



Every Woman's House

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Boys Basketball Team

page 8

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the wooster blade

Wooster High School student newspaper 515 Oldman Road Wooster, OH Jan. 20, 2012 Volume VII Issue 8

5 Facts to make you smarter

1

.....
13% of Americans actually believe that some parts of the moon are made of cheese.

2

.....
The daughter of Jay-Z and Beyonce is the youngest person ever to be credited on U.S. Billboard charts.

3

.....
An elementary school student in the Philippines was named "Lord Voldemort".

4

.....
Scientists estimate that laughing 100 times is equal to a 10-minute workout on a rowing machine.

5

.....
Bill Gates has given away \$28 billion since 2007 and has saved approximately 6 million lives.

courtesy of www.whatthefacts.com

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Table Top discussion reveals facility optimization news

Claire Miller
editor-in-chief

A third Table Top discussion was held on Jan. 11 in the WHS media center in order to continue talks of facility optimization possibly taking place in the near future.

Dr. Michael Tefs said that those community members who show up at the discussions, although not a true representation of the community as a whole, have a vested interest in the school system, and, therefore, their opinions should be taken into consideration in decisions dealing with facility changes.

Options for building optimization have been narrowed down to three scenarios.

Scenario one places grades eight through twelve at the high school, grades five through seven at the middle school. Cornerstone and three other elementary schools would hold kindergarten through fourth grade.

Scenario two would be the same as scenario one except grades three and four would be at Cornerstone and three other elementary schools would have kindergarten through second grade.

Finally, scenario three would have the same format as scenarios one and two, except three schools would remain open while all kindergarten and first grades would go to Cornerstone.

All scenarios are slated to close two grade schools. Participants in the Table Top

discussions were asked to weigh in on which scenario they felt was best for the school district.

Every group at the discussion chose scenario one, yet many cited that they were 'not true options' and would instead opt for an additional scenario, which placed K-4 in four elementary schools, 5-8 at the middle school building

Business and Community Affairs, said that each scenario would have different transportation costs, bus transfers and ride times and said he will have specific numbers in the Financial Impact at the January Board of Education meeting.

One attendee questioned the frequently occurring idea of moving eighth graders to

been transparent about this issue and feels it may be the best way to maximize the high school's space.

"Moving the eighth graders up is something that we knew, that is clear from our Web site, is not the ideal scenario. We are going to have to program that, we are going to have to think strategically about that, we are going to have

once he comes to the high school, opportunities will abound and students will be able to get a head on many subjects.

Teresa Ford, a parent and consistent attendee of facility optimization discussions, said she thinks grade level schools are not a good solution for the district.

She said such buildings are usually found in a clustered, campus-like setting. She also added that grade level schools increase the number of transitions for children, and research shows increased transitions produce negative results, such as a lowering of academic achievement and parental involvement among other consequences.

Ford said the idea of a phased-in, step-wise solution is an important consensus that was made at the meeting.

"When you make a huge, radical change and things aren't working, you're not going to be able to pinpoint what is not working because you've changed everything. So, we're losing the money gradually. Why don't we make the changes gradually?" she said.

Tefs said he is not sure that he is in a position to implement these changes quite yet, but further data and numbers will be supplied at the January Board of Education meeting.

At the Table Top discussion, he said it might be possible to make a decision by the end of February or early March.



Pictured at the December School Board meeting: Left: Director of Secondary Education Richard Leone; Top Right: Superintendent Dr. Michael Tefs; Bottom Right: BOE President James Barnard.



JOSEPH GORMAN

and kept grades 9-12 at the high school.

During the meeting, Tefs emphasized that possible changes were purely a fiscal issue, and they were not initiated to enhance academic achievement.

"I'll be the first one to tell you, this is being driven by finances. There is no doubt about it," he said.

Dave Kocevar, Director of

the high school, stating the "practically unanimous" view of attendees at the last Table Top discussion was against this change.

"So neither your taxpayers, nor your faculty and staff think this is a good idea. Are there any options that you can think of, without putting eighth graders in the high school?," the attendee said.

Tefs said the facility optimization committee has

to make that palatable. But, we want to maximize the instructional space in this building for our kids. That's why we did what we did at the end of the day," Tefs said in response to the question.

One parent said that, although she opposes the idea of eighth graders at the high school, there is a 'silver lining'.

She said her son is currently in advanced classes and

cornerstones of our community

Startzman provides medical assistance to community

Noah Spector
graphics editor

Editor's Note: This story is the last of a four-part series focusing on people who are cornerstones of the Wooster community.

Growing up in Caldwell, Ohio, Dr. Viola Startzman Robertson had no idea that in the years to come, 200 miles down the road, she would be changing lives forever.

According to the 2008 informal resolution the Wooster City Council wrote to honor Startzman's achievements, she attended the COW for undergraduate school, then subsequently earned her masters in chemistry at Western Reserve University in 1945.

Startzman settled in Wooster in 1950, becoming the first pediatrician and female physician at the Wooster Clinic.

According to the informal resolution, Startzman held multiple positions from then on; including the director of student health services at the COW from 1956 to 1979, where according to the informal resolution, she affected countless student lives.

While working at the COW, Startzman also served as Chairman of the Mental Health and Recovery board in the 1960s, as well as starting a female health

clinic that later became the building Wooster's Planned Parenthood is located, noted the resolution.

All of these achievements eventually lead to the organization that



COURTESY OF VIOLA STARTZMAN FREE CLINIC

The Viola Startzman Free Clinic was founded in 1995.

Startzman helped found, an organization that eventually came to bear her name; The Viola Startzman Free Clinic.

Startzman acknowledges the fact that from the outside, the Free Clinic looks medium sized. However, according to executive director of the Free Clinic Jaime Parsons, the inside of the clinic offers a colossal amount of services.

"[The Viola Startzman

Free Clinic] offers a so many things... free medical care, which includes mental health, endocrinology, podiatry, vision screening for kids, weight loss services and dental care to those who qualify in Wooster," Parsons said.

With all those services, one may think it would be a struggle to maintain such an organization that is virtually non-profit. Startzman would disagree.

"No [there was no struggle], to be honest, the clinic just sort of grew when it first started out back then," Startzman said.

Startzman also noted that the clinic was founded on one basic idea; helping people.

"If you're in poor health... whether you have money or not, we want to help you... Because when it comes down to it, people are people," Startzman said

According to George Snedeker, a former clinical director at the Free Clinic who worked with Startzman, Startzman played a huge in the formation of the Free Clinic, which was originally named the "Healthcare 2000 Community Clinic,"

according to Startzman.

"In a nutshell, Dr. Vi [Startzman] was pretty much the driving force behind the whole thing [formation of the clinic]," Snedeker said.

When Startzman was commissioned by then-mayor Clyde J. Brenemen to start the facility in 1993, she did not know how the community would respond to an organization that solely ran on volunteers.

However, according to Startzman, Parsons and Snedeker, the outpouring of support and volunteer work for the clinic has helped keep it as one of the best free

clinic services in the area, helping them treat at least 2,000 patients from Wayne county annually.

Because of this support, it comes as no surprise that Startzman takes volunteer work seriously.

"I think it's important for everyone to do some kind of volunteering...not only are you helping others, but it gives you a sense of achievement," Startzman said.

And yet, if there is anyone worthy of feeling a sense of achievement, it would have to be Startzman.

Students Speak on Urban Meyer

Do you think Urban Meyer can turn around the OSU football program?



Poll administered Monday, December 12, 2011

102 people polled
poll by Cody Smith
Graphic by Noah Spector

Teachers nominate students for work and leadership at school

Alex Holmes
on campus editor

Every month, a male student and a female student are nominated by the teachers and staff of WHS to be the students of the month.

These students represent the school throughout the community and within school.

"The staff makes statements about why the student [they picked] should be nominated," principal Anita Jorney-Gifford said.

Every teacher nominates two students and the board then picks which students they feel are good representatives.

Each school in the district, including the high school, middle school, and six elementary schools, have two student representatives. The students are recognized throughout that month at the district schools and at the monthly school board meeting.

"I was really excited about being student of the month," Samantha Reed (11), one of the September students of the month, said.

At the high school, students receive a close parking spot in the student lot and a pass to jump to the front of the lunch line. Students at the middle school receive a lunch with Principal Rodney Hopton, a gift card to a local restaurant, a Four-Star general bumper sticker, and an award certificate.

Reed added that she really liked having the close parking spot and have the pass to go to the front of the line in lunch.

Megan Jarret (12), a student of the month from October, said she also enjoyed having the close parking spot because she does not come to the high school until fourth period and she normally has to park far away.

"I think I was selected because I am involved in a lot of activities around the school," Jarret said.

The December students of the month are Kayla Villegas and Reid Delaney.

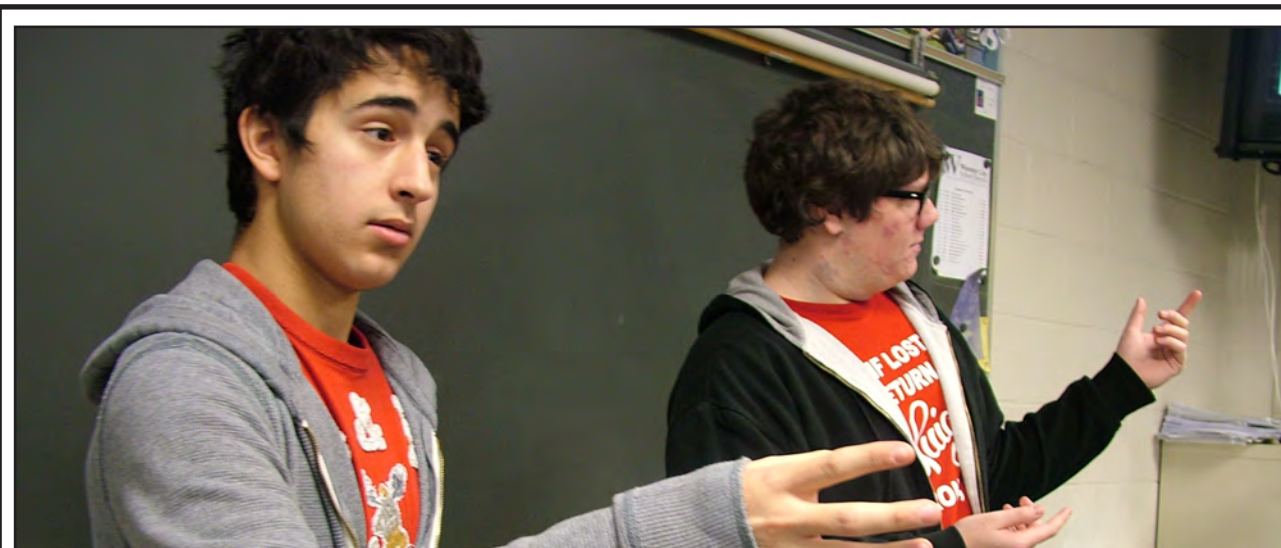
2011-2012 Students Of The Month

September:
Samantha Reed
Joe Bruch

October:
Megan Jarret
Michael Pinkham

November:
Morgan Redman
Luke McGee

December:
Kayla Villegas
Reid Delaney



JORDAN RAY-RODGERS

Paul Williams (11) and Dylan House (12) practice for the upcoming speech and debate tournament.

School hosts annual Speech and Debate Invitational

Emily Kridel
staff writer

The Wooster High School Speech and Debate team will be hosting their annual Sharen B. Althoff Rotary Invitational at WHS this weekend.

Wooster has been hosting a tournament on and off since the team formed, about 100 years ago.

In 2008 the speech and debate team named the tournament in memory of their influential head coach, Sharen Althoff, who passed away that year.

Holly Custer, current co-head coach of the Speech and Debate team, was coaching during the time when Althoff served as head coach.

Custer fondly remembers Althoff. "She was the epitome of what a coach should be," Custer said.

Custer added everything Althoff did was to help her students improve at their

craft and to help better the team.

William Franck, current co-head coach with Custer, said that although he never knew Althoff, he has heard many warm stories about her from previous team members and noted that many people said that Althoff pushed students above and beyond their expectations and that she always cared about her students.

Franck hopes to continue the team's tradition of excellence in the tournament. Teams from all six speech and debate districts in Ohio participate in Wooster's invitational.

Franck described the invite as a two-day tournament in one day. Franck also said it is a tournament with some of the best competition in the state.

Kayla Villegas (12), president of the team and Dramatic Interpretation speaker,

was enthusiastic about the upcoming tournament.

"I love the Wooster tournament. It has always been my favorite. It's the most competition you'll see all year. That and it has the home court advantage," Villegas said.

Hans Qu (10), Public Forum debater, said he generally enjoys the tournament, but he is apprehensive about competing because this is his first year in a new debate category.

"It's always a pretty fun tournament. Not looking forward to six rounds in one day, but at least I don't have to get up as early," Hans said.

Speech and debaters are awake by 5 a.m. most Saturdays in order to allow for time to travel to different schools across the state to compete.

This year has brought many changes for the Speech and Debate team. This is the first

season Custer and Franck have been head-coaches for the WHS team, although both have previous experience as coaches with Wooster and other teams.

Franck said it has been a smooth transition so far. He said that he and Custer balance the stress and work load between them well. Villegas and Qu agreed that the team this year is more organized, and Villegas noted that the weekly newsletter to the team is a useful and creative idea.

"We have a great team this year and are extremely proud of their ability to adapt to the new coaching staff," Custer said.

The invitational begins tonight and continues on Saturday.

Approximately 1180 students will be competing this year.

[STAFF SPOTLIGHT]

Custodian works 18 years at WHS

Emily Kridel
staff writer

Cindy Pumphrey has been committed to keeping WHS clean for 18 years.

Pumphrey said her favorite part of working at WHS is being a part of the students' education.

"Being around all the other staff and students and knowing I'm doing my part to basically aid in their education [by keeping the school clean]," Pumphrey said.

Pumphrey's least favorite part of working as a custodian is getting calls to clean up sick messes in cold and flu season.

"Between locker calls and lunchtime, we [the custodians] just do it all," Pumphrey said.

There are 10 custodians currently working at WHS and Pumphrey is the head

custodian. Steve Mast, a custodian at WHS, said he enjoys working with Pumphrey. "She's a really good worker. She has a good sense of humor," Mast said.

Anita Jorney-Gifford said Pumphrey makes a contribution to the school and works with the other custodians as she leads.

"She does her job. Her team knows she's in it with them," Jorney-Gifford said.

Pumphrey also said she wishes students would take more pride in the building, especially since it is such a nice and relatively new facility. Throwing away trash is one way in which students can respect the building and keep it neat.

"Every little bit they can do is helpful," Pumphrey said.

In her years working at WHS, Pumphrey said one

of the changes she has seen are budget cuts in her department. Fewer custodians are employed at WHS than in previous years and the work load for the custodians has increased, according to Pumphrey.

Pumphrey originally started working in the kitchens at WHS before becoming a custodian.

Pumphrey enjoys working at the high school and even though she has had other job opportunities, she has chosen to stay at WHS.

Pumphrey plans to continue working at WHS until she retires.

"As an employee, she takes her job seriously and her efficiency is exceptional," Jorney-Gifford said.

Outside of work, Pumphrey enjoys spending time with her family and grandchildren.

What to think about while scheduling

Tara Jabour
trends editor

When selecting classes for the upcoming school year, there are many scheduling options for students.

Curt Leshner, guidance counselor at WHS, said when it comes to scheduling, many things are important to consider.

"After students know what they are deciding, whether it's a four year college, two year college or attending the Career Center, then they can decide which courses to take," Leshner said.

Guidance Counselor Paula Kimble agreed with Leshner by saying students should take into consideration their futures and meet the standard requirements.

When it comes to requirements, Leshner said the core curriculum is the most im-

portant thing for students to remember.

Leshner added once the core curriculum requirements are met, students should concentrate on the basic graduation requirements, honors diplomas, etc.

Another decision that comes along with choosing a class is whether to take a standard class, a honors class or an advanced placement class.

English Dept. member Diane Mealey said she tries to help her students choose their classes by explaining the course, and then giving students the benefits of taking the course.

Mealey said when it comes to choosing classes, students should choose a course where they feel most comfortable and where they think they will be most successful.

Leshner said when it comes to choosing between regular, honors and advanced placement classes, students should see how they could connect that class to their future plans.

