On the Uprise

JOE BENSON ’13

The men’s varsity soccer team celebrated its first victory in two years on Tuesday September 27, 2011. Governor’s prevailed over St. George’s 2-1 down in Middletown, RI. This triumph indicates that the team is rebuilding and that it has taken its first steps down the road of improvement.

I sat down to have exclusive interviews with a number of players from the team after the win over St. George’s. When mid-fielder Jeremy Barrand, class of 2013, was asked about how this crucial victory has impacted the team thus far he replied, “It’s given us a lot of hope for the rest of this season and for seasons to come.” After watching one of their games against St. Sebastian’s, it is evident that the boys have augmented their tenacity for the game. In subsequent games, Governor’s increasingly exhibited fluid ball movement and threatening scoring chances. I also sat down with center-midfielder Kyle Vincze, class of 2013, and talked with him about how the addition of assistant coach Manny Brito has affected the team. Kyle said, “Considering that Coach Lincoln is a defensive-minded player, Manny is the complete opposite and brings a different element of attack to the team.” It seems that Coach Brito’s offensive-mindedness has helped drawn a clear distinction between last year’s team and this year’s team. Striker Ryan Scarfo, class of 2013, is a newcomer to the team this year. “Well you know, I just wanted to bring energy and intensity to the team and help the team collect some wins. I’ve always been a competitor and I love to win.” Ryan watched the team go winless last year from the sidelines. He came to preseason this year as the begin...

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The Scandal that Shocked the Nation

As time goes on, the truth about Jerry Sandusky, as well as other child abuse cases, is being revealed. On Saturday, November 5th, 2011, the investigation of Sandusky as well as the involvement of many of his Penn State coworkers was made public. Four days later, legendary football coach Joe Paterno, as well as University President Graham Spanier, was fired from Penn State for failure to report the information he knew about Sandusky. The public was horrified by the news that Jerry Sandusky had been sexually abusing young boys since he started his charity project, “The Second Mile,” in 1977. The establishment is a communal foster home for helping troubled teenage boys. Eight victims have been identified as being abused by Sandusky between 1977 and 2002, when Sandusky was finally banned from bringing children onto the Penn State Campus.

As terrible as it was that Sandusky was abusing the boys, no one pursued stopping him. Tim Curley, the Penn State athletic director, Gary Schultz, senior vice president for finance and business (who was in charge of the university police), and Joe Paterno, Penn State football coach since 1956, have all been charged with hiding abuse allegations, and have either been put on administrative leave or have been terminated from the institution. Mike McQueary was the graduate assistant football coach Joe Paterno, as well as University President Graham Spanier, was fired from Penn State for failure to report the information he knew about Sandusky. The public was horrified by the news that Jerry Sandusky had been sexually abusing young boys since he started his charity project, “The Second Mile,” in 1977. The establishment is a communal foster home for helping troubled teenage boys. Eight victims have been identified as being abused by Sandusky between 1977 and 2002, when Sandusky was finally banned from bringing children onto the Penn State Campus.

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Evaluating the Whole Person

When we think back on what we have learned in high school, many different pieces of information may come to mind. Perhaps we recall the differences between mitosis and meiosis, the laws of exponents, or dates of important events in United States history. Certainly through all the reading we have done and lectures we have heard we have gained a lot of knowledge, but consider this question: what are the most important things we have learned? In all likelihood the response will be lessons you have learned or skills you have developed rather than pieces of information you have memorized from a textbook.

Our school is a college preparatory school, meaning its main goal is to make sure its students are ready for the next step of their lives by the time they graduate. Likewise, colleges prepare their students for the working world and challenges that will face them in the years after they leave campus. In a college application essay I wrote recently, one school asked me to comment on what interested me about their mission statement. The statement included many phrases such as "rigorous scholarship" and "a love of learning," but what stood out most was the claim that the school "educates the whole person." This is a key component of an education that can often be overlooked. While it is necessary to memorize pieces of information for a class, there are even more crucial skills that are developed in the process; as we memorize we learn time management, critical thinking, and study skills that will serve us for the rest of our lives.

Our school takes a holistic educational approach. Not only does it prepare us to take SATs and AP exams, but also it teaches us how to write, how to interact with others, and how to clearly express ideas. By encouraging students to participate in Special Olympics and other community service activities it trains us to recognize our place in the world and give back to the larger community. By providing us with humanities opportunities it gives us the chance to watch plays and musical performances that present new ideas and cause us to question our own beliefs. Through athletic and academic contests our school teaches us the rules of sportsmanship and competition. We learn crucial life skills such as how to consider new ideas, how to recover from failure, and how to be patient.

With exam week approaching it is easy to forget about the important skills we have learned. We begin to cram facts into our short-term memories, most of which we will forget soon after we leave school for break. It is impossible not to focus on our ability to memorize and then regurgitate information, because it seems that this is exactly what our exams test us on, but there are other factors that go into our performance on these tests. Re-reading chemistry or history notes three times may help master concepts and events, but without time-management and reasoning abilities it is impossible to do well on the exam. As students we often get nervous or feel unprepared as we enter the exam room.

In 1787, a bunch of men came together in Philadelphia and composed a document outlining how the then new United States of America was to be governed. Well, not exactly. Unfortunately, it’s not that simple. Ever since the last signature was inscribed upon the Constitution’s immortal parchment, the words contained therein became the source of controversy. From the day of ratification to today, the Constitution has been interpreted in various ways, creating different factions, called parties, each with its own views and opinions on what the Founding Fathers meant.

From the beginning, two different lenses emerged through which one could decipher the Constitution: strict and broad constructionism. The former holds that the Constitution must be read pharisaically, that the “letter of the law,” so to speak, is sacred, and must be interpreted literally. The latter, on the other hand, believes it to be a living and breathing document, whose interpretation cannot be relegated to the words on the page, but rather formulated around the varying circumstances of the times. George Washington, in his Farewell Address, said: “I hate [the spread of slavery] because of the monstrous injustice of slavery itself…” To slaveholders, he said: “[a black woman] is certainly not my equal…” Through his rhetoric (and the dearth of modern media), he appealed to both northerners and southerners, abolitionists and slaveholders. Today, we can all mostly agree that he was a successful president.

Most other presidents, however, were not as tricky as Lincoln, thus leaving evaluation of their presidencies in the hands of political parties. For instance, liberals hail Frederick Delano Roosevelt as one of the greatest presidents in U.S. history, while conservatives deride him as an un-American socialist-minded dictator. Conversely, conservatives laud Ronald Reagan as one of the most successful presidents, while liberals sling vituperative condemnations, blaming him for many of today’s economic problems.

I identify myself with the Democratic Party of the United States. On the various socio-economic spectra, I...
Abortion is by no means a simple issue. The abortion debate has been raging for years, and there is still no resolution. Looking at the arguments from both sides, however, it is apparent that abortion is wrong. In the following paragraphs, I will present arguments that prove abortion is morally and socially wrong. Please note, though, that I am not brazenly defending the pro-life stance of abortion; there are some extremely unfortunate instances where I believe we must painfully choose an abortion.

