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Class of 2019 reflects on past experiences, accomplishments

By Anton Kozyrev
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

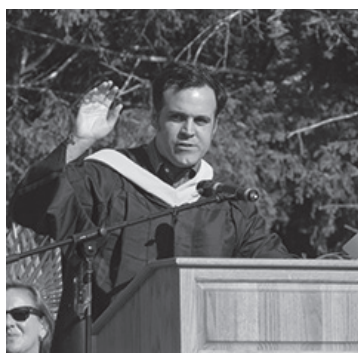
Speeches focus on hard work, resilience

Under a cloudless sky, 103 members of the Class of 2019 celebrated their accomplishments and graduated on June 7 on Joseph M. Hyland field.

All clad in green robes, the students were led onto Hyland Field by a bagpipe procession that crossed over the symbolic bridge leading from the Manchester Memorial School to the high school.

Senior class president Sirine Benali, along with the other class officers, first presented the class gift – a thousand-dollar donation to the Sweet Paws Rescue animal shelter. Afterward, she shared her own personal story during her speech, which focused on the theme of resilience and hard work.

Benali ended her speech by expressing her gratitude to be a part



Senior class officers Sirine Benali, Jia Mulvey, Sophia Larson, and Bella Pomeroy presented the class gift, a donation to Sweet Paws Rescue animal shelter. Valedictorian August Kahle spoke about the drive and passion the Class of 2019 has shown over the years. Social studies teacher John Mullady delivered the commencement address, which focused on self-acceptance.

of such a “bright and effervescent community,” congratulating the parents “for raising such amazing people,” and thanking the teach-

ers for “serv[ing] as inspiration for all of us.”

During her speech, class salutatorian Meredith Wolf refer-



MARY BUCKLEY-HARMON PHOTOS

enced a quote from the popular TV show “The Office,” using it as a metaphor for the Class of 2019.

“One of my favorite quotes

from this show is when the character Michael Scott says, ‘Sometimes, I’ll start a sentence and I

GRADUATION, page 3

SCORE project allows seniors to gain job experience

By Eli Heanue
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

Students in the senior class of 2019 are participating in internships for the SCORE program, including working in a recording studio as a sound engineer to working in a hospital as a nurse.

Senior Emily Andrews said her SCORE project is working as a student intern working at Beverly Hospital in the special care nursery, shadowing the nurses and caring for newborn infants.

“I am attending UMass Dartmouth next year for nursing, and this definitely gave me a good understanding of how a hospital is run. It also gives me a really good vision of how I would perform as a nurse in that environment and how I could deal with situations,” she said.

Senior Ryan O’Connell said he is working as a sound engineer at Sound Shuttle Studios in



COURTESY OF RYAN O’CONNELL

Senior Ryan O’Connell uses a soundboard while working at Sound Shuttle Studios in Boxford for his SCORE project.

Boxford, the studio he records his own music.

“I already knew the manager there pretty well because I record music there, and now I get to be the guy behind the computer,” he said.

O’Connell said he will take a gap year before college to pursue his career in music and will decide whether or not to study sound engineering based on his success.

Senior Molly Field said she has been working with the Manches-

ter Fire Department, performing tasks for them and occasionally going on calls.

“I want to work in a fire department someday. I had this idea before starting SCORE, but it was a little questionable. After working with a fire department, I am sure I want to do this in the future,” she said.

Field said her experience working with the department has given her a new perspective on the occupation and has inspired

SCORE, page 3

DECA students attend ICDC, compete against international teams

By Hannah Freeman
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

Following successes at regional and state competitions, 11 students attended DECA International Career Development Conference (ICDC) where they competed against students from around the world, with junior Anton Kozyrev placing as a top 20 finalist in his category.

The students qualified for the event based on their performance at the DECA state championship, where they placed in the top five competitors in their categories.

“The DECA team members prepared for the international competition by practicing the 100 question ICDC level exams, continuing to absorb concepts and skills in class... and practicing Role Plays or presentations for prepared events,” DECA adviser Dean Martino said.

Juniors Christina Bullock, Catherine Garlitz, Maxine Hickey, Charlotte Pick, Kozyrev, sophomores Alex Furse, Alex Roulliard, Dasa Hase, Maddie

Lawler, Stephanie Pratt, and Jessie Miller qualified for and attended the event in Orlando, FL from April 27 to May 1 this year.

“The highlight of the event was observing the group come together as a team, learn about each other, navigate the competition, and set goals for next year’s event,” Martino.

Throughout the week, competitors attended conferences to further develop their marketing skills and competed against one another for awards in their categories.