"When selecting an honors or advanced placement class, you should be very interested in the course, and it should connect to your future after high school," Leshner said.

Kimble said the importance of selecting classes is a huge decision, Mealey agreed with Kimble in emphasizing that course selection is very important.

She said that when students choose a course, it is very important for their future after high school and since they select their own courses, then they should be motivated throughout the course.

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Dean Davis helps WHS sport teams

Autumn Hauenstein
staff writer

Throughout the years, WHS has seen the beneficiary of a generous sponsor who donated money for a lifting facility for the sports teams to use.

Dean Davis, Wooster community resident and the man who made this all possible, said he was fortunate enough to help out the school. As an active sports attendee, Davis gladly donated the money.

"I've had three kids who graduated from Wooster. My wife went there, and we attend all of the sporting events. When Larry Wise was raising money for the building, he came and asked me if I would donate, and I was happy to help out," Davis said.

Although he was not expecting public recognition for his donation, Davis only wanted to provide a workout facility that benefitted both male and

female sports teams. With a field for football players to practice on, locker rooms, showers, a coach's office and a room used by wrestlers, The Dean Davis building provides opportunities for students to grow as athletes.

Nikki Reynolds, cross country and track coach, said she utilizes The Dean for many activities.

"The runners go to The Dean after practices to lift and get fit. It strengthens the athletes, and in the Summer, we do Insanity on the wrestling mats," Reynolds said.

Grant Delaney (12) attends The Dean's workout facilities three to four times a week.

"It's a great place to go and work out because it's free. When the weather is bad, it's a nice indoor place where I can get fit," Delaney said.

The Dean has been used by various sports teams for over 25 years for lifting, training and sports preparation, but this would not have been made possible if not for a genuine Wooster fan.

Wooster reaches Out

community members and organizations give back

Giving back strengthens community

Brooke Courtemanche
staff writer

Scores of different charitable organizations work hard in Wooster to bring about a more functional and healthy community.

Community members are encouraged to help out in any way they can.

Donating clothes to Goodwill helps create jobs and fosters a stronger community.

"Donations to our store are how we fund all our programming," Goodwill supervisor Carolyn Stefanic said.

The gift of unwanted clothing can go far when it comes to promoting a healthier community.

Among critically needed items, Stefanic lists shirts, pants, curtains, blouses, and other textiles, as well as e-wastes such as worn out computers, gaming stations and other toxic items of technology.

"Donors play a vital role in Goodwill's ability to fulfill its mission of helping people go to work. To pay for its programs, Goodwill sells donated goods and other household items in more than 2,600 stores," goodwill.org said.

If clothes and household items are not something you can spare, giving the gift of time to supporting community donation

drives and advocating for a permanent donation box in your workplace or church is also important to Goodwill.

Donating items is not the end of what someone can do for their community. The Wayne County Humane Society is also always appreciative of volunteers. "We are always in need of people to walk the dogs, socialize with the cats, and mostly scheduling for off-site events. There's also always cleaning to do, from litter boxes to dishes and sanitizing dog kennels and cat cages,"

Julie Everhart of Wayne County Humane Society said. Money and supplies are also well valued. "Right now we are in need of a good digital camera for our pet photos... and cruelty cases that we have," Everhart said.

Even if inhibited from animal work by fear or allergies, nursing homes are yet another alternative source of volunteer work. "Life in a nursing home,

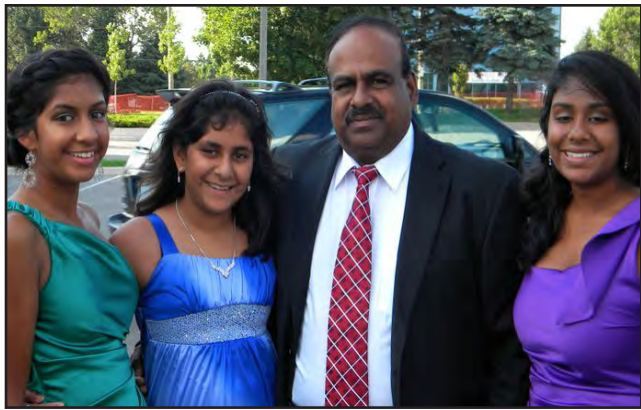


JORDAN RAY-ROGERS

The Humane Society is host to many animals such as this dog that are in need of good homes and families.

even the best of nursing homes, is often confusing, frustrating, scary, and lonely," Deborah Mitchell said, via volunteerguide.org. There are a myriad of activities community members can fulfill to brighten the lives of the elderly. "Nursing home volunteer opportunities can include spending time with a resident, playing cards, talking, taking a walk, or

sharing a meal. But you can also make visits during which you and the nursing home resident create and preserve memories that will provide comfort for the resident when friends and family are absent," Mitchell said. Many things can be done to promote a community, from working at a soup kitchen to helping with fundraisers.



COURTESY OF KRISTY KALIKASINGH

Premauth Kalikasingh with his three daughters Kristy, Jenny and Lizzy Kalikasingh.

Kalikasingh uses skills to help the community

Abby Peabody
arts editor

Among many of the people in the Wooster community who give back to community is Premauth Kalikasingh.

Kalikasingh, a native of Guyana, came to the United States in 1983 for college and, since then, has lived in many different places. "I have always helped my community in some way that I can. Since I have lived in Wooster I help at the Gault Center...and contribute to the Salvation Army," Kalikasingh said.

According to www.salvationarmyusa.org, some of the easiest ways to give back to society through the Salvation Army are by donating money, clothes or household items to Salvation Army locations.

Kalikasingh volunteers teaching English at the Gault Center to people who cannot understand or who cannot afford English classes. "My English is not the best, but when those who cannot afford the classes, I try to

help," Kalikasingh said. Kalikasingh also contributes to his village back home in Guyana, "...we send a large box with school supplies like crayons, backpacks, sweets, items that are very expensive or hard to come by...to schools for small children."

Kalikasingh's daughter, WHS junior Lizzy Kalikasingh, is very proud of her father in his charity and volunteer work, "I'm proud of him because even though he is not from this community, he found it is best to help society, making the world better," she said.

Kalikasingh said it is up to everyone to make his or her community better.

"I came to America thinking it is the greatest place on Earth where every person is helped, and I think it is up to us to make that true, not the government," Kalikasingh said.

Kalikasingh said it is up to your peers to make a difference in society, not your superiors and the best way for your community to grow better, is to help it yourself.

Donating time can benefit local charities

Austen Yorke
views editor

In Wooster, there are a multitude of charities and organizations that are established to help the citizens of the area that surrounds them; but behind the walls of each organization, there are always the individuals who drive its functions.

Stefan Garcia was the president and treasurer of two organizations: Substance Abuse, Treatment, Education and Prevention Services (STEPS) and Every Woman's House.

"I have been on the board of STEPS/EWH for seven years. I was treasurer prior to that and VP prior to that. As of 12/31/11 I am officially off the board; however I am still involved in several initiatives

including chairing the Break the Cycle Benefit bike ride on 6/16 to raise money and awareness for STEPS in particular," Garcia said.

As a board member, Garcia was given the task of helping to set direction along with the executive staff and overseeing the financial operations of EWH to make sure their donor's money is being spent appropriately;

also to provide support to the staff member.

Garcia is proud of the work he was involved in, and continues to be involved in, saying, "I believe that STEPS/EWH gives people a place to turn, when they have run out of other resources, to get their lives back together and ultimately helps families affected by alcohol, drugs and domestic violence and that is integral

to maintaining the fabric of any community."

Garcia has seen what the resources do for Wayne County, having done walk throughs, in connection with STEPS, and has advised projects of the House.

But, Garcia said despite what this all does for community members, it has also broadened his own view of things.

"I have a better understanding of the issues facing our community and it is rewarding to know you are a small part of making a big difference for many people in our community. If you want to live in a strong community, you must also do your part to create and maintain that type of community," Garcia said.

Both of these organizations continue to assist the community, with new leaders following in the footsteps of Stefan Garcia, and working to better the community that he constantly strived for.

Volunteers use tax program to give back

Tim Yuhass
staff writer

Even though Wayne County is going through tough economic times, some volunteers at the United Way of Wooster have taken the initiative to give back to the community.

About six years ago, Susan Marlar brought the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program to the UW.

The IRS runs the program and helps people with low-to-moderate incomes file their taxes for free. Marlar decided to start the program because

she wanted to reach out to families who had problems with filing taxes. "What inspired me to get the program started was because it was a way to help families by devoting some time in an area that I have worked in since college," Marlar said.

According to Brenda Linnick at the United Way, there have been a total of 782 tax filings through VITA. In addition to that, \$849,984 of earned income tax dollars have been returned to the community, and \$1,548,195 of total federal refund dollars have been returned to the community via VITA.

Community member Mark Wiest, who helps with VITA, says he enjoys preparing taxes for single mothers that are struggling to get by.

Marlar said the program would not be possible without the volunteers who help assist with this program.

"The number of people assisted is directly correlated with the number of volunteers. The more volunteers that prepare the returns, the more returns we can do," Marlar said.

Volunteers at the United Way help with VITA at three different sites in Wooster, Millersburg and Orrville.



MAGGIE GUTTMAN

Every Woman's House, established in 1978, is one of many charitable organizations in Wooster.

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Students weigh in on their hopes
If you could have three wishes, what would they be?

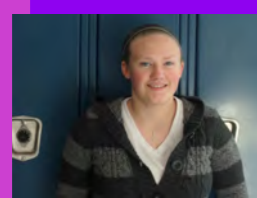


"Unlimited money, my family to stay in good health, and to be able to read peoples minds."

-Jenn Phillipon (12)

"A cure for cancer, to meet Carlos (the child I sponsor through Compassion International), to ride a dolphin."

-Kelley Casper (11)

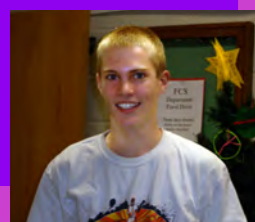


"To be taller, smarter and more handsome."

-Jason Sanders(10)

"To be able to move things, time travel and to have more wishes."

-Suren Gourapoura(9)



"Big muscles like Fenton, to be fast like a cheetah and tan like Snooki."

-Reid Delaney (11)

"Be in a warmer climate every day of my life and never see snow again, be a PGA professional, and have world peace, just like Miss Universe."

-Mike Sullivan, History Dept.



Living it UP:

Students share the things that they would do with only one day left to live

Noah Spector
graphics editor

It is one of the age-old questions that, if taken seriously, would provoke thought in just about anyone: If you had one last day on Earth, what would you do? Numerous people, who asked to be off the record, were dumbfounded at the thought of the question, stating that it is hard to imagine such a thing even occurring. Bill Franck, English Dept. member, was the exact opposite when it came to responses. "I'd leave school and

go play with my son; no question," Franck said. For those that responded to the question, family is an incredibly common theme in answers. Charles Cerniglia, Science Dept. member, also said that he would opt to spend his last day with his children. Eric Fenton (11) decided that if he were to have one final day left on Earth, he would not only spend it with his step-brother Charles, but also spend one last time doing what he loves: lifting. "Aside from hanging with my brother, I'd probably have to go for 300 [pounds] on the bench," Fenton said.

Others decided they would spend the day with the people they love, outside of family ties. Heather Kooztz (11) has been in a relationship with Seth Carnahan (11) for about two years, and if faced with a final day on Earth, said, in an unhesitant manner, that she would spend time with him. Carnahan had a similar response as well, saying that if faced with the pivotal last day, he would enjoy his time with Kooztz. Carnahan also stated that along with spending time with his girlfriend Kooztz, he would spend time with his dog, Tuhdane.

When faced with the question, some would rather spend their final day doing something completely different. Jenna Roberts (10) decided that if faced with the choice of a final day on Earth, she would spend it in a place she has always longed to go; Paris, France. "I don't know what I'd do there, but I know whatever it is I'd enjoy it," Roberts said. While the answers were different in most cases, it seems that if faced with having to spend one final day on Earth, a day wasted simply would not be an option.

Traveling ranks high among WHS students' ambitions

Ellie Rickett
sports editor

As the new year begins, many WHS students enjoy traveling, whether it is for a family vacation, a church group or to learn and explore.

Sawyer Dilyard (11) said he would like to go west. "I would go to San Francisco. It is really laid back and warm all the time. I've been there before and I enjoy going down to the pier," Dilyard said. Cameron Daugherty (9) wants to visit New York City because of the fast city life and its wide variety of entertainment.

"I would go somewhere in South America because I have been there once before and I loved the atmosphere. The different culture and language was so fun to be around," Hannah Kacere (12) said.

Brock Berlin (12) would like to go on a private cruise he saw on the travel channel. "You have access to personal chefs and like five star hotel accommodations all on the ship. You can get scuba diving lessons right off the ship and then it can take you to some crazy private place where you have your own private helicopter take you to the top of this mountain and then ski down it," Berlin said.

Kelley Casper (11) would like to go to a country in Africa to broaden her religious beliefs. "I like to help people, a lot of the world needs to hear about Christ, hope and love. Missionaries would help spread those things," Casper said.

Lauren Taylor (9) would like to journey to Antarctica because of her fondness of the winter season.

"I want to see Eskimos and live in a igloo. I also want to get a sight of polar bears, penguins and animals that you don't usually see in any other place," Taylor said.

Coni Alvarez, a foreign exchange student at WHS, would like to travel to Paris because of her love for French accents and its wide range of culture.



Student reflects on personal traveling ambitions and desires



Tricia Stefancin
copy editor

In my short lifetime I have had the opportunity to visit many amazing places. I have seen the countrysides of France and Germany as well as their capitals. I have lived in New York City for a month, I have seen wonderful parts of Florida (Disney included) and I have seen Palm Springs, Calif.

I will admit that I have been pretty lucky gaining most of these experiences before high school and I thank my mom everyday for letting me go. But, despite all that I have seen, I want to travel more.

I have always been a traveler at heart. Some part of me has always been longing to see the world before I get too old to see it. I have been looking at studying abroad in college and I have looked at a dance program that could take me to China. There are many cities and countries on my list, but

one place I would absolutely love to go has always been Greece.

Greece has held a special place in my heart since I was in grade school. The architecture, the beautiful views and the thriving culture have always been attractions to my young soul.

Picture the most beautiful sunset you have ever seen.

Now, add more color, beautiful white buildings and the Mediterranean Sea spread out in front of you, the salt of the sea blowing in your face by a soft, gentle wind. That is the vision I have of Greece.

Greece has all the beauty of Paris, without all the hustle and bustle of the streets. Everyone in Greece seems to have a more laid back view to life. And, anyone who knows me will tell you I need to relax.

But, Greece also has a rich history. Being someone who loves history and mythology Greece is the best place to see because it was at the heart of it all in ancient times. It just seems like the perfect fit for someone like me.

Maybe I will find that Greece is not the way I picture it when I get there, but the point is I will get there, someday. It is a hope and a wish, but one for which I am striving.

Highs and Lows:
Students share highlights and downfalls of the year 2011

Eylie Buehler
spectrum editor

As the year 2011 comes to a close, for most, now is a time to reflect back on the year's good and bad times.

According to Daniel Cebul (11) the year was full of both ups and downs.

"The U.S. economy would be a down, but the uprising for democracy in the Middle East is an up. Locally, 2011 was a good year, and life at WHS has been good," Cebul said.

Cebul said that if he could change anything about this year, thought it would be putting more effort and time into things that are important to him.

Brock Berlin (12) said that 2011 was a great year. "I changed a lot, but the friends I've grown closer to, I plan to keep in contact with forever. I have no regrets," Berlin said.

Becky Jolliff (11) said that she would try harder to stay closer with girls in her own grade, while Jack Reynolds (9) said that all he would change is to have a longer

winter break and not to let Steve Carell leave *The Office*.

Ally Huttinger (12) says the year 2011 is a year to remember. In this, her senior year, there have been a lot of memories for Huttinger. She said it has been an all-around fun year, with both some high and low points and she wants to try and savor as much as she can. Huttinger said she is trying to make the best of the little time she has left at WHS.

"If I could change one thing, though I definitely would not have waited until last

minute to do my college applications," Huttinger said.

Coni Alvarez (11), one of WHS's exchange students from Chile, said she would not change much.

"I am pretty happy for being here and know that everything that happened, happened for a reason," Alvarez said.

