

# The REGISTER FORUM

*"The Oldest Student Newspaper in the U.S."*

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Cambridge Rindge and Latin School

January 2013

## DANCEWORKS 2013

*"All the variety is exciting...  
It exposes people to a  
different side of CRLS..."*



On January 10th and 11th, the CRLS Visual and Performing Arts Department held its annual winter dance production, *Danceworks*, featuring choreography from students, faculty, and guest artists. Full story on page 7; full color photos on pages 8 and 9.

Photo Credit: Larry Aaronson

### The Purpose of Education

By  
Kahlil Oppenheimer  
*Register Forum Correspondent*

Why are we in school? Is it simply the legal mandate? Is it to prepare us for the work force? Or could it be, dare I say, to develop us as intellectuals and passionate individuals?

"I suppose [the purpose of education is] to put us towards finding jobs that actually help boost the economy, ... for example, teaching math and sciences so people can work on some of the really high-tech stuff that's behind the development of new medicines," states senior Ruby Johnson.

Johnson believes, as many do, that the purpose of education is to prepare the next generation of workers—or, better yet, innovators—to keep the economy bustling.

Catalina Nguyen, another senior, disagrees. "It is motivation for people to learn and self-discover," she states. "I personally don't like America's system because it's too career-oriented."

To the Johnson camp, education is a means of keeping the economy, and by proxy, the nation, afloat. The Nguyen camp, however, believes that education isn't supposed to be career-oriented, but instead is about an intrinsic

*Continued on page 4*

### Getting Vocal with the Glocal Challenge

*Students Identify Environmental Issues, Compete for Trip to Costa Rica*

By  
Kevin Xiong  
*Register Forum Editor*

At CRLS, global + local = glocal.

Over 70 CRLS students are participating in the month-long Glocal Challenge, in which students must identify a local issue, research global success stories, design a solution, implement it, then present it to the school.

EF Education First and Google are sponsoring the event, offering the two winning teams free trips to Costa Rica through Education First's Global Student Leaders Summit during April vacation. The 10-day summit will provide stu-

dents with the opportunity to explore Costa Rica and many of its environmental sustainability initiatives, including a mangrove tree reforestation project.

Out of the sixteen teams, four finalists will present their research during a school-wide assem-

bly on February 1st, during which local businesses and government and educational leaders will select the two winning teams.

Stay tuned for *The Register Forum's* February edition, which will feature more updates on the Glocal Challenge.



Photo Credit: EF Education First

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# Chromebooks for Cambridge

By  
Maria Alejandra Trumble  
*Register Forum  
Correspondent*

Along with the introduction of four brand new upper schools this year, CPSD has implemented innovative technology in Cambridge’s sixth, seventh and eighth grade classrooms. Chromebooks are small laptops operating solely on Google applications and operating systems. One cart full of 25 Chromebooks laptops has been supplied for every two classrooms in the new upper schools.

“Chromebooks have basically taken the place of our pencils,” says Emma Harris, an eighth grader at the Putnam Ave Upper School.

“When we opened the upper schools we had an opportunity to outfit them with all new tech,” explained Gina Roughton, CPSD Assistant Director of Educational Technology, “we put out a survey to match the correct technology to teacher’s needs, for the most part we heard: online research, presentation creation and word processing.” Roughton is

in charge of choosing and supplying Cambridge with all the technology used by staff and students, including Chromebooks.

Chromebooks cost only \$500, half the price of most Mac laptops. Additionally Chromebooks have an automatic updating system and an initial start up time of eleven seconds, saving instruction time.

“There’s been nothing but positive feedback,” Roughton is pleased to say.

With the introduction of Chromebooks, the implementation of Google Docs, now known as Google Drive, has also been necessary.

“For the past three years I have done all my work on Google Drive,” says Roughton. CRLS English teacher, Ariel Maloney claims she personally has

been using Google Drive for five years.

Thanks to Technology Specialist Elizabeth Carman’s suggestions that Chromebooks could be helpful in English classes, cutting down on computer lab time, Ms. Maloney’s Creative Writing class has been using the back up Chrome Cart this semester.

According to a *Register Forum* survey 70% of



Photo Credit: wired.com

the class, mostly first time Chromebook and Google Drive users, has enjoyed working with the Chrome Cart.

Still, nearly 30% gave negative reviews, “I never get work done because the Internet is very spotty, and Google Drive is dependent on Internet,” senior Victoria Hornstein explains.

Ms. Maloney agrees, adding “the computer can also be a distraction, it’s hard to find a way for everyone to stay focused.”

Savannah McCarter, a senior, reflects, “at first it was hard to get used to the program but I’ve been getting better and think the adjustment period was worth it.” The reduction of paper waste made possible by the

Chromebooks has also been a highlight, “making the school a little greener” noted senior Erin McLaughlin.

Overall the Creative Writing class has used the Chromebooks for word processing in class, research and most of all for peer feed-

back and work shops. Through these activities, a

majority of the class agrees that the autosaving capability and the mobility of the Chromebooks have been helpful, but larger group work, internet dependency, spell check and some technical difficulties still have to be worked out.

Roughton agrees that high schoolers should

graduate knowing how to use Microsoft Word due to its prominence in the professional world, but still the implementation of Chromebooks and especially Google Drive are being praised. Though the Chrome Cart is moving on to another class-

“...it’s hard to find a way for everyone to stay focused.”

room, Ms. Maloney claims she will

suggest the use of Google Drive to next semester’s Creative Writing class.

“I get the chance to share my recent work with whoever I want,” declares senior Xavier Marquez.

Isa Ruggiero, another senior, says “I’ve even found myself using Google Drive outside of class now.”



## THE WINTER BALL

Friday, February 1st, 2013

SHERATON COMMANDER  
HARVARD SQUARE

### PRICING:

JANUARY 23RD TO FEBRUARY 1ST  
\$25

FEBRUARY 1ST (AT THE DOOR)  
\$30



## Human Trafficking Exposed

By  
Thalia Carroll-Cachimuel  
*Register Forum Staff*

Human trafficking is best described as “the illegal trade in human beings for the purposes of commercial sexual exploitation or forced labor: a modern-day form of slavery.”

Given this definition an estimated 20,000 women and children are human trafficked within the United States per year, needless to say there are many undocumented victims within the United States. The details on human trafficking differ for every victim. Some victims are paid extremely low wages for long hours of the day, and are even unable to leave to go to the bathroom. Other victims are used as forced sex slaves, often under the age of 18.

According to a CRLS survey 50 out of 78 students already knew what human trafficking was before I distributed my survey. 100% of the students that continued on to finish the survey claimed that the United States should be doing more to stop the acts of human trafficking within the United States.

Should the United States be doing more to stop this? If so, what?

“Yes,” answered senior Sarah Eustache. “They should create more programs and make

sure that people know their rights when they come into this country.”

How do people get informed of their rights? And even if they knew them how could they exercise these rights?

Senior Ashraful Rahman expressed his anger towards the question “Should the United States be doing more to help?” He responded, “Of course, how the heck are we the land of the free if this blasphemy is going on within our country?”

What can we do to help? The ECPAT USA is a website that informs people on the details of current human trafficking cases both in and out of the United States. The ECPAT works together to eliminate the commercial sexual exploitation of children around the world.

The ECPAT states that, “This is not a problem that only affects poor countries, it’s happening right here in the United States.”



50 in 78 CRLS students know what human trafficking is.



# The Draft: Is It Everyone’s Responsibility to Serve His or Her Country in the Military?

## Investigating Student Opinion Regarding the Selective Service System

By  
Niko Emack-Bazelais  
Register Forum Editor

World War II General George S. Patton Jr. once expressed, “The soldier is the army. No army is better than its soldiers. The soldier is also a citizen. In fact, the highest obligation and privilege of citizenship is that of bearing arms for one’s country.”

With many students now believing that national pride is something that should be shunned or deemed ignorant and boorish, military service is often overlooked – especially when it comes to the draft.

The last military draft in the United States was during the Vietnam War, which led to huge protests and sparked civilian unrest and distaste towards the U.S. military. Although the government has not required military service since Vietnam, all men currently living in the U.S. between the ages of 18 and 25 must register with the Selective Service System in case of a possible draft.

*The Register Fo-*

*rum* took to the halls in this month’s investigative segment: Is it everyone’s responsibility to serve his or her country in the military?

Taking a step back, military service is required in countries like Russia and Israel. Looking at Israel in particular, military service is considered a rite of passage for every man and woman; people who don’t serve have trouble finding work and are ostracized from society. Israeli senior Jonathan Gilboa expressed, “no other country in the world is surrounded by as many hostile neighbors and engages them as frequently as Israel; with only 7 million people within Israel, it would be impossible to protect the country without a draft.”

Gilboa continued, “In Israel, serving is a rite of passage and I fully intend to go through that same rite because it is my duty as a citizen.”

Conversely, while looking at the US, Gilboa voiced: “The US is an extremely powerful country, some would say a super power and I would tend to agree. That being said, no, the U.S. doesn’t need a

draft but I think it has made the people in this country lackadaisical when it comes to war. It’s not personal enough. It doesn’t affect you. I think that if there was a draft we wouldn’t get into stupid conflicts like Iraq because Congress, the media, and, most importantly, the people wouldn’t sit around twiddling their thumbs without a clue.”

Russian national Artur Saradzhyan stated, “I don’t think an annual draft, like the one in Russia is necessary, especially if there isn’t a large scale war going on.”

However, he concluded by conceding that the draft would be essential if the US was ever involved in another massive conflict.

While the US does not require mandatory military service, many seniors at CRLS were unaware that, according to the Selective Service System, “in all 50 states, students who fail to register are not eligible for student loans or college grants, government jobs or federally funded job training, and immigrants who do not register may be denied citizenship.”

As one of the first seniors at CRLS to turn 18, Nolan Garskovas articulated, “I was unaware that registering was mandatory, but as someone who will need student loans / grants I guess I’ll have to.”