“You compete in one of a variety of categories at the event, including a poster project, a virtual business game, or series event where you complete a role play and a written exam, which is what most of us do,” said Kozyrev, who is also a Massachusetts DECA State Officer.

Pick said the event was a good experience because it allowed her to compete against DECA students from other places in the United States and the world.

Kozyrev finished as a finalist in DECA, page 3

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News Brief

MIAA hosts Women in Leadership Day

In partnership with Georgetown Middle High School, the MIAA hosted its first ever Women in Leadership Day for almost 85 young women from schools in the Cape Ann League, of which seven participants came from Manchester Essex. Attendees included sophomores Lily Athanas, Molly Moore, Hattie Wilson, Oli Turner, Tatum Jobe, Katherine Fitzgibbon and freshmen Carter Lockwood, Ceci Mastendino, and Augusta Taylor. The conference was held on April 30 and opened up with a keynote address from Elizabeth Hockmeyer Williams, one of the event's sponsors, where she discussed her experience as a female leader and the challenges she has overcome. Athanas said after listening to Williams' speech, the girls played fun games and participated in leadership activities as a group. The principal initiative and slogan of the day was: "You are enough," she said.

Other schools in attendance included Newburyport, Hamilton-Wenham, North Reading, Rockport, Masconomet, and Ipswich. "I really liked meeting so many cool and awesome girls there," Athanas said. "[The conference] was really about having confidence in yourself and teaching you how to inspire confidence in others," Moore said.

Green Team wins Environmental Protection Award

The Green Team was named as the Grand Prize Winner of the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection Environmental Protection Award, qualifying the group to be "Environmental Eagles."

The group was awarded for their efforts to promote environmental sustainability and recycling in the school.

Special education director retires

Louise Vose ran the department for nine years, founded new programs

By Sofia Gillespie
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

After working as the director of special education for the middle and high schools for nine years, Louise Vose will retire at the end of the school year.

Vose previously worked at Hamilton-Wenham High School and Landmark School.

Upon coming to Manchester, she said she was immediately impressed with the students at the school.

"The first day I came here, I was blown away by how nice, polite, and caring the students here are... I am definitely going to miss them after I leave," she said.

In her first few years here, Vose began the S.W.I.N.G. program, the S.A.I.L. program, and the language based IWRL program with help from Dr. Allison Collins, the director of special education for the district.

These programs have allowed for students to continue at Manchester rather than needing to go to other schools to receive a full education for their needs, she said.

"I'm very excited to see how



SOFIA GILLESPIE PHOTO

Special education director Louise Vose works in her office, where she has organized the S.W.I.N.G. program, the S.A.I.L. program, and the language based IWRL program over the past nine years.

'She is really great at juggling everything from parents, students, and staff members.'

-ANNE LANDRY

those programs will unfold and grow in the coming years... The relationships

between the kids, their students, and their peers from these programs is such a strength of the district, and I would love to see that continue," she said.

Special education teachers Jim Umile, Anne Landry, and Bob Garrett said they enjoyed their years teaching under Vose's leadership.

"Mrs. Vose has made the special education program very cohesive between the high school and the middle school... she is really great at juggling everything from parents, students, and staff members," Landry said.

Umile said Vose has been very helpful and considerate in helping the staff receive the tools that they need for their high school

students.

"She is always willing to listen to us, and she respects our perspective and opinions," he said.

Garrett said Vose has always prioritized helping the students to be as independent as possible.

Vose said she looks forward to traveling and spending time with family after retirement and that she plans on working a part-time job.

"It's hard for me to picture myself not doing anything... I might look to some volunteer opportunities to stay active," she said.

English, drama teacher retires after 27 years

Gloria Tanner used creative, unique projects to educate, reach students

By Charlotte Pick
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

After working as an English teacher for 27 years, Gloria Tanner will retire this year.

When she first started working at Manchester Essex, Tanner taught eighth-grade English classes.

"In the eighth-grade classes I did 10-week Holocaust units and also taught Project Adventure; we did a lot of team building with the students," she said.

Following teaching in the middle school, Tanner also taught British Literature, AP Language and Composition, English electives, and several other classes spanning the four grade levels.

"For the new English electives, I taught the History of a Joke, the Graphic Novel, and American History through Baseball and Film," Tanner said.

English teacher Elizabeth Edgerton, who was Tanner's student in eighth grade, worked with Tanner for about 10 years.

Throughout that time, she said Tanner had a major impact on the department and school as a whole.

"She has some of the best and most creative ideas for projects and for approaching the works

'She has some of the best and most creative ideas for projects and approaching the works we teach; she is really thoughtful about reaching all students.'

-ELIZABETH EDGERTON

that we teach; she is really thoughtful about reaching all students," she said.

