



Bulldawg Bulletin

Haddonfield Memorial High School

Spring 2018

Sister Act Delights HMHS

The HMHS Drama Club debuted its Spring musical *Sister Act* on March 9th. The show, an adaptation of the 1992 film starring Whoopi Goldberg, was produced by Mrs. Dabrowski and Mrs. Haynes and directed by Mr. DiDonato. It tells the story of an aspiring singer named Deloris Van Cartier (Riley Crompton) who must go into hiding at a struggling convent after witnessing a mafia-related murder. The hilarious and touching fish-out-of-water tale featured catchy 70s inspired music, impressive dance numbers, and fantastic performances all around.

Each of the show's five performances drew large crowds and rave reviews for the production's cast, crew, and musicians. For the HMHS Drama Club, this was yet another amazing production in the books. Fantastic work, everyone!



Members of the cast take center stage

Meet Mr. D'Angelo

Emily Dombrowski '18

Staff Writer

Mr. D'Angelo, the interim assistant principal for Mrs. Mele, will be with Haddonfield Memorial High School until mid May. Mr. D'Angelo was raised in South Jersey and went to college at McDaniel College in Westminster, Maryland. He currently lives in South Jersey with his wife and two kids, ages nine and three. In the past, he has taught middle school math for several years. Mr. D'Angelo is a very approachable, outgoing, and personable guy. One of his goals while being at HMHS is to get to know as many students as possible. He's very easy to talk to, and if you see him in the hallway, say hi if you haven't, and introduce yourself.

Growing up in South Jersey with a deli around the corner from his house, it was bound to be that his favorite food would be a cheesesteak. Along with cheesesteaks, he enjoys baseball, golf, and boxing.

One thing Mr. D'Angelo was surprised to see when he came to HMHS was how much freedom the students have, along with the school culture. Before his first day at Haddonfield, he thought HMHS would be a more strict and uniformed school with uptight classes and a structured school life. Mr. DiAngelo was very surprised to see that HMHS has an open campus policy, high extracurricular activity involvement, and a laid back, positive vibe within the school. The positive, friendly vibe that he observed during his first few days is something that has become normal to Haddonfield. Other high school students have to spend their day in fear of bullies and don't get to express who they are as an individual.

Mr. D'Angelo is happy to see how successful Haddonfield Memorial High School has been. Students at HMHS are not only challenged academically, but are successful and participate in numerous extracurricular activities. One of his goals is to keep the success and calmness up at HMHS.

Stand with Camden Open Mic Night

Students Bring Energy and Talent to Annual Fundraiser

Molly Parks '20

Staff Writer

February 15th marked this year's Stand With Camden Open Mic Night. The HMHS library was a full house filled with singers, poets, and even jugglers! A payment of five dollars or 5-10 children's books was made at the door by each attendee. The payment was made to help raise money to co-pay tuition for Noah, the student that Stand With Camden sponsors who attends Camden Forward School. The evening also involved making Valentine's Day cards for children at Noah's school.

The night was kicked off by Chloe Willison's and Grace Sanger-Johnson's performance of their original song "Wildfire." The two juniors were then followed by the student run acapella group at HMHS, Co-Ed. The group performed "Somebody to Love" with Lily Minor as the soloist, and "Sweet Caroline" with John Dwyer as soloist.

Claire Kenny was next to take the open mic, reading 2 poems she wrote about feminism and female empowerment. The junior confidently stated that as a woman "an accidental insult will not wound me, for I will simply become more empowered".

The Junior class of HMHS proved their musicality as Grace Nyberg, Leah Nepa, Claudia Masclans, Nadya Lopez, and Connor Stevenson all individually sang in front of the eager audience.

Ledel Cooper did not disappoint as he showed off his unique juggling skills to the intrigued crowd. Cooper has been juggling for two and a half years and has mastered over 50 tricks. He showed the audience the Boston Mess, the Machine, the Contortionist, Romeo's Revenge, High Cascade, and the Extended Box. He also group juggled with senior Jimmy Atkinson and earned a standing ovation as Ledel Cooper juggled pins over Atkinson's face!

Ian Rowe Nicholls sang and played guitar to his original song "A Little or a Lot." Ian explained that "A Little or a Lot" is "about finding your true self and embracing it." Freshman Evie Ellis also sang and played the guitar to two songs.