Andrew Moore (11) learned much this year. "I think 2011 has been one of the most eye opening years for me; I've seen friendships fall apart, but more importantly, I have found and become closer

to some of the best friends in the world," Moore said.

Moore also said if he could change one thing, it would be to not let the little things bother him. He said that if he had to go back and re-live it he would, but this time he would not sweat the small stuff.

In the opinion of Zac Brugger (10), Tim Tebow's six wins for the Bronco's was the highlight of 2011. Mariah Wright (10) said that the highlight of her year was being named reserve state champion.

For Jessica Treisch, the year

of 2011 was a stepping stone toward graduating high school.

For Nicki Barrett (12), traveling was one of the most memorable events of the year.

"I went to Israel [in 2011]," Barrett said.

Barrett added that being accepted into Miami University was another high point of the year. The year 2011 was a year of highs and lows, learning experiences and memories that will last a lifetime.

Students share what they would do with one million dollars to spend

Greg Rotuno
squibs editor

While improbable, people have always been asked the question: What would you do with a million dollars?

"I would travel with my family all around the world and buy lots of candy," Foreign Language Dept. member Miriam Stokes said.

Stokes also added that she would ensure the financial security of her children as well.

"I would make sure my

family is taken care of, and set for college and other important things in life," Stokes explained.

Mason Tomblin (11) has made intricate plans for his million dollars. "I would start off by putting \$500,000 in the bank. Then, I would give \$10,000 to all three of my siblings, \$50,000 to my mom and \$40,000 to my dad," Tomblin said.

Tyler Buchanan (12) would also help his family with the money. "I would keep half of it, and give the other half to my

parents," Buchanan said.

While family appears to be the main priority of many, some also believe that they would use some money for themselves.

After ensuring the well-being of his family, Tomblin would spend some of the money on himself.

"I would buy myself a new Escalade, house and take Megan Fox on a date and give her anything she ever wanted," Tomblin said.

Tomblin would also follow

his favorite athletes, including Miami Heat power forward LeBron James.

"I would take back money from my dad to buy Miami Heat season tickets for life," Tomblin said.

The community of Wooster would appear in Tomblin's priorities as well.

Tomblin noted that he would support his high school, in addition to donating to several sports programs at WHS, continuing to aid the community of Wooster.



51 students were randomly polled on Monday, December 12. Poll conducted by Tara Jabour.

Students consider what they would do if they were president for a day

Sean Hoy-Skubik
sports editor

As the race for a Republican Presidential candidate is prevalent in the news, students and staff of WHS question what they would want to do if they were President for a day.

Many students did not know what they would do. Other students had some very strong opinions on how to improve the country.

Evan Bahler (12), said he would bomb all of our enemies. "I would make sure we were protected from anyone attacking us. And the best way to do that is bomb everyone," Bahler said.

Mitch Buckwalter (11) said he would like to decrease dependency on oil and foreign countries. Business Dept. member Richard Lee had some ideas of his own pertaining to his subject matter.

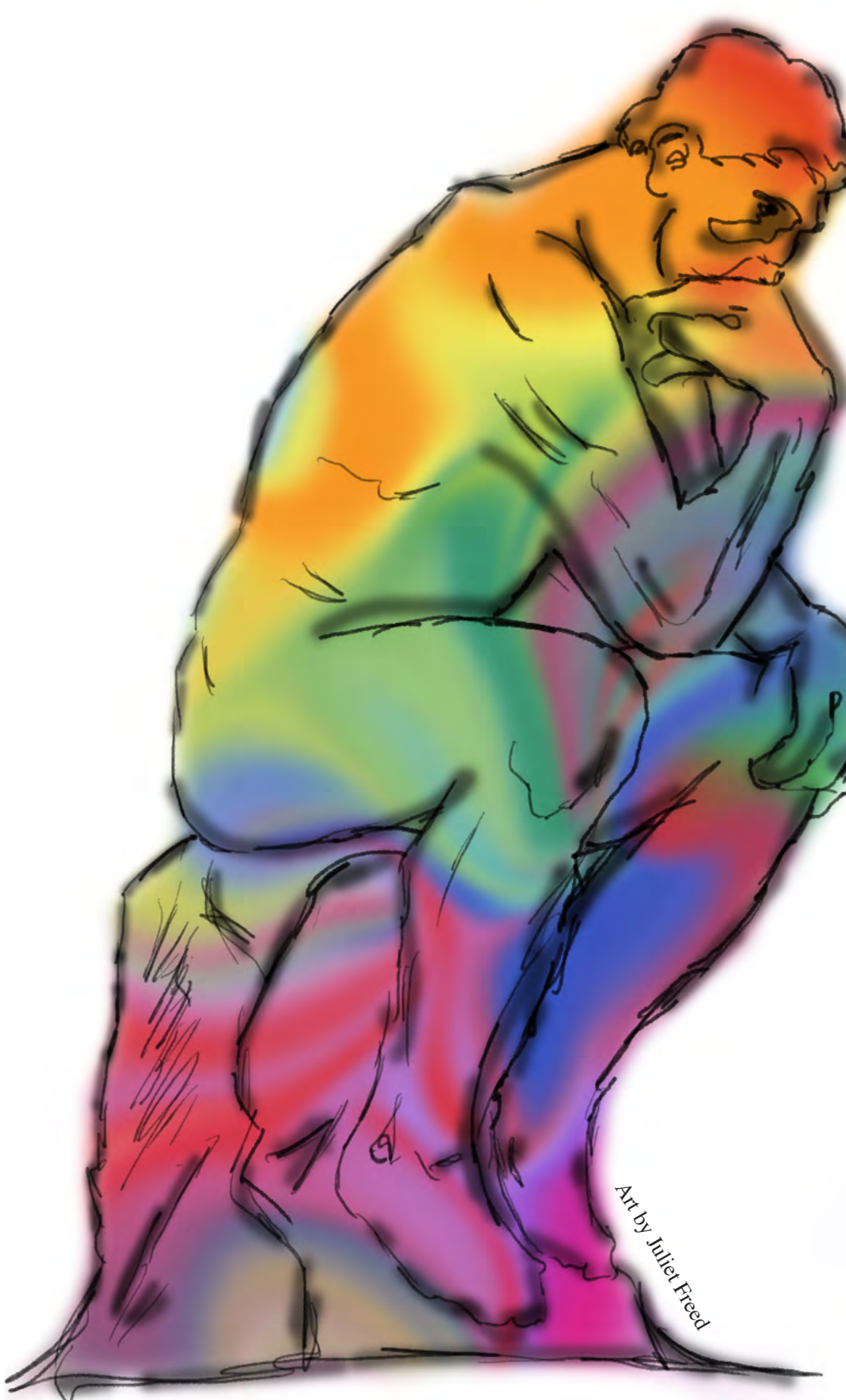
"I would require every business in the United States that received any tax breaks from any US government to hire U.S. citizens to 50 percent of their work force. Also, I would require all Christmas vacations to be two weeks," Lee said.

However, according to History Dept. member Jolene Dyer, being President for a day would not necessarily grant the power to carry out some of the student's ideas. Since presidents don't have the power to pass legislation, Dyer says she would use her one day as president to have an open house at the White House and invite friends and students to come see it.

"People don't get to see the living quarters often so I would have an open house and a party," Dyer said.

Social Studies Dept. member, Joel Schmidt had a similar idea, saying he would go for a trip in Air Force One.

Nick Rehm (12), leaves us with the final thought. No matter what he would do as president for a day, there is always someone who has done a worse job in the past.



Art by Juliet Freed

Students respond: "What's on your bucket list?"

Colin Faulkner
staff writer

<p>Hannah Kacere (12)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Make my hair every color of the rainbow 2. Travel cross country by hitchhiking 3. Pretend to be a foreign person for a day 4. Hot-wire a car 5. Meet/Marry Zach Galifanakis and Mike Posner 6. Start a flash mob 7. Howl with the wolves 8. Rob a bank 9. Go to Lebanon 	<p>Grant Stokes (11)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Skydiving 2. Go to Mardi Gras in New Orleans 3. Play in the world series of poker 4. Have a date with one of the Kardashians 5. Go streaking at a national broadcast game 6. Live on a beach 7. Buy an exotic car 8. Be in a movie 9. Travel to Germany 10. Play college football
<p>Bri Bocook (9)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Swim with dolphins 2. Meet Justin Bieber 3. Tweet 1,000 times in one day 4. Cliff jumping 5. Save a cat 6. Ride a shark 7. Travel the world 8. Beat Orrville in every sport 9. Go to NYC on New Years Eve 10. Get front row seats at a Glee 	<p>Corey Beckett (10)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Skydive 2. Play D1 basketball and baseball 3. Tweet 1,000 times in one day 4. Play in the MLB 5. See the seven wonders of the world 6. Stay one day in every country 7. Take Rihanna on a date 8. Play in the NBA 9. Race Usain Bolt 10. Swim with Michael Phelps

→ A collision of sounds ←

Local high school band creates unique music style

Cody Smith
staff writer

Local WHS band **The Collision** is hoping to inspire and create a new kind of music outside the normal.

Led by WHS senior Nate Head as the lead vocalist and lead guitarist, started the band in seventh grade, he said "Who doesn't want to make a band?" and that began the creation of...



Unlike most bands, who often change band members at such a young age, their band has kept almost all of the same band members since their origin. The band consists of Nate Head (guitar / vocals / drums), Ben Benekos (drums / keys), Bryson Gentry (bass / vocals) and Nathan Harley (guitar).

The band played their first show in 2007 at Wooster Grace Brethren Church.

"We play from the shadiest bar in the flats to church youth groups," Head explained. Head and the band have started to spread outside Ohio and have a

few upcoming shows in Kentucky and West Virginia. The band has a show this month at the Auricle in Canton, Ohio on Jan. 26.

Nick Rehm a senior at WHS, has performed with the band in the past. "It was a different experience. They have a lot of energy when they play live so it was cool to be a part of that," Rehm said. According to Rehm, they have their own sound which sets them apart from other bands.

The Collision currently has an album called *The Storm & The Sea*. The album consists of twelve songs all produced by Head himself.

Ben Benekos, another lead of the band, said making the album was a tough process: "it was a lot of work, but was definitely fun to make," Benekos said. The band is very unique in their sound. He album has instrumentals from glockenspiel, sleigh bells and the flugelhorn. Nate said that he likes to use different sounds but incorporates them into their normal live instrumentation.

The group is hoping to produce another album before most of the members go off to college. Most members of high school bands are afraid of what will

happen to the band after graduation. Although they are near graduation, Nate and Ben both sound hopeful about their future.

"All I can say is my band is going to look very different after high school," Head said.

Nick Rehm said he feels like that music will one day take them to big places.

The Collision has been known for being different in their sound, but they also differ in the way they view music.

Rehm said they are very talented and determined people who live and breathe music.

New social networking program, Path, provides a more close-knit community

Sydney Zedd
staff writer

Social networking programs have recently taken over the web, with Facebook and Twitter being the most famous.

The newest addition to the social networking world is Path.

Path is an app for the iPhone that lets the user keep in touch with friends and family, like other websites.

According to Gizmodo.com,

however, Path is different in a few ways.

"Unlike other social media platforms where a bigger list of friends is always better, Path caps you at 50 friends. The idea is that when you know you're just sharing with people you really trust, you'll be far more inclined to share without inhibition," Gizmodo said.

Also, unlike any other social network, Path is one's own personal network. Path lets

only those who the users trusts see updates.

The longer you have Path, the better the network gets to know you.

Path tracks and tells where the user is and what they are doing.

Grace MacMillan (10) said she likes Path more than Facebook and is more like a time line.

"You can say 'go to sleep' and when you wake up you push a button that says 'I'm

awake' and it shows how many hours you slept," MacMillan said.

Path is always set to private, so only the people you want to keep in touch with see your updates.

Path.com said former Facebook employee, David Morine, who left the company in January of 2010, founded the site.

The network was launched in November of 2010.

The app is free to the iPhone as Morine's company and team work on making the app available to Androids and Blackberrys.

Highly anticipated film lives up to expectations: David Fincher's latest film chills as much as it excites



Ellie Rickett
sports II editor

From the national best selling trilogy, written by Steig Larson, *The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo*, has recently been nominated for five awards and has won the national board of review for best breakthrough performer Rooney Mara.

Most of the time, movies based off of books turn out to be disappointing, but director David Fincher, who directed such films as *Fight Club* and *Se7en*, was successful in providing high-quality entertainment and a suspenseful story.

This film is based on a media disgraced journalist, Mikeal Blomkvist (Daniel Craig) who is hired to investigate for a rich retired business man to find out the mystery of his missing grand niece who vanished

40 years ago.

As his search becomes more and more difficult, Blomkvist hires a fierce, talented computer hacker to assist him, Lisbeth Salander. Rooney Mara, who plays this outlandish role as a 24 year old independent heroine, accompanies Blomkvist, in attempt to uncover the family secrets and reveal what truly happened to the elderly man's lost grand niece, Harriet, as well, to clear his name as a journalist.

Before the two characters meet, the movie intertwines between them creating more than one plot. Once the two team up, the chemistry was stunning.

Although the different plot focuses can get quite confusing, the film is beautifully directed and superbly acted.

Mara took on a challenging role with this film, and good thing she did. Mara played Lisbeth to perfection, from her sulky demeanor to her kick-butt attitude.

I would be surprised if Mara does not win an Academy Award for this role.

Craig is not to be

outshined though, he also plays the mysterious Blomkvist with the brute and sexuality that the story line calls for.

The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo, may be viewed as a rather graphic film, but to enter into Lisbeth's world, the viewer must be engulfed in her macabre

surroundings.

In this dramatic and vicious movie, Fincher delivered a sufficient and gripping thriller leaving viewers in awe as the Oscar worthy Mara Rooney captivated the film with her character.



[reviews]

Heartwarming film appeals to all ages



Sarah Mason
feature editor

To be completely honest, I was a little worried when I walked into a theater composed of mostly 6 year-olds and senior citizens.

I simply do not have the patience to sit through a corny PG movie for two hours; however, *We Bought A Zoo* was not at all what I expected.

Well, not completely what I expected.

Directed by Cameron Crow and based on a true story, *We Bought a Zoo* chronicles Benjamin Mee (Matt Damon) and his two children as he copes with the loss of his wife and refurbishes a run-down zoo, Rosemoor Wildlife Park, which happens to be part of his new property.

We Bought a Zoo is a classic uplifting story of love, loss and rebuilding, and probably not unlike other "based on a true story" films that you have seen before.

It is a relatively simple plotline that is often predictable and slightly cheesy, and is probably not the film to go see if you are craving hard-core action and violence.

This being said, it is hard not to enjoy *We Bought a Zoo*; it is an uplifting, inspirational movie that has an emotional appeal to just about anybody, and there are a few surprises along the way.

Damon is a fitting actor

for the role of Benjamin, immediately giving off a likeable, do-it-all dad vibe. The casting of Damon's daughter, Rosie, played by Maggie Elizabeth Jones, was also spot-on; the young actress had the perfect balance of innocence and childish wisdom for her character.

Even more, *We Bought a Zoo* will most likely touch you in some way.

Animal lovers are guaranteed to share in Benjamin's passion for animals, but beware: though it's no *Marley and Me*, this movie may bring tears to your eyes.

And for anybody who has ever lost somebody they loved, a heartfelt emotional montage toward the end of the film left the entire audience sniffling.

We Bought a Zoo also encompasses several valuable life lessons that we could all use a reminder of: acceptance, moving on, and remembering the past. Even more, it reminds us of the importance of pursuing and never giving up on your passions.

Lastly, for those looking for a little romance, the end of this movie will leave you satisfied.

Though I have viewed enough romantic comedies to predict it from the beginning, the young girl sitting in front of me was obviously surprised when the two characters kissed, and loudly exclaimed "Oh my gosh!"

So there you go - this movie has something for everyone. From animal lovers to romantics, from the 6 year-olds to 86 year-olds in the audience, *We Bought a Zoo* is an inspirational and moving story that will touch everybody's hearts.

War Horse gallops into theaters with great reviews



Eylie Buehler
staff writer

Let me just begin by saying War Horse is not a traditional Steven Spielberg kid movie.

The film is based off of Michael Morpurgo's acclaimed children's book, *War Horse*.

