Stapleton and Borton. "I mean, I grew up listening to Nirvana and the Beatles as a kid, but in seventh grade when I started to jam with [drummer, Ethan Chadwick], that was when something clicked and I really wanted to learn how to play guitar."

The band began with Chadwick and Byler playing their instruments together. Stapleton would occasionally join the pair. "They decided to start looking for a singer, and Phil, who took chorus with me, suggested me," Borton says.

"Will proposed it to me. I came and sang a couple songs with them, and it stuck."

The band members each have their own musical influences. "Will is mainly influenced by blues and some harsher punk. Ethan is very influenced by punk of pretty much any sort... and I'd say Phil and I are a wider spectrum," Borton states.

"Phil listens to a lot more pop stuff than most of us, and I listen to a lot of U2 and earlier rock and punk. We all have the broad category of Indie Rock influencing us, and we're all Radiohead and Blink-182 fans."

"As a band, we are influenced by just about everything," says Stapleton. "... And this doesn't even just pertain to music. We're influenced by many... types of art... Musically however, we are clearly influenced by a range of rock, from Franz Ferdinand, to Blink-182, to Green Day. On the other hand, many of our influences aren't so obvious from listening to our music, in genres like hip-hop, electronic, and some pop music."

For the band, deciding the sound of a song is different than

to form the structure of the song until I decide I'm ready to join in with lyrics, at which point it all comes together. Of course, as time passes, the song

verbal communication, we had what sounded like a whole new song come together. We played it later that night."

When writing lyrics for a

and that stuck," says Alderson.

The band uses informal methods when writing songs. Fedderson explains, "I just kind of sit down, go through scales,



COURTESY PHOTO

Friday Night Delight bandmembers pose for a publicity shot outside Bromfield. Pictured are (center) drummer Ethan Chadwick, (back left to right) bassist Phil Stapleton, guitarist Will Byler and lead singer Tyler Borton.

may change: lyrics [are] added or removed, melodies [are] changed, tempo [and] general length [are] changed."

Their writing process is pretty unpredictable. "It's more of a mutual series of opinions

song, however, Borton finds it hard to sit down and to structure them. "As far as I'm concerned, what I need most for lyrics is time," he states. "The melodies come easily once I have the lyrics, but the lyrics can take weeks, or more, to come up with... They're something that hits you all of a sudden, wherever you may be."

Borton always carries a notebook with him. This way, whenever he thinks of potential lyrics, he can write them down so that they can be easily recalled.

The other local band, Exit 38 consists of just two members, Graham Fedderson and Owen Alderson, who work very well together. The group was formed at an event in Newton where there was an open microphone. "I wanted somebody to play with," Graham explains, "so I just pulled up Owen one day because I knew he could play drums, and I was like, 'Hey do you want to go do this?' and he [agreed to it]. So, that was the first time we played together..."

The band was named after the Harvard exit on Route 2. "We see that exit everyday and we were just like, 'You know what, that's kind of a cool band name,'

try to figure out a good, catchy riff, I add chords to it, and then Owen just comes up with drums."

Alderson agrees. "I just drum along when he plays it for me and then adjust things if they need adjusting," The two say that writing music isn't too difficult, but lyrics are more of a challenge.

Owen says his favorite thing about the band is "being able to bang on stuff with my friend playing guitar, and not caring if other people are listening to it, or what they think."

On the other hand, Fedderson likes "being able to come up something, and then I can play it to Owen, and then he'll be come up with something [to go with it]."

Their connection musically is very important. "I have played with a lot of other drummers that will play a beat and I will [think] 'No, that just doesn't fit,'" Fedderson explains. "But Owen will come up with something that I will like immediately. It's really cool."

"We just kind of click," Alderson explains. "I mean, he'll come up with the riff and I'll come up with the drums, and he'll come up with something cool to add on, like some kind of effect. Sometimes he switches instruments... Just being able to play without worrying about judgment is awesome."