The last acts of the night closed the Open Mic Night on a great note. Christian Rivera read two poems he wrote called "I am not a Racist" and "Dear Donald Trump." Rivera tells that he "is now forced to be more aware" of his surroundings, because of President Trump. The last act of the night was a cover of "Freaking Out the Neighborhood," by Mac Demarco, performed by Noah Lapid, Michael Steuart, and Sam Peale.

Stand With Camden's officers and advisors announced at the end of the night that the club had raised \$424.00 from the Open Mic Night! This amount of money is equivalent to almost 2 months of paid tuition for Noah. HMHS would like to thank the audience, performers, and especially SWC club officers Liv Alberto, Erin Hoffman, Maddie Broder, and Alex Townsend, and club advisors Ms. Dickstien and Mr. Fluharty for making the 2018 Stand With Camden Open Mic Night a success!

"Through a Woman's Eyes" Art Show Is a Big Success *Lucy Herdelin '19* *Contributing Writer*

On Saturday, February 24th, the Haddon Fortnightly and the HMHS 50/50 club hosted the second annual "Through a Woman's Eyes" art show which featured work by female artists in the area. Artists were asked to create work focusing on the female experience. Of over 30 artists whose work was shown, five artists were selected to receive awards: for best painting, for best non-painting, for best student art, best use of theme, and best in show. The awards were named for influential and pioneering female artists of history, including Frida Kahlo and Mary Cassatt.



All of the proceeds from this year's and last year's shows went to Girls Learn International, a charitable organization aiming to promote girls' access to equal education worldwide. Last year, the show raised over \$3,000 for Girls Learn International, and this year hopefully had

the same success, though the proceeds from this year's show have not yet been counted. This year's show

displayed nearly one hundred pieces of work, in addition to various live performers, many of whom are students at HMHS, free refreshments, raffles, and a silent auction.

In addition to raising money for Girls Learn International, the collaborators of "Through a Woman's Eyes" show hoped to support female artists to showcase and sell their art, whether they were aspiring student artists or professional artists. To better support the artists, the 50/50 club and Haddon Fortnightly facilitated purchases of artists' work throughout the day. However, with our goal of supporting female artists in mind, the Fortnightly and 50/50 club did not take a portion of their sales, which is a common practice in most professional art shows. This was intended to provide younger or less experienced artists with the opportunity to not only show their art in a professional setting, but also to be paid for the art they dedicated their time and resources to.

HMHS 50/50 club president, Devi Bass, a junior, described her goal for the club and the art show as "not just to talk about the issues that are important to our club members, but to take action. I think the art show is a good representation of that. A woman's issue that is important to me is education equality, and putting together the art show to benefit GLI helped us do something about that problem." The 50/50 club is a chapter of Girls Learn International and, besides the art show, raises money throughout the year to support the organization. They also support causes such as Distributing Dignity by collecting bras and toiletries for women living in homeless shelters. Next year, the club hopes to also sponsor a student's education through the charity Plan International USA. Plan USA allows sponsors to pay for a child's schooling while phasing out support so that families and communities can support themselves after sponsors stop paying.

For more information about the show and the 50/50 club, feel free to email hmhsfeminism@gmail.com.

Photo Credit: Grace Nyberg

Meet the Editors of the Bulldawg Bulletin

The Bulldawg Bulletin is published by students of HHMHS and serves the students, faculty, staff, and surrounding community.

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The Sad State of Hollywood

Noah Lapid '19

Contributing Writer

Every year, Hollywood cranks out film after film after film. Some of these films are true masterpieces, employing creativity, voice, and style. The rest are passable cash cows that are less than enjoyable. The unfortunate fact is that most of the mainstream films that reach the silver screen are tepid remakes and sequels, often of cinema classics that really, really do not need to be remade or revamped. We don't need another version of King Kong. We don't need yet another superhero movie where the outcome is generally the same. We don't need to continue making these Jurassic Park rip offs, no matter how attractive Chris Pratt might be. These blockbusters are mere "passable" films, and if these are the only movies you're watching, you're missing out on a whole world of amazing stories.

