



The Barron Perspective: The Newsletter of WHS

HSPA Superstar: Tasneem Hossain

By The Perspective Staff

Last year, amidst the celebration over the class of 2011's stellar performance on the HSPA assessment (*please see previous two editions for more information*), one student was recognized for doing what many thought would be impossible: achieving a perfect score on the mathematics section of the test. We interviewed Tasneem "Taz" Hossain to learn the secrets of his success.

B.P.: What tips would you give upcoming HSPA takers?

T.H.: It's comprised of math and reading, I'd say to do some math problems every night- and for the

reading portion you should read a lot of books for practice also. You should try and relax the day before the test, don't stress about it and be well rested.

B.P.: What did you do to prepare for the HSPA?

T.H.: I went to 20/20 and participated in the Saturday Assistant Program. [The nights before testing] I just relaxed, sat down and watched TV, slept well and didn't think about it so much.

B.P. What was your reaction when you first received your score?

T.H.: I remember it pretty well, it was around the time of cotillion. I remember Mr. Lottman had the scores and saw that I had a 245 in reading and a perfect score of 300 in

math. He took me all around the school announcing it. At first I felt pretty chill about it, then thought about it more and felt pretty proud.

B.P.: How did your parents react?

T.H.: Well, first I texted them, *well obviously after school*, but they didn't get my text [laughs]. I didn't think they know how to read texts. But when I got home I told them and they said "Hey good job, we're proud of you", and all. Then later we went out for dinner...

B.P.: Were there any benefits from scoring so high?

T.H.: I got a prize and a free parking spot from the math department.

(cont. p. 2)

Students:

Remember that any student in any grade can participate in fundraising!

Please see Mr. Daly, Ms. Gross, Ms. Huber or Mr. Switek to see what fundraisers are currently available!

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WHS PTO: Working for Students!

By The Perspective Staff

You have probably heard the term "PTO" in the announcements, but may not know what that means. The PTO is the Parent/Teacher Organization, a group of parents and guardians, along with se-

lect administrators and teachers. The PTO members plan events for students and host the Project Graduation Celebration for the graduating seniors every year.

With all of the money required for their

activities coming from fundraising opportunities, the PTO is always looking for eager students to volunteer; If you are interested in helping with the PTO's future events, please see Mr. Switek for information.



Zamira Feliz, president of International Culture Club and Interact.

Students in the Spotlight: Zamira Feliz

By The Perspective Staff

Zamira Feliz, a junior at WHS, is the president of both the Interact Club and the International Culture Club. She recently visited the *Barron Perspective* room to answer some questions about all of the charitable work these organizations do.

B.P.: What exactly are ICC & Interact?

Z.F.: They are both charitable clubs. Our members do community services.

B.P.: How did you attain your position?

Z.F.: I was involved since freshman year. It was the most awkward thing in the world; I was surrounded by all juniors and seniors.

B.P.: What do you like best about your particular position?

Z.F.: I guess I like that I get more people involved; I like getting out there and recruiting new members. Interact is more involved. It's more of a one on one with people. I like helping people.

B.P.: Who are your advisors?

Z.F.: Mrs. Clarke for I.C.C. and Mrs. Soto for Interact.

B.P.: Are there any criteria to be able to join the clubs?

Z.F.: Usually it's upperclassmen [that are involved].

B.P.: What was the best moment you experienced?

Z.F.: The senior citizens Olympics; they are the funniest people in the world!

B.P.: What kind of activities do you do?

Z.F.: Mrs. Clarke and Mrs. Soto as our advisors [plan our activities]. We partici-

pated in things like Teddy Bear's Closet, the Holiday Bazaar and the Relay for Life-all were charity events to help the less fortunate.

B.P.: What do you like doing for yourself?

Z.F.: I work and I have fun bothering my parents and acting like a kid.

B.P.: What is your life's motto?

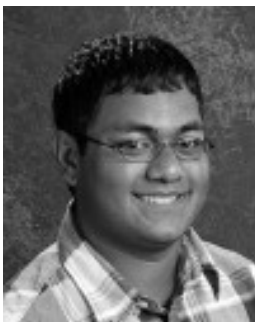
Z.F.: Live, laugh, love- I live by that; basically I live each day like it's my last. I take each day as it comes.

B.P.: Since you are such a charitable person, we have to ask... do you have any guilty pleasures?

Z.F.: Spanish food, like anything... I like pork chops and I eat Italian food the most, even though I'm Spanish!

"... work hard, try your best and be proud of what you do... You shouldn't be discouraged about what other people think, be your individual self."

-Tasneem Hossain



Tasneem "Taz" Hossain

Tasneem Hossain Interview (cont.)

(cont. from pg 1) I also got a \$200 scholarship that I'll get at the end of senior year- and I park in my parking spot everyday. I got an Apple iPad. That was the first time I got surprised- when I saw that I was like, "whoa, I can't believe you guys would do that for me!" I still use the iPad today.

B.P.: Is math your favorite subject?

T.H.: Math is my favorite subject I'd have to say. It makes sense to me, it's my forte. I find it interesting to

do.

B.P.: What are your plans for college?

T.H.: Well, right now I got accepted to Miguel University. If I get inside MIT I'll probably definitely go there, and if you want to know I'll major engineering.

B.P.: What would you say you live by? Your life's motto?

T.H.: ... I probably would say work hard, try your best and be proud of what you do. You may and will

fail too, but be proud if it- copyright your own work, don't look back. You shouldn't be discouraged about what other people think. Be your individual self.