Abortion is murder. People argue that fetuses do not constitute life and therefore abortion does not constitute murder. Allow me to point out the utter fallacies of this logic through the eyes of a biologist. During conception, two haploid gametes unite and form a diploid zygote with 46 chromosomes. Then, through a series of mitotic divisions, this zygote develops into a fetus. In layman’s parlance: a sperm and an egg containing the genetic material each parent come together and form a new entity, which grows into a human being. So at what point is this mass of cells human? Simple: at conception. Biologically speaking, a new life is formed the instant sperm and egg meet. This is fact and cannot be argued. We cannot say life begins when the heart starts beating or when the brain fully developed; that is Hitleresque: how can we say when life begins? Incontrovertibly, life begins at the moment of conception. Therefore, abortion is murder. What kind of society allows for murder? Not ours.

There is a common perception that abortion procedures are totally safe and have no repercussions. Once again, this idea is fatuous. First, allow me to enlighten you about abortion procedures happen. In the first trimester, substances such as “The Abortion Pill” RU-486 (some theorists claim the appellation has a hidden meaning: are you for 86, which is a number representing death) are given. Medications like these block hormones essential to the fetus, thereby destroying the fetus. Induction abortions involve surrounding the fetus with chemicals. In dilation and evacuation, the cervix is dilated and the fetus removed; in dilation and extraction (partial birth abortion), the cervix is dilated and the fetus is minced into pieces, which are subsequently vacuumed out of the womb. Obviously, these procedures are far from natural; what woman wants toxic chemicals pumped into her? Furthermore, they create complications. Abortions greatly increase the risk of ectopic pregnancies, Pelvic Inflammatory Disease, placenta previa, and subsequent infertility and miscarriages. These risks are not mere possibilities; they occur frequently. Additionally, abortions frequently cause psychological stress and anxiety as well as regrets later in life. Thus, abortions are not only murder, but they also put the health of the mothers in jeopardy.

There are some cases, however, in which we must regretfully choose abortion. Cases where giving birth would kill the mother (even some Christian denominations would concur) or even some involving rape are extremely unfortunate, but in these unique circumstances, abortions may need to take place. These instances, however, do not make up the majority of the 1.2 million abortions per year in the United States. Most of these are young, ignorant, and careless women who foolishly became pregnant but don’t want or can’t support the child. Legalizing abortion is endorsing the frivolous and promiscuous values of these women and men. It is the United States espousing the values of unprotected sex. We cannot allow this to occur; we are better than that. As a society, we simply cannot champion these values. Isn’t adoption just as viable an option? It accomplishes the same goal of abortion: getting rid of a child. And don’t say that we are overpopulated and people will not adopt; there are 1.5 million families out there wanting to adopt. Finally, you will argue that abortion restricts the freedom of women. If women want freedom and control of their bodies, then they should be able to control whether or not they get pregnant, through birth control or abstinence.

Abortion is wrong. It is murder and it endangers the mother’s health. Additionally, it tells young girls that unprotected sex and promiscuity is ok. We cannot endorse these values. For these reasons, abortion must be curbed, except in the rarest, most unfortunate of cases.

Of course John! Abortion is murder! How could anyone be prochoice when abortion is vicious and cruel murder?!! Here’s the problem: while saying that a fetus is a live human at conception may be biologically correct, it is not logical. Why is it morally reprehensible to abort an early stage fetus, when most of us do not think twice about swatting down a mosquito (a more complex organism at that stage)? Once the fetus is developed and viable, during the late stages of pregnancy, then abortion is murder. At this point the fetus has ceased to be a simple collection of cells, but a self aware, living human being. But abortions (at least in the United States) are never performed in this stage of pregnancy; the majority of them are performed before the 10th week of pregnancy, before the fetus has the brain that so distinguishes us from animals.

Now, I am not advocating abortion as a broad, commonplace, regular procedure. It is serious. But there are enough situations that merit its use that it must be legal.

Situation 1.) Rape. Say a woman is attacked on the street by a man, who rapes her without any use of contraception, and impregnates her. Would you force that woman to keep that child? Or should she have the option to abort? Consider the lives of the mother and child: neither would be happy when the latter is unwanted.

Situation 2.) Danger to the mother. Any pregnancy that has the possibility to pose substantial risk of harm or death to the mother should be viable for abortion. It is really a question of risk: if the mother is not likely to survive the pregnancy, than how will the child’s life develop without a mother? Granted, there are of course situations where if the mother further endangers the baby, then abortion may be an option.

Situation 3.) Unwanted pregnancy. Whether it occurs due to failed contraception, or plain old bad decision making, a woman simply should have the choice to terminate an unwanted pregnancy. Otherwise, they may bring a child into the world who is unwanted and could be neglected or abandoned. And in the case of plain old bad decision making, is society really better off forcing a woman who has accidentally gotten herself pregnant to go through with having the baby? Here’s the thing: there will always be abortions. The question is only whether they will be legal or illegal. If they are legal, they will be monitored carefully and carried out safely. If they are illegal, who knows what can happen? So legalize and regulate what is inevitable.

As for the argument of abortion practices being harmful to the mother, consider this: we used to treat rabies with hot irons; we used to treat the flu with leeches. Medicine advances as we learn more and more. With abortion legal, safer methods will eventually be devised and used.

Finally, legalizing abortion does not “champion the values” of “young, ignorant, and careless women.” People do not think “Oh hey, you know, I can just get an abortion if I get knocked up, so unprotected sex is fine!” To say that this is true would be overly inflammatory. Promiscuity and unsafe sexual practices are separate issues from abortion that society needs to address. Abortion does not encourage these practices, it offers a drastic last resort to fasten a second chance.
It’s not often that a bill gets my attention, but lately there’s been a lot of buzz about SOPA. SOPA, or the Stop Online Piracy Act, is a bill currently going through the House of Representatives that aims to eliminate piracy using the tried and true methods of China, Syria, and Iran: DNS blocking. In simple terms, the bill gives the government the authority to withhold results from a web search (try Googling the word “protest” in China), and even to completely ban websites from being accessed in America. It also makes Internet piracy a felony: You can murder someone, you can rape someone, you can burn down someone’s house, or you can download an album off the internet.

According to this bill, they’re all about the same. Sound logical from the same congress that recently declared pizza a vegetable.

And while the means outlined in the bill are worrying enough, the possible ends are also real eye-openers. According to the bill, if a user on a site posts copyrighted content, or if a site has links to other sites that post copyrighted content, the government can blacklist that site. Period. People won’t be able to go to the site, results from the site won’t be seen when people Google it, and the government is even given the authority to block ad revenues to the site. If one single person messes up on your site, the government can put a bag over your head, take your money, and throw you in a little cell where no one else can see you. Consider what this might do to web growth; would Mark Zuckerberg have started Facebook if he knew that he might go to jail due to the activities of one user on the site?