I urge you to watch the movies in the theaters you might not recognize. The Glass Castle, for example was a heart wrenching, inspiring story of overcoming poverty and domestic troubles. Glass Castle raked in \$21.7 million at the box office, minuscule compared to Kong, Skull Island's \$566.7 million. This, to me is extremely upsetting. Is a remake of King Kong really more valuable than the tale of a little West Virginian girl and her struggles of growing up in poverty and domestic troubles? Is some fancy CGI really more valuable than masterful directing, editing, and cinematography? Baby Driver, a fantastically edited and scored film did draw a hefty \$226.9 million at the box office, but it still earned far less than most of the year's blockbusters. I, Tonya included masterful directing, editing, and even included an Oscar winning performance from Allison Janney, yet only earned \$33.9 million at the box office. It seems that in today's industry, quantity comes before quality. The producers would rather see millions of dollars for an OK movie, and pass on less of an income for a truly GREAT movie.

And that sad thing is, that as long as this format of passable, money making movies continues, Hollywood will continue to oversaturate the world of film with "eh". Creativity has gone by the wayside, and it seems as if movies now are simply lazy remakes and unneeded sequels. As much as I love The Incredibles, Finding Nemo, Jumanji, Spider-Man, and the rest of the classics, we don't need more mediocre attempts at reboots of these classics. We need



new, fresh, creative stories that not only entertain, but also speak to the hearts and minds of the world. To all producers of the world I say, employ great filmmakers! The Coens, the Scorseses, the Tarantinos, the Andersons of the world. Spend a few extra bucks on genuine artistry, and the world will thank you.

And to all the moviegoers of the world, I extend my thank you for seeing movies, a gesture so elegantly communicated at the 90th Academy Awards, but I urge you to watch different movies. Watch The Glass Castle, watch I, Tonya, watch Baby Driver, watch the classics and expand your movie knowledge. Take Film as Art with Mr. Scorsolini and be introduced to a whole new universe of underrated (by modern standards) movies. In closing, I urge you to not only watch more movies, but watch good ones, so that creativity and life can be restored to the contemporary film industry.

The 2018 Oscars: A Step Forward

Marybeth Baisden '19
Contributing Writer

The 90th Academy Awards opened with a black and white reel of past ceremonies, then showed the nominated celebrities in the same filter. Sunday, March 4th, 2018, Jimmy Kimmel emerged on a gorgeous stage with a chandelier, an art deco stage, and gold and crystal details all over. His second year of hosting was amidst the sexual harassment and race discussions about Hollywood. Kimmel's task was to host a historic Oscars ceremony, while navigating the tension in Hollywood, addressing the previous year's Best Picture mix-up, while still being a funny and pleasant host.

The five nominations to *Lady Bird* and four to *Get Out* both included Best Director for Greta Gerwig and Jordan Peele, respectively. Greta Gerwig would have been only the second woman to win Best Director, and Jordan Peele the first African-American. Guillermo del Toro's Best Director win was the fourth for Hispanic nominees. Disney/Pixar's film *Coco* won Best Animated Feature and Best Original Song, to the joy of Latino presenter Oscar Isaac. The significance of not only *Get Out*'s nomination, but all non-white helmed movies returns to two years ago, at the 2016 Oscars, where social media was covered in #oscarssowhite. Though critically-acclaimed films with black leads such as *Creed*, *Straight Outta Compton*, and Netflix's *Beasts of No Nation* were eligible for nomination, all nominees were white in 2015 and 2016. This year, both Daniel Kaluuya, star of *Get Out*, and acclaimed actor Denzel Washington were up for Best Actor. In the Oscars' 90 year history, only 14 acting awards have been won by blacks. Many A-listers criticized the Oscar committee, resulting in some boycotts, most famously Jada Pinkett Smith. While Tiffany Haddish and Maya Rudolph presented, they addressed #oscarssowhite with, "I know what you're thinking. Are the Oscars too black now? Don't worry. We were just backstage, and there are still a bunch of white people still to come." Jordan Peele, the first African-American to win in this category, won Best Original Screenplay for *Get Out*, a film he had stopped and started multiple times, but ultimately came out with a \$33 million opening weekend and 99% on movie critic website Rotten Tomatoes. Along with these award-winning successes, Kimmel addressed the hit *Black Panther* multiple times, still

dominating the box office several weeks after its release. The night, however, was still tension-filled, as this was the first Oscars after Harvey Weinstein's sexual misconduct was exposed.