Edgerton also said Tanner's

experience was beneficial to the English department.

"It's been really wonderful to have someone who has been here for so long and really knows the students and the community; someone with that depth of knowledge is really important," she said.

Tanner also advised the Drama Club and led them to a 2011 first



INDEPENDENT ARCHIVES

English teacher Gloria Tanner celebrated the Drama Club's 2011 first place win at Dramafest for "The Complete History of America (Abridged)."

place win at Dramafest for "The Complete History of America (Abridged)."

Principal Patricia Puglisi said Tanner has been an asset to the school during the time she has worked with her.

"Ms. Tanner has been here for such a long time, and she has made some really strong connections with kids over the years. In her classrooms she can really bring literature to life and engage kids in their learning," she said.

Tanner said she greatly valued her time in the school as she was able to build strong bonds with both students and staff members.

"The awesome people I have gotten to work with who have creativity and integrity and high standards have become some of my closest friends; that will be hard to leave," Tanner said.



MARY BUCKLEY-HARMON PHOTO

English teacher Gloria Tanner dressed as Gloria Delgado-Pritchett from "Modern Family" for the faculty Halloween contest in 2018.

2003 graduate travels, pursues career in photojournalism

Nic Tanner takes a non-traditional path, finds success

By Paige Swanson
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

After graduating from the high school in 2003, Nicolas Tanner, who is now a photojournalist, decided to take a gap year, which sparked his love of travel and shaped his future.

"After graduation, I basically told my parents if I went to college I was going to fail out... I took a year off, and I wanted to learn Spanish, and... I wanted to get better at surfing, so I went to Costa Rica for the first semester, and in the second semester I went to South America. I went to Bolivia, Ecuador, and Peru and did some volunteer work," he said in a phone interview.

English teacher Gloria Tanner, Tanner's mother, said she was not surprised to hear that her son did not want to attend college immediately after high school.

"It didn't come as a shock to me... he's really smart and I knew he wasn't being the student that he could be, and he had his reasons, but I worried about what he was going to do," she said.

Tanner said traveling, rather than pursuing a traditional collegiate path, helped him learn more about himself, but once his gap year was over, he decided to attend the College of Charleston.

After changing his major multiple times and transferring to the University of New Hampshire, Tanner joined the Peace Corps and was placed in Kyrgyzstan doing development work, which helped him figure out his future.

"In central Asia... I decided... I wanted to go into photojournalism... In the Peace Corps there's a lot of downtime... I remember just picking up a camera and reading a lot about photography. I had finally found something I was ready to push myself in," he said.

After deciding on his career, Tanner returned to traveling to document events around the world.

"I went back to Kyrgyzstan for the elections, and that got published in the New York Times, and that led to other work. I ended up in Brazil with the Associated Press, photographing, from 2013 to 2015, everything from riots, to the trials for the World Cup, to the Olympics," he said.

Through his travels, Tanner said he has learned many lessons he still carries with him today.

"I learned that I really love learning... the best way to be a good learner is to always be learning... I learned, through photojournalism, how to stay focused even



COURTESY OF NICOLAS TANNER

2003 graduate Nicolas Tanner traveled to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil for roughly two years where he photographed riots as an intern for the Associated Press in 2013.

when things get very stressful... I've also found that learning languages is learning a new way of thinking about the world," he said.

After living briefly in New York, Tanner has settled down in Gloucester and is freelancing and pursuing a teaching career in photography.

"I'm still a freelancer, and I actually just published some work with NPR [of the World Nomad Games in Kyrgyzstan]...

I moved back here because I'm ready to transition from freelance journalism to teaching," he said.

Tanner is enrolled in a PhD program at a school called the Institute for Doctoral Studies in the Visual Arts in Portland, Maine, where he is both assistant teaching and working towards his PhD.

Gloria Tanner said she is extremely proud of her son for pursuing a non-traditional path and finding success.

Green Team Scholars receive recognition for achievements

By Mia Cromwell
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

In recognition of their Green Team projects, sophomore scholars Eliza Woodward, Josef Vytopil, and Will Kenney, and junior scholars Catherine Staid and Kyle Khani were awarded for their achievements making the local and greater community more eco-friendly.

Green Team teacher Keith Gray submitted project overviews for the scholar members of the Green Team, and Woodward, Vytopil, Kenney, Staid, and Khani were chosen by the Massachusetts state legislatures for their ability to represent different aspects of sustainability.

"The awards themselves are outstanding examples of how students can be involved," Gray said.

Woodward and Staid won an award for their project in which they are selling various plants such as cacti, spider plants, and seedlings to students, faculty, and the community.



COURTESY OF KEITH GRAY

Sophomores Will Kenney and Josef Vytopil were among the students who were honored at the State House for their Green Team Scholars projects.