And the implications for the common person, oh god, the implications for the common person. Imagine going onto Youtube, only to see that the site has been blocked by the government. “This site is a threat to American commerce, and it has been blocked.” I don’t know about the rest of America’s populace, but I go onto Youtube to watch videos, not to disrupt American commerce. And the potential outcomes of making piracy a felony are even worse. We’re going to end up flooding our already crowded prisons with thousands, perhaps millions of pirates, because let’s be honest: we all do it, and there’s no getting around that. It would be like prohibition all over again; things would only get worse.

The most prolific slap in the face is that this bill is entirely driven by the lobbyists. The Movie Industry, the Music Industry, almost every major league sport, Nike (I didn’t know shoe piracy was such a huge issue), and many more are bankrolling this bill, and you can bet that every representative backing this bill is going to leave a millionaire because of it, if they aren’t already.

Thankfully, there’s a lot of opposition to it already, as I mentioned previously. But every little bit helps. I’d end here with a quote from 1984, or perhaps V for Vendetta, but I don’t want to go to jail for infringing on a copyright. Because that sort of thing is just despicable.

...The Paradox of Politics from Page 2

It’s inevitable that people have different views and beliefs. (Interestingly, recent scientific research is suggesting that political preference may have to do with how our brains are wired.) But problems arise when we can’t move past our core dogmas. This is why we can’t get anything done in Congress: our congressmen and women cannot defy their parties’ respective platforms. The ideology is simple: the people voted for me so that will I lobby for [insert party name] legislation; otherwise, I will not be re-elected. Thus, even though a congressman may support the other side of an issue, he or she feels obligated to support the party. But this only creates congressional deadlock, and nothing gets done. Pure partisan politics is detrimental to our nation—just glance at a newspaper.

In 2012, we will see another election. I implore those of you who can vote: please move beyond party politics. Consider the issues and what the politicians truly stand for. Don’t vote for Mitt Romney because he is a Republican; don’t vote for Barack Obama because he is a Democrat. Vote for Romney because he espouses your beliefs; vote for Obama because he professes what you stand for. Now I know compromising is difficult. A strong-willed person like me has a hard time losing the reigns on his or her beliefs. But it’s time we think of what’s best for the nation. It begs the koan: can I sacrifice one of my pawns to the opposition for a better outcome in the end?
In My Khaki Pants

There has been a lot of hype over Govs’ last dance, the semi-formal. Announcement about the dance at morn-
throughout the crowd. All this excitement be even tradition, of the girls asking around the campus community; a prize or her date in the most creative way. Of in the students–
the asking began. All of the girls were whom they would ask and how they people acted fast before their planned
came up with was asking their dates in for example, asked Andres Saenz and templating for a while, the girls finally Lulu created a giant sign to give to the they that they had translated it into Span-
very appreciative and of course said invitations were more elaborate. Mollie
pretend it truly was at midnight the day aft er
in LA pepper sprayed others in order to get the items she wanted while shop-
ing at midnight. Of course, Black Friday issues haven’t suddenly appeared this
year. As I mentioned earlier, people have been trampled to death on Black Friday.

On this most recent Thanksgiving, my three cousins (Jared, Randy, and Erin) and I considered the possibility of going shopping that evening at midnight. Erin had her license, so she offered to drive us all to the nearest Target for our first Black Friday. No, we were not desperate for some great Black Friday deals, but we wanted to see how crazy it truly was at midnight the day after Thanksgiving. It took some convincing, but our parents agreed; at 11:15, we left the serenity of my aunt’s house for an
unknown adventure at Target.

Target opened at 12:00 AM on Black Friday, 2011. My cousins and I arrived twenty-five minutes beforehand to ensure a good parking place and to witness the rush of shoppers into the store. We achieved neither. When we arrived, cars were flowing in and out of the parking lot and every parking spot in view was taken. I had never seen so many people at one store, alone at 11:35 at night. We drove past the front of the store and down the side, grabbing one of the last available parking spots. Next, we marched through the cold to find the end of the infinite mass of eager shoppers. The line started at the door, hugged the side of the store, turned 90 degrees against the edge of the lot, turned once again into an alcove of parking spaces, turned back around and out, and followed the edge of the lot, ending close to its entrance. We finally made it to the end around 12:45 – now all we had to do was wait to get into the store.

The store opened immediately at 12:00 AM (we only knew because the line started moving further ahead). The store would only allow 100 customers in at once, just to avoid stampedes and death by trampling, which, depressingly, have occurred before on Black Friday. Who knew getting a deal was so important! Around 12:10, the first purchaser exited the store, accompanied by a huge television and the applause of everyone waiting in line. His car was in one of the first parking spaces near the store; how long he must have waited in line sickened me to think about.

By 12:20, we made it into the store. At first it seemed that not many people were inside, but we knew better. My cousins and I rushed to the back of the store towards the electronics department, discovering where the line of people had

Black Friday: Not Only a Day, But an Experience

PHOTO BY CAROLINE BAKER ’15

By 12:20, we made it into the store. At first it seemed that not many people were inside, but we knew better. My cousins and I rushed to the back of the store towards the electronics department, discovering where the line of people had ended up. Shopping carts clogged the pathways through the department, forcing my cousins and me to weave between them. Staying together was not an option – we lost each other with every turn of a corner. It turned out not only the first man to leave the store had bought at TV; it seemed as if everyone in line to check out had one in a shopping cart as well. An employee pushed a cart of cameras towards a shelf, but customers bombarded him before he could reach his destination. Every camera was taken in a matter of seconds, leaving those without one fighting with the more fortunate. So Black Friday shopping fights were real! Randy took plenty of pictures to prove it.

I do admit, there were plenty of great deals worth getting excited for. Erin bought 2 DVDs for $10, while Jared considered getting an X-Box for $130. Randy got a huge food processor for his mom for $50. I was completely unprepared and had no clue what I even needed to buy for Christmas gifts, so I purchased a mug as a souvenir. A night like this had to be remembered somehow.

But the next morning my mother told me about news she saw on TV; a woman in LA pepper sprayed others in order to get the items she wanted while shopping at midnight. Of course, Black Friday issues haven’t suddenly appeared this year. As I mentioned earlier, people have been trampled to death on Black Friday. It’s sad to think that customers are so focused on getting deals that they can’t stop for a fallen man. Black Friday has succeeded in maintaining a bad reputation this holiday season. We can only wonder what it will bring America in the future.
FACULTY SPOTLIGHT:

Ms. Benson

You may have seen my classes outside of Parsons learning Latin Dance through Zumba earlier this fall. That is what is great about Spanish. There is a lot of room to learn through fun.

TG: What is your favorite part of your classes? What is your favorite part of the Governor's community at large?