However, Garskovas ended

by stating, “If I got called, I would serve my country.”

Having turned 18 in November, senior Ryan Tracy explained, “I plan on registering for the draft as soon as possible.” While he was more than willing

sionate freshman, Klara Ingersoll, voiced her opinion that “the fact that women are not required to register for the draft is not as you would say, ‘hatred towards one specific group,’ but it is holding one group to a different standard based on what you think their abilities are. Though people may see it as ‘chivalry’ or ‘respecting women,’ it’s important to realize often these ideas do not include seeing women as capable, intelligent and able. Regardless, for any reason, holding one gender to a different standard is sexist.”

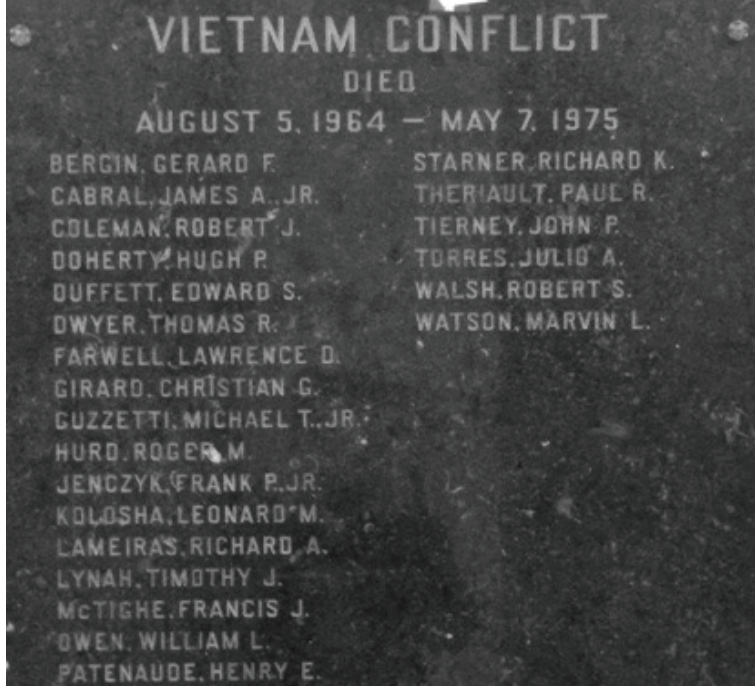
While Congress can declare a draft at any time, the chances of this are looking less likely every year. With the United States military standing at 1.4 million people, with another 1.5 million on reserves, the idea that we would ever need more people is unrealistic.

With President Obama working hard to streamline the military, there is a greater need for drones and modernized weapons than actual boots on the ground.

However, despite speculation, the draft continues to be a part of our society: all men must continue to register after turning 18, or reap the consequences.



James Flagg’s Famous 1917 “Uncle Sam” Recruitment Poster



Cambridge Rindge and Latin War Memorial  
Photo Credit: Niko Emack-Bazelais



An Analysis of Rap Music’s Influence on American Youth

RF JOURNALISM AWARD WINNER

Every month, students in Journalism I recognize one reporter’s journalistic integrity.

By

Leroy Robinson Jr.

Register Forum Staff

Rap/hip-hop music has changed over the generations, starting in 1970s when block parties became very popular with African American youth in New York City. But has it changed for better or for worse? For the money or for your word? Youth are influenced by what artists rap about. Should artists be held accountable for what’s happening to America’s youth, or should the youth be held accountable for themselves?

Rap music has been known to influence America’s youth in many ways. Major influences are fashion trends. American fashion has changed a lot over the years. For example, baggy pants was popular back in the day, but today fitted pants are in style, though people continue to sag their pants.

“I sag my pants for no reason. It’s just natural to me; now I’ve been doing it for years.

I understand that my underpants are showing but others shouldn’t be looking down there any-ways,” exclaimed senior Elijah Scott.

Other influences include violence; the “gangster” music can influence youth in the wrong way. Music involving illegal “fast” money, drugs, and guns may fill its audiences with these same thoughts. But are artists just expressing themselves? A lot of mainstream artist have overcome struggles in their neighborhoods,

which are often full of nothing but trouble. For most artists, music is their only way out. But why do

artists that have made it out of their neighborhoods and now have millions of dollars still rap about guns, drugs, and murder?

Well, this is what the youth want to hear. While rap music is sometimes negative, its audience is still experiencing crime and hardship, and the artists’ lyrics may exactly convey how the person is feeling at the moment. Rap music may be violent, but it’s relatable.

24 years ago, during the golden era of rap music, rap artist KRS One said, “it’s not about a salary, it’s all about reality.”

Is this still true to rap music? Not so as of 2012; there are five rappers that have a net worth over 110 million: Sean “Diddy” Combs, Sean “Jay-Z” Carter, Andre “Dr. Dre” Young, Bryan “Birdman” Williams, and Curtis “50 cent” Jackson. These are all artists that have come from the worst of American neighborhoods to become at the top of the Forbes list of rap music’s richest. But did they do it for the money or is this just a result of hard work? The rap industry is a billion dollar industry that will do whatever it takes to

earn revenue, but it still has a profound effect on communities struck by violence, drugs, and poverty.

“As an upcoming artist in the greater Boston area, I feel as if I am capable of influencing the youth around me,” commented junior DeAndre Dymski. “Kids nowadays are just looking for the next trends. I mean look at twitter, it gives everyone a reason to be a follower.”

PLAY

REVIEW

By

Aidan Down

Register Forum Staff

You will not find one shred of negative feedback in this review of the musical *Pippin*, currently playing at the A.R.T. in Cambridge; not because they paid me to say nice things but because the show was so mind-blowingly amazing, with catchy songs and a meaningful plot, that even after seeing it twice I couldn’t find any discernible flaws.

The show centers around a young prince named Pippin (played by Matthew James Thomas) and his search for fulfillment in a world where everyone else seems to have found their niche but him. Fresh out of university, he has a promising future as a scholar, which he turns down to find the elusive meaning of life.

As the son of King Charlemagne (a genius Terrence Mann), he has unlimited access to all that life has to offer, from war to women to revolution, and yet is stumped at every turn. The musical makes a resounding comment on what it means to be extraordinary, and

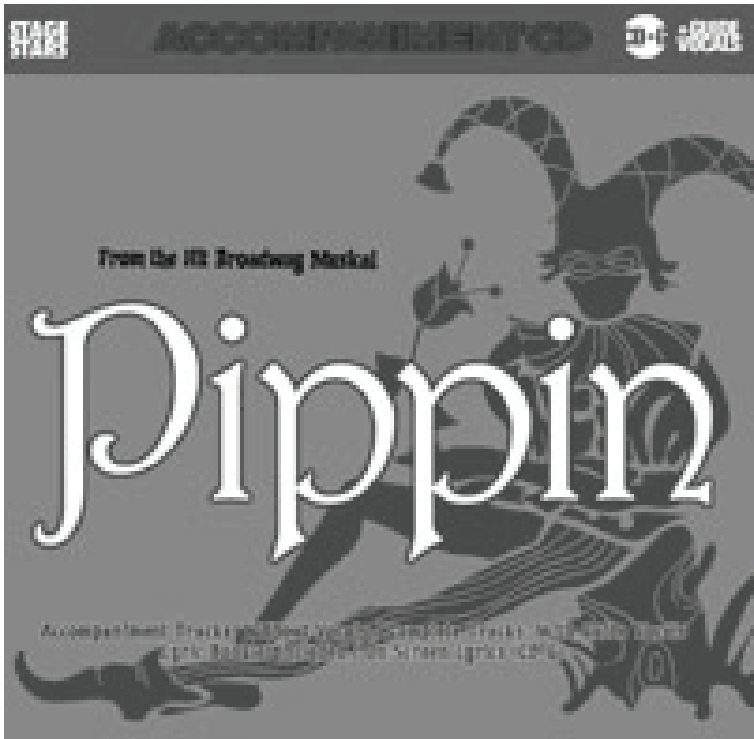


Photo Credit: stage-stars.com

suggests that a simple life may be the most exciting of all.

A hallmark of the *Pippin* legacy is the large chunk of the cast reserved for acrobats and gymnasts.

When I first heard that acrobats would be involved in the production, I imagined one of those situations where the director

*I failed to locate a single thing wrong with this truly incredible show.*

ham-fistedly shoves random meaningless bouts of acrobatics into every scene he can to impress the crowd, and I couldn’t have been farther from the truth.

The acrobats sing and act as well, and whatever feats they accomplish add to the general aura of

mystique without seeming overdone or unnecessary. Acrobatics are worked into the choreography (which, by the way, is fantastic), the entrances, the scene-changes, and just about anything else you could imagine.

It goes without saying the vocal and acting work is great across the board and the set is pretty awesome too. If you were hoping for one of those moments where I say “however” and then proceed to list things I didn’t like, you will be sorely disappointed.

I tried, I really did, but after intense scrutiny of everything I could scrutinize, I failed to locate a single thing wrong with this truly incredible show.

EDUCATION

Continued from page 1

“self-discovery.”

Senior Amalia Salcedo-Marx supports Nguyen’s view, adding “the purpose of education is to create well-rounded individuals—people with unique passions that can think critically and compassionately—and give us a basis in knowledge through which we

may better understand the world—ideally, anyway.”

Can the Johnson and Nguyen-Salcedo-Marx ideologies coexist? Are students who think critically and compassionately the same kind of students who will boost the economy?

Renowned educational reformer John Dewey falls into the Nguyen-Salcedo-Marx camp. He once stated, “Education is not preparation for life; education is life itself.”

If Dewey is to be believed, and learning really is about some intrinsic value or self-discovery, for instance, what do grades contribute?