Starring Jeremy Irvine, in his Hollywood debut as Albert Narracott, the young owner of an untrained, wild horse, named Joey, played by 14 different horses.

Joey and Albert form an unbreakable bond while Albert works on taming the unruly creature.

After Joey learns to trust Albert, Albert soon realizes that Joey really cares for him and his family.

The plot unfolds as Albert battles the unthinkable in hopes of being reunited with his animal companion after being separate by war. I will admit that when I heard the story was more about the horse than the boy I was uneasy.

I did not think that it would be entertaining to follow a horse through his journeys, needless to say I was wrong. I thought it was one of the most colorful and entertaining aspects of the entire film.

Rather than a traditional movie about an animal and it's owner, *War Horse* is more about the journey of two separate beings then their journey together. I



found it refreshingly different.

The movie was shot beautifully along the rolling hills of rural England. The cinematography was visually stunning and drew you on to the story.

It focuses on the compelling relationship between a young boy and his horse rather than the bloody horrors of the First World War.

War horse is not for everyone. It is a compelling passionate story that moved me to tears.

Although based off of a children's book I wouldn't consider *War Horse* a family film.



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Girls basketball looks to extend the winning streak of the season

Kyra Rudy
staff writer

Ranked first in OCC, the girls varsity basketball team looks forward to continued success throughout the remainder of the season.

Coach Mike Baus explained that his goal for the team is to win OCC. Baus said that they are well on their way to this goal. The team is ranked first in OCC, winning all seven games so far against other teams in the conference.

Andi Logee (12) hopes he team will continue their success in OCC.

"We need to be focused so that we can win the big games and hopefully stay in first place," Logee said.

Baus would also like to see the team go onto district finals and, with a record of 10-1, it is a goal within reach.

Sarah Cairnie (10) thinks her team is doing well so far

this season.

"We're doing great. We've beat three state ranked teams. We've accomplished a lot of things this year," Cairnie said.

Logee is also happy with where the team is so far in the season.

Logee said, "I am very happy with the way season has been going and I am excited to start second round of OCC. I think we need to work on the little things so in big games, when they are close, we know what to do and can finish the game strong, coming out with a win."

Along with success, during a game against Clear Fork on Jan. 12, Lauren Walker celebrated scoring over 1,000 points throughout her high school career.

The team hopes to continue their success in upcoming games. Their next game is tomorrow at Lexington at 2:30 p.m.



MARIAH WHITMAN

(above) The girls' basketball varsity starters, (from left) Claire Ballard (11), Andi Logee (12), Halle Gallo-Malta (12), Lauren Walker (12) and Sarah Cairnie (10), prepare to be called out during team introductions before a recent game.

(right) Walker celebrates her 1,000th career point with her parents in the opening minute of the Jan. 12 game against Clear Fork. Walker helped lead the team to a 55-36 victory last Thursday.



MARIAH WHITMAN

Wrestling team makes improvements as season progresses

Tara Jabour
feature editor

This season, boys wrestling so far has a record of 2 and 7 and Coach Troy Worth said the team's youth is reflective of their record.

"We have given up a few forfeits this year because of wrestlers not meeting their weight group, and as a team we're very young," Worth said.

Worth said that, as team, they have improved. He said that at the beginning of the year, some players were new to wrestling as a sport, and some had never wrestled before. Worth also mentioned that upcoming wrestlers from junior high struggled a bit too because of the big jump of competition in junior high and high school wrestling.

As a team, Worth thinks they have progressed throughout the season.

"At the beginning of the season, some of us didn't look like wrestlers. But now, we look like wrestlers when we're at a tournament. We know what to do and they are all in pretty good shape," Worth said.

Captain Trevor Chapman (11) agreed with Worth in saying the team is improving.

"We're improving a lot as a team so far, mostly because everyone is helping everyone. We work really well together in helping each other out, and even as individuals we're all improving," Chapman said.

As far as meeting Worth's expectations for the season, Worth said the team is working very hard, which is

all he can really ask for as a coach.

Worth said that although some of the wrestlers' goals are met, the ultimate goal is always for at least one wrestler to make it to the state tournament.

Chapman agreed with Worth in saying that the goals for the team are almost met. Chapman said everyone on the team has won at least one match and the only goal they have left, as a team, is to win their home invite.

Logan Gable (11) said that strengths of the team include their ability to work together, and their excellent coaching staff.

Chapman said some strengths are that the members of the team help one another and that the team encourages one another to give it their all.

Worth agreed with Chapman and Gable in saying the team works well together. Worth said some

negatives of the team would be the young talent, and the difficult transition of losing some key players from last

year's team.

Boys Wrestling's next tournament is home tomorrow at 9am.



EVAN WAGERS

Nate Stebbins (12), one of the team's most experienced members, grapples with an assistant coach at a recent practice.

Boys basketball team members come together as a unit

Ellie Rickett
sports editor

In the midst of their winter season, the boys basketball team currently has a 4-5 record.

Having four captains in this 2011-12 season, Luke McGee (12), Von Blair (11), Mason Tomblin (11) and Grant Stokes (11), the team has made many improvements over their past few games.

Comparing to the beginning of the season, Stokes believes that the team as a whole has changed.

"We used to just want everything for ourselves, but now we are coming along much better. We still have a ton of room for improvement, but we have come a long way," Tomblin, who has been playing for nine years, said.

McGee, who has been playing basketball his whole life, agrees that the team has progressed, but still has plenty of room to improve.

"It's going really well when we're at home, but it really needs to pick up on the road games. We need to bring more fire and intensity when we're away," McGee said.

Stokes, who has been playing since he was in preschool, believes that the team has grown a lot closer and has been more successful in working together.

"We're much more unselfish as a team than we were in the beginning. We've also gotten smarter..." McGee said.

One of the main goals to accomplish as a team, for both McGee and Tomblin, is to win the conference and advance in the tournament.

Stokes hopes to defeat two of their biggest rivals, Orrville and Triway, by the end of the season as well.

Some of the main role models and leaders for the varsity team are the four captains and varsity player, Charles Cairnie (11), said Tomblin.

"We are always picking

people up and helping out others trying to make them better," Tomblin said.

Stokes finds that Coach Martin is an important role model to him and the team as a whole.

"He's always encouraging and leads by example. He's an overall great guy," Stokes said.

McGee believes that Stokes and Tomblin are both the appropriate leaders for the team.

"Mason leads by talking and communication. Grant leads by example and how he plays," McGee said.

The next game is scheduled for today against Mansfield Sr. at WHS.



CODY SMITH

Varsity member James Preston (11) prepares for a foul shot in recent game against OCC foe, Ashland. The Generals won the game 85-83.



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- Arthroscopy
Hip, knee, elbow, ankle, wrist and shoulder
- Shoulder Repairs
Instability, labral tears and rotator cuff tears
- ACL reconstruction
- Joint preservation
- General orthopaedic care



Full-Time Practice
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GLORY DAYS

Faculty members throughout WHS have previously excelled in high school and college athletics; many have had large impacts on their respective sports.

Coach's love of basketball spans lifetime

Alex Holmes
on campus editor

Craig Martin is mid-season through his seventeenth season coaching boys' basketball.

He has been coaching varsity teams for eight years now.

"My favorite part of coaching has to be the relationships that are built and the influence I can have on my players' lives," Martin said.

JV coach Chad Bever, said his favorite part of the coaching is sharing his knowledge and understanding of the game.

"I like coaching with Martin because of his enthusiasm and passion for the game. He always has a smile on his face," Bever said.

Grant Stokes (11) has been on the varsity basketball team for three years. He said that coach Martin loves the game and cares for everyone on the team.

"He's a great coach and always wants us to win," Stokes added.

Cameron Daugherty (9) agreed with Stokes, and added that even though Martin makes them work really hard, it is because he wants them to win and become hard-working young men.

Martin has been involved with basketball in Wooster since he was in fourth grade when he started playing basketball through Parks and Recreation at his elementary school, Wayne Elementary.

Martin attended college at East Mennonite College in Virginia. While there, he played Division III basketball for three years.

"I wanted to start coaching because I played through high school and college. Then, I began working as a social studies teacher at the high school, so coaching went hand-in-hand with my teaching," Martin said.

Martin has a love for the sport and his players and hopes to continue coaching for years to come.

JEFF BOWEN

English Dept.



Sport Baseball
Position Third base
College Cedarville University
Number 34
Highest level reached College
Years Played 3

Memorable Moment "Definitely my junior year. We won a lot of games and the team qualified for the Midwest Regional for the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA). The best part of the season was the bonding and friendships made between teammates and the coaching staff."

Sport Basketball
Position Point guard
College Ohio University
Number 22
Highest Level Reached High school varsity
Years played 4 years

PAULA KIMBLE

Guidance Counselor



What she remembers "I remember how much females had to fight for their right to play sports in high school. We had to purchase our own uniforms and find our own coaches. No males would coach for female sports teams when I was in high school."

Memorable Moment Kimble participated in the first OHSAA sponsored state event for girls track and field in 1975.

MIKE SULLIVAN Social Studies Dept.

Sport Basketball
Position Point guard
College Butler CCC University
Number 42
Highest Level Reached Division I
Years played 3



What he remembers "I practiced 300-500 free throws every day during high school, and my senior year I led the county in free throw percentage. I worked really hard to be able to compete at the collegiate level."

Memorable Moment Winning the state championship at Butler University in the 1990-91 season. And performing his first dunk in a game against Clarion University.

CHRIS MATTHEW Girls Swimming, Foreign Language Dept.

Sport Swimming
Event Distance
College Westminster
Highest Level Reached National qualifier, placed third at the national swim meet for district three.

What She Remembers I swam on the boys varsity swim team, as there was not a girls team at that time. I feel like I set the stage for Westminster College to eventually have a girls team, which they did, starting in 1992, I believe 10 years after I graduated.

Most Memorable Moment Doing well at nationals was the way to end my swimming career on a high note. The mile, which I was seated first in, was the first event on the final evening. I was All-American in three events that year, which was my senior year, and I felt like I had really achieved all my goals.



DREW GERBER Special Ed. Assistant

Sport Football
Position Offensive guard
College Youngstown State University
Number 62
Highest Level reached Two national championships in 1991 and 1993 and runner up in 1992.
Years Played 5



What he remembers I learned that if you get a bunch of people working together toward a common goal, anything is possible
Memorable moment Winning the national championship

MIKE MCCREARY Math Dept.



Sport Football
College University of Toledo
Position Defensive end or linebacker
Highest Level Reached Started all three years, all MAC the last two years

What He Remembers Being all MAC. "It is nice to be recognized for the hard work you do in order to be the best you can be but it really is a team award. I am only going to be as good as the players I play with."

Most Memorable Moment Playing against the national champion Miami Hurricanes in the Orange Bowl.

By the Numbers

4 Wins by the boys basketball team

9 Straight division titles by the boy's swim team

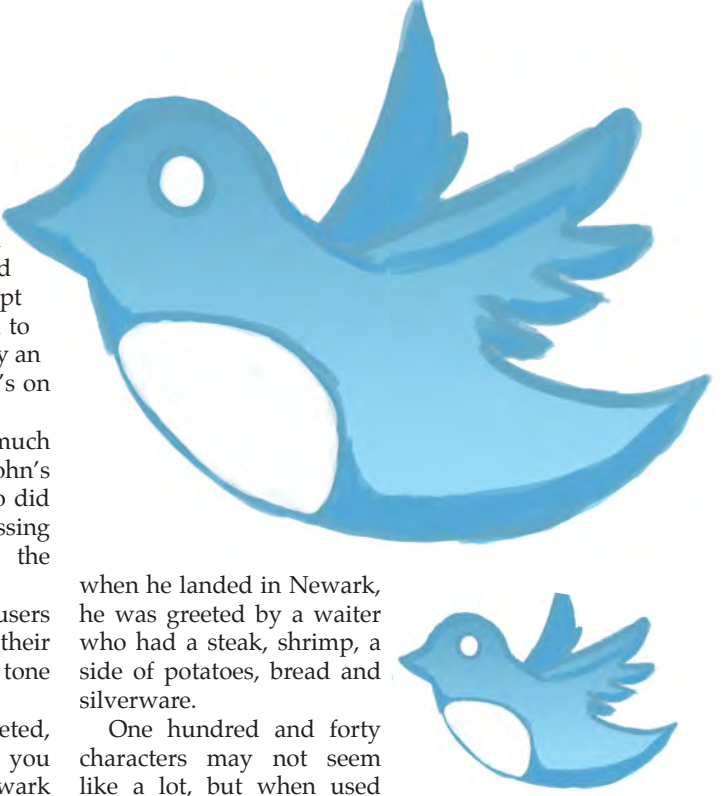
1,012

Career points scored by girls basketball player Lauren Walker (12)

2005

Last time the wrestling team won the OCC title

twitter: The power of 140 words



@LoPrice87
staff writer

Social networks play a major role in nearly every aspect of people's lives today, and a world without them may be hard to imagine.

Whether one looks at earthquakes in Japan, riots in Egypt or high school drama, he or she is sure to find social networks making an impact, with the heaviest player being Twitter.

When Twitter is examined, the impact it can have on a situation is staggering, especially when each tweet can only contain up to 140 characters.

The power that Twitter gains is the fact that it is a live feed and can be updated from any mobile device, and not just smart phones, which allows everyone to

make a difference.

According to abcnews.go.com, a major story where Twitter played a part this past year was in the overthrow of the government in Egypt, in which leaders of the rebellion used Twitter to rally the people and give updates of how the protests were going.

The simple tweet "Welcome back Egypt #Jan25" by @Ghonim was a symbol of the movement.

Another major news story for the year, the raid on Osama bin Laden's house, was exposed by an unsuspecting man who tweeted, "Helicopter hovering above Abbottabad at 1am (is a rare event)" before any news agency knew about it.

Also, as stated on mashable.com, there are more

compelling stories to come from single tweets.

One such story is about a homeless man who used Twitter to find his daughter, of whom he had not seen in years, and also to see his grandchildren for the first time.

The closeness Twitter can bring has also been seen when NBA player Kevin Durant tweeted that he was looking for something to do during the lockout, and a college student at Oklahoma State replied to him, inviting him to play football with him.

Durant showed up a few hours later and played some pick-up football with the college students.

Twitter can also bring awareness to personal situations that otherwise might not have gained

attention. As recently reported by northwestohio.com, an Asian woman in New York City tweeted a picture of her receipt where she was referred to as "lady chinky eyes" by an employee of Papa John's on her receipt.

The tweet gained so much popularity that Papa John's fired the employee who did it and is now expressing its deep regrets for the situation.

Twitter's ease allows users to tweet whatever is on their minds, regardless of the tone of their message.

One man jokingly tweeted, "Hey @Mortons - can you meet me at the newark airport with a porthouse when I land in two hours? K, thanks. :)." To his pleasant surprise,

when he landed in Newark, he was greeted by a waiter who had a steak, shrimp, a side of potatoes, bread and silverware.

One hundred and forty characters may not seem like a lot, but when used and worded correctly, 2011 showed that it can be enough to cause revolutions and change lives.

How social media impacts the world

@LukeFlechler
staff writer

Twitter is quickly becoming the largest social networking site in America, but its impact on lives seems to differ from sites like Facebook or MySpace.

It seems that on almost any news channel, from NBC Nightly News to ESPN's SportsCenter, celebrities and athletes are being quoted solely from what they Tweeted moments after a fight or a victory.

Trey Pamer (9) believes that Twitter is changing the way that people hear about current events.

"With the *X-Factor*, you didn't really have to watch it to know what was going on with Josh [Krajcik] and how Josh was doing. And with sports, you can get on there and see scores of games, like the Broncos just beat the Steelers, so you don't even have to watch that game," Pamer said.

People are also able to Tweet with celebrities, which Pamer believes brings a more personal aspect to the standard that celebrities never see fans except on select occasions.

Evan Stoll (11) believes that Twitter lets fans get to know

athletes, specifically, more personally.

"You can understand what they're thinking and their point-of-view on different subjects, like games," Stoll said.

Stoll believes that Twitter has had the biggest impact on college football, especially with the recent scandals throughout the last year.

Between the Penn State, Ohio State and Miami scandals, Stoll was able to follow what was happening through the postings of the players as they gave their thoughts on the scandals.

Beth Honza, 29, is a Twitter user and former WHS student.