B: My favorite part of my classes is getting to know my students, and that is also my favorite part of the Govs community at large, along with getting to know the other faculty, staff, and their families. The community of Govs is near and dear to my heart, and I am so thrilled to get to know the community now while still maintaining my relationships with the community members who were at Govs when I was a student.

TG: Do you have any special talents?

B: I am really good at scooping ice cream.

TG: What was your favorite class in high school? (You cannot say Spanish.)

B: I am really good at scooping ice cream.

TG: If you could choose a different career, what would it be and why?

B: I would choose a career that allows me to help people in need in some way. I am lucky that I am still able to do this along with teaching, but if I didn't teach, I would focus more on providing services to impoverished and underprivileged people in this area or in other parts of the world (probably Spanish speaking).

TG: What are your goals for the rest of the year?

B: I hope to meet more students who aren't in my classes and get to know more of the Govs community. I'm also really excited to cheer on the Hockey teams and Basketball teams this winter and the Baseball and Softball teams this spring.

but those three still stand out to me as classes that I got really excited about and I still remember parts of those classes, including all of the lyrics to "We Didn't Start The Fire" which Mr. Perry taught us so that we could know the historic references of every line of the song.

TG: How do you spend your free time?

B: I spend a lot of my free time on Skype talking to my fiancé who is in the Dominican Republic. He should be moving here soon, though, so we won't have to talk on the computer. I also spend time working for community organizations and playing with my two dogs, Pepper and Maggie.

TG: What inspired your decision to become a Spanish teacher?

B: I teach Spanish I, Spanish II, and Spanish III. I try to keep my classes fun and interactive. Though there is a lot of material in the first years of learning Spanish, it can still be fun and interesting with games, moving around, throwing toys and other tools around the classroom, craft and artistic projects, and learning about culture through food, music, and dance.

CAMPUS SNAPSHOT

Semi-Formal Football Spirit
Mr. Mason Quick Facts

Where are you from? Salem, MA
Where did you go to high school? College? Pingree School, Bates College
Did you play any sports/were involved in any extracurricular activities during high school and/or college? I played soccer and lacrosse in high school, in college I just played lacrosse. I also hosted a weekly radio program and was the public address announcer for football and mens and womens' basketball
What brought to your new job at the Academy? The opportunity to join such a wonderful community and to help to try and ’tell the story’ in a new and creative ways.
What responsibilities does your job entail? I’m response for all the internal and external communications that come from the school. In addition to the Archon and the other printed materials, the Communications Office also oversees all the electronic communications. Generally trying to make sure the Academy is always putting its best foot forward!
What things about Govs have you found most interesting in your short time here? The traditions and history of the school. I knew the school was about to celebrate 250 years, but didn’t realize how unique and special the stories and characters are.
Do you have any pets? No yet, but hopefully a dog soon!
What is your favorite color? Green
Who is your favorite musician/band? Anberlin and the Dave Matthews Band
What is your favorite movie? Choc
If you wanted the Govs community to know one important thing about you, what would it be? Stop and introduce yourself, I’m still new and getting to know everyone!

Alfriddles

1. What can run but never walks, has a mouth but never talks, has a head but never weeps, has a bed but never sleeps?

2. A new man in town asks a friend how old her three daughters are. She replies ”the product of their ages is 36, and their ages add up to the first two digits of my license plate.” The man then says he doesn’t have enough info. The woman replies ”Oh, my oldest daughter loves ice cream.” How old are the girls?

3. Suppose you’re taking a multiple-choice quiz. One question has three choices. Not knowing the answer, you randomly guess A. The instructor then announces that C is incorrect. Should you switch to B before turning in your paper? Why?

Sources:
http://answers.yahoo.com/question/index?qid=20071227173723AAMkdwh
http://www.calpoly.edu/~mcarlton/riddles.html
http://armorgames.com/community/thread/1253784/more-impossible-riddles

Answers:
1) A River
2) 9,2,2
3) TYes, 2/3 chance of getting it right

Photo by Jean Bower ’13

Football Fans

Champions
As time goes on, the truth about Jerry Sandusky, as well as other child abuse cases, is being revealed. On Saturday, November 5th, 2011, the investigation of Sandusky as well as the involvement of many of his Penn State coworkers was made public. Four days later, legendary football coach Joe Paterno, as well as University president for finance and business (who was in charge of the university police), and Joe Paterno, Penn State Football coach since 1950, have all been charged with administrative leave, as of November 11.

As terrible as it was that Sandusky was abusing the boys, no one pursued stopping him. Tim Curley, the Penn State athletic director, Gary Schultz, senior vice president for finance and business (who was in charge of the university police), and Joe Paterno, Penn State Football coach since 1950, have all been charged with hiding abuse allegations, and have either been put on administrative leave, or have been terminated from the institution. Mike McQueary was the graduate assistant in 2002 who reported an incident he witnessed involving Sandusky and a young boy in a Penn State locker room to Paterno. After realizing that Paterno and his superiors were not acting with the information they were given, he reports that he went to the police, but authorities disagree with his claim. McQueary is also on administrative leave, as of November 11.

Recently, another suit has been filed and made against Sandusky, saying that he “threatened to harm [the] Plaintiff’s family if Plaintiff told anyone about the abuse.” The lawsuit also states that the Plaintiff was unaware that others had been harmed by Sandusky, and he decided to take action only recently because of the other stories that were becoming public. This is the first of what people think will be many lawsuits against Sandusky.

Directly north of Pennsylvania in the state of New York, Syracuse University has been forced to handle a version of Sandusky’s abuse scandal. But instead of a football coach being accused, it is basketball assistant coach Bernie Fine. ESPN was informed sometime in mid-November that Fine had been continually molesting two former ball boys from 1984 to about 2000. Bobby Davis, one of the ball boys who worked at Syracuse for six years, said that the sexual abuse took place in Fine’s home, at Syracuse’s basketball facilities, as well as on road trips with the team. The other victim was Davis’ stepbrother, Mike Lang. Fine, who was fired on November 27th, said that the accusations were “patently false.” Head Basketball coach, Jim Boeheim’s job is still in question at this point. He has denied that he had any knowledge of what his assistant coach had done, and the University is still investigating as to whether he is telling the truth.

As time goes on, more and more sexual abuse scandals will reveal themselves. Although coaches like Sandusky and Paterno as well as Fine and Boeheim, have made their programs significantly stronger and will never be forgotten at their institutions, their involvement in the scandals have tainted their careers. Hopefully these stories have taught Colleges and Universities throughout the country a lesson to tighten the reign on their coaches and staff, and will prevent sexual abuse from happening in these situations.

