

The Barron Perspective

APRIL 2009

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“How to...” Succeeds in Making Audiences Laugh Out Loud!

By: Andrew Shapiro

On Thursday, March 19, the WHS senior class presented their annual musical, *How to Succeed in Business without Really Trying*. The production was directed by Mr. Lynch, who was assisted by Mr. Terrell. The play was a riotous success, as the entire audience was rolling in the aisles. I myself was joining in all the laughter, chuckling especially hard at Benjamin Burton Daniel Ovington’s (played by Russ Dolan) ridiculous handshake, where he stood on one leg like a flamingo. The entire cast did an amazing job, and I applaud them.

For those who were not fortunate enough to see the play, *H2\$* is about a young window washer named J. Pierpont Finch (played by Brandon Grispart), who finds the book for which the play is titled.

Upon entering the world of corporate finance, Finch meets the lovely Rosemary Pilkington, played by Rebecca Rajadnya. Finch slowly but surely climbs the corporate ladder of *Worldwide Wickets*, from the mail room, to head of the mail room, to junior executive. Eventually, Finch lands himself the position of Head of Advertising, a title that comes with a lot of responsibility. However, at the board meeting, Finch does not disappoint, presenting the idea of “The Worldwide Wicket Treasure Hunt”. Along the way, there are love triangles, breakups and make-ups, and a boss with a big secret.

The play featured a lot of actors and actresses returning to the WHS stage, including Allie Tuminnia, the female lead in last year’s production, *Little Shop of Horrors*, as Smitty, the underappreciated secretary to Mr. Bratt (Adam Korner),

and Charles Kreisel (Orin the dentist in *Little Shop*) as J.B. Biggley, head of *Worldwide Wickets*. The play went longer than most high school productions that I was used to, with a 7:30 pm start and an 11:00 pm ending, but it was well worth the time to see it. If you were not able to attend, my advice is to rent the movie or buy the book, but know that you missed out on tremendous acting by the very best WHS has to offer. (see page 2 for more on *H2\$*.)



(above) Adam Korner, “Mr. Bratt”



(above) Charles Kreisel, “J.B. Biggley”



(left) Brandon Grispart, “Finch”



(right) Rebecca Rajadnya, “Rosemary”



(left) Russ Dolan, “Benjamin”



(above) Allie Tuminnia, “Smitty”

WHS Talent Show

By: Stephanie Barrios

On Friday April 3rd Woodbridge High School held the third annual talent show. Behind the scenes were Ms. Washington and the Freshman Mentors getting everything together. The work consisted of several different try outs, meetings, constructing posters and advertising the show itself.

There were musicians, dance crews, singers, traditional dancing and all different kinds of music. The judges (Mr. Bunch, Ms. Neidhardt and Mr. Lynch) critiqued all the performances; the awards ranged from best singer, best dance group, best musician and the principal’s award, chosen by Mr. Warren himself. Thank you to all that came out and supported our performers and our Freshman Mentor Program!



H2\$: Behind the Scenes!

By: Samantha Grimaldi

This year's senior play, *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* (see story, page 1) directed by Mr. Lynch, was enjoyed by its audiences from opening to closing night. The lead in the play, Brandon Grispart, has described all the "chaos and nervous tension" behind the scenes. So we asked the question: "What was it like backstage?"

Brandon Grispart "Finch":

"It's really chaotic, you have people running to get make up, running to get costumes, and running to do scenery changes. But, it's silent chaos.

It's a lot of fun- a lot of games, and a lot of pranks. Characters waiting in the wings for their entrances make funny faces at us on stage. On stage, people purposely forget their lines to see each others' reactions."

Russell Dolan "Ovington":

"Kind of hectic. You couldn't tell who people were because of make-up. Everyone's really nice. Everyone helps everyone out and tells everyone when scenes are coming up and to help find props. Everyone keeps everyone entertained. It was my first and last play. It made me wish I'd done it prior years. I met a lot of cool people."

Anthony Competello "Twimble":

"It was depending on the scene whether it would be chaotic or relaxed backstage ..."

Matthew Aube "Jenkins":

"To me, honestly it was just one big party backstage- a lot of fun, a lot of pranks, and a lot of V8's, especially [for] Russ Dolan."



Student Editorial: No More Homeroom

By: Chelsea Torres

The future of homeroom was easily shaken when it was relocated to between first and second block. Alas, this beautiful time, the only time that will allow you to catch up with friends (or sleep) is now going on the list of extinction next to the dodo bird and the dinosaurs. Many who are reading this are probably waiting for the article to say, "Gotcha! It's only temporary!" However, it appears to be a permanent move.