However, Honza believes that in the professional world, Twitter makes a big difference.

She is able to see new job postings, which is helpful for job hunters in a time where getting a job can be difficult.

Ben Oberg (10) believes that Twitter is more of a fad, rather than a world revolution like some believe.

"As people get older, they don't want to know everybody's day-by-day actions."

Oberg does, however, believe that Twitter has a huge impact on the media.

Twitter composed of diverse styles

@hoybik
sports editor

When it comes to tweeting, different people have different styles.

According to Jesse Wiles (10) a.k.a. @thewildwiles, who has had a Twitter account for half of a year, there are infinite ways of tweeting.

"Some people just retweet other people, some people just tweet song lyrics and quotes, some actually tweet thought provoking or funny tweets that are fun to read, a lot people are just annoying and shouldn't have a twitter," Wiles said.

These annoying people Wiles refers to have been cited for: tweeting too much, tweeting worthless information about their everyday lives or trying to start too much drama.

Zack Caldwell (11), who is new to the Twitter scene, adds the style of subtweeting to Wiles' list.

"Subtweeting is where you tweet about someone without actually saying who it's about. I think it's ratty when people do that and I don't like it. What I do like is when people tweet funny things that brighten your day," Caldwell said.

Another aspect to one's style of tweeting is the way they "trend" words or phrases. By putting a pound sign in front of a word or phrase without spaces, it is effectively trended.

Trending can not only be useful to teens trying to put emphasis on phrases, but also allows for top political advisors to see all the tweets on a particular topic in order to advise politicians based on how the public responds to their actions.

Brock Berlin (12), or as he is known on Twitter, @BoosackB_Rock, said that sometimes members of his "twitter fam" overuse these pound signs by trending everyday #words that don't #call for hashtags.

It seems there will always be room for debate over how to create the perfect tweet.

How to compose the perfect tweet

@Mg_Gant
trends editor

The purpose of Twitter is to be a mini blogging site that allows its users to send and read the blog updates.

Anybody can type anything with the possibility that everyone will see it.

Composing the perfect tweet can be difficult for some users, but it is possible.

The online social community of BigThink.com asked famous poet Robert Pinsky to condense his famous poem "The City" into less than 140 characters.

He did so in less, and stated poets should be involved in the new technology trends, such as Twitter, because the study of poetry is the crucial to the modern world.

Members of Twitter can express feelings, describe moments or chat, as long as each tweet is under 140 characters.

Many of the verified celebrities have upwards of hundreds of thousands of followers.

Award winning singer Beyoncé has over two million followers, yet has not tweeted one thing.

According to students at WHS, there are a few main guidelines to follow in order to compose a perfect tweet.

"A tweet should be clever, funny and topical. Song lyrics are acceptable. Don't tweet about drama, personal things or your opinions on MGK," Michael O'Donnell (9) said.

The key to developing an adequate tweet is to think about it and consider the main point one is trying to get across.

"There's a difference between thinking and brainstorming for a tweet. It should be a witty statement, or a reference to something everyone can relate to, or even the use of a clever hashtag," Halle Gallo-Malta (12) said.

Twitter has the opportunity for users to share their everyday lives in an entertaining manner, but only if people keep their tweets relevant.

#twittertimeline

A brief history of the increasingly popular social media network

compiled by @C_Reynolds23

@JULY2005

Evan Williams, CEO of Twitter, creates Odeo.com, a Web site used as a platform for podcasting

@FALL2005

Odeo faces a dismal future as Apple announces the release of iTunes

@FEBRUARY2006

Noah Glass and Jack Dorsey, employees of Odeo present idea for Twitter

@MARCH2006

First Twitter prototype is released

@MARCH2006

Jack Dorsey sends first tweet, "@Jack just setting up my twttr"

@JULY2006

Twitter officially launches

@SEPT2006

Evan Williams buys back all of the shares for Odeo, a total of \$5 Million

@MARCH2007

South by Southwest Festival takes place, an electronics show that helps increase daily tweets from 20,000 to 60,000

@MARCH2007

Twitter employs eight people

@NOVEMBER2010

First Twitter message is posted from space by astronaut T.J. Creamer

@SEPT2011

Twitter surpasses \$5 billion in value

@NOW

Over 1 billion tweets are sent by 200 million users each week

information gathered from msnbc.com and theglobeandmail.com

2012



New year brings new stresses

Brooke Courtemanche
staff writer

Top 5 causes of stress:

1) Academics
ezinearticles.com

2) Financial issues
stress-and-relaxation.com

3) Relationships
stress-and-relaxation.com

4) Death
helpguide.org

5) Other
realbuzz.com

Sleep and stress are issues with which many high school students have to grapple. Among other things, school, extracurricular activities, friends and family could keep students awake into the wee hours of the night, and pile them with copious amounts of stress.

Missing sleep and being stressed can cause serious mental and physical problems in students.

"I see kids with a whole myriad of symptoms," school nurse Beth Gerber said. Among these symptoms she lists a general lack of concentration, headaches, fatigue, stomachaches and nausea.

According to June 2010 edition of *Newsweek*, lack of sleep is more damaging than most people know. Apart from compromising cognitive ability and effecting mood, not getting enough sleep has been connected to weight gain.

"Researchers at the University of Chicago have shown that too little sleep changes the body's secretion of some hormones. The changes promote appetite, reduce the sensation of feeling full after a meal, and alter the body's response to sugar intake – changes that can promote weight gain and increase the risk of diabetes," *Newsweek's* article "The Surprising Toll of Sleep Deprivation" states.

Lack of sleep and abundance of stress be linked together.

"Your emotions and your physiological state are connected. If your physiological state is compromised, it could have an effect on your mental state, too ... Stress and sleep can go hand in hand. If kids are stressed out about school, it can affect how well they sleep, and then they can't perform as well in school and they get even more stressed out," district psychologist Todd McKee said.

Stress can cause such symptoms as depression, anxiety disorders, anger and irritability, as stated by Lifespan Hospital.

To combat all these negative side effects, Gerber and McKee both have advice about how to get enough sleep and eliminate excess stress.

"Turn off your cell phone, TV and computers... make sure not to have caffeine or really sugary foods in the evenings and try to follow the same sleeping patterns every night – yes, even the weekends," Gerber said.

McKee said students should talk to teachers and parents if they are feeling stressed out. "They can be great guides when it comes to overcoming stress," McKee said.

Not taking on more activities than it is possible to handle is also important.

"I recommend that students stay involved in things they enjoy doing, and make sure that every day there's something that makes them happy," Gerber said.

In the new year, make a commitment to sleeping enough and reducing stress.



Students and staff offer resolution tips

Sydney Zedd
staff writer

According to newyearsresolution.com, weight loss is the number two New Year's resolution. Sometimes, this goal is completely lost throughout the year. For others, it can be taken too seriously.

So, where is the balance? How can one be healthy and stay at a desirable weight?

Laurie Ryder, WHS Family and Consumer Science Dept. head, said a healthy diet and exercise is the answer.

"80 percent of ones change in body is food, the other 20 percent is exercise."

Ryder suggests for people to eat lots of whole grains. She also recommends that people limit processed foods, no pop and fast food. "If you have to have it, know what's good and what's bad for you," Ryder said. Also, she said to always count calories.

Nutrition experts say lunch should be your biggest meal of the day, filled with carbohydrates and protein.

"Know good foods," Ryder said.

Myplate.gov suggests carbohydrates and protein are the main ingredients to a healthy diet, but it is different for everyone. It all depends on one's current weight, desired weight and athleticism.

Myplate.gov is a source on which people can find out what they should be eating for a healthy diet. Not everything people eat might be as healthy as they think.

"Be educated on your choices, but don't deprive yourself. One day a week is a good time for a treat," Ryder said.

After the healthy spectrum, comes the not-so-healthy spectrum, though.

For those who do not count calories, or are not educated on what they eat, there is a risk. Unhealthy foods will catch up to them. It might not seem like it in the moment, but over time, it could.

Medicalnewstoday.com states 27.5 percent of the United States is considered obese. Obesity is the gateway to diabetes and other serious diseases this nation is facing.

Some may think obesity is caused by one's irresponsible ways of not counting calories or caring what they eat. However, that is not completely true.

Obesity and weight gain is caused by many factors in one's life. Self-esteem, home life and emotions all contribute.

Obesity and related diseases are the number seven causes of death in America.

"It's a big problem, but don't take it too seriously," Wooster High School nurse Lana Gesler said.

So, stick to the New Year's resolution.

Top 5 New Year's resolutions:

- 1) Eat healthy food
- 2) Get a better education
- 3) Reduce, re-use and recycle
- 4) Manage debt
- 5) Volunteer to help others

According to:
www.usa.gov



Everyday vanity affects future health and wellness

Michelle Bielski
focus editor

In today's society, people go to extremes in order to make themselves look prettier or younger, but certain things we do now can have serious effects on our futures.

Tanning, whether by laying out in the sun, going to tanning salons or spray tanning can be dangerous.

According to the Skin Cancer Foundation, "Skin cancer is the most common form of cancer in the United States. More than

3.5 million skin cancers in over two million people are diagnosed annually."

Amy Woods (12) said "Tanning isn't healthy. It can cause cancer and make wrinkles worse when you get older." Woods suggests either spending time outside with sunscreen to get a base tan or recommends to just stay pale.

Spray tanning is also dangerous. According to Best Spray Tan Guide, only 11 percent of the chemicals used in cosmetics have been tested by the FDA.

The dangers of absorbing chemicals not tested by the FDA can range from just getting a rash to possible poisoning.

Another dangerous act people use to make themselves look better is dieting. Livestrong.com states that if the body is put through constant changes of gaining weight and then losing weight, it becomes harder to lose weight. Diets can even increase the risk of developing heart disease and diabetes.

One of the more extremes taken to change oneself,

plastic surgery, is one of the most dangerous. Plastic surgery has many effects both psychologically and physically.

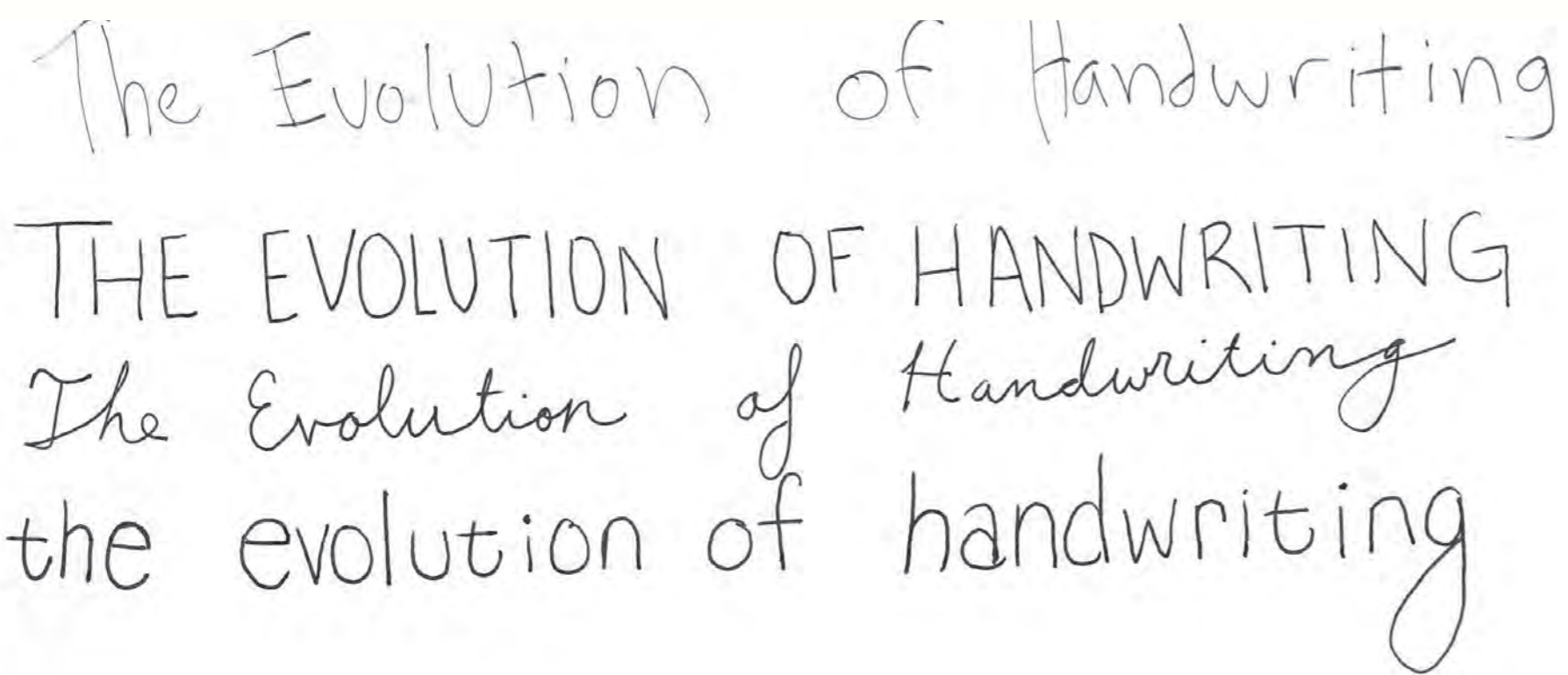
Facelifts, Botox and any other improvement surgeries all have the possibility of being a botched surgery, sometimes leading to the need for other surgeries.

In a *Forbes* magazine article by Jenna Goudreau, it is stated that some surgeries can cause other parts of the body to look morphed or not up to scale with the changed part.

Even liposuction can lead to problems in the future as this surgery affects fat cells. If weight is gained, it will come back in areas not affected by the surgery.

What people do today for vanity can harm their bodies in the future.





Style of writing provides insight to character

Brooke Courtemanche
staff writer

Handwriting, much like a fingerprint, is a characteristic that is completely unique to an individual.

According to graphoanalysts, a person's handwriting is a significant insight to his or her personality.

Because of the neural pathways and creative expression linked to handwriting, certain personality traits are subliminally displayed by handwriting.

Some of the characteristics used in analyzing one's personality through handwriting are: the baseline, slant, pressure and the shape of enclosures, as agreed upon universally by handwriting analysts.

The idea is that each of these elements, and many more individualized variables, reveal some trait about a person.

For example, the baseline is the invisible line that letters rest on when writing on unlined paper.

"Baseline patterns represent your attitudes toward life experiences and activities," *handwritingpro.com* said.

When writing on unlined paper, a slope upward in text can mean optimism and ambition.

Downwards sloping text can mean depression, pessimism or weariness.

A baseline that is generally straight means that the writer has a realistic viewpoint, *handwritingpro.com* described.

Other characteristics in handwriting also have certain meanings.

"The stroke depicts life force, energy flow. The stroke's pressure represents intellectual vitality, physiological energy ... and emotional intensity," M. Boyanova said on *studyenglishtoday.net*.

Those who use light pressure can tend to wear out easily when put in emotionally or physically demanding situations, whereas those who press harder on paper are likely to enjoy challenges and tests, Boyanova explained. The size

of a person's handwriting can be an indicator to how detail oriented a person is.

"The size of the writing determines the writer's ability to concentrate," Boyanova wrote. Large handwriting indicates a tendency for the writer to be flighty or unfocused, while small writing would indicate dedication to minute details. Most people maintain a medium between the two extremes, she states.

Slant is another large factor in evaluating handwriting. "The slant indicates the writer's emotional response to external forces," handwriting analyst Gary Thomas said on his Web site, *viewzone2.com*.

"A right slant signals one who responds strongly to emotional situations. They are caring, warm and outgoing - their heart rules their mind. A vertical slant writer tries to keep their emotions in check - mind rules the heart. A left slant will conceal their emotions and is observed as cold and indifferent," Thomas said.

However, no one characteristic of a person's handwriting can define him or her completely.

"After all the important features in a piece of writing have been identified and discussed, we should aim to re-assemble the many and various characteristics of the writer, as a whole person. In other words to provide a realistic portrait of the writer that also happens to be a holistic one," Graphologist Caroline Taylor said in her essay *Graphology in Theory and Practice: From Analysis to Synthesis*.

Students seem to disagree. A few students who deemed their handwriting messy said that it is more about content than decoration. "My handwriting says I care more about what I'm writing than what my writing looks like," Patience Wentz (10) said.