Sources:
Thinking Outside The Box

If you asked someone how many dimensions we live in, their answer would most likely be three. We actually live, however, in the fourth dimension. You may ask, “Well what is the fourth dimension then?” The fourth dimension is time and, most likely be three. We actually live, however, in the fourth dimension. You may not move out of the paper. This is where the third dimension comes in. It can be created by drawing a line at a right angle to the second dimensional plane to a point not in the plane. The third dimension consists of length, width, and depth. This is what everyone is familiar with. If you were traveling in the third dimension then you could move up and down, left and right, and out and back. A crucial piece to understanding the higher dimensions is imagining the third dimension in another way. Imagine a stack of paper. It has length, width, and depth, so it lies in the third dimension. We can imagine each piece of paper as having only length and width, but no depth, so they would lie in the second dimension. If someone was traveling on a piece of paper (in the second dimension), they could do something that would seem strange: They could be at one point and then all of a sudden jump to another, perhaps on another piece of paper. How is this possible? They traveled through the dimension above them, the third dimension. They folded the second dimension through the third to travel along the depth line, but this does not exist in the second dimension so it is why it would appear as though they had jumped from one point to another. This is how we can understand the fourth dimension, time. We can imagine the third dimension as a point in the fourth dimension. Now we can imagine a second point. If we connect these two points with a line, then we have created the fourth dimension. We can now travel through time along an infinite number of points, which each representing a different third dimensional plane. We now have a timeline, perhaps of someone’s life. If viewed in the fourth dimension, you would see a long, outstretched, snake-like figure. One end would be an infant and the other a corpse. We do not see this because we are at a single point in time at once and cannot view all of it at the same time. Some scientists argue that time is not the fourth dimension, but in order for the others to be stable it has to be. This leads me to the fifth dimension. To create the fifth dimension, we can do something similar to creating the second. We can imagine another point in time that’s not on the line and connect it to the line with yet another line. Our timeline now has a branch coming off of it, which represents a possible path in time. To create the sixth dimension, we imagine a point in another plane and connect it to the existing plane with a line at a right angle. Or we could simply take the fifth dimension and fold it to get the sixth. What we would be doing is jumping from a timeline with infinite possibilities to an entirely different timeline with different possibilities, none of which can exist in the original timeline. To imagine the seventh dimension we must treat the sixth dimension as a point. This means that all of the possible paths are linked to all of the possible outcomes, a concept which we call infinity. Yes, we must treat infinity as a single point. Now, to create the seventh dimension,

‘Tis The Season To Be Fashionable

Fa la la, it’s that time of year again! And although the snow isn’t here yet, the stores are already filling their windows with holiday displays. Lights, ornaments, and decorations line the doors and shelves, inviting you to shop till you drop. But before you become broke from spending all your money on presents galore, give a little gift to yourself and outfit your closet with the latest holiday fashions. Clueless as to what they are? Don’t worry, here’s your guide to your season of celebration couture.

Upfront, let’s throw out those god-awful cheesy holiday sweaters that are lingering in the dark abyss of your closet. Those are solely made for our loving grandparents who are cute enough in their old age to wear them, but even in those instances do I feel bad for their failing sense of fashion. So in replacement of those outdated sweaters, swap them in for oversized sophisticated neutral ones that flatter your figure. Paired with leggings and boots, you’ll have a casual yet cute outfit to impress the relatives who always exclaim, “Oh my! Look how much you’ve grown!”

For the occasions that don’t involve reuniting with your dear old Uncle Bernard, but instead bringing in the New Year, try jazzying your attire up with a little sparkle. Now I’m sure you’ve seen many mannequins sporting the full throttle sequin outfits… and while those might work in some instances, if you add a little spray tan and the poof, you’ll be “Snooki-fied” in a heartbeat. So pull off the look with simplicity by pairing your sparkle item with bold neutrals such as black or nude. A sequin dress with black tights and nude pumps will make you the center of attention, and in a good way.

To top off your holiday look, whether casual or glam, the winter season calls for accessories. Scarves are always the perfect go-to accessory to complete your outfit when in a rush, because no matter what, they always add polish, and you can take my word on that. If you want to spice your outfit up just a little bit, a statement necklace is always a great accessory to do the job. Now although the name, “statement”, might seem intimidating, don’t be scared, and take the risk. One kind of statement necklace is a bib necklace. First off, they aren’t napkins, as some of you might’ve assumed, but instead a cluster of beads and jewels that will make people’s mouths drop in awe as you saunter by. And hopefully with all these new fashion tricks you now have up your sleeve, you’ll have more than one mouth hit the floor this holiday season.

Molly & Lindsey’s Music Mashups

Hey Govs! Next week is exams, and we know everyone is pretty nervous… at least we definitely are. But nothing is better than a good music playlist to brighten up your day and help you study! Here are some of our favs this month, we hope you love them as much as we do! (Maybe they’ll help you with getting that A+)

Gifted (Masuka Remix) - N.A.S.A ft. Kanye West, Santigold, and Lykke Li
The Ice Is Getting Thinner - Death Cab For Cutie
Missed Calls - Mac Miller
Junk of the Heart (Happy) - The Kooks
Changing - The Airborne Toxic Event
The Techno Fan - The Wombats
Cough Syrup - Young Th e Giant
Sleigh Bells - Rill Rill Stay Over - The Recreuses
Low Budget Slow Motion Soundtrack - Song For The Leaving
Scene - Carissa’s Weird

...Continued on Page 10
Kasey’s Korner

“Heroes get remembered but legends never die, follow your heart, kid, and you’ll never go wrong.”

Whether you’re a linebacker for the undefeated 2011 Governor’s Varsity Football Team, a power forward for the Boston Celtics, or just happened to be in love with Tim Thomas, there is no argument that baseball is America’s favorite pastime. Now, it doesn’t have to be your favorite sport but when it comes to films set on the diamond, no movie on Earth comes close to “The Sandlot”. When the new kid in town (Scotty Smalls) befriends a baseball obsessed modern-day role model (Benny “The Jet” Rodriguez), he finds himself playing the outfield with a group of local kids on a field known as the Sandlot. He gets the entire team into the biggest pickle of all-time when he homers his step-father’s Babe Ruth autographed baseball into the backyard of a man named Mr. Myrtle (the meanest old man that ever lived), who owns a creature referred to only as “THE BEAST”. With a squad of guys that strike at the heart and names you’ll never forget including, Hamilton “Ham” Porter, Michael “Squints” Palledorous, Alan “Yeah-Yeah” McClennan, Timmy and Tommy Timmins, and others, you’ll be itching to grab a glove and play the annual night game with the boys on the Fourth of July. Along their way to retrieving the ball signed by The Babe himself, the team squares up against its inner-city rival The Eagles, Squints tries to woo his soul-mate Wendy Peffercorn at the public pool, and Benny has a miraculous vision after receiving an omen at the Sandlot when he busts the guts out of a baseball. This never-want-to-grow-up feel-good comedy is not only my Number 1 favorite movie ever, but it captivates the true essence of what it’s like to be a kid. This is definitely a movie for all ages of people and one that will always be highly-regarded in the baseball community. It’s a classic story that teaches you to, as my dad says, always act like Benny and also comically portrays the wild nature referred to only as “THE BEAST”. With a squad of guys that strike at the heart and names you’ll never forget including, Hamilton “Ham” Porter, Michael “Squints” Palledorous, Alan “Yeah-Yeah” McClennan, Timmy and Tommy Timmins, and others, you’ll be itching to grab a glove and play the annual night game with the boys on the Fourth of July. Along their way to retrieving the ball signed by The Babe himself, the team squares up against its inner-city rival The Eagles, Squints tries to woo his soul-mate Wendy Peffercorn at the public pool, and Benny has a miraculous vision after receiving an omen at the Sandlot when he busts the guts out of a baseball. This never-want-to-grow-up feel-good comedy is not only my Number 1 favorite movie ever, but it captivates the true essence of what it’s like to be a kid. This is definitely a movie for all ages of people and one that will always be highly-regarded in the baseball community. It’s a classic story that teaches you to, as my dad says, always act like Benny and also comically portrays the wild imagination of a bunch of kids in a tree house. Lastly, every time you’re sitting around a fire or a candle making s’mores, I guarantee you’ll stop, laugh, and say to yourself, “You’re killing me Smalls!”