Why is this happening? The staff of WHS felt as though homeroom was less important than more time in classes. Homeroom was not productive, they thought, but more time with you academic teachers could be. The only work being done in homeroom was the daily gossip, the extra few minutes of sleep, and the destruction of some of the room's posters and projects. So this questioned was raised: why should we have a time where students are not active?

From a student's perspective, homeroom could be used to catch up with friends, listen to the announcements and receive paperwork. Some students used this time to complete homework they did not get a chance to do (not that I'm condoning it...). Most of my friends miss the time that we had in homeroom. Many students are wondering if the school day flows more smoothly without that 18 minute window or if we may soon see the return of homeroom.

Interview with Miss Rizzolo

By: Sandy Ibrahim

What is your birthday?

December 3, 1966

What is your favorite movie? Why?

"The Wizard of Oz." I like the music and how it went from black and white to Technicolor.



Who is your favorite musical artist? Why?

I love Billy Joel. I just

like his music.

What do you like most about your job?

Working with young people. It keeps me feeling young.

What is one word you'd use to describe yourself?

Shy. I am usually quiet and shy until I get to know people.

What do you like to do when you're not teaching?

Playing the piano and jogging. Oh and playing with my children is most important.

What are your favorite foods?

Chocolate, lasagna and cannoli.

What annoys you most about people?

When they complain about everything.

What do you most love about your life?

My husband, children and family.

What would you be doing if you were not a teacher? A concert pianist.

What were you like as a student?

I never got in trouble in school.

(Above: Ms. Rizzolo, a WHS World Language teacher.)

National Honors Society Inducts 59 New Members

By: Andrew Shapiro

On Wednesday, April 22, the National Honors Society inducted 59 new members consisting of Woodbridge High School juniors and seniors. All of the inductees have demonstrated excellence in leadership, scholarship, character, and service areas. The students all were required to maintain a 3.5 GPA, as well as be a part of at least six extra-curricular activities for juniors; eight for activities seniors. The inductees also had to get signatures from ten of their past teachers, with six yes votes allowing them in.

The proud inductees were: Hailey Almodovar, Samantha Barry, Isabella Briones, Kelly Burns, Danielle Byam, Kristin Constantino, Christian

Corro, Kathleen Cruz, Breanne DeMild, Robin Del Rosario, Dan Deverin, Ankit Dhir, Heather Dios, Samantha Freeman, Colleen Frees, Megan Giles, Robert Gluck, Karol Gomez, Will Griffin, Vanessa Haliotis, Tomika Hendricks, Zach Hopf, Jessica Hughes, Maya Idrovo, Stacey Jakovinich, Peter



Jacovinich, Princy John, Nicole Kauffman, Alyssa Kemper, Amerinder Khatra, Charles Kreisel, Amy Krysienski, Melissa Liquori,

Marinelly Mantilla, Stacie Matos, Samantha Milak, Dorellie Owusu, Megan Peterson, Dan Petro, Angela Polites, Marcel Powers, Michelle Raranta, Veronica Raymundo, Morgan

Reinhart, Morgan Rhodes, Robert Rivera, Katherine Rodrigues, Matt Romanella, Samantha Sarno, Eric Schwab, Alex Schriecks, Andrew Shapiro, Carissa Sherry, Lovedeep Singh, Victoria Steele, Kristin Sutphen, Brianne Triano, Alexandra Tumminia, and Yesenia Vicente.

The ceremony began with a stirring rendition of our National Anthem, as performed by members of the WHS choir who also happen to be National Honor Society members. Proud families and friends watched in the auditorium as ceremonial candles were lit, and then the inductees' names were read, officially making them members of this illustrious society.

Congratulations to all the new members and to those who have previously been honored!

The Debate Club

By: Jasmine Viera and Natalie Gasparowicz

Thanks to the requests of students and faculty members, a debate club has been formed by Dr. Papageorgiou. He is the sole advisor of this newly created club. On Mon-



day, March 30, twenty-four opinionated pupils showed up for its first meeting in room 207. As the meeting began, Dr. Papageorgiou asked for suggestions from the students for topics to debate. A wide variety of topics were arranged on the whiteboard, but

then narrowed down to the following: Socialism vs. Capitalism, gun control, legalization of drugs, civil unions, right-to-life, animal rights, the closing of Guantanamo Bay, and McDonald's vs. Burger King. Hopefully, the club will even be able to compete against other high schools within the future. The second meeting was held on April 23. If you are interested, please see Dr. Papageorgiou for more information.

Interview with Mr. Switek

By: Samantha Grimaldi

Do you enjoy your job?

Yes, I'm one of the lucky few people who can say that I like going to work in the morning.

What do you like most about your job?

I like working with students to help them become better writers and more well-rounded individuals.

What would you do if you didn't work here?

I'd want to be involved with making movies. I would most likely be in a boring cubical.

What's your favorite band?