Jordan Peele accepts his Oscar for *Get Out*

Sunday night was not removed from the recent sexual abuse scandals in Hollywood, either. Unlike the Golden Globes, attendees were told to simply wear "Time's Up" pins, not all black, though the orange pins are so small they were not noticeable unless one was looking for them. Kimmel spoke about the danger women face in the film industry, joking, "If we can work together to stop sexual harassment in the workplace...women will only have to deal with that every other place they go." Ashley Judd, Salma Hayek, and Annabella Sciorra- all prominent Weinstein accusers- announced "trailblazers" in the "Time's Up" movement, aiming to end sexual harassment in all industries. A video showing Weinstein accusers and assorted celebrities talking about their place in the movement and how to diversify Hollywood followed, met with applause. Despite the speeches and action supposedly taken by the Academy, there were discrepancies. Gary Oldman won Best Actor for his role as Winston Churchill in *The Darkest Hour*, in spite of his ex-wife's statement that he choked and beat her with a phone in front of their children in 2001. Harvey Weinstein's removal from the Motion Picture Academy seemed to fall on deaf ears, as another man accused of abuse won Best Actor for the second year in a row (last year Casey Affleck for *Manchester By the Sea*).

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In contrast, Best Actress winner Frances McDormand, star of *Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri*, asked all female nominees to stand, and encouraged them to tell their stories. Before she left the stage, she uttered the words, "inclusion rider." As NPR says, an inclusion rider is "a stipulation that actors and actresses can ask (or demand) to have inserted into their contracts, which would require a certain level of diversity among a film's cast and crew." As of 2016, females were only 29% of protagonists in the top 100 films and 76% of female characters were white, according to www.womenandhollywood.com. Emma Stone, while announcing the Best Director nominees, announced them as "these four men and Greta Gerwig." Though it was a nice attempt at calling out the gender imbalance in Hollywood, her statement completely discredits the importance of Jordan Peele and Guillermo del Toro's nominations.

Regardless of its shortcomings, the 90th Academy Awards were overall entertaining. Jimmy Kimmel, in an attempt to shorten the typically long ceremony, announced he would reward the shortest speech with a jetski (which Mark Bridges, Costume Designer for *Phantom Thread*, a film about a fashion designer, won). Lupita Nyong'o and Kumail Nanjiani spoke about their experiences as immigrants, important in a time where President Trump is separating families through a repeal of DACA. Guillermo del Toro talked about his experience as an immigrant and how he felt accepted by the filmmaking industry, including a sweet moment where he addressed Steven Spielberg as a mentor. In addition, Kimmel thanked the moviegoers of the world, crossing the street to the TCL Chinese Theatre with big name celebrities such as Lin-Manuel Miranda, Lupita Nyong'o, Mark Hamill, and Gal Gadot. They went into the Theatre with hot dog cannons and gift baskets to interrupt a screening of Disney's *A Wrinkle In Time* to the shock and delight of the moviegoers. A man at the screening even got to announce Tiffany Haddish and Maya Rudolph, though he pronounced Haddish's name incorrectly.

Though not one of the most influential Oscars, this year was a step in the right direction of making Hollywood a more equal and accepting place, and overall an entertaining watch.

I, Tonya Is Gripping, Compelling

Maggie Clapp '18
Contributing Writer

The story of Tonya Harding is an incredible one. She was the first American woman to perform the triple axel, but the movie "*I, Tonya*" tells her complete story behind the legendary ice skater. This movie tells Harding's life story, and accounts of "the incident." In 1994 an American figure skater, Nancy Kerrigan, was attacked by a hit man hired by Harding's ex-husband, Jeff Cooley.

This movie was beautifully cast and acted. Margot Robbie who played Harding was almost hard to recognize. She embodied Harding perfectly from the way she talked to the way she moved. Every actor in this movie was outstanding. Janney who played LeVona Harding, Tonya's mother, won an Academy Award and a Golden Globe for best supporting actress. LeVona gives Tonya this tough love approach and believes that she can not perform without negative influence. She and Jeff are both verbally and physically abusive towards Harding.

The theme of abuse is prominent in this film but is brought up in such a casual way it is shocking. For example, in one scene Jeff slammed Harding's head into a mirror, but Tonya continues her monologue as though nothing is happening. This gives the viewer an insight to how Harding must have thought at the time since violence was such a natural part of her life.