Hailing Hugo

Within the very first two seconds of this movie, I gasped in amazement. Martin Scorsese’s imagination brought Paris of the 1930s to life. The plot focuses on a twelve-year-old orphaned boy played by Asa Butterfield who, to the chagrin of the strict station inspector, lives in the walls of the Paris train station. Unbeknownst to the station inspector, Hugo is winding all the clocks in the station and is vital in keeping the gears of the station running smoothly; however, Hugo ended up in the walls of the station through a series of unfortunate events. He once lived with his father, a clock maker. After his father was killed in a fire, Hugo was left in the care of his drunkard uncle with only a half-fixed mysterious automation for companionship. Luckily he befriends Isabelle, whose adopted father, George Méliès, is somehow caught up in the automation mystery. As these two continue to investigate the connection between Hugo’s last remaining piece of this father and Monsieur Méliès, their friendship blossoms, and side stories woven into the plot also develop. Scorsese emphasizes the history of movies, and salutes those who began this billion dollar entertainment industry.

This movie is proof of just how far the movie industry and our use of technology in the movies have come. It is normally my policy to read the book before seeing the movie; however, after my aunt insisted that Hugo was a movie I couldn’t miss while it was on the big screen, I relented. After a mesmerizing two hours of Hugo, I was glad I took her advice. She was right: only the big screen could do the intricacies and details of this movie justice. Hugo is enchanting and charming, with just enough magic to bring the story alive.

I will personally purchase any 3 snack items from either the Bookstore or the Grille for the first member of the community who can email me the correct answers to these questions:

1. What name do the boys give to “THE BEAST” at the end of the movie?
2. What is the name of the shoes that are guaranteed to “make a kid run faster and jump higher”?
3. In the future, what name does Hamilton Porter give himself when he becomes a professional wrestler?

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we must imagine another point and connect them with a line. How is this possible—how can there be more than infinity? There can be an entire different infinity, which means an entire different universe. If you were to travel along a line in the seventh dimension you would be traveling between universes. To imagine the eighth dimension, we do what we did before: imagine another point not on the line and connect it to the line with yet another line. To get the ninth dimension, we fold the eighth dimension. To get the tenth dimension, we must imagine the ninth dimension as a point and connect it to another point, but that is not possible. A point in the tenth dimension is all the possible timelines linked to all the possible outcomes of all the possible universes. It is essentially infinite infinities in a single point which is everything. You may ask “well isn’t that just infinity like the ones before it?” Well no. Think of it this way: There is an infinite amount of numbers between zero and one. There is also an infinite amount of numbers between two and three. These are both infinities yet they are completely different from each other. So the tenth dimension is all of the possible infinities in infinite universes as a single point. How can there be an eleventh dimension then? There may not be.

Many scientists believe that there are only ten dimensions. However, there are some, eleven dimension-
State of the Game

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The Man Who Said: Alors, On Danse

In the 21st century, technological advancements allow music to be shared across the world. This makes it easier for popular local musicians to be heard in all different countries. Many of these world-renowned artists have been American, yet other foreign musicians have been making their mark. Paul Van Haver, a musician from Brussels, has been growing in popularity since 2010. Currently known as Stromae, Van Haver's single, Alors on Danse, (French for So Let's Dance) reached number one in Belgium in just a couple weeks.

**English Premier League:**

After a disappointing performance last week against Newcastle United, earning only a 1-1 draw as heavy favorites, Manchester United rebounded this week with a lone goal from Phil Jones, the 19-year-old phenom defender. They now trail league-leading Manchester City by 5 points, both with 14 games played.

Steven Fletcher netted a brace for the Wolverhampton Wolves as they came from behind against Sunderland, whose missed penalty proved to be a game changer as the Wolves turned the game around to a solid 2-1 result. Coach Martin O'Neill will be disappointed with the his team's effort, having joined Sunderland as manager just before the match, and will certainly hope to turn around Sunderland's five-game slide.

The visiting Stoke City defeated Everton at Goodison Park in a close 1-0 match. Robert Huth's deflection from Dean Whitehead's shot put the away team up for the game. Stoke find themselves climbing the table, now placing at 8th in the league while Everton slipped to 10th.

Manchester City cruised to a comfortable home 5-1 victory over former second-tier team Norwich with different players scoring each of the five goals. They remain first in the league with 38 points, 5 ahead of rivals Manchester United.

West Bromwich Albion drew at promoted team Queens Park Rangers to earn both teams one point. Heidar Helguson scored first for QPR, but Shane Long equalized in the 81st minute to finish the match 1-1.

Tottenham Hotspur extended their incredible 11-game undefeated streak as they continue their surge to the top of the table, now in 3rd place. The Spurs dominated at home against Bolton, with Gareth Bale, Aaron Lennon, and Jermain Defoe all scoring to give Tottenham the 3-0 win.

Arsenal slammed Wigan 4-0 on the road Saturday, demonstrating their improving form since their catastrophic performance early in the season. Gervinho and van Persie were the two strikers scoring for the Gunners as they manage a 5th place in the Premier League while Wigan flounders at dead last.

...Continued on Page 13
Around Thanksgiving we all hear the same question we’ve been hearing since the first grade, “What are you most thankful for?” Honestly, I hate answering that question because I always feel like I’ll answer incorrectly. I don’t want people to judge me for what I say. Sure, our school has a great community ethic, but that doesn’t mean there isn’t silent judgment in the back of everyone’s minds. It’s hard to know when it’s appropriate to say something, but “thank you” is just one of those phrases that never gets old.

Most people I know would say that they are most thankful for their “family and friends”, but why? “Because they love me and take care of me,” is what one of my friends from home said. That seems like a pretty good reason if you ask me. Your family should love you; it is part of their job description. But think about kids that don’t have that kind of relationship with their parents or siblings or anyone in their family. We don’t know until we get to know them better. I know that for me, if I need advice, I will ask my friends, not my mom; to me it’s just a foreign thing.