COURTESY PHOTO

Exit 38 rocks the house in the Battle of the Bands at the Harvard Fall Festival. Left to right are drummer Owen Alderson and guitarist Graham Fedderson.

deciding what the song's lyrics will be. Friday Night Delight works together to come up with the music for a song. "[Songs] usually start as a guitar riff, and Ethan will drum along, and Phil will join in," explains Borton. "They basically continue

and modifications until a song comes together," says Stapleton. "For example, this last weekend, we had a show on Saturday night, and as we were rehearsing, we found ourselves jamming around something new, and sooner or later, without much

Students treated to a day of New York museums

by Meaghan Katz

Students from the studio art, modern European history, and cultural history classes took a trip to New York City on October 23.

The trip occurred first in 2007 when art teacher Julie Cook teamed up with history teacher Kevin Foster and brought the students to New York.

“I thought it was important for students to be exposed to art,” says Cook. “New York has an incredible selection of galleries. It just broadens your horizons, and [seeing the art] strengthens the students’ work, too, by really showing them what art can be.”

Foster and Cook hope that a tradition has now been established. They would like the trip to occur every two years, similar to the French department’s trip to Quebec.

The 50 students who participated were primarily juniors and seniors,

divided almost evenly between art and history. They departed from Bromfield early in the morning with eight chaperones and returned late that night.

Arriving at Bromfield at 5:30 in the morning was difficult for some students, but it was made easier by the opportunity to miss school. “It was especially hard because it was Friday,” comments studio art student Sarah Cannon. “It’s always harder to get up on a Friday.”

Despite traveling together, the two classes separated upon reaching the city, when Mr. Foster’s class was dropped off at the Cloisters, the division of the Metropolitan Museum dedicated to medieval European art and architecture.

“The Cloisters is really just a fabulous place for the students to understand what preceded the era of modern European art,” says Foster. “It has an awful lot to do with church history, which you really have to understand if you want to understand modern European history.”

The works of art in the Cloisters come from around the world and are presented in a way that recreates a feeling of the past. “The architecture was beautiful,” says history student Jacky McGoldrick. “It’s one thing to read about all these places and imagine what they look like, but it’s another thing entirely to actually be able to go there.”

Meanwhile, Cook’s students were



PHOTO BY JULIE COOK

Students attending the art field trip to New York City stop for a group photo in front of the Pop Art sculpture by Richard Indiana on 6th Avenue.

driven to the Museum of Modern Art, or MoMA, where they went for a two-hour self-guided tour to view the artwork.

“We saw Monet’s Water Lilies, and the Contemporary Drawing exhibit,” comments Studio Art student Danielle Shea. “It was really cool,” she adds, “The drawing section was definitely my favorite.”

“We had an assignment,” says Cannon. “We had to do a few sketches and write a paragraph about the different drawing styles.”

“[MoMA] has an amazing collection,” comments Cook. “They have a lot of early 20th century paintings, and for the students to see that whole range of paintings right there in front of them is quite incredible.”

After lunch on Madison Avenue, the history students traveled to the Metropolitan Museum of Art, or the Met, to study the multitudes of historical artwork. Foster told the students to focus especially on works from the Baroque period, because they would be studying it soon.

The Baroque period was prominent in Europe from around 1600 to 1750. This artistic era is particularly notable for its attention to detail and over embellishment.

“I suggest to [the students] ahead of time that there are some things they should see and take advantage of,” says Foster. “I explain a little bit about the

various exhibits that they have, and it’s usually a day for them to explore on their own. [But the MET] is so big it’s a bit overwhelming unless you target something specifically. That’s why I told them to look at the Baroque [pieces].”

The students enjoyed the museum, and the focus. “Baroque is, I think, my favorite period of art,” says McGoldrick. “It’s so complex, and beautiful, and elegant, and detailed. People devoted themselves entirely to this art.”

Cook’s students were also taken to the Met, but they had already spent most of their afternoon visiting the Whitney Museum of American Art, which was hosting a special exhibit on Georgia O’Keefe.

“[The exhibit] was great,” says Cook, “because when you see the complete collection of an artist, you can go through their life, and I think the students got a lot out of that. Sometimes you just don’t like one painting, but once you see it in the whole collection, you understand what journey it had taken to get from the beginning to the end.”

Cook and Foster both agree that students would benefit from spending more time on the trip, but Cook says it is harder to organize an overnight trip, and to choose a time that’s convenient for the students. “[The problem] is finding a time for the students,” says Cook. “We have to find a time when we don’t interrupt their sports or their academics too much.”