Instead of writing an essay to maximize points on

a rubric, shouldn’t a student be able to write whatever would develop him most as an individual? Instead of skimming through math to meet MCAS or SAT standards, couldn’t a student theoretically spend an entire semester pursuing her fascination with prime numbers? Instead of learning how

to answer questions, shouldn’t students be learning how to ask the right ones?

On the opposite end of the spectrum, if learning is about preparation for the work-force, all of this intrinsic-value “mumbo-jumbo” would need to step aside. In the work force there are expectations, quotas, and liabilities. Rubrics and standards are there for a reason, and students would need to know how to follow them. And

mediums of expression — arts programs for example — would cease

to exist because they serve no tangible purpose in furthering the economy.

So where do you think CRLS should be on the spectrum? Should we be learning to work, or working to learn?

*Should we be learning to work, or working to learn?*



# Don't Fall into a Black Hole

By  
Shubhan Nagendra  
*Register Forum Correspondent*

Ever wondered what a black hole is? According to NASA, a black hole is “a place in space where gravity pulls so much that even light cannot get out.”

Sebastian Kimberk, a freshman at CRLS, says that it is “an entity of insanely high mass and high gravitation that sucks in light itself.”

These black holes are very common in the center of a galaxy. Even our own galaxy has a black hole in the center of it.

You do not need to worry though! The black hole is 26,000 light years away from the Earth. A light year is the distance light travels in one calendar year. 1 light year, or 6 trillion miles.

If we do not need to worry about black holes then why do we need to know more about them? Kimberk says, “Our galaxy has a black hole; if it wasn't there then our galaxy might not exist.” He also says, “If we were to sucked into a black hole, we all would turn into spaghetti.”

However, Alex Shulman, a freshman at CRLS, thinks that “they don't affect us directly and noticeably, but future discoveries and studies can still prove many things we do not know about black holes.”

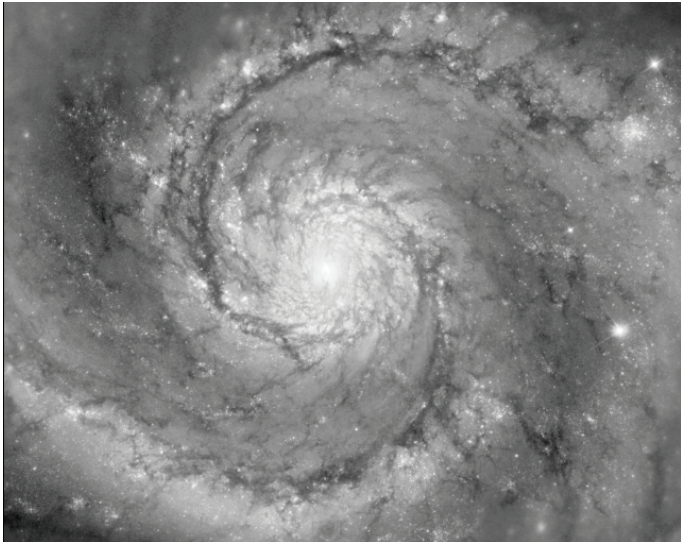


Photo Credit: [daviddarling.info](http://daviddarling.info)

Black holes can form through enormous stars that exert a huge amount of gravity. Our sun cannot turn into a black hole because it does not have enough mass. Once they form they are very difficult to spot due to light not being able to escape through the black hole.

Scientists like Remco C. E. van den Bosch, Karl Gebhardt, Kayhan Gültekin, Glenn van de Ven, Arjen van der Wel, and Jonelle L. Walsh used something called the “sphere of influence.” This means that they measure the gravitational effects the black holes have around gas and stars.

Black holes are in almost every galaxy in the universe, but some can be supermassive and some very small. According to the BBC, “a medium black hole could have mass of a thousand suns, but be no bigger than Earth.” Black holes are certainly interesting, but very little is known about them.

As science gets supermassive, maybe we might be able to know more about black holes.

So far, all we know about black holes is somewhat like Albert Einstein's quotation, “Black holes are where God divided by zero.”

*“If we were sucked into a black hole, we all would turn into spaghetti.”*

## Mid-Year Report: Freshmen Edition

By  
Hoon Hong  
*Register Forum Editor*

With the first semester coming to a close, many students look forward to the prospects of a fresh new set of classes and the relief of another portion of their high school years in the books.

As the whole school reflects on its latest chapter, it is the freshman class that exhibits feelings of change and adaptation to their new environment.

The transition from middle school to high school is not often an easy one to make. As freshman Klara Ingersoll said, “It is quite a bit more work, and I can often find myself shuttering in a daze due to the prevalence of sleep-deprived nights.”

While the transition

has not been the smoothest, students are starting to iron out the wrinkles and adjust to the concomitants of the next level of education.

Freshman Elizabeth Harkavy explains how she has, in fact, made the proper adjustments to CRLS: “I suppose that I have adapted fairly well to the consequences of harder classes and a new school. I now

*I now know many more people and I look forward to meeting even more.*

know many more people and I look forward to meeting even more.”

However, it is not simply how the freshmen have adapted to their school, but how the school has adjusted to the freshmen. Among the various freshmen-upperclassmen interactions, through mentoring, sports, etc., the freshmen are beginning to establish a

more prominent voice in the school.

Senior and student body vice president, Arthur Schutzberg, explains a friendly and competitive relationship he shares with an unnamed freshman: “We have had many verbal bouts when we would go back and forth. It is never clear who the so-called ‘winner’ is, however I feel as though I am a champion.”

These forms of quipping interactions and friendly relationships are blocks among the foundation of pure camaraderie. It is refreshing to see that the newest members of the Cambridge Rindge and Latin School have quickly begun to adjust to life in a new school and build relationships with the older members of the CRLS community.

## CRLS RESPONDS:

### What is your New Year's resolution?



**Liam Bodwell**  
Class of '13

*“My resolutions are to go to the Discotheque more often and lose weight with the Jane Fonda workout.”*

**Emily Gray**  
Class of '14

*“I don't believe in New Years resolutions; I think they're pointless because nobody ever follows through with them.”*



**Ross Baker**  
Class of '16

*“My New Year's resolution is to win the Schutzy-Baker Rivalry. This man has nothing on me!”*

**Patrick Lessage**  
Class of '13

*“I want to eat less sweets and spend more time with my family.”*

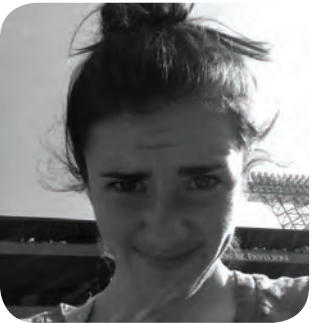


**Lydia Lewis**  
Class of '14

*“My New Year's resoluton is to not waste so much time.”*

**Lucia Tonachel**  
Class of '14

*“Watch out for the mix-tape it's dropping May 11th -- 511! These haters wanna hold me back!”*



**Nicky Nicolas**  
Class of '16

*“In 2013 I want to stay focused amd make my mom smile.”*

**Sophie Gottlieb**  
Class of '15

*“My New Year's resolution is to keep it classy in 2013.”*





# Distracted Driving: Is There a Solution?

By  
Ahad Zia  
*Register Forum Editor*

Alonzo Solórzano, a junior at CRLS, explains, “distracted driving is the act of driving when exposed to things such as cellphones, music and other in-vehicle distractions.”

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, distracted driving is broken into three different types of distractions. The first type is visual (taking your eyes off the road), the second type is manual (taking your hands off the wheel), and the third is cognitive (taking your mind off of what you are doing).

Over the period of many years, careless driving has been a huge issue that has raised a lot of tension. Deaths have risen due to this issue.

*Distraction.gov* shows that in 2010, 3092 people were killed in a distracted driving accident. Another 416,000 people were injured because of this issue. The National

Safety Council estimates that nearly 28% or 1.6 million vehicle crashes can be associated with some type of distraction.

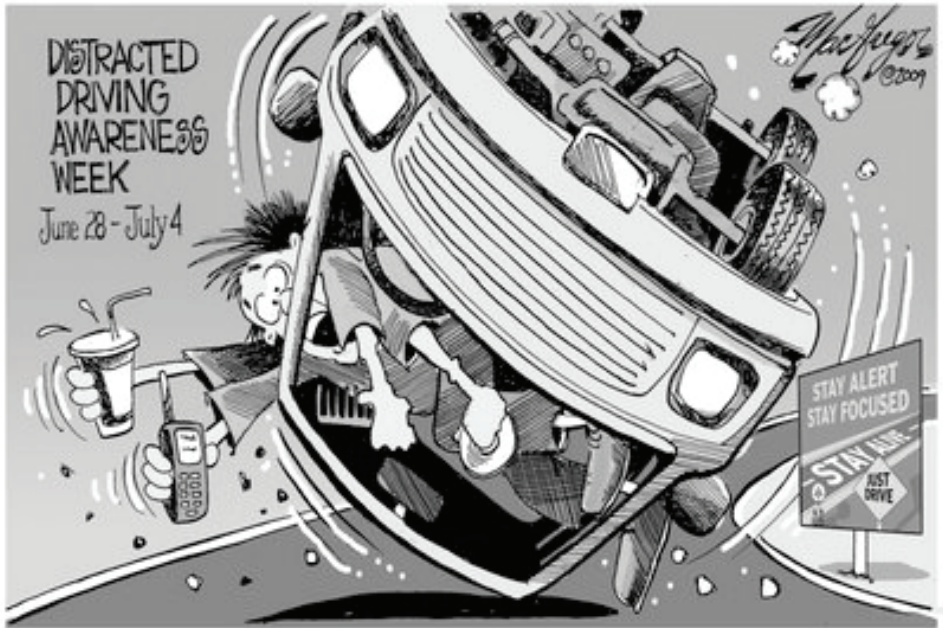
Some people think that hands-free devices will cause less driving accidents because the driver does not need to use his hands. Alex Kirby, senior at CRLS, expresses, “if you can use nothing--that’s the safest and is ideal, but if you have to make a call, hands-free is safer than a hand-held phone.”