Dylan House (12) agrees. "It says that I think more than I think about writing," House said.

An application for the iPhone and iPad exists to help self-analyze one's own handwriting. For ninety-nine cents, the app, "Handwriting Analysis," by Jakub Koter, guides the user through an in-depth analysis of his or her own handwriting.

Troy Worth, Science Dept., sees writing as an indicator

of the writer's attention to detail. "Mostly, [handwriting] tells whether you're a patient person," Worth said.

"If you have good cursive handwriting, you're probably being more reasonable and rational. You're thinking about what you're doing," said Andy Keil, History Dept. member. He believes handwriting is an indication of sensibility.

Teachers weigh in on what they think their handwriting says about their students.

"Sloppy handwriting reflects sloppy thinking," says Sue Herman, English Dept. member. She sees it as a matter of consideration for others when a person takes the time to make his or her handwriting readable.

Joseph Gorman (11) laments the trend. As an aspiring schoolteacher, she values neat handwriting herself, and stated that teachers can encourage meticulous writing from their students.

"The effort you put into writing neatly may reflect the effort you put into other more important tasks...If teachers write neater themselves or penalize students when their work is illegible, students would be more likely to improve their handwriting," Dexter said.

It is not to say that all neat handwriting is dead—to the contrary, many individuals still possess the natural gift of excellent penmanship. But, it is just that—natural—as the need for neat handwriting is no longer in high demand.

Schools and society allowed the old tradition of handwriting to disappear

Elizabeth Kleinhenz
front editor

Gone are the days when cursive was mandatory in schools, students wrote reports by hand and paper was the lifeblood of educational culture.

Research suggests that these smaller classroom developments are part of a growing national trend: a lack of focus on penmanship, which is leading to what many call the "death of handwriting."

According to "Mourning the Death of Handwriting," a 2009 *TIME* article written by Claire Suddath, the death of handwriting is best traced across different generations.

As early as the 1920s, educators began to gradually cut back on cursive instruction, believing that children should learn to write in the same way they learned to read: with manuscript. By World War II, manuscript was fairly standard across the United States and cursive was slowly becoming obsolete.

Years later, the trend culminated when cursive was effectively shunned by Generation Y, those born between the late 1980s and early 2000s. Cursive was more or less out of the picture for tech-savvy Generation Z, born in the mid-to-late 2000s, whose members use computers more often than paper and give little thought to handwriting at all.

"People born after 1980 tend to have a distinctive style of handwriting: a little bit sloppy, a little bit childish and almost never in cursive," Suddath writes.

Of the several factors behind handwriting's decline, one of the largest is the rise of technology. According to *inventors.about.com*, the first home computer, Apple's Lisa model, was unveiled in 1983. The following year, Apple released its more user-friendly Macintosh model, and Microsoft released their own model in 1985.

The home computer took hold almost immediately and left deep inroads in both educational and personal culture. As noted by *Newsweek's* Brad Stone in his 2005 article "Hi-Tech's New Day," 75 percent of Americans use the Internet and spend an average of three hours a day online.

Perhaps the greatest ramifications of home computers was an opportunity for more efficiency—why spend hours writing a long paper when it can be typed in a fraction of the time?

Yet, every benefit has a trade off, and it was this very efficiency that surreptitiously led to handwriting's demise.

According to Steve Graham, a special education and literacy professor at Vanderbilt University, another reason students do not write as neatly as they once did is that, over their lifetimes, no one has forced them to do so.

"Writing is just not part of the national agenda anymore," Professor Graham said.

Indeed, schools typically began cursive and handwriting education in third and fourth grades, but such education is currently at its lowest level in the United States, according to a 2011 *Huffington Post* ParentDish article written by Honey Burk.

Handwriting has been omitted from the Common Core State Standards the new curriculum standard that more than 40 states adopted last summer.

In the same vein, most schools now teach cursive in only third or fourth grade, or continue for a few extra years with far fewer lessons.

The death of handwriting is self-perpetuating, both a cause and effect of its times.

For example, Jacqueline DeChiaro, principal of Van Schaick Elementary School in Cohoes, N.Y., said in a 2011 *New York Times* article that she was debating whether to cut cursive instruction at her school.

"Schools today, we say we're preparing our kids for the 21st century...Is cursive really a 21st century skill?" she said.

When teachers like DeChiaro view cursive as outdated, handwriting instruction is pushed to the wayside and, in turn, becomes more outdated and unimportant.

Taken at face value, less emphasis on handwriting and slightly messier scrawl may not seem to be a threatening trend. But, closer examination reveals a worrying fallout: a loss of fine motor skills.

Sandy Scheffkind, a pediatric occupational therapist in Bethesda, MD, and pediatric coordinator for the American Occupational Therapy Association (OATA), said that learning cursive helps students sharpen these fine motor skills.

"It's the dexterity, the fluidity, the right amount of pressure to put with pen and pencil on paper," Scheffkind said of handwriting instruction.

Handwriting's national decline is evident locally at WHS.

Student Polly Dexter (11) laments the trend. As an aspiring schoolteacher, she values neat handwriting herself, and stated that teachers can encourage meticulous writing from their students.

"The effort you put into writing neatly may reflect the effort you put into other more important tasks...If teachers write neater themselves or penalize students when their work is illegible, students would be more likely to improve their handwriting," Dexter said.

It is not to say that all neat handwriting is dead—to the contrary, many individuals still possess the natural gift of excellent penmanship. But, it is just that—natural—as the need for neat handwriting is no longer in high demand.

Everyday Handwriting facts

Entertainment

- During Lindsay Lohan's probation violation court appearance, handwriting experts analyzed her writing as "projecting a false image" and "crossing boundaries."

College Entrance

- Scorers of the essay section on the SAT give a score of zero and can assign a portion illegible if unable to read the student's handwriting.

<http://online.wsj.com>

The Research in Handwriting

University of Wisconsin

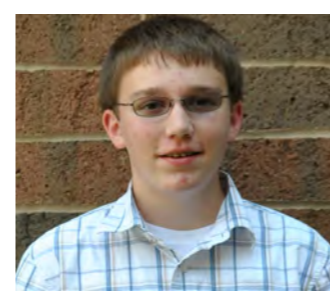
- Virginia Berninger, a psychologist at the University of Wisconsin, tested students in grades 2, 4 and 6. She discovered that they not only wrote faster by hand than by keyboard, but they also generated more ideas when composing essays in longhand.

Vanderbilt University

- Steve Graham, an education professor at Vanderbilt, stated that several studies have shown that the same mediocre essay will score much higher if written with good penmanship and much lower if written out in poor handwriting.

<http://theweek.com>

Advanced pen eases the process of recording notes



Joseph Gorman
staff writer

The Livescribe Echo smartpen combines high technology with conventional handwriting to bring 21st Century innovation to the note-taking experience.

After using a Livescribe Echo for a few weeks, I have

come away impressed by its performance and ease of use.

Using a special notebook with microscopic dots arranged in a certain pattern, the Echo can track the location of writing on a page and synchronize it with audio it optionally records.

The paper also contains controls, allowing the pen to have just one button - the power button. The Echo requires special paper, which can be purchased in notebooks that cost about the same as a regular notebook, or which can be printed by certain printers.

Although only slightly larger than an average pen, the Echo

is capable of recording 800 hours of audio with the 8GB version and synchronizing said audio with writing on the page.

Combining timestamped writing with audio opens up many interesting possibilities for interacting with notes: I can tap the tip of the Echo on a word and hear what was being said when I wrote that word.

Recordings can also be played at varying speeds and played through external speakers or headphones in addition to the built-in speaker. Particularly when plugged into a set of speakers

, it feels as if I am sitting in the classroom again.

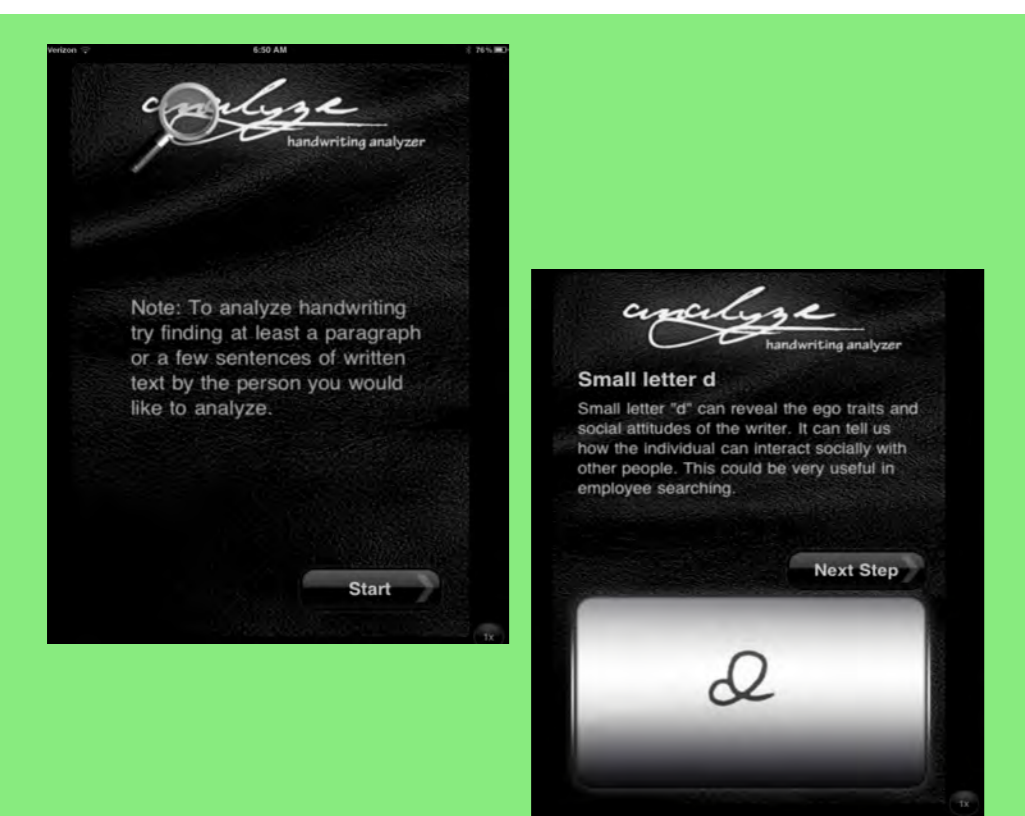
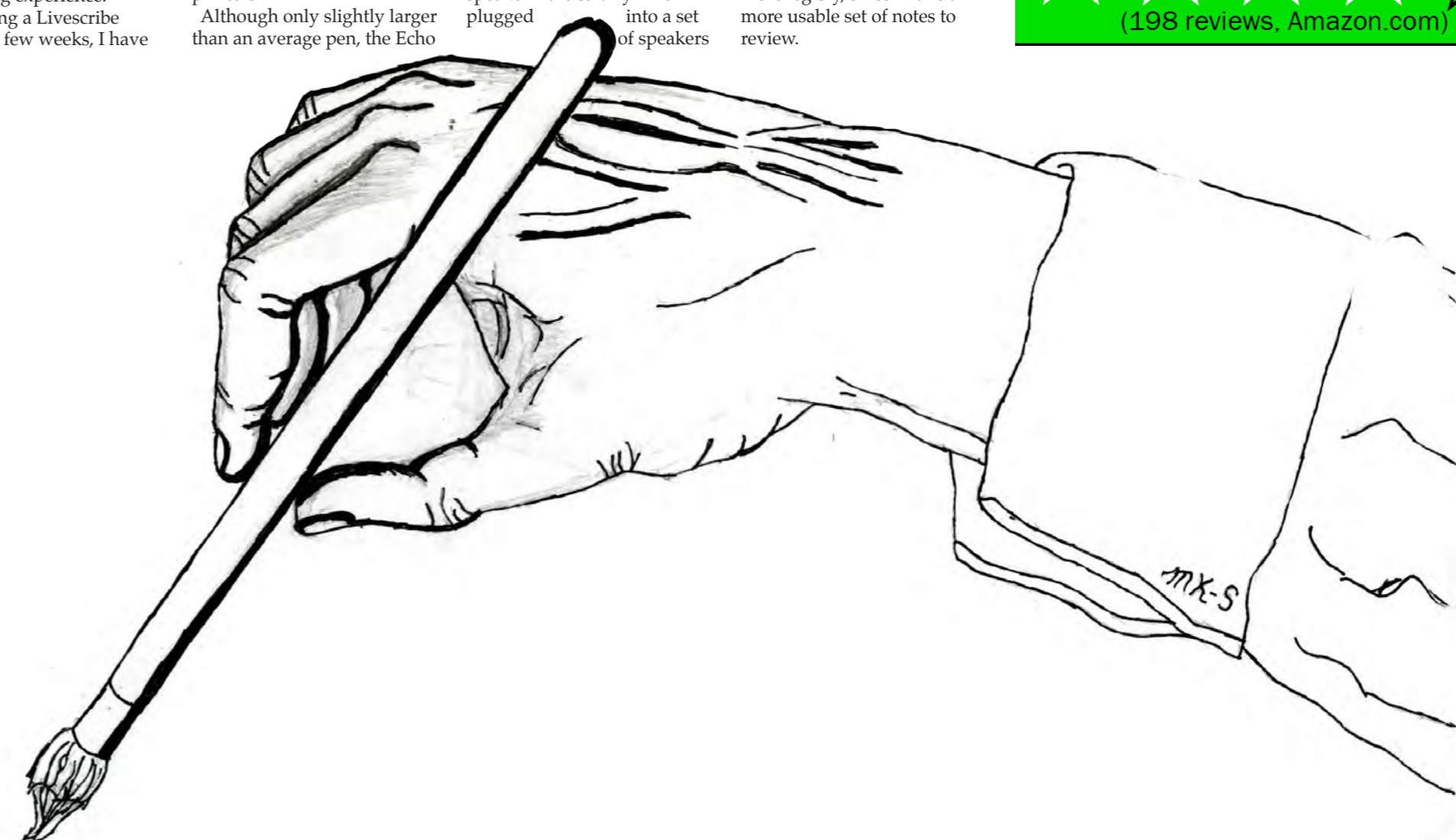
Capabilities like audio recording make it easier to focus on actual content in lectures, rather than trying to write every word that's said down - and it consequently lets me slow down my scrawl so that it becomes legible again.

The Echo allows "pencasts," or synchronized writing and audio, to be transferred to a computer for safe keeping and reviewing on the go.

Using the Livescribe pen has allowed me want to write more legibly, since I have a more usable set of notes to review.

Livescribe stats

2GB (200 hours) - \$99
4GB (400 hours) - \$149
8GB (800 hours) - \$179



There's an App for that: Handwriting analysis application grants users opportunity to decode manuscripts

In the world of technology, there is an application in the Apple store for every possible aspect of life.

In the Apple application store, an application of handwriting analysis is available for purchase. The application was created by Jakub Koter. Koter stated in the application description that the study of handwriting in relation to human psychology, graphology, is a great way to see if a

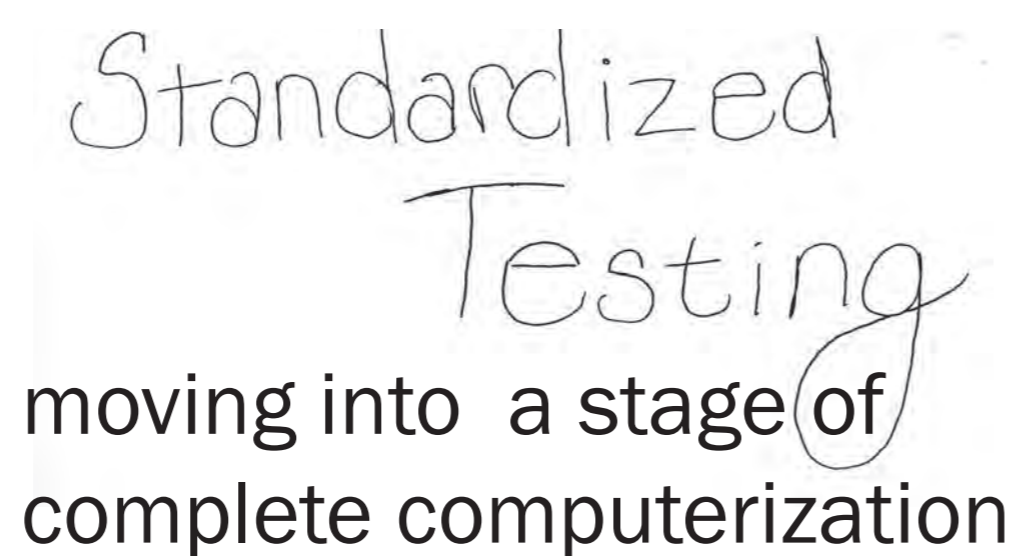
person is a correct fit for a position in your company or in your personal life.