COURTESY PHOTO

The medieval columns of the Benedictine abbey of Saint-Guilhem-le-Désert founded in 804 were installed in the Cloisters to give a true sense of period architecture.

Zombie Prom opens this weekend

Fall work on middle school musical set to please

by Diana Li

This year Bromfield’s Middle School Drama Club will perform “Zombie Prom”, a 1950’s musical style about a teenage girl named Toffee who falls in love with a rebel.

Toffee’s parents forbid her from seeing the rebel Jonny, which leads her to end the relationship. He cannot bear to be without her, so he commits suicide by jumping in the nuclear waste and the journey begins.

Freshmen Emma Noyes and Owen Alderson play Toffee and Jonny. “[Zombie Prom] is really similar to ‘Grease,’” says Noyes. “And I have been in that show before, so it’s a similar high school vibe.”

“Zombie Prom is fun and light-hearted,” says Alderson. “No real heavy topics, with catchy music. It’s a cool show to do because you can go crazy and have fun with it.”

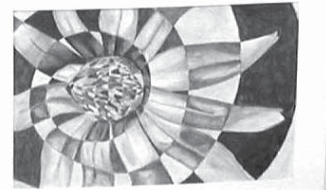
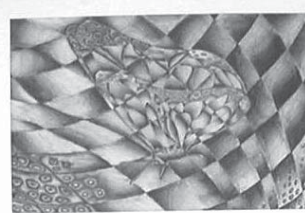
When Noyes learned that she was going to play the lead role in the production, she “was really excited and pretty much skipped around

[her] house all day,” she recalls. Alderson shared her excitement because he has never had such a prominent role in a play before.

Both agreed that the auditions for “Zombie Prom” were pretty basic. Noyes had already worked with Mrs. Brooks, so she knew what to expect. Alderson found the auditions “quick, painless and fun.”

“Rehearsals are everyday [and vary in length], depending on whether we are dancing [or] singing,” explains Alderson. Rehearsals usually consist of a combination of the two. When rehearsing songs, the cast practices with Musical Director Talia Mercadante. During dance rehearsals, Noyes says, they go to the auditorium lobby to practice with choreographer Melissa Hoffman. “We learn [the moves] tiny bits at a time in between making fools of ourselves,” comments Noyes.

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COURTESY PHOTO

Studio Art students exhibit their work outside the art wing.

Zombies invade Cronin

MUSICAL, cont. from page 11

“By the end of the rehearsal we usually have a pretty solid handle on what we are doing.”

“The most difficult part [of the show] is keeping the energy level up while juggling the negative vibes my character is feeling,” says Noyes.

Both actors have much experience in drama. “I’ve done various shows in elementary school and loved it,” adds Alderson. “It really became a passion for me when I did ‘Check Please’ in seventh grade. Since then it’s been my number one activity and.” Noyes has created mini-shows for her parents since she was only two years old and says that singing has always been a part of her life.

Since the musical is designed for the middle school, “the seventh graders have the most representation in the show, and eighth and ninth [grades] are equal,” says Alderson.

Meeting everyday has allowed the cast to bond, with goal to put on a great show. “We are really like a family, and Ms. Brooks is the mother who ties us all together,” Noyes explains. “She puts in great amounts of effort to make this work, and I give her major credit for trying as hard as she does.”

“[Brooks is] very sweet and patient with us and treats us like actors, not middle schoolers,” Alderson adds as a final thought.



COURTESY PHOTO

The cast of *Zombie Prom* rehearses a dance number from the show. The production opens this weekend with performances on December 4, 5, 11 and 12.

Cross country

XC, cont. from page ??

individually. The top ten runners, who are not on one of the teams that qualified as a whole, will also be able to run at the state meet. Bromfield has potential runners who could qualify, assuming they run well at districts. Coach Foster knows that the team has the ability to do well. With the right mindset he believes Bromfield can do it. “We have gotten progressively better,” says Foster “so I think we can do very well”

At the league meet which includes Murdock, Narragansett, Oakmont, Ayer, and Clinton, the boys came in second, with Max Flaton finishing in first place and sophomore Ellis Toll finishing in fourth. Both are now league all-stars.