In Massachusetts there are laws on the use of cell phone but the laws are not enforced on everyone. According to *Distraction.gov*, there is a ban on all cell phone use for bus

*“If you can use nothing--that’s the safest and is ideal, but if you have to make a call, hands-free is safer than a hand-held phone.”*

drivers and novice drivers while there is a ban on texting for all drivers in Massachusetts.

When one thinks about distracted driving, the first thing that comes to mind is a teen texting and driving. But when you look at adults, it is not hard to say that they



*This upcoming April is Distracted Driving Awareness Month, according to the United States Department of Transportation.*

drive while distracted. A 2010 report by Pew shows that 47 percent of all texting adults have read or sent a text while driving. The same report shows that 75 percent of the adult that owned a cell phone ad-

Although there are laws that ban cell phone use for new drivers and ban texting while driving, there are not enough police officers to enforce these regulations.

To stop distracted driving and decrease the number of accidents due to texting, talking on the phone or doing anything that takes a person’s attention off the road will need personal responsibility.

“People should just stop getting distracted. I think that there needs to be greater social awareness of the issue and people need to have a fear whenever they do something that will distract them while driving, the fear of death,” expresses Mahmood “Mach” Abu Rubieh, a current senior at CRLS.

# CRLS Club Fights Poverty in Madagascar

By  
Sasha Forbath  
*Register Forum Staff*

Almost ten years ago Catherine Craig, a former professor at Yale, founded the non-profit organization Conservation through Poverty Alleviation (CPALI). CPALI works with local farmers in Madagascar, introducing them to silk production. In the past, conservation reserves re-

located farmers. CPALI offers these farmers the opportunity to profit off of the sustainable silk industry.

Global Awareness Project is a club devoted to raising funds and informing the student body about worldwide issues. Federico Roitman, a club member says, “I think that helping is extremely important but it’s only half the challenge, I feel that to fully spur change we also have to spread awareness.” This year the club has decided to work with the organization CPALI. The Global Awareness Project hopes to host an assembly about deforestation and will feature the founder and president of the CPALI

Catherine Craig.

Eve Loftus is a junior at Rindge and an active member of the Global Awareness Project. Her mother serves on board of directors for CPALI.

Loftus explains, “CPALI is a new approach to conservation...CPALI works closely with locals, listening to what they need then acting accordingly. It is set up as a business model that will hopefully one day be self-sustaining and not reliant on donations.”



CPALI is set up differently than other organizations it is similar to. CPALI hires locals to oversee and help run the organization. CPALI is not an organization that has outsiders trying to push their ways on locals, but instead allows locals to teach each other a more sustainable farming method.

Unfortunately CPALI is not yet self-sustaining and still relies solely on donations. CPALI is always looking for new jewelry and web designers. If you are interested in becoming involved in the cause please check out <http://www.sepalim.org/index.html> or contact Global Awareness Project.



## Falcon Crossword Puzzle Answers

- Across

  - 1: Collegeboard
  - 7: Basketball
  - 9: SpikeLee
  - 11: Read
  - 13: Godfather
  - 16: Resolution
  - 19: Military
  - 20: Polo
- Down

  - 2: Dublino
  - 3: Mili
  - 4: Freshmen
  - 5: GeorgiaTech
  - 6: Oscars
  - 8: AhadZia
  - 10: Inauguration
  - 12: Ott
  - 14: Geometry
  - 15: Postwalk
  - 17: Texting
  - 18: Django



# Danceworks 2013

By  
Kevin Xiong  
*Register Forum Editor*

On January 10th and 11th, the CRLS Visual and Performing Arts Department held its annual winter dance production, Danceworks.

Under the guidance of producer Ms. Mila Thigpen and Modern Dance Company (MDC) adviser Ms. Lauren Simpson, the show featured choreography from faculty, guest artists, and students from MDC, Dance 2, and Advanced Dance. CRLS students performed fourteen pieces, each piece conveying an emotion, idea, or story through the art of dance.

“[This show’s dances] are ‘celebratory’ in spirit,” summarized Ms. Simpson. “Two dances are about the choreographers’ parents and how much they appreciate, love, and long for them. The Dance 2 piece is about the Dance 2 class itself – it starts with the dancers walking to class, changing into their dance clothes, ‘checking-in,’ warming up, stretching, dancing, and finally going back into the

bigger world again. It’s a celebration of what we’re doing day to day.”

“MDC should stand for Most Delightful Choreography,” commented senior Callum Nelson, who has attended every single performance since freshman year.

“There’s always a plot twist in the choreography,” agreed senior Arthur Schutzberg. “And there are always people stepping out of their comfort zones on stage.”

This year’s show is different from that of previous years, containing many more MDC pieces.

“Typically the dance program puts on three shows a year, one in January, March, and May,” explained Ms. Simpson. “This year we are not doing a March show and adding more MDC performances to the January and May shows.”

“The choreography application process is becoming more competitive, as is the dance company itself,” added senior Karen Chen, an MDC performer.



Photo Credit: Larry Aaronson

“The company used to be around 75 people, and now we have around 35.”

A highlight of the show was the music, exhibiting a range of musical tastes, including artists like Michael Bublé, Jack Johnson, Miguel, Bon Iver, Owl City, and A\$AP Rocky.

“I saw Bon Iver in concert at an important

*“Each dancer brought something of their own to the table.”*

point in my life,” revealed senior Hannah Ashe, who choreographed “To Whom It May Concern,” and chose Bon Iver’s “Beth/Rest” as her dance’s accompaniment. “My song choice guided the emotions I wanted to portray.”

All revenue from the two shows will go toward future programming, tak-



ing dance students on field trips, and funding costumes and guest artists.

“[Not holding a March show] allows more space in the year to take our performances to other schools like Harvard, take field trips to see dance performances, and have guest artists come in to focus more on dance technique

training,” stated Ms. Simpson. “We have a very exciting guest coming, Ellenore Scott, a finalist from *So You Think You Can Dance!*”

Overall, the show garnered overwhelmingly positive reviews.

“All the variety is exciting,” exclaimed junior Ben Schooler. “It exposes people to a different side of CRLS.”



“I enjoyed the show,” commented Ms. Wegman, who will choreograph a piece for the May concert. “I’m looking forward to working in May with all these talented dancers.”

“It showcases the diversity of talent we have,” added Ms. VanBlaricum. “It also gives students the opportunity to learn how to be a respectful audience.”

“Each dancer brought something of their own to the table,” said senior Isobel Schpeiser.

“Performances involve bonding with a group of beyond talented dancers, learning from others, and improving dance and teaching skills,” summarized choreographer and dancer Layla Taremi. “As a senior, it’s sad that I only have one more show left.”



Photo Credit: Larry Aaronson

By  
Kevin Xiong  
*Register Forum Editor*

**RF: Please introduce yourself.**

PM: I grew up in North Cambridge. I’ve taught at CRLS since 1977, and I’ll be retiring at the end of the semester.

**RF: If you’ve taught for over 35 years, how many students have you taught in total?**

PM: Somewhere around three thousand.

**RF: What were you like in high school?**

PM: I went to Matignon High. I was relatively studious, participated in the math team, and played football for four years and a little bit of basketball. I also enjoyed all the social things that go along with being a high school student.

**RF: Why did you become a teacher and how’d you find CRLS?**

PM: I was a math major and not quite sure what I wanted to do. A coworker of mine at a job I

## In the Spotlight: Mr. Peter Mili *Retiring CRLS Math Teacher Reflects on 35-Year Career*

had, who was also a teacher, encouraged me to try teaching as a profession. I took her advice and enrolled in a teacher prep program in my last semester. During the placement process, CRLS accepted me as a student teacher. I was very fortunate following that experience to get hired as a teacher at CRLS, and never left.

**RF: Why math?**

PM: Mathematics as a pure discipline is beautiful and elegant, but sometimes that gets missed in a skill and drill curriculum. It’s a tool to understand nature and has numerous applications.

**RF: What classes have you taught throughout your career?**

PM: I’ve taught the entire range of math courses.

**RF: What’s it like to be the adviser of National Honor Society?**

PM: It’s a great experience because I get to know many students who have excelled in a variety of ways. It’s always a wonderful pleasure for me to see the pride parents have when their children are being inducted.

**RF: What’s something you’ll always remember from your career?**

PM: The students I was fortunate enough to teach. It’s been a pleasure for me to see students learning, especially after a bit of a struggle.

**RF: What are your plans after you retire?**

PM: I look forward to relaxing, exploring new

hobbies or adventures, and paying attention to things I haven’t had time to do lately, like home repair and maintenance that I enjoy doing. I love to walk, by the beach or in the city. I also plan to stay involved in education. I’ll be advising student teachers and new teachers in programs I’m involved in at local universities, BU and UMass in particular.

**RF: Do you have any concerns as you prepare to retire?**

PM: I’m concerned that newer teachers may not enjoy a long rewarding career like the one I’ve had. Demands on teachers are continually being added, nothing is being subtracted, and the role of schools in general has expanded. I don’t see this as a good thing for students or public education in general.

**RF: What’s something you’d like to get out there to all CRLS students?**

PM: Take pride in your work and realize that you control your own behavior and work ethic. What your parents and teachers ask you to do is always for your benefit, which is not always clear to you at the time.

**RF: What makes CRLS special?**

PM: The people who work in the building, the students who come to learn, and the community that supports our endeavors. When I leave, I will miss the people, the work we do together, and the regular conversations we have.











# The Myth of the SATs

By  
Sun-Ui Yum  
*Register Forum Editor*

As juniors nationwide are becoming aware of college applications looming in the distance, SATs – one of the most notorious standardized tests around – are beginning to creep into their conscious. Since freshman year, the importance of the SAT has been driven into our minds. But the question remains: should the SAT even matter?