Instead of saying “family and friends”, I’m one of those people that will say “friends and family”. I have always looked at my friends as a priority and now, living with them, they’re the first thing I see everyday and the last thing I end my day with. I love them. I think it is very important to have close friends that you can tell anything to without the worry of false confidentiality. My friends are the ones I can rely on more often now than ever because of how close we are forced to be. I am grateful for all they manage to do: cope with me, do work and afternoon activities and somehow manage not to fail classes. I admire them.

Sometimes it’s just hard to show appreciation for someone. Maybe it’s just an awkward thing for you… I understand. But saying, “thank you” to someone is one of the nicest things you can do. Not “thanks”, but “thank YOU for all YOU’VE done”. Make that person’s day brighter.

Thanksgiving Day is a time for you to acknowledge whomever you’re thankful for personally. There is no point in being grateful if you don’t show your appreciation! Take the time today, it doesn’t matter if Thanksgiving is past, tell someone they make your life so much easier, that you appreciate what they do. Tell someone exactly how much you love them. Find a way to express what they mean to you. Find a way to make Thanksgiving everyday because there’s nothing wrong with saying “thank you” every once in a while.

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**Thankful**

HANSIKA VIJAYARAGHAVAN

**So Those Tests...**

HANSIKA VIJAYARAGHAVAN

Teachers are bringing out study guides. Students are beginning to worry. Memories of that first month of classes are refusing to come to our minds. Face it: Finals week is here, and it’s time to get prepared for it. Whether you’re already making outlines or reading this and realizing just now that you have finals, everyone could use a little help studying.

The first thing most people do is make outlines. Some teachers actually make a brief outline of what topics will be on the final. A good idea is to go over it and just jot down important notes from those topics to get your brain refreshed. Then you can start working on sections that you had trouble with. For vocabulary words, most people recommended putting the words into Quizlet. It’s a great way to recall words that you haven’t seen in a while and brings them back to the front of your mind.

During finals week, all teachers have review sessions the day before the final. At review sessions, teachers answer questions and give you tips about your final. The most important thing about the review sessions: They are a time to come with specific questions, not a time to get lessons. “Go to every review session you can and come with specific questions. It’s vital that you have questions because the review sessions are normally packed with a lot of people and you get lost in the crowd,” Says junior Conor O’Dea. The review sessions are a great way for the day before finals as a chance to touch up on last-minute details you might have missed if you missed class or just having trouble with something.

There are a lot of subject-specific tips on studying. For math, go over some problems you struggled with on homework or on tests. Chances are, they’ll be on the test, so going over them and working through them will greatly help you. English and history exams typically have a lot of writing on them. O’Dea advises, “You have to be able to write a lot of different things. History writing and English writings are different so if you need a little work go to Mr. Quigley.” The writing lab is a great place to get essay help if you could use a little help in that area. For language, the best bet is making vocabulary flashcards/Quizlet.

Studying rituals anyone? Some people have some pretty strange finals study rituals but hey, if it works, go on.

1. Sleeping with your textbook – not many people like to admit doing it but no harm done trying
2. Doing yoga – yoga helps relax the body and mind and helps focus
3. Using a different pencil for each exam – the math pencil for the math exam, the English pencil for the English exam, etc.
4. Reading out loud the outline/study guide – some people are listeners and sometimes reading out loud can help implant information into your mind
5. Listening to Celine Dion – no comment
6. Studying in groups – just make sure you are with people with whom you’ll actually get some studying done
7. Eating specific foods – some foods actually make you “smarter” and help your brain like blueberries, salmon, spinach, hot cocoa, nuts, and even garlic
8. Getting a good night’s sleep – you need to be well-rested before a mentally draining test
9. Sitting in exotic locations and study – I don’t believe the library counts as an exotic location
10. Wear warm clothes– the fieldhouse gets a little drafty
"You guys should really think about starting Christmas lists," Mom was saying. "It’s getting to be that time of year again when people—"

"I’ve already started my letter to Santa," my sister Rose interrupted. "I’m going to put it on my window-facing-out-so-he-can see it."

Although there was a sense of sureness in her voice, the sharp edge of doubt that pierced her tone did not escape me. An awkward silence settled heavily upon the dining room.

"Er, that’s a great idea, Rose," Mom said finally just as Rose announced, "I’m going to finish it right now" and scampered upstairs to her room.

As soon as she left, Mom and I exchanged a glance and in that instant I knew we were both thinking the same thing: How much longer would Rose believe in Santa Claus? Rose had just turned 10 and was the first to say that she wasn’t a little kid anymore. Was Santa already a silly belief little kids clung to for a mere relic of childhood?

I thought back to the time when Mom told me Santa wasn’t real. I remembered being utterly nonplussed. For some time I had doubted Santa’s existence. It was awfully hard to believe that one big chubby dude dressed in a red suit could be working a sleigh, pulled by nine flying reindeer (one of whom had a glowing red nose), carrying presents for all the kids in the world landed on our roof every year.

But then I remembered the time when I was about four years old. My brother and I had gone to bed after going through all the motions of Christmas Eve. We’d sprinkled reindeer oats on the snow, we’d left carrots out with Santa’s cookies and beer (my parents always insisted Santa preferred a nice Bud Light to wash down his cookies with), and we’d admonished our Jack Russell, Chester, from biting Santa’s wooden backbone. We’d even managed to fall asleep; despite being one thousand percent sure our Christmas excitement would keep us up until morning. Even so, I still woke up in the middle of the night. Flutteries of snow swept past the window, sparkling in the dim light cast by the streetlamps. I huddled sleepily under my covers. Then I heard it: the gentle ringing of jingle bells.

Looking back, I still can’t say for sure where the jingling nose came from. It could have been a neighbor’s keys as he got into his car. Chester’s collar as he moved downstairs, or just a stray bell being blown across the street. But I believe that believing is seeing, or, in this case, hearing. For all its unlikelihoods, my four-year-old self was sure that a jolly old man in a red suit was going to land on our roof in a sleigh drawn by nine flying reindeer—one of which would have a glowing red nose. And so, on Christmas Eve, I heard them.

It may be too late for me, but this Christmas Eve, if Rose really believes in Santa she’ll believe those same bells. And she too will know that high above her, nine reindeer and one red-suited man, will be flying through snow and sleet across the globe to deliver presents to every good boy and girl in the world. She’ll wake up Christmas morning and unwrap her presents, pulling out toys and clothes. She’ll rush to Mom and Dad, not to thank them but to show them Santa’s generosity. Only then will she look at the empty plate of cookies, and silently thank jelly old St. Nick, telling him to hurry back next year. This, I don’t believe. But this, Rose will believe.

So much for Man U avoiding Madrid! Manchester will have to fight hard against Basel, which should produce an entertaining game. Who would have foreseen that Man U would struggle to progress from such a seemingly easy group?