The directing was very interesting in that the actors frequently broke the fourth wall. This really made the viewer feel as though they are a part of the story, which was unique. The tempo of the movie never slowed and kept me interested for the entire movie. The scenery and costumes were good but not outstanding, which is what to be expected if the movie was based off of real events and people. The soundtrack was fantastic. It was composed of 1990s rock songs that matched the tone and the tempo of the movie perfectly.

The only downfall this movie has is that the CGI figure skating in the movie, though incredible, was obvious at some points. Margot Robbie's facial expressions throughout the movie were fantastic, so it was very noticeable when the CGI was occurring because her face remained calm as she was supposed to be doing very difficult moves on the ice.

Overall, I loved this movie and have already recommended it to my friends and family to watch. I would rate it 9/10. It was gripping.

Television Spotlight: *The Crown*

Joey Rihl '20
Contributing Writer

Netflix has added another brilliant television series to its roster. Its drama *The Crown*, which released its second season this past winter, revolves around the celebrity scandal and political turmoil during the reign of Queen Elizabeth II. Its past two seasons star Claire Foy as the longest-reigning British monarch. Foy has been nominated for many awards for her role as the Queen. Matt Smith portrays Elizabeth's husband of many years, Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh.

While *The Crown* centers around Elizabeth, the series features other noteworthy figures and the shocking scandals that revolved around them. One prominent supporting character is Princess Margaret, the sister of Queen Elizabeth, portrayed by Vanessa Kirby. Margaret was having an affair with Captain Peter Townsend while he served her father, King George VI, causing quite the uproar in the United Kingdom. The plotline about Prime Minister Winston Churchill, played by John Lithgow, provides a unique look into the life of the iconic politician later in his career. While Gary Oldman's performance as Winston in the film *Darkest Hour* recently earned him an Academy Award, Lithgow's performance in *The Crown* provides an alternative view, featuring his private audiences with the Queen.

The recently-released second season is as praised as the first. It revolves around major events in Elizabeth's reign, like Prince Philip's rumored cheating on her. The fifth episode of Season 2, "Marionettes", explains the modernization of the monarchy under the Queen, and how it was met with mixed feelings. Also in that episode, *The Crown* replicates Elizabeth's first televised broadcast of the royal Christmas message in 1957. Later in the season, John F. Kennedy and Jackie O. visit the royal family, with *Dexter* star Michael C. Hall as President Kennedy.

Netflix intends to have each season represent a decade. The first season is set in the 1950s, and the second mostly set in the 1960s. The cast will be replaced every two seasons to make the passing of time more clear. The third season is to be released at the end of this year, and big-name actors are in the works to play the roles of the royal family. Helena Bonham Carter is rumored to take on the role of Princess Margaret, having played her mother in the 2010 film *The King's Speech*. The fourth season, to star English actress Olivia Colman as Elizabeth II, is to revolve around Princess Diana's relationship with Elizabeth's son, Prince Charles, in the 1980s.

Unfortunately, it was recently announced that *The Crown* has been paying Claire Foy less than Matt Smith, despite Claire Foy playing the lead. This was only made public on March 13th. The gender inequality will come to an end for the third season. "Going on, no one gets paid more than the Queen", producer Suzanne Mackie declared. However, as

mentioned, the third season will have Olivia Colman as the Queen and not Claire Foy. In light of recent news concerning gender equality and feminism, the announcement of the wage gap for the leads was received negatively. Hopefully, a solution to this situation for Foy will be made soon.

The series has been critically acclaimed by many for its brilliant acting, stunning cinematography, and fascinating story. For the opinion on the show of someone more noteworthy, look to none other than Her Majesty herself, who watched the first season along with other members of the British royal family. Aside from some dramatic aspects she critiqued, she enjoyed the show, as did other royals. The consensus on the show is clear. For the fan of political history or celebrity drama, look to none other than *The Crown*.