The most common argument in favor of the SAT is that it is the one criterion that puts every high-schooler worldwide on the same scale, that it evens the grounds. However, in a 1999 study conducted by Saul Geiser on UC Berkeley, the SAT only did a marginally better job of predicting college freshman performance in comparison to other factors from their high-school years, like GPA.

A 2002 study conducted by The College Board itself came to an almost identical conclu-



sion. If the SAT doesn't do a better job of evaluating students than other factors, what's its purpose?

Furthermore, there is substantial evidence to suggest that the SAT is skewed. 2006 test data suggests that about 50% of test-takers who scored above

worse than students who are white or Asian, indicating a powerful racial gap. Immigrants or students from other countries are also at a substantial disadvantage in the Critical Reading and Writing sections, due to their potentially smaller relative experience with

*... "The time involved [studying for the SAT] was not aimed at developing the students' reading and writing abilities but rather their test-taking skills."*

700 on any section of the SAT came from families with an average annual income over \$100,000.

Black, Hispanic, and American Indian students also tend to perform

English. Although the SAT appears to be the great equalizer, in fact, it may do more to shift the balance.

Another major complaint toward the SAT is the fact that it seems to assess

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*"Listening to every voice,  
printing what you need to hear"*

testing-ability as opposed to intelligence or knowledge. I saw my SAT score jump over two hundred points over the course of two months of studying, hardly the fluctuation you'd expect from a standardized test.

Even the president of the University of California, Richard Atkinson, voiced a belief that "the time involved [studying for

the SAT] was not aimed at developing the students' reading and writing abilities but rather their test-taking skills."

If the SAT isn't fair, it isn't more accurate than other measures, and it doesn't do what it's supposed to – why do we insist on evaluating millions of high-schoolers annually with it?

## CITYterm

By  
Annie Bonsey  
*Register Forum Editor*

In my junior year I drove up the long and curving road in Dobbs Ferry, New York with my family and a car full of my belongings. For the next four months I participated in CITYterm, a semester away program in New York City that accepts thirty high school juniors and seniors each year.

I had heard about the program through Abbie Cohen, a CITYterm and CRLS alum, and while I love CRLS and cannot imagine myself at any other high school, I wanted to put myself in a completely different environment. I knew that I would be challenged in ways that I could not anticipate, but I was completely unaware that I was about to become part of a community that would change my life.

CITYterm offered me an entirely new approach to learning which treated experience as the most valuable pathway for education. In many ways, what I was taught at CITYterm directly contradicted what I had been previously taught; tangents can yield valuable insights. Questions do not need to have answers. Anomalies are an essential part of the picture. Most importantly, try always to read and speak with empathy and an appreciation for the perspectives

around you.

In the program three out of the five school days were spent at our dorm at the Masters Boarding School in Dobbs Ferry (a suburb about twenty minutes from the city). There was allotted time for the more traditional math and language classes, but the rest was

left for what were known as the "Urban Core" classes. Within these classes we would explore a variety of topics through various lenses; whether it was examining the evolution of a neighborhood, meeting with Mayor Rudy Giuliani about 9/11, handing out food and speaking with the homeless community at midnight, giving a presentation at Columbia, or analyzing immigration patterns in the City.

At CITYterm the social and academic life are completely intertwined. Together the 30 students and 6 faculty members live in a dorm, which houses the bedrooms as well as the classrooms. The students make up a unique and diverse group, in terms of race, economic background, and personality, but all share a desire to be part of a tight-knit

community and to grow and engage with their surroundings.

Of course, there are some downsides to leaving for a semester, and CITYterm may not be the right fit for everyone. There are no available

AP classes, and you might miss out on a season of sports. In my opinion though, these factors are completely outshone by everything one can gain from the program; I personally left with a stronger sense of my own voice, an ability to work in all kinds of groups and scenarios, and clarification on what I wanted for college and beyond.

Other semester programs that are offered for high school students are The Island School in the Bahamas, The Mountain School in Vermont, and Chewonki in Maine. All of these programs offer an opportunity for students to put themselves out of their comfort zones, and have the incredible experience of taking on a whole new way of life and learning. I encourage anyone interested in CITYterm to talk to me or visit the website <http://www.cityterm.org/>. Applications for next year are due February 15th.





# Crazier than an Asylum

## What It Takes for People to Ride the MBTA

By  
Liam Greenwell  
Register Forum Correspondent

The MBTA is supremely awful. None of the trains or buses ever run on time, the stations are dirty and uncomfortable, and the buses and trains themselves are overcrowded and rarely cleaned.

And yet I ride it every day.

It's not like I don't

have a choice: if I really wanted to, I could ride my bike, walk, or find some other way to get to school.

The MBTA isn't that much easier. So why do I keep going back? Back to the grimy, decrepit Harvard station every single day when I want to return home?

Back to the bus stop out in the cold every morning, where I have either just missed the bus or it's ten minutes late?

I'm not alone in these endeavors, either. I regularly see multiple CRLS students on any bus I'm on. Actually, I rarely don't see another CRLS student on any given bus ride.

There must be some reason, then, why we all put up with it. Sure, some of us need to ride the MBTA: we



Crowds wait for the Red Line train. Photo Credit: subwaynut.com



Photo Credit: boston.com

live too far away, we don't own a bike, or the weather is terrible and we just really need to get to school.

But how about the rest? The people like me for whom it isn't completely necessary?

Just the other day on my ride home, I realized the answer after encountering some of my fellow bus riders.

One was pacing up and down the bus muttering to herself, one was wearing some sort of Daniel Boone-like hat on her head, and still another was blaring the Mickey Mouse theme song through his ear buds.

That's where it struck me, sitting between

Ms. Daniel Boone and Mr. Mickey Mouse: they weren't the only crazy, odd, or downright strange people on the bus -- I was one of them too.

Anyone who rides the bus is one. To deal with the long waits, dirty seats,

and noisy drivers, you kind

of have to be a little crazy.

I've accepted this, and still ride the MBTA every day. I don't really understand why I do it. But at least I understand one thing-- which I'll never doubt again in my life.

I am a little crazy, so I might as well enjoy that Mickey Mouse theme song next to me.

# Do Dreams Become Reality?

## Examining the DREAM Act's Effects on Our Community

By  
Yarisa Vazquez  
Register Forum Staff

Picture this: you wake up and get ready to go to school. You are a dreamer. You have a dream to be a grand professional in the future.

Your profession will provide you with thousands of jobs in the United States and it will also help the United States economy.

As soon as you step out of your house, you see a cop car. You try to run, but immigrant officials are everywhere.

You are sent back to your native country with no knowledge of the language, change in your pocket, and the address to a relatives' home whose name you barely remember.

This happens to thousands of people a year, but you never thought it could happen to you. You are getting deported, but your dreams will stay in the country you were forced to leave behind.

The DREAM Act, or the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors Act, was first introduced in 2001. This act was intended to provide conditional legal immigration status to undocumented teens that meet specific criteria.

For a student to be eligible for The DREAM Act, they must follow these criteria: they must have been brought into the United States while under the age of 16, they must graduate or be on the road to graduating high school, and they must have limited to no criminal record at all.

Thousands of Dreamers are deported each year. Many of the Dreamers were brought into the States so young that they do not know what their home country or hometown look like.

These students are honor students, star athletes, future doctors, and aspiring politicians who are being deprived of a proper education -- and ultimately their dreams -- due to their legal status.

Dan Weathersby, a CRLS guidance counselor for Learning Community S, explained his views by saying, "Professionally, I think that it will give a lot of opportunities to students who would like to pursue an education.

"Illegal students have to pay approximately three or four times the amount that a legal student must pay. Personally, I still believe it should pass, because I've had kids who have gone through the U.S. school system and have lived a normal U.S. life, and they have not been able to go to college. If they went through all that trouble to live a normal life, they should be able

*"Illegal students have to pay approximately three or four times the amount that a legal student must pay."*



Photo Credit: dreamersact.wordpress.com

to attend the U.S. colleges."

In today's society, some Americans believe that immigrants are a horrible aspect of the United States.