Tool but they're everyone's favorite so I guess that doesn't count.

What kind of student were you in high school?

I was the class clown, but I got great grades.

What's your favorite place to go with friends?

D'Italias in Avenel.

What is one word you would use to describe yourself?

"Quirky", or "awkward".

What is one thing that annoys you about

people?

When people feel the world owes them something.

What is something that people wouldn't know about you?

My knees bend backwards and I can clap with one hand.

What do you love most about your life?

I love my wife and son, the rest of my family and friends and I love teaching.

(right: Mr. Switek, a WHS English teacher)



Powder Puff Preview

By: Stephanie Barrios

Powder Puff is such a special time in every senior and junior girl's life. It's time to take out a little bit of aggression (in a playful manner) with your fellow students, or underclassmen in my case.

I played Powder Puff in my junior year and not only was it a fun time but it involved blood, sweat, tears... and just one broken bone. Powder Puff was a ball, but the seniors hit hard, and put my arm into a cast. After my hospital visit and x-rays, I still wouldn't take back the '08 Powder Puff game for anything. I did my part in getting ready: tagging cars, using black

makeup, taking "wannabe tough" football pictures, buying red bandanas, running after the ball, ripping flags off, and a lot of screaming.

This year, as a senior, I plan to play clean and fair, and make it 100% fun and safe for everyone. After all, the game is for a good cause, raising money for our senior class. So when you come out, support our senior girls on the field, and our senior boys cheering for our team. For all of the senior girls, let's make this our last (but our best) run yet. Let's go '09!



Above: As juniors, this year's graduating seniors competed with their friends in the annual WHS Powder Puff game. From left: Lisa Steinberg, Alex Mackey, Kelly Burns, Jenn Geoghan, Kate Wilson, Stephanie Terpanick, and Stephanie Barrios.

WHS Ice Hockey Reigns, Wins Township Cup

By: Andrew Shapiro

On Wednesday, February 25, the varsity ice hockey team won the inaugural Township Cup, beating JFK by a score of 4-1. Danny Swansboro had a pair of goals, and Zack Hopf and Andrew Shapiro contributed a goal each. Rob Kuchie had two assists, and Billy Stamato had one assist. Seniors Dave Weidele and Matt Romanella closed the curtain on their Barron careers with an assist each. Corey Moran made 18 saves in the win.

To get to the championship, the Barrons had to go through Colonia, who had beaten WHS only once before.

The Barrons jumped out to a 2-0 lead on goals by Zack Hopf and Rob Kuchie, but then gave up two goals in the second period. Then, about halfway through the final period, the Patriots scored to take the lead, but that would not end the drama. Danny Swansboro scored with 90 seconds left to tie the game. Overtime did not last long, though, as Zack Hopf scored to end the game at about a minute and thirty seconds in.

Then the Barrons faced off against the Mustangs of JFK, who were fresh off a win against Scotch Plains-Fanwood. The scoring came hard and

fast, with two goals in the first period by Danny Swansboro. After a scoreless second period, Zack Hopf extended the lead to 3-0, which would be cut short by a goal by Kevin Dean of JFK. But Andrew Shapiro added the insurance to make it 4-1.

Following the presentation of the MVP trophy to Zack Hopf, the boys took the Mayor's Cup trophy for a victory lap, and a group photo. Congratulations to Coach Rotella, Assistant Coach Mike Stawicki, and all the entire '08-'09 boys' varsity ice hockey team. Good luck next year!



Left: The team poses with the Township Cup.



Right: The WHS victory lap.

WHS Baseball Begins with a “W”; New Fields Dedicated

By: Andrew Shapiro

On Wednesday, April 1, the new athletic complex in the back of WHS was officially opened. A ribbon-cutting ceremony took place, and everyone in attendance was extremely cheerful despite the cold and rain. The atmospheric conditions were described by Board of Education member Skip Garley as an “April Fool’s joke.” Despite the weather, the ceremony was a pleasant moment and a wonderful way to

dedicate the new Woodbridge High School athletic fields for baseball, softball and soccer.

After speeches by Superintendent Dr. John Crowe, Mayor John MacCormac, Mr. Warren, Mr. Ward, and board members Mr. Molnar and Mr. Garley, the fields were officially dedicated, with first pitches thrown out on both the new softball field, and the new baseball field. Then the real fun began.

With Zack Hopf on the

mound, the Barrons looked to open their season with a win against rival Perth Amboy. The Barrons even scored first, bringing the hometown fans to their feet. However, Perth Amboy came back to tie in the third inning.

The Barrons were not discouraged: late in the game, they stormed back with two big runs, with the game-winning RBI coming off the bat of junior Dan Petro. The boys held on to win 3-1, beginning the season 1-0. Good luck the rest of the way boys!