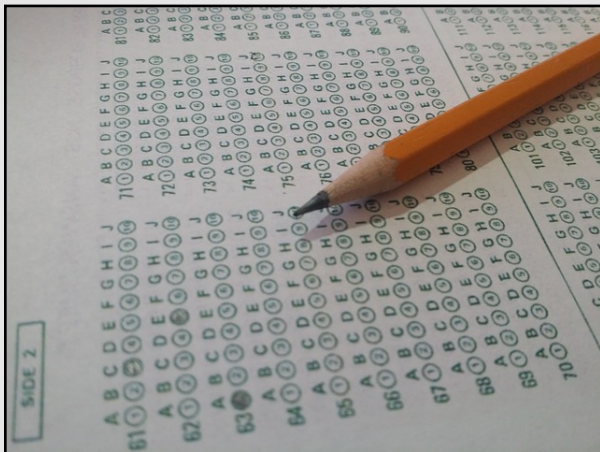
Author's Note: The entirety of this article, aside from the paragraph concerning it, was written prior to the Tuesday, March 13th incident concerning the announcement of a gender wage gap between Claire Foy and Matt Smith.



HMHS Students Skeptical of the SAT

Natalie Naticchia '19
Contributing Writer

Many of you have heard about those dreaded three hours that can ruin a high school student's Saturday morning—the SAT. For many, the stress associated with the standardized test that is mandated by the College Board in most college admission processes, lasts much longer than just the allotted time to sit for the exam. Instead, the preparation for the SAT can monopolize a student's junior year. Is the test worth this aggravation? The goal of the SAT is to create a common baseline for a fair comparison of all applicants. Although, many feel that the true purpose of the SAT has been lost. After conducting a survey of 50 members of the Haddonfield student body regarding their opinions of the SAT, it was found that the general consensus feels strongly against the SAT as a fair college entrance assessment.



When questioning the students' experience with the SAT, 87% of the students were found to have taken the SAT more than once, in hopes of improving their score. The preparation for the SAT varied. Whether students reviewed for the SAT using an online course or attended 2-hour classes twice a week in preparation, there was one common factor: preparation for the SAT costs all too much. Although preparation is largely optional, most Haddonfield students choose to take classes to prepare. The average cost for 50 minutes with an SAT tutor ranges from \$125-\$250. These high prices create an entire business demographic that supports this standardized test. The belief is if you can pay for the classes, you will get a better score. This puts wealthy towns, districts, and students at an unfair advantage. Some high schools have recognized this disparity and have begun to implement an SAT prep course within the

school curriculum for free, in order to prepare students who otherwise would not use outside resources for SAT preparation.



The survey question that created the most enthusiastic response was as follows: "Do you feel that the SAT is an accurate depiction of your academic knowledge? Why or why not?" Among the 48 students who replied, many argued that the format of the exam is not designed for students to do

their best. They believed that the information on the SAT is not applicable to their education, that it only assesses students' ability to regurgitate memorized information, and that the test is limited in scope because it only tests on two main subjects: math and reading. Many also argued that the SAT tests just how well you are at taking the test (SAT strategy) and NOT the type of college student you will become.

Overall, the general Haddonfield consensus is that the SAT requires preparation that is time consuming and costly. Many polled feel as though it is not an accurate depiction of a student's potential or knowledge. On the contrary, a minority of students expressed that a standardized test does serve a purpose in evaluating students and felt that it can be used as a baseline when comparing college applicants. So, the question remains: does the SAT serve a purpose in the application process? Is it a fair assessment among students of varied backgrounds and demographics? Many Haddonfield students feel that there needs to be a better way to assess and compare college applicants and a student's academic potential to succeed in college.

Note: The opinion expressed is solely the author's and is not a refutation or endorsement by the Bulldawg Bulletin.

The Beginning of Our Generation's Activism

Ian Rowe-Nicholls '20

Contributing Writer

I decided to tune into the CNN Town Hall on an ordinary Wednesday, February 21st. It featured two United States Senators, a member of the House of Representatives, a representative of the National Rifle Association, and the sheriff of the Broward County Police Department. Yet, somehow, none of these figures were the real stars of the show. The most important figures in this town hall were the high schoolers, parents, and teachers asking questions that desperately needed answers from these prominent political figures.