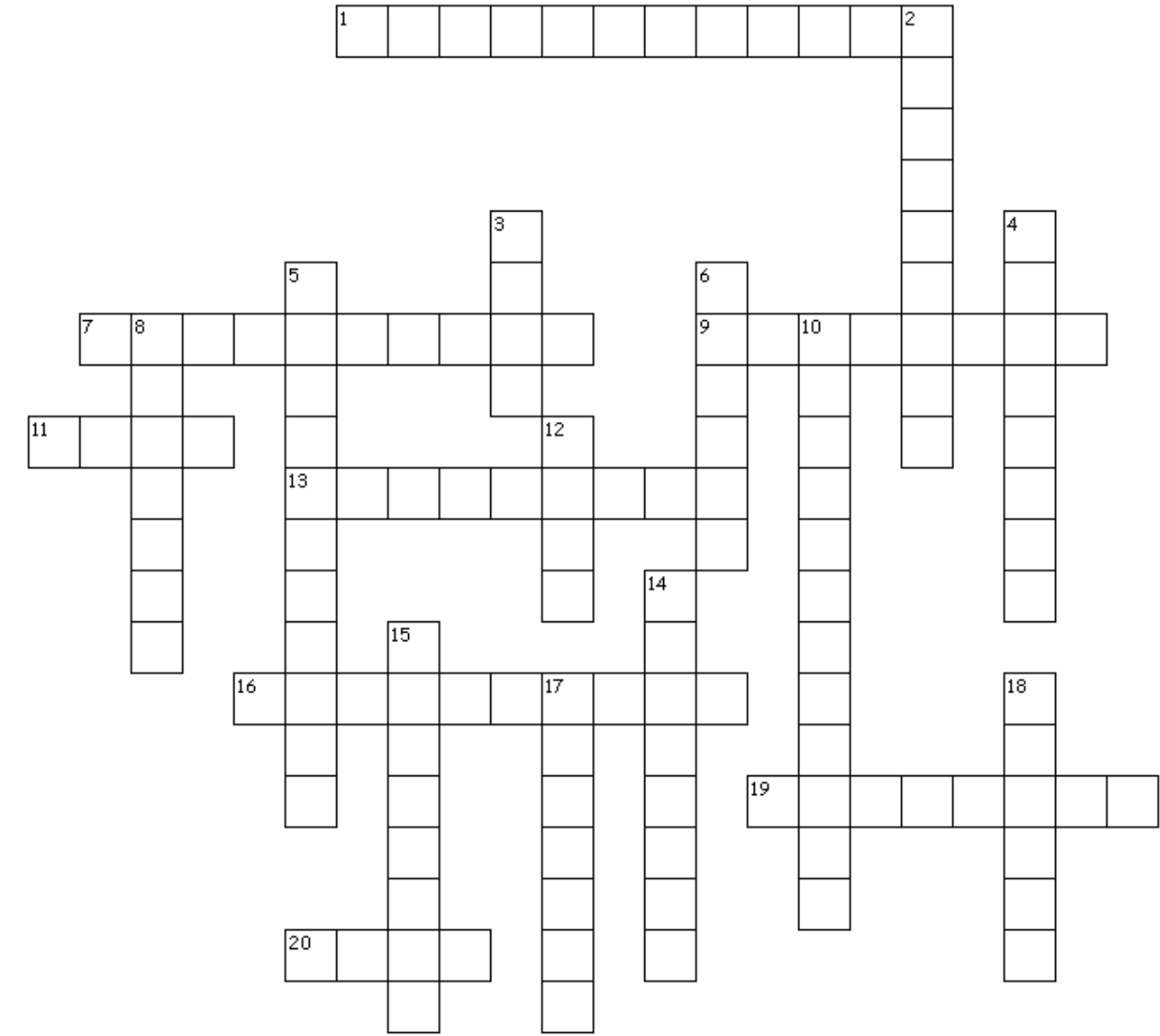
According to an article from the National Immigration Forum of 2003, many myths about immigrants are still held in our world today. These myths include the misconceptions that immigrants do not pay taxes, they come to the states to take welfare, they send all their earnings back to their countries, they take jobs and opportunities away from American citizens, they drain the U.S. economy, they do not want to learn English or become Americans, and they cross the borders illegally.

The previous statements are all false.

The truth is that a large part of the immigrant population flew into the United States from their countries with visas. They are later deemed to be illegal when their visas expire, which happens while most of the immigrants are in the United States.



Falcon Crossword



Across

- 1. SAT/AP Tests
- 7. Kurtis Blow
- 9. “Do the Right Thing”
- 11. Shout out to Ms. Read
- 13. Francis Ford Coppola
- 16. New Years
- 19. Patriotism
- 20. Sport of Kings

Down

- 2. James Joyce
- 3. Teacher in the Spotlight
- 4. Class of 2016
- 5. Division 1
- 6. Academy Awards
- 8. *The Register Forum* Photographer
- 10. Obama
- 12. Modern World History Teacher
- 14. Math Class
- 15. Sun-ui “Sidewalk” Yum
- 17. Don’t do it while driving
- 18. Quentin Tarentino

Sudoku

6	8	7		9			2	4
	1						9	5
					6			
3				1	4			7
8	2	4		7		5	6	1
5			8	6				3
		6						
2	9						1	
1	4			3		7	5	2

	1		4					9
			5		1	6		
5	2	9	6			8	4	1
		5					8	2
	7		8		3		6	
4	6					5		
9	8	2			5	4	1	6
		4	2		8			
1					4		3	

				6				9
		7	9		4		1	3
		4			3		2	
				9	5		3	
	5	6	8		1	2	7	
	3		4	2				
	6		7			4		
5	8		3		9	7		
4			1					

Cartoons



“I’m so glad *that’s* over!”

Haiku Poetry Slam

I live in Cambridge  
It never can be boring  
Though some don’t think so  
  
--Sarah Netsky

These girls make me smile  
All of them are so different  
Though do they like me?  
  
--Sarah Netsky



# Django Unchained: Tarantino Stirs Up Controversy Once Again

By  
Sun-Ui Yum  
Register Forum Editor

“While the casual usage of the N-word by all characters certainly made me uncomfortable, I realized that this was no more than an effort by Tarantino to create the most realistic film possible,” reflected senior Nathan Greenberg on Quentin Tarantino’s latest movie, *Django Unchained*.

It has been years since Quentin Tarantino established himself as one of Hollywood’s most talented and critically ac-claimed directors with his seminal ‘90s classic *Pulp Fiction*. Yet, the 49-year-old has never been far from controversy.

His films’ trademark excess violence has attracted criticism from the likes of *The Huffington Post*, particularly after the release of Nazi-era revenge film *Inglourious Basterds*.

However, the debate that has tailed Tarantino the closest following the release of 1997’s *Jackie Brown* is his prolific usage of the “N-

word” epithet. Shortly following *Jackie Brown*’s entry into theaters, prominent African-American director Spike Lee condemned Tarantino’s usage of the word in *Variety*, asking, “What does [Tarantino] want? To be made an honorary black man?”

The controversy never truly died down, especially considering retorts from the frequent Tarantino collaborator Samuel Jackson and Tarantino himself, but it has experienced a powerful resurgence upon the release of *Django Un-*

chained in late December 2012. Django chronicles the journey of a slave and a bounty hunter in the antebellum South to find his wife and avenge her taking. On top of an obviously controversial topic, a slave taking violent revenge on white slaveowners, the N-word is used over a hundred times throughout the movie.

In a recent *TMZ* interview, comedian Katt Williams questioned how a black person could have a silent letter in his name before black people could read. Spike Lee, too, has fired criticism toward Tarantino’s film, tweeting, “American Slavery Was Not A Sergio Leone Spaghetti Western. It Was A Holocaust. My Ancestors Are Slaves. Stolen From Africa. I Will Honor Them.”

In contrast, *Django*’s actors and actresses have come to the film’s defense in multiple interviews. *Django* star Jamie Foxx said, “Hearing those words, and you hear them enough, it became second hand because that’s how they talked back then.”

Samuel Jackson, who plays an Uncle-Tom-esque villain in *Django*, told the *LA Times* that “[Quentin’s] making entertainment. Hopefully, it makes you go ask questions and you Google it.” Tarantino, too, defended his choices in *Django* by telling *Root*, “Well, you know if you’re going to make a movie

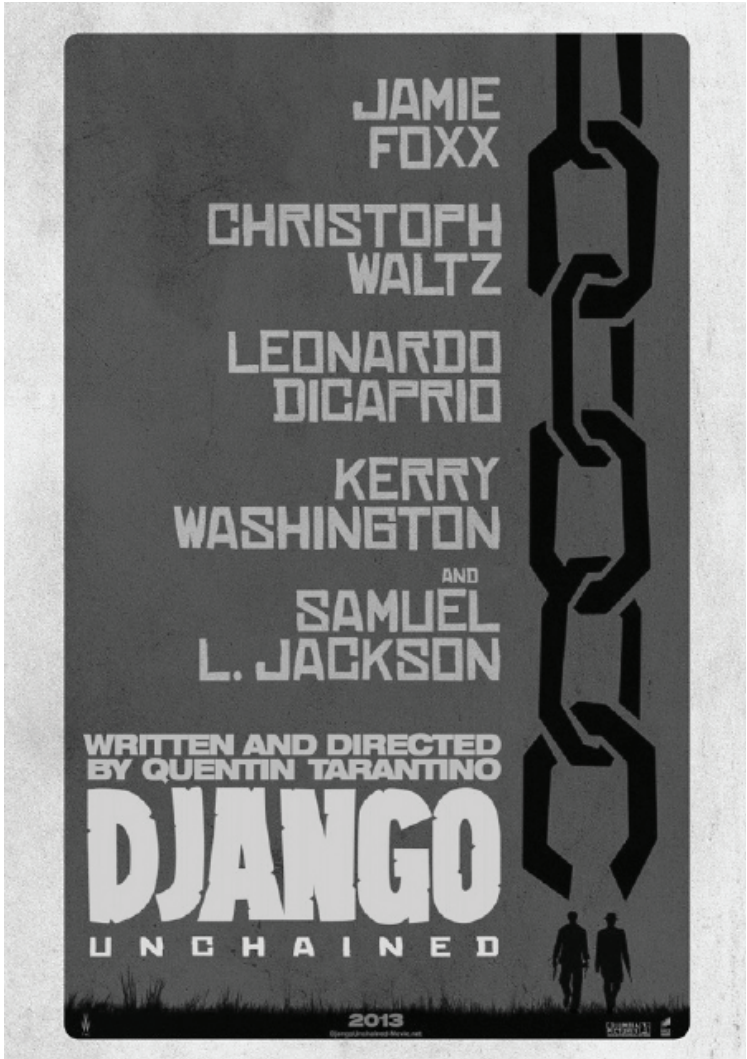


Photo Credit: reelandunscripted.com

about slavery and are taking a 21st-century viewer and putting them in that time period, you’re going to hear some things that are going to be ugly.”

This debate has even stretched to the campus of Cambridge Rindge and Latin. Freshman Ross Baker stated regarding the movie, “I could see why it would make others uncomfortable, but they were try-

ing to embody a time period where that word was thrown around often.”

Whatever the public’s response to *Django* is, one thing is absolutely undeniable – Tarantino’s latest is an enormous success. It currently holds an 88% “Fresh” rating on movie review aggregator Rotten Tomatoes, grossing over \$30 million. It has also been nominated for five Oscars.



## THE REGISTER FORUM ARTIST OF THE MONTH *Surya Bedinger*



By  
Rout Asefa  
Register Forum Editor

“She’s the dopest dancer!” exclaimed Christina Kaltcheva.