Recognizing Accomplishments and Sportsmanship at WHS

Information Courtesy of Mr. J. Ward, WHS Athletic Director



Girls Varsity Track – The team earned 2nd Place at the Greater Middlesex Conference Coaches Relays, 1st Place at the Matawan Relays and 1st Place at the Holmdel Relays.

Boys Varsity Track - The 4 x 400 Meter Relay Team consisting of Kristian Cullins, Oluwaseaun Ibironke, Wismith Francois and William Orbach won the Large School Heat at the University of Pennsylvania Relays.

Baseball - The Varsity Baseball Team qualified for the State Baseball Tournament. Coach Lou Urbano reached his 200th Career Win on Saturday, May 9.

Softball - The Freshman Softball team earned the #1 seed in the Freshman Softball County Tournament and the team was the runner-up at the Hamilton West High School Softball Tournament on Saturday, May 2.

With three weeks to go, Woodbridge High School Athletics are approaching going “Disqualification Free” for the third straight year. Congratulations to all of our SCHOLAR ATHLETES for showing sportsmanship and their “BARRON PRIDE”!

DVDs to Rent!

By: Shatese Jackson

Every month there are movies that have you running to the theatre; in this current economy, though, who has \$10 to burn on a ticket? *Twilight*, *Role Models* and *Madagascar 2* are now available to rent or purchase. Other great titles such as *The Boy in the Striped Pajamas*, *Soul Men*, and *007: Quantum of Solace* are on dvd, too and demand for these discs is high!

Looking forward to a relaxing spring evening? There is something for everyone this month to keep you inside and glued to your screen. In the children's section, there's *Madagascar 2: Escape to Africa*. Follow Alex the lion and some of his other friends as they try to escape from Africa after a flight gone wrong. If you're too old for cartoons, you could try your hand at the funny and lighthearted movie *Role Models*. It's the story of two friends that are forced to become role models to two young adolescent boys. It's full of laughs and sure to leave you rolling on the floor even after it's over. But the movie that everyone's been waiting for has finally hit dvd: *Twilight*. *Twilight* is the story of a young girl who falls in love with a vampire who is resisting his blood-sucking urges. Based on the four books by Stephenie Meyer, *Twilight* is an action/romance that is an appropriate movie for the whole family. Not too gory and not intense, *Twilight* will have you rooting for Bella and Edward the whole way through.

From slinging guns to wooing the ladies, James Bond is definitely the greatest spy around. But he gets even better when he's angry. After the death of his newest love in *Casino Royale*, 007 decide to take revenge; now deadlier than ever, 007 must face new enemies and challenges in *Quantum of Solace*.

On the flip side, there's a new "group" in town. After the death of a friend, two bitter rivals must come together to light up the stage in his memory. Full of catchy tunes and funny lines, *Soul Men* is definitely a movie for you music lovers. Starring Bernie Mac (in, sadly, the final performance of his brilliant career) and Samuel L. Jackson, this movie will definitely have you laughing all day long.

During the Holocaust, a young German boy meets a Jewish prisoner in a concentration camp. They become friends under extraordinary circumstances. *The Boy in the Striped Pajamas* is extremely touching and will make you cry for hours; if you're looking for tear jerker, this is the movie for you. So fire up your dvd player, and enjoy these titles now!

On Wednesday, May 13th, WHS hosted our annual Arts Show in the gym at 6:00 pm, which was followed immediately by our Spring Vocal Concert in the auditorium!

Both events supported the arts at Woodbridge High School and were great successes!

On Thursday, May 14th, WHS hosted a blood drive; community members were welcomed to donate blood between 3:00 pm and 6:00 pm in the gymnasium.

On Friday, May 15th, the students of WHS took on the Faculty in the annual S v F Basketball game.

“High School Musical 3”

By: Lauren Drumm and Justine Durham

On October 24th the much anticipated “High School Musical 3” was released in theatres, and is now available on DVD and Blu-Ray. It was the first of the “High School Musical” trilogy to premiere in theatres instead of on the Disney Channel. Main characters, Troy Bolton (played by Zac Efron) and Gabriella Montez (Vanessa Hudgens) are back again along with Ashley Tisdale, Corbin Bleu and Lucas Grabeel playing the supporting roles.

Similar to the first “High School Musical” movie, Troy and Gabriella are back at school, but now they are finishing their senior year. The senior class finds themselves juggling a basketball championship, school musical, prom and

college plans. Troy and Gabriella find this especially challenging, in their attempt to make their relationship last.

“High School Musical 3” was not a disappointment; it lived up to all the expectations created by the success of the previous two “High School Musical” movies. The romance between Troy and Gabriella is almost too cute, but still sweet and endearing.

Below: The cover of the HSM3 dvd featuring the stars of the trilogy.