Just seven days prior to this program, these people's lives changed unexpectedly for the worse. On February 14, a 19-year old gunman, Nikolas Cruz, opened fire at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida. With a military-grade weapon, the AR-15, and hundreds of rounds of ammunition, Cruz killed 14 students and three teachers while injuring 14 others. The students at CNN's Town Hall saw their best friends die right before their eyes and texted their parents, telling them that they loved them while hiding in a closet, unsure for hours if it would be their last words. Now, just seven days later, they presented the courage and righteousness to stand up and spark a much-needed movement in this country.

These people certainly hit hard. A father who lost his daughter told Florida Senator Marco Rubio, on the topic of the tragedy, that his "comments this week, and those of our president, have been pathetically weak." He continued, "So, you and I are now eye to eye. Because I want to like you. Look at me and tell me guns were the factor in the hunting of our kids in this school this week." A junior at Marjory Stoneman Douglas asked the Senator to "not accept a single donation from the NRA in the future." A senior who has enlisted in the United States military even got Senator Rubio to say he was "willing to reconsider" his position on accessibility to large-capacity magazines. This essential dialogue between ordinary people faced with horrible tragedy and government authority figures became very productive for those all throughout the nation looking to have their voices heard that night.

While the issue presented at the Town Hall was obviously on gun rights, the activism is the beginning of something greater. While there are many different ideas for curbing gun violence in this nation being thrown around, these high school students, of all people, are holding the people in power accountable for repeated and appalling lack of action. The solutions may vary within the anti-gun violence camp, but the idea of condemning a lack of action and demanding some sort of necessary change remains constant. This mindset can easily be translated to many other issues in our nation for both sides of the political spectrum. That's what makes it so meaningful for the health of our democracy.



Our generation, dubbed "Generation Z" and set as the demographic cohort beginning at 1997 by the Pew Research Center, has plenty of time to be activists. Molly Parks, a sophomore here at HMHS, said, "I think it is important for kids in our generation to be politically active because soon enough, we will be filling the seats of government officials like Dianne Feinstein and Orrin Hatch. Our generation is especially important because after the movements like Me Too and Never Again, the spotlight is on us because adults are seeing how politically inclined we are." The issues we encounter and fight for solutions to will change throughout our lives. But what happened at that CNN Town Hall, where members from our generation stood toe-to-toe with Goliath and told him what to do with hard-hitting questions, might as well be remembered as the first major instance of our generation's activism.

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The Dawg Pound

The Underdogs Finally Win the Super Bowl

Joseph DeSimone '18
Sports Editor

Eagles fans were extremely optimistic of our team's chances in the playoffs throughout the season. Carson Wentz was unstoppable. We had made pickups and trades to acquire players such as Jay Ajayi, LeGarrette Blount, Ronald Darby, Alshon Jeffery, Torrey Smith, and Corey Clement. We were winning most of our games by pretty large margins. Fans were starting to dream of that ever-elusive Lombardi trophy. That is, until one game against the Rams where Wentz was hit in both of his legs as he attempted to rush for a touchdown. At that time, Wentz knew something was wrong with his leg. However, he stayed on the field for four more plays that resulted in a touchdown pass to Alshon Jeffery. After proceeding to the locker room for the medical examination, the worst fears of Eagles fans were confirmed; Wentz had torn his ACL and would not be returning for the rest of the season.

With Wentz out, our chances in the playoffs were not looking as great as before. Our quarterback was now Nick Foles, a player who the Eagles had previously traded, had struggled with other teams, and had not been given much playing time this season. But our fears were unfounded. It took a couple of games for Foles to feel completely comfortable playing, but he then proceeded to beat the Falcons 15-10 (Julio Jones missing a pass that went right through his hands definitely helped) and completely dominate the Vikings in a 38-7 win. These were great wins but the true test was yet to come. The Eagles, a franchise that had never won a Super Bowl and that had struggled in recent years, now had to face the Patriots, one of the best franchises of all time led by, some would argue, the greatest quarterback of all time, Tom Brady.

The Super Bowl was definitely one of the best football games of all time. Both quarterbacks played tremendously well. Foles passed for 373 yards to contribute to the 538 total yards for the Eagles. Brady also had a good game with 505 passing yards that contributed to the Patriot's 513 total yards. Foles was the first quarterback to both complete and receive a touchdown pass in a Super Bowl thanks to a successful "Philly Special" where Foles caught a pass from Trey Burton, the tight end. This is a play that will go down in Philadelphia sports history. Other key plays included touchdown catches by Alshon Jeffery, Corey Clement, and Zach Ertz, a touchdown run by LeGarrette Blount, and a strip of the ball from Tom Brady by Brandon Graham. The game ended with a score of 41-33, bringing

the Vince Lombardi trophy to the City of Philadelphia.