Senior Surya Bedinger is destined for greatness. She began to dance from a young age and has even taken summer classes in the world renowned dance program Alvin Ailey. Bedinger is also this year’s Modern Dance Company captain. She is a phenomenal dancer on stage and an exceptional student in the classroom.

Bedinger has the incredible ability to wow the audience with her intricate moves as she performs on stage. She is able to captivate the audience with her ball changes, heel turns, kicks, and chasses.

“When she dances it’s like she’s not even touching the ground; it makes me want to cry. It seems like she can do any kind of dance and it always looks incredible,” said

senior Annie Bonsey. Bedinger is dedicated to dance and even plans to continue it through college and beyond.

“She’s very dedicated to dancing, and watching her dance is just awe inspiring. I don’t even like watching dance that much, but when she’s on the stage I actually find myself enjoying it,” commented senior Mae Drucker.

Once again, she was able to dazzle the audience at the Danceworks show that took place on the 10th and 11th of January. One could not help but follow her as she performed her swift movements. She was practically flawless on stage.

“Seeing her on stage, you can see the passion she has for dance. She is very precise with her movements,” said longtime friend senior Sila Taskomur.

As a result of Surya’s hard work on and off the stage, she has received the title of *The Register Forum* Artist of the Month.



# How NBA GMs Escape Proper Scrutiny

By  
Hoon Hong  
Register Forum Editor

Last month, head coach of the Brooklyn Nets Avery Johnson fell victim to the treachery of the NBA's coaching carousel; he was fired. Although the former NBA Coach of the Year led a somewhat disappointing campaign, Johnson is ultimately a scapegoat for his team's disappointing play.

The issues with the Nets go far beyond the coaching staffs. NBA teams hold coaches to a stricter standard than they do with their general managers (GMs), and coaches end up taking the fall for the GMs' mistakes.

Firstly, the Nets have the second highest player payroll in the NBA, \$88 million, and championship expectations; however, they do not have a championship-level roster.

To put the Nets' egregious payroll into perspective, the NBA caps every team's payrolls at \$58 million, and sets a hard cap at \$70 million. For every \$1 that a team's payroll goes over the hard cap, the team is taxed \$1, meaning that even though the Nets' payroll is \$88 million, the team must pay \$106 million for all of its players' salaries.

Even the legitimate title contenders do not need to spend nearly as much as the Nets. The 1st and 2nd place Oklahoma City Thunder and LA Clippers teams have payrolls of \$70 million and \$73 million, respectively. This is even with superstar talent on both teams.

The Nets have \$310 million committed to the players currently on their roster over the next three seasons, while the Clippers have just \$120 million com-

mitted over the next three seasons and the Thunder have just under \$196 million committed. Surely the Clippers' figure is affected by the rookie-scale contract that star Blake Griffin is still on and the number of expiring contracts the organization has, but this is exactly what any team in the league needs: cap flexibility.

One of the biggest reasons a team needs cap flexibility is so it is not restrained to the same group of players that are not producing well enough.

Unfortunately for the Nets, they are very much committed to their starting five: Deron Williams (5 years, \$100 million), Joe Johnson (4 years, \$89 million), Gerald Wallace (4 years, \$40 million), Kris Humphries (2 years, \$24 million), and Brook Lopez (4 years, \$61 million).

In an interview with the *New York Times*, Nets GM Billy

King said he built the team to compete with the Miami Heat. There is some superficial logic to his claim: the Nets have All-Star caliber players at point guard (Williams) and center (Brook Lopez), the two weakest positions in the Heat's starting lineup.

However, this does not hold up to much scrutiny, no team with as little frontcourt defense as the Nets has ever defeated LeBron James in the playoffs.

A common theme in LeBron's playoff exits is an elite defensive center capable of preventing him from dominating the paint. Here are the centers that defeated



Photo Credit: brooklyn-hello.com

LeBron from 2007-2011: Rasheed Wallace, Tim Duncan, Kevin Garnett/Kendrick Perkins (twice), Dwight Howard and Tyson Chandler.

Even before James developed a low-post game, there was no way for a team without a strong defensive big to prevent the 6'8 250 LeBron from running a train at the front of the rim.

Brook Lopez has many offensive gifts, but

lyn's future would look very different had they acquired Dwight Howard. King may also be a victim of Prokhorov's mandate to contend immediately.

It is much easier to buy a title in Europe's more free-market sports leagues than it is in the NBA, with its byzantine system of salary cap and luxury tax restrictions designed to "ensure competitive balance" and to protect the owners'

ferent game situations.

NBA head coaches, Randy Wittman (Washington Wizards) and Keith Smart (Sacramento Kings) are widely rumored to be next on the chopping block. However, the problems with the Wizards and Kings go way beyond whatever poor soul is tasked to win games with these poorly constructed rosters.

Kings GM Geoff Petrie earned a lot of goodwill for the elite teams he built in the early 2000's, but Sacramento hasn't made the playoffs in seven seasons. In that time, they've had six head coaches. Washington has had four head coaches since they last made the playoffs, yet GM Glen Grunwald actually received a contract extension in 2012.

The biggest personnel decision Prokhorov made in Brooklyn was not re-signing Williams or replacing Johnson; it was letting someone with Billy King's checkered history as a general manager run the show in the first place.

When a ship is sinking, instead of rearranging deck chairs, maybe we should worry about whose actually been piloting it.

*It is much easier to buy a title in Europe's more free-market sports leagues than it is in the NBA.*

he is a finesse scorer who needs help defensively and rebounding the ball; his career rebounding percentage (13.3) is one of the lowest of any center in the NBA.

This is not insurmountable, but Lopez needs to be paired with a frontcourt partner who can make up for his weaknesses. Although a solid rebounder, Kris Humphries, who averages 0.7 blocks a game, is not that interior defender the Nets desperately need.

Nets owner Mikhail Prokhorov has said that anything less than a berth in the Conference Finals would be a disappointment, but it's hard to see this core pulling that off, regardless of the coach.

Even if they don't wind up on the Heat's side of the bracket, they've fallen way behind the pace of the Knicks, who have exactly the type of interior defensive presence (Tyson Chandler) Brooklyn so desperately needs next to Lopez.

To be fair to Nets GM Billy King, Brook-

lyn's future would look very different had they acquired Dwight Howard.

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Former Nets coach Avery Johnson argues call with ref.

Photo Credit: m.spokesman.com



Owner Mikhail Prokhorov shares a word with part-owner, Jay-Z

Photo Credit: zimbio.com



# Blade Runner

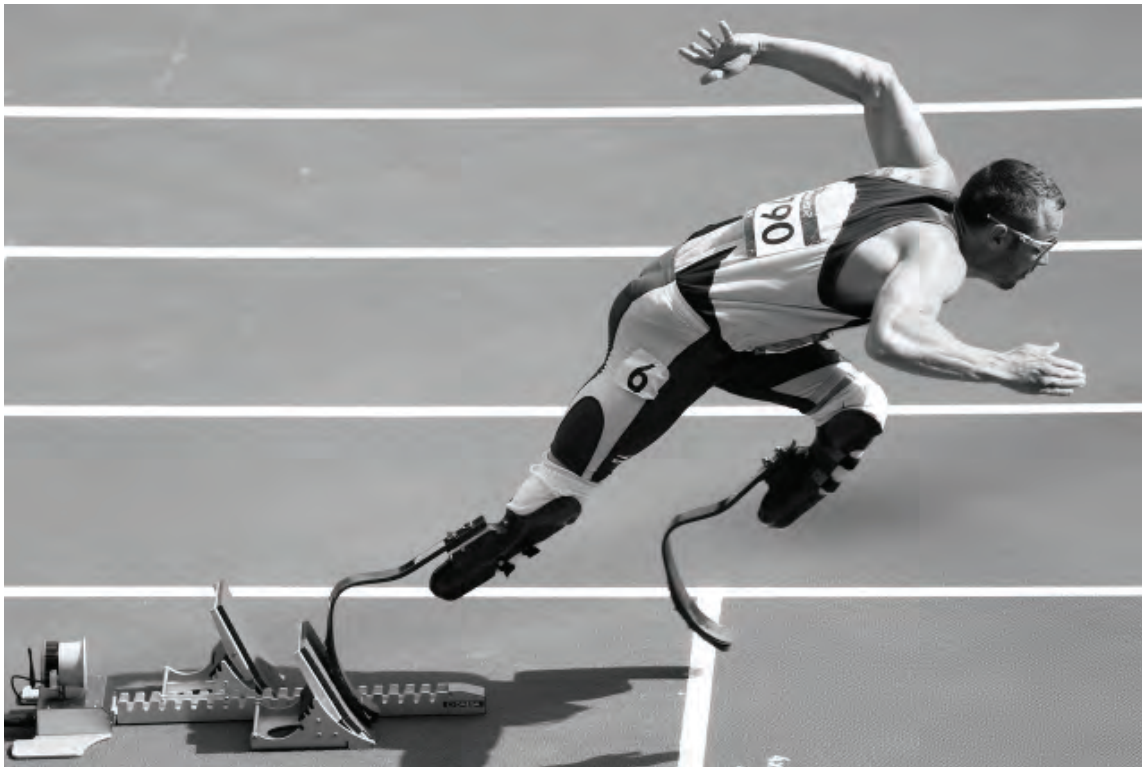
## Crossing New Territory with Oscar Pistorius

By  
Neil McCann  
*Register Forum Correspondent*

2012 marked the first time a double leg amputee competed in the Olympic Games, as South African Oscar Pistorius ran in the 400 meters and the 4 x 400 meter relay team. In the 400-meter race Pistorius finished 2nd out of a field of five runners, but what makes this accomplishment all the more amazing is that Pistorius has no legs.