The application works by allowing the user to scroll through a series of options under certain topics. Stated within the application, "A person's letter size represents how much importance they place upon oneself and their actions. Larger writers approach life with extravagance and small writer with modesty."

The spacing that a writer uses between words is also significant in determining the space that a person contains between them and society. Specific shapes and formation letters also determine many personality traits according to Koter.

After selecting the handwriting that most resembles the user's, a one page analysis is given. The analysis includes a description of the type of writing a person has, as well as possible personal attributes the user may have.

Screenshots courtesy of Jakub Koter, Apple App Store



Lauren Miller
staff writer

With the media driven world, some people are examining the prospect of the death of handwriting and how online standardized tests could contribute to this effect.

As of 2014, standardized testing will no longer be done with paper and pencil and, instead, be completely computerized according to Richard Leone, Director of Secondary Education for WCS. Leone said Ohio and a significant number of other states will have a national online test to create a wider standard than the state wide benchmark level of standardized testing.

Media is becoming a part of children's lives at a young age. According to William Kist, Associate Professor Coordinator of Adolescent and Young Adult Education at Kent State University, research done at the University of Connecticut in 2006 found people under the age of 18 read and write more on a computer than on paper.

Kist does not think handwriting will ever die because people will always need to be able to communicate using paper and pencil, but if essay tests are computerized, more effort needs to be given into developing a child's keyboarding skills.

"Kist said, "...Shouldn't we be putting more of our efforts into helping kids be better readers and writers on screens?"

According to Leone, schools do not always utilize technology to the full potential. Leone added, "Your generation loves interaction with technology...It gets kids working in the environment they are used to."

Allyson Amstutz (9) thinks online testing would be alright to use for the multiple choice sections of tests, but would not be ideal for essays.

"Children need to work on paper with good handwriting and not stare at a computer screen all day," Amstutz said.

One of the positives of computerized testing has been cited as the ease in grading. Leone said the grading components may eventually be entirely online through software programs.

While some people would like to see all grading done by computers, Kist said, others like the old fashioned interaction with teachers.

Kist said, "From the research I'm reading...most students, young and old, still prefer to have at least some contact with a human teacher."

Many schools may not have enough computers or technological resources for all of the students to test online, so students may be rotated through taking exams according to Kist.

The transition into online testing will go over differently in Kist's opinion for each individual school depending on how much technology is encouraged currently.



Successful year for film entertainment brings great reviews

Abby Peabody
arts editor

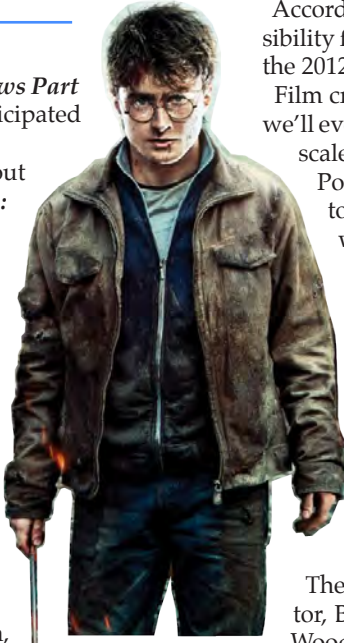
It comes as no shock that *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 2* was the biggest box office hit and quite easily the most anticipated movie of 2011.

Grossing over \$380,000,000, the final Harry Potter film beat out both *Transformers: Dark of the Moon* and *The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 1* for this year's most popular film. When it opened July 15, *The Deathly Hallows Part 2* broke the record of highest opening weekend record set by *The Dark Knight* in 2008 by grossing \$168.55 million in one weekend.

Directed by David Yates, this final installment had critics raving, "[It is] the best possible end for the series that began a decade ago," Joe Morgenstern from *The Wall Street Journal* said.

Not only critics enjoyed the film, but also the masses. Rotten-tomatoes.com said, "Thrilling, powerfully acted and visually dazzling, *Deathly Hallows Part II* brings the Harry Potter franchise to a satisfying—and suitably magical—conclusion." Critics gave the film a 96 percent "fresh rating" while viewers gave it a 92 percent acceptance rating.

WHS student, Charlotte King (11), an avid Harry Potter fan, said, "I thought the movie was indescribably epic, mostly true to the book and had a solid resolution." King believes that *The Deathly Hallows Part 2* is definitely worthy of Oscar buzz.



According to www.indiewire.com, this film is predicted to be a possibility for the best picture category and best art direction category at the 2012 Academy Awards.

Film critic Leonard Maltin for indiewire.com said, "I don't know if we'll ever see another series quite like this, produced on such a lavish scale over a decade's time. Whatever one's quibbles, the Harry Potter movies have maintained their integrity, and their ability to dazzle us, from start to finish. That is an achievement that will stand for years to come."

Whether or not *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 2* receives any attention from the Academy Awards, it receives the award for this year's most popular movie.

The other film that has been predicted to receive Oscar attention is *The Descendants*. While this film may have not gotten the attention or popularity of *Harry Potter*, it has received overwhelming applause by critics alike.

Starring George Clooney, *The Descendants* came out Nov. 18 to great reviews. According to www.rottentomatoes.com, the film received an 89 percent acceptance rating from critics.

The film is predicted to be a nominee for Best Picture, Best Director, Best Actor for Clooney, Best Supporting Actress for Shailene Woodley, Best Adapted Screenplay, and Best Film Editing in the 2012 Academy Awards on www.indiewire.com.

With an overwhelming amount of Oscar buzz, *The Descendants* is possibly the best film of the year according to most movie critics.



Inheritance and 11/22/63 among novels released in 2011



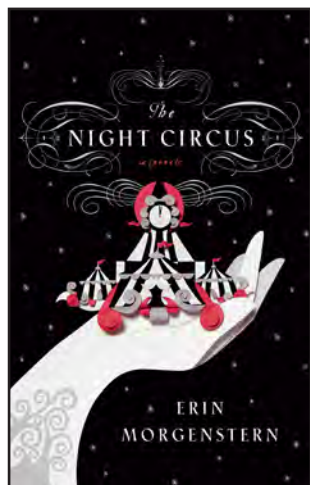
Tricia Stefancin
copy editor

According to worldometer.info, the number of new titles published this year was 1,092,754. The number of new titles published in 2011 from the United States was 172,000.

The New York Times lists the top 10 books of 2011 as *The Art of Fielding* by Chad Harbach, *11/22/63* by Stephen King, *Swamplandia!* by Karen Russell, *Ten Thousand Saints* by Eleanor Henderson, *The Tiger's Wife*

by Téa Obreht, *Arguably* by Christopher Hitchens, *The Boy in the Moon* by Ian Brown, *Malcom X* by Manning Marable, *Thinking Fast and Slow* by Daniel Kahneman and *A World on Fire* by Amanda Foreman.

Alexis Steiner (12) considers *Inheritance* by Christopher Paolini the best book of the year. "It was good. It was a great conclusion to the series. It wasn't a fan girl book which I liked. It was a natural progression of plot," Steiner said.



Zoey Madden (12) believes *The Night Circus* by Erin Morgenstern to be the best book of the year.

Amazon.com lists *The Tiger's Wife* as one of the best books of 2011 as well as Erik Larson's new historical piece

In the Garden of Beasts: Love, Terror, and an American Family in Hitler's Berlin. Others include *Moonwalking with Einstein*, *A Discovery of Witches*, *Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mother*, and *22 Britania Road*.

Bold new fashion trends set last year



JETTA BLAINE



EVAN WAGERS

Sarah Mason
feature editor

The style of 2011 is a mixture of bold, modern trends and classic throwbacks, found from the runways to the hallways.

According to Vogue.com, some of the highlights of spring and summer 2011 trends were bold stripes, denim on denim, neon colors and animal print. The fall and winter season brought an array of knee-high boots, sparkles, vivid prints, jewel tones and menswear inspired clothing.

Though many of these trends have been showcased by high-fashion designers on the runway, many of them have also filtered down into everyday wear.

According to Marlene Boyer, fashion design instructor at WHS, tall boots are one of the most popular runway trends that is also seen at WHS.

Emily Neill (11) agreed that tall boots are very popular this year, especially when paired with knee-high socks, as well as loop scarves, printed rompers and ripped jeans.

"They're very fashionable, but at the same time they're easy for people to use on their own," Neill said.

Neill said she believes that the popularity of these trends is rooted in the fact that they are universally appealing for people of every style.

Boyer agreed, saying, "These are trendy looks that are also comfortable and practical. Most people don't want to spend money on clothes that will go out of fashion quickly or are uncomfortable and impractical."

Boyer added that plaid shirts, jeggings, cardigans, feathers, lace-up shoes and boots, colorful prints and a 'new vintage' look have all been popular styles this year.

However, despite the current trendiness of these fashions, it is questionable whether the styles of 2011 will still be considered fashionable years from now.

"Fads come and go quickly, while more classic looks stay for a long time. The more extreme a fashion is, the shorter amount of time it sticks around. I think the big collars will come and go, as will feathers. Cardigan sweaters and khakis will always be in, in some form," Boyer said.

As the year comes to a close, some of the trends of 2011 will be replaced, while others will be seen again in the upcoming year.

Harry Potter background composited from www.homeothenutty.com (fair use), *Breaking Dawn* poster from teenstarsworld.com (fair use), *Harry Potter* from aliciastella.com (fair use), *Jacob Black Breaking Dawn* from moviehole.net (fair use), *Transformers* from tfw2005.com (fair use), *The Descendants* poster from impawards.com (fair use), *Adele 21* album from outblush.com (fair use), *Lady Antebellum* album from ladyantebellum.com (fair use), *Lady Gaga* album from wape.com (fair use), *Inheritance* book from inheritance.wikia.com (fair use), *The Night Circus* book from erinmorganstern.com (fair use), *11/22/63* book from en.wikipedia.org (fair use)



2011 brings different types of music, yet still impresses critics

Juliet Freed
staff writer

The top albums of 2011 had both new artists, such as Adele and established artists, such as Lady Gaga and Paul Simon.

The highest-rated album on both *iTunes* and *The Rolling Stone's* 50 Best Albums of 2011 was Adele's album, *21*. Adele, 23, is a songwriter who uses her real-life experience as inspiration for her famous album. Her second album, *21*, debuted at number one on the charts when it was released in February. Her genres are soul, blues and pop, so she appeals to a very large audience.

According to *Billboard*, Lady Antebellum is the

top-rated country group of the year. Charles Kelley, Dave Haywood and Hillary Scott make up the group who rose to fame in 2007. Their third album, *Own the Night* was released in September, and has been high on the country charts since then. They won top country song in the *Billboard* awards for their single, "Need You Now."

Another artist who ranked high on the charts is Lady Gaga. Her album, *Born This Way*, released May 23, was ranked highly on the pop music charts. It was rated the sixth best album on *The Rolling Stone's* 50 Best Albums of 2011. Born in New York in 1986, she is a singer, songwriter, performance

artist, and activist. Her causes include gay rights, anti-bullying, among others. The lead single, "Born This Way" deals with self-esteem regardless of one's differences.

The most popular on the rap charts this year was *Watch the Throne*, a collaboration between rappers Jay-Z and Kanye West. The planning for the album started almost a year before the actual album was produced on August 8.

All albums have been nominated or are pending for various music awards, and have a wide variety of music that many will enjoy and look forward to in the future.

2011 in Numbers

Charlie Reynolds
squibs editor

7 BILLION

The world's total population, as stated by the United Nations on October 31

2 BILLION

Estimated number of viewers for the Royal Wedding

800,000

Amount of customers Netflix lost immediately after raising their prices

78,000

Former population of Fukushima, Japan before the nuclear plant meltdown.

552

Number of people who died in the tornadoes in the U.S. this year, more than the previous 10 years combined

352

Days it took the United States to track down al-Qaida leader, Osama Bin Laden

313

Number of patents attributed to Apple visionary, Steve Jobs

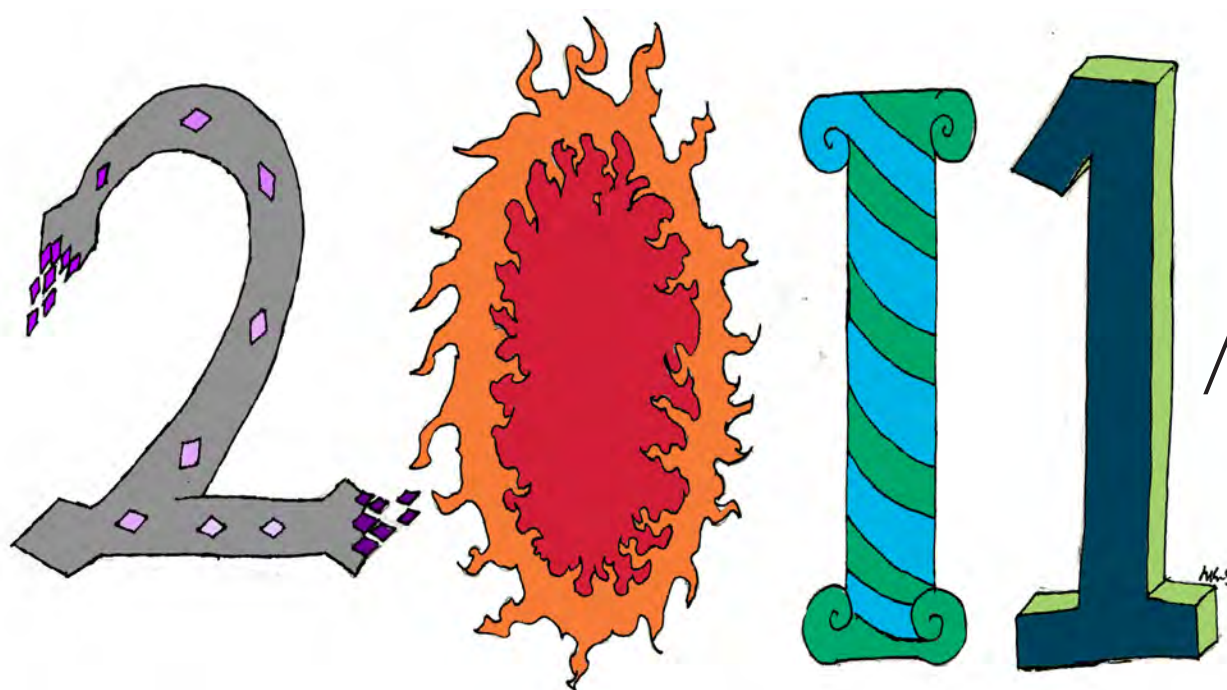
46

Years that Joe Paterno spent coaching at Penn State before being forced to retire following the Jerry Sandusky Scandal

9

Percent of the United States that was unemployed during 2011, the highest ever

<http://www.wisn.com/slideshow/news/29936221/detail.html>



A year in review

Touch screen technology continues to define the year

Drew King-Smith
business editor

While 2011 came to a close, it is a time to reflect on what all has happen this year, in regards to many things, but especially in technology.

"The most innovative technology of 2011 is the new Kindle Fire and the Nook," Rebecca Furlong, Technology Director at WHS, said.

Furlong said these devices will become very common in 2012 due to their extreme affordability, starting at \$200 on Amazon and Barnes and Noble.

"I think what people are

going to see are things are going to be stored in the Cloud. Eventually there will not be a hard drive and everything is going to be on the Internet," Furlong said.

Furlong is not the only one who thinks that touch screen technology has been the best of 2011.

"I think the iPad continues to be one of the best technologies of 2011. It has such a variety of uses," Nathan Greene, computer science teacher, said.

Greene said the iPad is not limited to home or school use only, but rather has so many apps that can



be used at school to teach or at home to be used for entertainment.

While the touch screen technology continues to shine, the iPhone 4s and its Siri have made a significant impact in 2011.