The last step in the Eagle's road to victory: parading the trophy through the City of Brotherly Love. On February 8, the Eagles began their procession at around 11:00 am. They covered around 4 miles of ground, beginning at the stadium and ending at the steps of the Art Museum. During the parade, Foles and Wentz passed the trophy back and forth in an amazing display of sportsmanship between the quarterback that won the Super Bowl and the quarterback that got the team there. Around one million people were estimated to be in attendance, making it the sports parade to end all sports parades. Excited fans arrived at the city as early as 11pm the previous day. Others decided to show up at 1:00 in the morning. While waiting, fans tried to hype up the crowd. Some brought speakers. Others brought megaphones.

Some just yelled the E-A-G-L-E-S chant over and over. The best way to describe the crowd would be controlled chaos. When the Eagles finally made their way past where I was standing, the people around me erupted into cheers and shouts. Michael Kendricks, a linebacker for the Eagles, seemed to really enjoy interacting with the crowd. He pointed at a few fans, talked to some others, and caught a drink thrown at him from a third.

Overall, the parade was a huge success in my opinion. The Eagles players seemed to love it just as much as the fans. It was hectic but nothing too serious occurred. The police definitely had better control of the situation than the night in Philly when the Eagles actually won the Super Bowl. But the best thing about the parade was the uniqueness of the whole event. When the Phillies last won the World Series, it was amazing. But they had already won it before. The Flyers have won the Stanley Cup twice. The Sixers have won the championship three times as well. But the Eagles had never won a Super Bowl. This was the first Super Bowl Parade the City of Philadelphia has ever had. That is what made this event truly special. Congratulations to the Eagles for beating the Patriots in Super Bowl LII and finally bringing the Vince Lombardi trophy home to Philadelphia.



The Final Showdown: Varsity Girls Swim Team's Sectional Championship

Abby Gramigna '21

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For numerous years, the Haddonfield girls have been an undeniable force in New Jersey athletics. The varsity girls swim team is no exception. For the past four years, Haddonfield has been the reigning champion of South Jersey's public group C division, and it is the team's 13th sectional championship win. Since the creation of a group C division for both boys and girls swimming in 2015, the Haddonfield girls have never left sectionals without a first place trophy.

On February 15, they continued their winning streak against Haddon Township with a final score of 93 to 77. Head coach Bob Querbin and assistant coaches Carrington Thompson and Christa Wesley prepared the team for the sectionals championship for months, and it was evident from Haddonfield's initial event win to the final relay of the meet. Some highlights included Haddonfield sweeping the 100 freestyle event, with junior Regan McDonnell winning the event with a time of 56.58, junior Chloe Lin placing second, and freshman Abby Gramigna placing third. Sophomore Ava Berzanski snatched a win for Haddonfield in the 100 breaststroke with a time of 1:08.06, and sophomore Sophia Rollo took first place in the 100 backstroke with a time of 1:02.41. The 200 medley relay, which was comprised of Rollo, Berzanski, sophomore Carly Griffin, and McDonnell, swam the event with a time of 1:54.56 and gained points for Haddonfield with their first place finish. Sophomore Kristina Curley, senior Carlee Riordan, McDonnell, and Griffin, all participated in the 200 freestyle relay and won the event with a time of 1:48.20. Major time drops occurred throughout the meet for the Haddonfield swimmers, and especially for senior Grace Figlioli, who cut an unbelievable 14 seconds in her 500 freestyle, securing a third-place finish.

"I would say that it definitely feels surreal to have won my fourth consecutive sectional title because it shows the dedication, drive and determination of our team," stated senior Hannah Roche, who has remained a powerful force on the swim team since her freshman year. "I was ecstatic knowing I'd finish my high school swimming career with four sectional titles." Newcomers to the Haddonfield girls swim team also relished in the excitement and energy of a championship meet. Freshman Ava Cottone described her first sectionals as "...a fun experience. As a freshman, it was cool to win sectionals and see the outcome of all of our hard work. I hope we keep winning and work our way to states again next year."

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