B.P.: What things do you do outside of school?

T.H.: I love playing soccer- I was on the varsity soccer team, I played all four years of high school, [otherwise] just having fun a lot ...

Faculty in the Spotlight: Ms. Ramos

By: Monique Melvin

Mrs. Ramos, Spanish teacher at Woodbridge High School, is a proud Puerto Rican with two daughters and one son. She is my favorite Spanish teacher; her bubbly personality makes me like learning in her class. Want to know more about Senora Ramos? Take a look at this interview I had with her.

M.M.: What is your favorite song?

M.R.: "I Will Survive"

M.M. What do you like to do in your spare time?

M.R.: Watch T.V; my favorite show is *House*.

M.M.: What is your favorite

holiday?

M.R.: Christmas.

M.M.: Was there any student who influenced you in any way, one you'd never forget?

M.R.: Yes... she became a Spanish teacher [because of her love for the language]. She wrote a great college essay about me. She made me enjoy my work more.

M.M.: What is the greatest reward you've experienced or received while being a teacher?

M.R.: Having students who continue their studies and become Spanish teachers.

M.M.: Did you want to be a teacher as a child?

M.R.: Always, since I was five years old.

M.M.: What advice would you give other Spanish teachers or teachers in general?

M.R.: Treat students the way [the teachers] would like to be treated.

M.M.: Is this a career that honestly makes you happy?

M.R.: Yes, I love working with young people, makes me feel young. I wouldn't change it for anything else.

M.M.:What has teaching taught you about teenagers?

M.R.: They can be tough on the outside, but inside they are a totally different person.



Ms. Ramos

Coming Soon: "13"!

By The Perspective Staff

Beginning on Thursday, March 24th, you will have four opportunities to see the annual Senior Play. This year, the WHS senior class will be presenting the musical, "13".

The intriguing title refers to the main character turning 13 years old and preparing for his Bar Mitzvah, but a look at the cast list also reveals that there are 13 major characters listed in the playbill.

As in previous years, the musical is under the direction of Mr. Lynch and Mr. Terrell. Be prepared to get your tickets early, as the musical usually sells out!

Prom Preview

By The Perspective Staff

On Friday, June 10th, the WHS senior prom will take place at the Bridgewater Marriot Hotel, in Bridgewater, NJ.

While the prom theme, prom song, favors and dinner menu are being discussed and voted on by our school's prom committee, there are some facts that the *Perspective* staff can share with you!

- The prom begins at approximately 7:30 p.m. and ends at midnight.
- Students are encouraged to arrive on time, both to enjoy the full cocktail hour and so that they can have their pictures taken before the prom officially gets under way.
- There are local businesses who are offering special rates for prom dresses and tuxedos.

For information on the prom or to receive information concerning the local businesses who have the promotions for WHS students, you may see Ms. Woerner or Ms. Noble. The *Perspective* will have new information as it becomes available.



Above: The original Broadway advertisement for "13"



Above: A promotional picture of the Bridgewater Marriot's "Grand Ballroom", which will be decorated especially for our senior prom!



The BlackBerry Curve



The BlackBerry Bold



The BlackBerry Tour

Consumer Advocacy: What SmartPhone is right for you?

By: Brenna Krawchek

So, what cell phone is right for you? It's a question that is remarkably effortless to answer. Gone are the days where cells phones were made with the only objective of being able to call someone without the stone-age hassle of having to memorize numbers or hunting down a pay phone every time your beeper went off. Almost every new cell phone in the market are smart phones, devices that have not just the ability to call and text-message your friends and family, but to Tweet, Facebook, Instant Message and much more, simultaneously. Almost everyone is connected the Internet in one way or another, and now it's taken on the forms of social networking and business that is necessary in our lives, especially if you're someone in a line of business where you *do* need to be connected 24/7. In that case, I would highly recommend having a smart phone, more specifically any model of the BlackBerry.

But what is the best one out there? From my personal experience, I had a BlackBerry Pearl. It was a great phone, but not the best there is. It has since been discontinued, but no worries because bigger and badder BlackBerries such as the Tour, Bold, and Curve are just as efficient and maybe a little better than the Pearl.

But purchasing the Pearl was the best purchase I have made in my life. Not only do I need to be connected to my Twitter, Facebook, Myspace, etcetera, but I'm a *huge* text-messenger and the full-QWERTY keyboard makes it easy and fast to text on. In comes the Pearl, with its fun trackball and the keyboard-like keypad; I could see full conversations I had with people rather than my messages being tossed around in no particular order. I felt very "official" while using it and the process of calling, texting, and surfing the Internet were fast and enjoyable.

The only downside I can say about the Black-

Berry Pearl is that sometimes the trackball would get stuck and I would have to get it fixed, which is a drag. In addition, sometimes the service that connects the phone to the Internet and which lets the phone receive texts and calls would turn off and I would have to turn it on manually. That got really annoying, so I would take in to the Verizon store to get a new one. That was quite the recurring theme. But everyone I know who has a BlackBerry almost never have any problems with theirs. After some researching, I found that the BlackBerry Bold is most likely the best smart phone out there, because it has Wi-Fi.

I would recommend a BlackBerry for anyone who needs to be connected to people all over 24/7, or those who want more than a cell phone, but a mini-computer that can store almost everything they need in their lives. **I give the BlackBerry smart phone 4 ½ out of 5 stars.**