According to *Mac Life* magazine, Siri is, "Apple's headline-grabbing virtual assistant and key selling point of the new iPhone 4s."

Mac Life states that Siri can accomplish many things, like texting and setting reminders.

Many can attest to Siri's abilities and usefulness, like Chad Leggett, district

technology resource teacher at WHS.

"Siri is awesome because it can keep memos for me and keep track of certain facts.

For instance, if I say I need to do the trash when I get home, Siri tracks my location and when I arrive home, it pops up and says I need to take out the trash," Leggett said.

Leggett said that Siri's simplicity and easeness to use is what makes it a great addition on the iPhone.

While 2011 has come to a close, the technology that was introduced will continue to make an impact on 2012.

2011: A great year for sports fans

Charlie Reynolds
squibs editor

As 2011 ended, enthusiasts look back over the 2011 sports season, to determine what was the year's best.

Grant Logee (11) said the Dallas Mavericks beating the Miami Heat in the NBA finals was one of the year's best sporting moments because the Heat were the favorites to win it all.

The Dallas Mavericks won their first ever NBA title and won ESPN's, Excellence in Sports Performance Yearly Award in 2011.

In addition, SI named Duke University's men basketball coach Mike Krzyzewski as their annual Sportsman of the Year. Krzyzewski became the NCAA's highest-winning coach of all-time as his 903 win surpassed Bob Knight, former coach of Texas Tech, SI reported.

The Green Bay Packers won the NFL Super Bowl for the first time since 1996 and defeated the Pittsburgh Steelers, 31-25. The Packers became the first sixth seed in history to become NFL champions.

On a local scale, the Norwayne Bobcats 2011 football team made history as they won their first state championship.

"It was an amazing ride



The

that our team, especially our seniors, led us, our school, our community, and all Wayne county sports fans on this season. The journey was made even more special by the tremendous support we got not only from our school but also the greater Norwayne community, WCAL fans, and entire Wayne county area," Norwayne's football coach, Joe Harbour said.

Norwayne became only the second school from Wayne County to win a football state title, and the first from the Wayne County Athletic League, their respective athletic conference.

The only school from Wayne County to win a football state title was Orrville's championship team in 1998.

WHS girls soccer team made history as they advanced to district finals for the first time since 1999 and won the OCC for the second time. Senior captain Jenn Philipon was named to the All-Ohio First Team, a first for the girls soccer team.

"We worked really hard this year and it really paid off, we had a great season," Girls Junior Captain Annalise Battig said.

The year 2011 marked a monumental year in sports, but 2012 will be a new year consisting of the Summer Olympics in London, a new coach for the Ohio State football team and return of the NBA following its lockout.

WHS academics and activities highlight the school year

Autumn Hauenstein
staff writer

Students reminisce on the past year at WHS, as they remember the highlights.

The boys lacrosse team made it all the way to the second round of finals, losing by one goal to Rocky River in the final seconds. Greg Gantz (11) shows pride in how far the team made it.

Gantz said it was luck that got them so far, but Coach Ben Drushal and assistant coach Joe Gantz must have done something right.

"We came together as a team. The whole season, we tried so hard playing against the best teams in the state, and that just helped a lot and made everyone better," Gantz said.

Nick Rehm (12) said one more noteworthy event at Wooster was the 2011 Prom.

Rehm was very impressed with the way things turned

out.

"It exceeded my expectations. Everyone makes a big deal about the dance, but it really is a time that you have to experience to appreciate," Rehm said.

Pleased with attending,



Rehm said the music was great and it was nice to hang with people his own age and not be interrupted by underclassmen.

WHS was also awarded the Academic Excellence Award

this year, and Brock Berlin (12) is very happy about it.

"It's great to attend a highly acclaimed high school. It's understandable, [that the school received the award] considering all of the opportunities WHS students have from academics to extracurriculars," Berlin said.

Also, the girls soccer team made it to finals and won their first game. This is the first time this has happened in 13 years, and the team also made it to district finals. To prepare for this, the team took one game at a time, Beth Courson (12) said.

"We made sure we knew the other teams' strengths and weaknesses and used them to our advantage," Courson said.

WHS students will not forget these special moments that were made during the 2011 school year.

Movies and music excite audiences

Eylie Buehler
spectrum II editor

The year 2011 brought about new celebrities, incredible movies and even better music, according to Parade.com.

Parade.com, a link with Yahoo, said that 2011 brought scandal that made some stars huge. The Kardashian family became the center of attention when Kim and her husband, Kris Humphries, filed for divorce after 72 days of marriage. Lindsey Lohan was also caught in the headlines often for drug and alcohol abuse.

Another huge event of the year was the wrapping up of the final Harry Potter Movie, *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 2*.

Another huge feat of the year was the rise of singer

hot 100.

Tyler Buchanan (12) said the best of the year 2011 lay in movies and films.

"The *Rum Diaries* and *Horrible Bosses* were my favorite. I really liked *The Rum Diaries* because I'm a big fan of Jonny Depp. Plus, I found it to be an interesting story because it was true," Buchanan said.

Kayla Villegas (12) listed off her favorite albums, songs and groups of 2011.

"Drake's *Take Care* and Adele's *21* albums. MGK got really popular at WHS and Dubstep is still on the rise. I personally am still an avid Mac Miller and TSwift fan," Villegas said.

Whether it was movies, music or celebrity gossip, 2011 brought about some exciting pop culture.



Photo via <http://harrypotter.warnerbros.com/>

and song writer Adele. With her hit songs, "*Rolling in the Deep*", and "*Someone Like You*" breaking the billboard's

Scientific advances shape 2011

Sean Hoy-Skubik
sports editor

Science, with its exponential rate of advances, has become a huge part of today's society.

There have been several important breakthroughs and changes in the past year. In the most recent issue of *Popular Science* magazine, the staff chose the top innovations of the year, ranging from fun gadgets such as cubes to play games on using all sides, to ways to fertilize crops and lawns without affecting wildlife with toxic runoff, to breakthroughs in defense that can save lives.

Brock Berlin (12) notes that

one invention in particular stuck with him. That is a soccer ball, with a generator inside that can transfer the movements of the ball as it

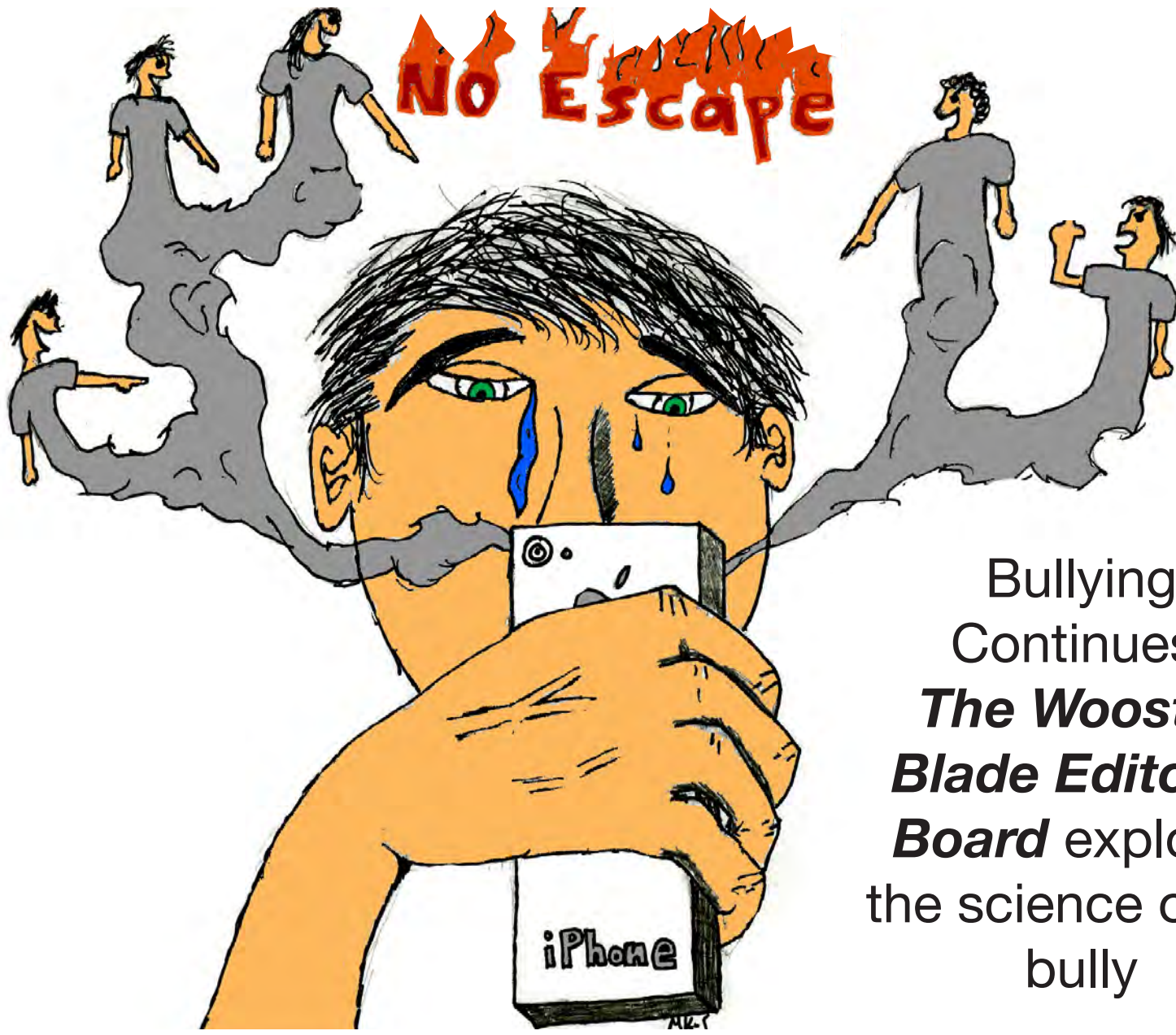


is kicked around throughout the day to electricity at night. For every ball sold, a second will be sent to aid homes without electricity in Africa. Science Dept. member Troy

Worth said, one of the most important happenings in science this year is changes in education structure that will allow for more educate minds entering the field.

"One important thing that happened is the decision to go back to core standards for science, which would require students to have hands on lab experiences. Wooster does a good job of getting kids in the lab, but it's more cookbook style, following instruction. We will be moving to a more inquiry-based process to help kids become better students," Worth said.

Worth feels that this will help America get back in competition with the global science community.



Bullying Continues: *The Wooster Blade Editorial Board* explores the science of the bully

As the New Year was rung in, a multitude of policies and measures were enacted across the nation in school systems to stop a problem that plagues children in America's school settings and everyday social interaction: bullying.

According to BullyingStatistics.org, despite the new policies that have been put into place across the country, the bullying rates are far beyond startling. The site describes that suicide from bullying is the third leading cause of death for young persons.

But, the question of why suicide rates continue to stay high, despite anti-bullying policies, is substantially raised when taking a look at this subject.

The *Wooster Blade Editorial Board* believes that even through the lens of anti-bullying policies, not enough is being done in the realm of stopping harassment both inside and outside of school settings. More needs to be done on both the adult and the student levels.

At WHS, there is no certain code of conduct. Teachers are required to, if they see any harassment taking place, take the student out of the situation and report the harassment to an administrator.

But, with this policy, although this action does take place occasionally, the overwhelming problem with this system is not that there is no practice as to how to stop the situation, but more of the fact that the teachers are not aware that said harassment is going on.

As students here at WHS, The *Wooster Blade Editorial Board* recognizes that many times, harassment situations arise outside of school and are initially protected by friends of the harasser who, quite often, offer excuses for the harassment. Although it is hard to admit, high school students can be closed minded and territorial, especially in the sense of pride and popularity.

But, what can be done about this type of bullying? If teachers and administrators can only go so far, and the situations are covered and hidden by other students, how do anti-bullying policies take hold and bring to light the full effect of bullying on the micro-level of school society?

The *Wooster Blade Editorial Board* recognizes that teachers and administrators can only do so much about bullying if the students do not take initiative to report incidences of bullying in the first place.

It is undeniable that students are the real lens in which bullying is viewed, and that without full participation by the students who see these actions each and every day, bullying and its harsh effects may never be eradicated. So the essential question is this: Why don't students take these actions initially?

Popularity, social appearance and embarrassment are just a multitude of reasons why anti-bullying is not taken up by the everyday student. Most students would never stop in the hall and pull a peer to the side if they saw him or her being harassed, or maybe even taking the role as the harasser.

The *Wooster Blade Editorial Board* believes that it is the students' job, in conjunction with their peers, to bring bullying to light, both inside and outside of school. It is time to move beyond the constructed barriers of social appearance and stand up for what is right in order to protect fellow human beings.

No one should be subjected to bullying and embarrassment, and no one should let such actions take place.

Student explores the perfect boyfriend



Juliet Freed
staff writer

He is rich, drives the newest and nicest cars, is good looking, runs at the speed of light, can read minds and is superior physically, mentally and academically to every other male suitor.

Oh, did I mention that he has washboard abs and literally dazzling skin?

Unless you have been living under a rock for the past six years, you will know whom I am talking about. The person described above is Edward Cullen from the movie and book series *Twilight*.

He is the ideal boyfriend for every teenage girl. He stops a minivan from slamming into his girlfriend, takes her flying around tree-tops and protects her from the evil vampires, all the while helping her achieve an A+ in biology.

He slow dances with her at the Prom, and even earns the approval of her concerned dad.

With looks, brains, means and money, Edward Cullen is truly the perfect man.

Unfortunately, for some *Twilight* fans, this perfect persona may cause them to become unrealistic about what to expect in a relationship. The reality of life, especially in the current economy, may require one's boyfriend to drive a cheap car and work a minimum-wage job at a fast food restaurant.

Real boyfriends also eat food and do not read minds so well. They might even do poorly in school since they have not been attending for 300 years. *Twilight* fans might be disappointed when their real-life boyfriend cannot compete with the ideal set by the Edward Cullen character.

It is fine to enjoy *Twilight*, as long as fans remember that it is just fiction. Ladies, remember that your real-life boyfriend will never be able to drive one hundred miles-per-hour without getting pulled over. It is creepy if your boyfriend breaks into your bedroom and watches you while you sleep. In fact, you should probably get a restraining order.

Real-life boyfriends never find your clumsiness and inability to form sentences fascinating or attractive.

Boyfriends in the real world have some of these qualities, but also have imperfections.

So ladies, please try to keep things in perspective.

2011, a year of... Royalty and Love



Tricia Stefancin
copy editor

Michael Leunig once said love one another and you will be happy; it is as simple and as difficult as that.

Now, I may be a hopeless romantic, but in my experience, those events that involve love, are usually the best events.

There were a lot of fantastic things that happened in 2011, but there is one noteworthy event that stole the show this year: the royal wedding.

In April, the world's favorite prince married his college sweetheart in a breathtaking ceremony that won the hearts of millions.

The world stood mesmerized as TV cameras from around the world focused

on Westminster Abby and the wedding of the decade.

Prince William and Kate Middleton first caught the eyes of the world on a ski vacation.

Their love, and Kate's style worked its way into our hearts as the years wore on. We fell in love with the idea of the real life fairy tale that had magically appeared before our eyes. Every woman across the globe, sitting in their pajamas or their best dress, was trapped sitting still; eyes glued to the screen as Kate walked down the way towards her prince.

Nothing could have killed that magic more than when they broke up for a period of one year. The light dimmed in the Earth's eye, for there was not as much hope for the rest of us if that love did not last.

When the proposal came, that light came back. There were photographs of the couple everywhere, and the fairy tale continued.

The world eagerly looked forward to the wedding and the beauty it would bring.

The wedding itself was spectacular. From the carriage arrival to the kiss on the balcony over the crowd, the wedding was a perfect example of where love can bring two people.

Kate's dress was stunning and a perfect fit for the stylish woman she is.

The smile of William's face when he saw his bride was simply perfect and full of love. It symbolized every woman's dream; having a prince at the end of the tunnel to be with you, helping you through the journey called life.

The flowers, the carriage, the car, the bridesmaids' dresses, the couple's first kiss were all so beautiful that even the most rock hard person could have shed a tear.

I may just be a person with a wildly romantic side, but there was nothing but perfection at this wedding. And plus, who does not want the life of royalty?

The love and loyalty displayed made this the best event of the year.

the wooster blade

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