Spanish first-place team Real Madrid has won Group D with 15 points so far. The next contests will determine whether Ajax or Olympique Lyon will proceed as the second place team—Lyon will need some luck on their side.

Bayer Leverkusen should be on track to progress as Group E winners as they face off against the Belgian team Racing Genk. Chelsea and Valencia will square away at Stamford Bridge, where Chelsea need a win to advance. The Chelsea—Valencia game should be promising, too.

Arsenal have silenced hometown critics with their superb play in the Champions League so far—they have solidly won Group F, and Marseille look poised to claim 2nd place over Olympiakos FC and Borussia Dortmund, who have had a rather disappointing European run this season.

Cypriot (yes, that’s the adjective for Cyprus!) team APOEL has shocked by securing a definite advance to the knockout rounds. Portuguese powerhouse Porto will need a win against Zenit St. Petersburg to advance, while fellow Russian team Shakhtar Donetsk are out at the bottom of Group G.

The results of Group H have already been set in stone—Barcelona progress in first place, while Milan move on in second. Czech team FC Viktoria Plzen and Belarussian squad FC BATE Borisov are both out.

Euro 2012: The groups for the Euro 2012 have been drawn! Here are the results:

Group A: Poland, Greece, Czech Republic, Russia
Group B: Netherlands, Denmark, Germany, Portugal
Group C: Spain, Italy, Republic of Ireland, Croatia
Group D: Ukraine, Sweden, France, England

Group A looks by far the easiest group, with Group B being this year’s “Group of Death.” Though it may be a bit early to predict, here are my picks:

Russia wins Group A, Greece second (A1, A2)
Germany tops Group B, Netherlands second (B1, B2)
Spain wins Group C, Italy second (C1, C2)
England tops Group D, France second (D1, D2)

Major League Soccer: Well, the season’s over here in the States—Donovan clinched the 1-0 victory for the LA Galaxy over Houston Dynamo with Robbie Keane and David Beckham assisting—what a great end of the season by all three big name players! David Beckham is likely to end his MLS career by transferring to Paris Saint-Germain during the January transfer season, when his contract ends. His five-year legacy will remain as the pioneer of European star transfers to America. As elite MLS and US internationals train with European teams on loan this winter, many top stars from the other side of the Atlantic are considering closing out their careers in America. Big names such as Thierry Henry and Robbie Keane have already completed moves to the MLS since Becks came, and now German great Michael Ballack and Ivoirian gem Didier Drogba are both considering MLS as a possible future option. Many suspect Nicolas Anelka, Drogba’s fellow hitman at Chelsea, of striking a deal with the new expansion team Montreal Impact to move to the fl eegling club in January. Though these international powerhouse are mostly in the later years of their careers, their consideration of MLS as career choices shows the improvement in the quality of MLS as a league, and as the league continues to grow and flourish, it will yet attract more great players to help it do the same. What an exciting time for US Soccer!

Sources:
http://www.goal.com
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Christmas Cheer

It was a month before Christmas when all through the house, not a creature was stirring not even a mouse. I hid in my mom’s dark closet while playing hide & seek, when something pointy poked me on the side of my cheek. I flipped on the light and what did I see? Mountains of piles of presents gleaming at me. There were big presents and small presents, all wrapped with care, yet all the tags said “From Santa” making me cry in despair.

I began to love the season of Christmas when I was small, although I cannot pinpoint the exact moment at all. I spend my days baking sugar cookies and pie, while crystallized water droplets drift down from the sky. My nights are spent watching some sort of Christmas show, while sipping hot chocolate and watching the fire glow.

I love the aroma of pine trees and the sight of dazzling lights because it makes up for the short chilly days and dark frigid nights. Yet this particular year I did not want Christmas to come, so I sat around my house irritated and glum.

I cried days on end when I found out Santa wasn’t real, my mom told me I was immature and it really was not a big deal. I was livid with anger and could not think straight, my heart was rather empty yet it was full of hate. I felt stupid for believing that in one night some big old fat man was capable of delivering presents from here to Japan.

I was also drowning in sorrow, with tears streaming down my face because I couldn’t imagine Christmas without the North Pole as a real place. I did not want to fight for something that was not true, I had lost interest in the holiday and felt the urge to eschew.

I had turned into the mean, old, nasty Grinch, and would not give Christmas spirit the slightest bit of an inch.

I had no Christmas spirit, I am sad to say, for I would never want anyone to see me that way. I didn’t watch any movies, or hang the lights on the tree or even bake any cookies because I just didn’t have it in me.

I sat in my room, like the Grinch in his lair, trying to ignore the season of Christmas because I just didn’t care. That’s when the music I did begin to hear; at first it was quiet but then it was loud and clear.

I listened for a while thinking what to do, and that’s when I remembered little blonde-haired Cindy-Lou Who. Cindy was small but she never lost hope she believed in Christmas always unlike me who sat around and moped.

I began to sing along to Jingle-Bell-Rock. I’m almost positive my voice was heard around my block.

I raced down the stairs full of delight, I was ready to give Christmas a cordial invite. I hung up some ornaments and fastened some lights, I dazzled decorations up and made my house look bright.

I didn’t care that Old St. Nick wasn’t real, because I figured out Christmas is a much bigger deal. It doesn’t matter about the presents, the lights, the toys or the food, Christmas is about family, friends and being in a loving, generous mood.

Christmas is not about the presents we receive, it’s about love, joy and family, this I believe.
Shutterbug:
Featuring Alex Curran-Cardarelli
**THE GOVERNOR**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY IN DECEMBER!**

**SENIORS**
- Rachel Cabitt          12/3/93
- Nicolas Lopez         12/8/92
- Kelsey Dureyee        12/9/93
- Dylan Hardy           12/21/93
- Charlie O’Connor      12/24/92
- Shane Dalton          12/30/92

**JUNIORS**
- Mollie Henry          12/4/94
- Matthew DiFronzo      12/6/94
- Vincent Yan           12/9/94
- Mei Li Johnson        12/13/94
- Jaina Buggs           12/26/94
- Jean Bower            12/28/94
- Jung Kyun Chai        12/28/94

**SOPHOMORES**
- Jackie Ham            12/3/95
- Kendall Ham           12/3/95
- James Leary           12/8/95
- Connor Black          12/16/95
- Tianyi Huang          12/18/95
- Erin McDavitt         12/19/95
- Nick Nonis            12/19/95
- Diesusica Dieujuste   12/24/93
- Michelle Alonardo     12/25/95

**FRESHMEN**
- Lisle Townsend        12/2/96
- Katelyn Sommers       12/12/96
- Mclean Sherrin        12/13/96
- Garth Robinson        12/19/96
- Alysha Robitaille     12/24/96
- Dongni Shi            12/26/95
- Brandon Lopez         12/27/96

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**POLL RESULTS**

**What percentage of the assigned reading do you actually do?**

[Diagram showing poll results]

**Quotation of the Issue**

I will not be labeled as average.

~Rachel Joy Scott~