Instead, he uses prosthetic attachments below the knees that are curved at the bottom to simulate feet. Pistorius’ double amputation is the result of a case of fibular hemimelia, which resulted in amputations at just 11 months.

Despite this obvious disadvantage, Pistorius was able to beat 3 exceptional athletes with fully functional feet. Pistorius was elimi-



Pistorius launches off the starting block at the beginning of the London Olympics Men’s 400m.

nated in the semifinal heat when he finished 8th of 9, but a legend was born.

Pistorius is a regular at the Paralympics Games, where he has set world records in the 200-meter dash and won gold medals in the 100, 200, and 400-meter dashes.

Pistorius races in the T44 section, which is designated for single below knee amputees, despite the fact that he is classified as a T43 (double leg amputee).

Pistorius has not only been racing against athletes less impaired than him, but he has been setting world records as well.

In the 2012 Paralympics, Pistorius ran a blistering 21.3 seconds in the semifinal, setting the world record for Paralympians in the 200 meters.

Pistorius’s indisputably biggest accomplishment was when he became the first amputee to win an able-bodied world track medal during the 2011 world championships in Daegu, South Korea, when the South African 4 x 400 relay team won silver.

Pistorius did not win a medal in London during the Olympics, but when he competed in the Paralympics later that summer he

earned the gold medal in the 400-meter dash. He also finished fourth in the 100 meter final, but finished the competition on a strong note when he won gold in the 4 x 400 relay.

As modern medicine advances, one question will always hang around athletes like Oscar Pistorius: are these braces and casts giving you an unfair advantage over able-bodied runners?

A person must consider if these prosthetics that Pistorius has attached to his knees are cheating. Claims that the prosthetics that Pistorius wears are unfair has caused the Interna-

tional Association of Athletics Federations to amend their rules.

Whether the Federation will continue to tweak their rules to allow athletes like Pistorius to compete is anybody’s guess. The other alternative would be to segregate athletes with prosthetics and allow them to only compete in the Paralympics Games. Neither decision is a perfect solution - partly because no one knows what new devices will be invented to simulate walking and running.

At this point in time, evidence that men or women like Pistorius have a substantial advantage is likely too circumstantial to prompt serious action - but one day a device may be introduced that give these athletes a clearly unfair advantage. Would this flip the spectrum and put the able bodied athletes at a disadvantage, and would this be a problem?

The case of Oscar Pistorius is one that enters uncharted territory: never before has a man with not just one but two legs amputated below the knees raced among able-bodied runners. Regardless, it is certainly exciting territory for all watching and involved.

# The Sport of Kings, Examined

## Backshot into the History of Polo

By  
Hoon Hong  
*Register Forum Editor*

Polo is called “the sport of kings,” and for centuries has drawn royalty to its ranks. In the minds of many, the sport has belonged to the rich, famous, and privileged few. But there is more to the sport than the glamorous world that surrounds it.

It started in Persia as a war game over 2,000 years ago as one of the oldest team sports in history. It is fast, it is rough, and it is considered one of the most dangerous sports in the world. 35-year-old Ignacio Figueras -- known simply as Nacho -- stated, “It’s war, yes... you’re trying to score more goals and to go faster and hit someone harder, and do whatever it takes to win that game.”

Most Americans know very little about the sport, but in the 1920s and 1930s, polo could draw crowds of over 30,000 spectators for championship cups held in places such as Long Island, New York.

The object is to hit the ball through the opposing team’s goal. It all takes place on the largest field in sports, big enough to fit nine football fields. It is a four on four competition, with six seven-minute periods called “chukkers.”

Players must use their right hands to play while using their left hands to control their horse.

Nacho is the most famous professional polo player today, and one may recognize him as the face of Ralph Lauren. His sultry look is an international symbol for the Polo brand, and he is the unrivaled ambassador for the sport.

Eighteen thousand people showed up at his annual charity match that he hosts on Governors Island in New York City, where some VIP tables went up to \$50,000. Nacho is at ease among the glitz and glamour of the polo scene, the star attraction in that *Great Gatsby*-esque world of extravagant hats, seersucker suits, and elegant spectators sipping champagne. But where his real passion lies is on the field.

It takes blood, sweat, and hard work to play polo at Nacho’s level. It is certainly an intense activity -- many people describe polo as hockey on horseback. Nacho says it is more like playing golf in an earthquake: “I’ve broken my nose twice. I have stitches here from here to there. I have broken my wrist. I broke my ankle. I’ve been unconscious twice from falling. It’s a rough sport.”

The horses go as fast as 35 miles an hour and usually last about three and a half minutes before they have to be swapped out. Nacho has one of the best strings of polo ponies in the game. They are all descendants of great polo ponies, bred from champion stock.

Horses will typically not be ready for professional polo until they are six or seven - relatively old compared to a racehorse, which peaks at three or four. These horses are especial-

ly coveted. According to legendary American polo player and famous horse breeder, Owen Reinhart, champion polo horses can cost up to \$200,000. Nacho has 300 polo horses at his disposal.

Local polo player Lucia Tonachel listed the characteristics of a great polo horse by saying, “Speed, agility, mental soundness, sensitivity to the reigns, and competitiveness, the very best ones are very competitive.” Tonachel has played polo for much of her life, attributing her love of the game to the great influence that Nacho has on the world. As players like Nacho and Tonachel play the game that they love the same way it has been played for centuries, they certainly hope to excite much new interest in the ancient sport.

BOYS VARSITY

BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

1 / 25 EVERETT HS

2 / 1 @SOMERVILLE HS

2 / 5 @MEDFORD HS

2 / 6 WEST ROXBURY SCHOOL

2 / 8 @MALDEN HS

2 / 11 @LYNN VOCATIONAL AND TECHNICAL INSTITUTE



# Ring in the New Year

## Emotional Ceremony for 2012 Boys Volleyball Team



Members of the 2012 state champion team pose for a picture together post-ceremony alongside school staff and principal Smith. Photo Credit: Larry Aaronson.

By  
Sun-Ui Yum  
Register Forum Editor

On June 14th, 2012, the CRLS boys varsity volleyball team clinched its first state title in nine years at powerhouse Milford’s expense after holding off a late resurgence from their opponents -- away from home, no less. The team

finished with a record of 22 wins and 3 losses. Nearly 6 months later on January 11th, 2013, members of the team gathered again to receive its rings at half-time of a CRLS boys varsity basketball game. The new-look team, which is missing, among others, alumni Robbie Buder and Kevin Lovaincy, will look to repeat their predecessors’ success come spring.

### THE REGISTER FORUM

## ATHLETE OF THE MONTH

# Nicole Giampa



By  
Mae Drucker  
Register Forum Correspondent

Falcon fans have something to celebrate, as this past month the CRLS girl’s ice hockey team made history. Senior and captain Nicole Giampa scored her 100th career point during a game against Peabody, the first player ever in the history of Rindge’s girl’s hockey team to achieve this record. Giampa has been on the team since she was in eighth grade and says she has seen the team grow a lot in her four-plus years on it.

When asked how she felt about her recent accomplishment, Giampa replied, “I’m excited to set a record for Rindge, it has been my goal since freshman year to get 100 career points, and I’m glad I finally reached it.” The past two seasons the team has successfully/consecutively reached the state tournament, only to be eliminated in the first round each time. Giampa is not only known for her skills with the puck, but is also recognized for her leadership skills and continuous hard work.

Assistant coach Katelyn Greene spoke very highly of Giampa, saying, “Nicole sets a positive example for the team, the girl’s are really inspired by her. I’m really inspired by her.” Fellow captain and senior Ruby Johnson concurs, “I remember thinking about Nicole freshman year and wondering how far she would go.” On her goals for this season, Giampa simply stated, “For this season the team goal is to make it to the states and get pass the first round.” Giampa will attend Sacred Heart University this fall while continuing hockey.

# Lady Falcons

## Jumpstart

### New Season

By  
Rout Asefa  
Register Forum Editor

The girls varsity basketball team has started off the season with a bang this year, winning four games and only losing one. Although they have opened the season with a couple of wins under their belt, they are still not ready to get comfortable. Varsity coach Dana Ellcock remarked recently, “I have high expectations for this year’s team. We have a lot of talent and we also seem to be working as one unit.”

This season, the Lady Falcons are optimistic, ready, and willing to learn from the mistakes that they made last season. Last year, the girls basketball team had a disappointing season with 15 losses and 5 wins. The coaches and players alike have high hopes for rest of this season. “This year, I’m definitely excited to go all the way and win not only games but also bring home the GBL title,” said Sarrana Jeanty, the captain of the girls varsity team.

For many of the players on the varsity team, this will be their last year playing as the Lady Falcons, as this year’s team includes six seniors. Most of the girls have been involved with CRLS basketball for four years. Player Thechena Theodore expressed her gratitude to the program that has fostered her by saying, “When I graduate, I will definitely miss being part of the Falcon family that has nurtured

*“These players are a coach’s dream because they have the drive and are ready to work hard.”*

me for the past four years, and I hope to carry on what I’ve learned from my coaches and teammates if I do continue to play basketball through college.” Senior and captain Donnaizha Fountain has already been scouted and has also committed to Georgia Tech to attend in the fall on a full scholarship to play the sport she loves. When asked about her goals in her last season of Cambridge basketball, she said, “I’m looking forward to carrying my team into the [state playoffs] and winning GBL.”

This year, the Lady Falcons have some challenging games up ahead. Two of them include games against Central Catholic and long time rival Somerville. Senior Jadira Scott, a fan and former player, expressed her excitement for the games up ahead by saying, “I enjoy the fast paced games, they are very intense. The score is usually close together so it keeps you on your toes until the last second.” Coach Dana Ellcock expressed his optimism for next year, saying, “We have some younger talent starting from the freshman level. These players are a coach’s dream because they have the drive and are ready to work hard.” The girls varsity team will be traveling to Madison Park High School on Thursday, January 24th to play their 12th game of the season.