Vytopil and Kenney were recognized for their collaboration with the local government to eradicate an invasive plant called phragmites and to explore its native origin, such as vernal pools.

They are also collaborating with the National Arbor Day Foundation and its K-12 education program and have made

Manchester Essex the organization's pilot school in Massachusetts.

Kenney said he is excited for his and Vytopil's collaboration with the foundation.

"It was awesome that we were able to become the first school in Massachusetts to be a part of their high school program. I'm super excited to have that opportunity for

the Green Team and the school community as a whole," he said.

The students traveled to the State House on May 10 to receive their awards. Woodward and Staid's project along with Vytopil and Kenney's project placed in the top 20 of all the different groups, Gray said.

Khani received an honorable mention for his efforts in promoting the adoption of a green educational program in an English speaking school in Kazakhstan, he said.

Gray said he is extremely proud of the students' ability to work with the local, national, and international communities along with their commitment to their projects.

"Everything here is student driven... Ideas are student-based, and they run with their ideas, and what they've done is just an amazing example of potential, student potential. I think it's awesome," he said.

Khani said he was proud of the goals he has completed through his project.

"Receiving the award of just all the work that I've put in of connecting schools from just across the world [and] how much contact and effort I had to put in was really rewarding, and it kind of motivates you to do even more," he said.

CONTINUATIONS

GRADUATION

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

don't know where it's going. I just hope I find it along the way.' I believe this humorous sentiment is applicable to our grade's experiences throughout the years," she said.

Wolf emphasized that this applies to everyone in the Class of 2019, articulating that while some students' journeys may not be quite like what they expected, they will eventually find the direction of their "sentence" along the way.

Class valedictorian, August Kahle, focused her speech on the hard-working nature and drive of the graduating seniors.

"When we care about something, we do everything we can to realize that passion," she said, referencing last year's student-led walk-out to protest gun violence in schools nationwide.

She also shared a word of advice with her classmates regarding the idea of success in the future – and what would come to define it.

"Success is not about how much money you make or how good your grades are. It isn't about how many people know your name or how coveted your job is. True success is about you. It's about doing what you love and using this passion to push yourself further every day. Life is never easy, and we will all face obstacles along the way, but if we follow our passions and focus on our drive, success will come naturally," Kahle said.

Commencement speaker social studies teacher John Mullady shared a personal anecdote of just how, when he was a teenager, his father drove a "Volkswagen Rabbit Diesel hatchback," which stood in stark contrast to the more expensive cars of his peers.

However, he emphasized the importance

of self-acceptance and doing what one loves. Mullady explained how his father's car choice reflected him as a person – not caring about the judgments of others, and instead pursuing what he loved.

At the end of the ceremony, seniors walked out to their class song "Take Me Home, Country Roads."

SCORE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

her to get her EMD Certification.

Senior Will Russo said he is working for a marketing firm called Real Marketing Solutions in Essex. Russo said the firm works directly with Rubik's and promotes their brand by selling Rubik's Cubes to schools to be used as an educational tool.

"I've learned a lot about marketing at this internship, and I think it might be helpful because I'm planning on being an engineer, and a lot of people who pursue

engineering have to deal with marketing their products," he said.

Wallimann said the SCORE program has changed in recent years to focus more upon the real-world experience aspect of the project.

"The program used to be heavy on a research paper at the end of the project, but we removed the paper in order to focus more on the internship part of the project," he said.

DECA

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the event, which ranks him in the top 20 in the world in his category, Entrepreneurship series.

"I didn't make it as top three winner, but that's a goal to shoot for next year. This year I feel like I put in a lot of time and effort into the event, so I'm happy with how I did," he said.



Suzy Morton smiles while commencement speaker John Mullady addresses her family.



Principal Patricia Puglisi delivers her speech to the graduating class.



Andrea Rennie walking into graduation.



Liz Klebart and Natalie Koopman await the graduation ceremony together.



Claire O'Brien and Jade Cromwell pose together before walking to the ceremony.



Christina Calandra entering graduation.



Sofia Puchniak's graduation cap.



Belle Graves, Ryan O'Connell and Alexis Brown.



Emma Lacey walks onto the field to graduate.



Will Janowicz, Harry Painter and Dylan Wilson waiting for the ceremony to begin.



Sophie Larson, science teacher Maria Burgess and Maggie Taraska.



Jimmy Delisio.



Caroline Finn.



Savannah Reilly.



Graduates Evan Fitzgerald and Jack Furber.



Salutatorian Meredith Wolf delivers her speech to the graduating class.



Students decorated their graduation caps with images of their next adventures after high school.

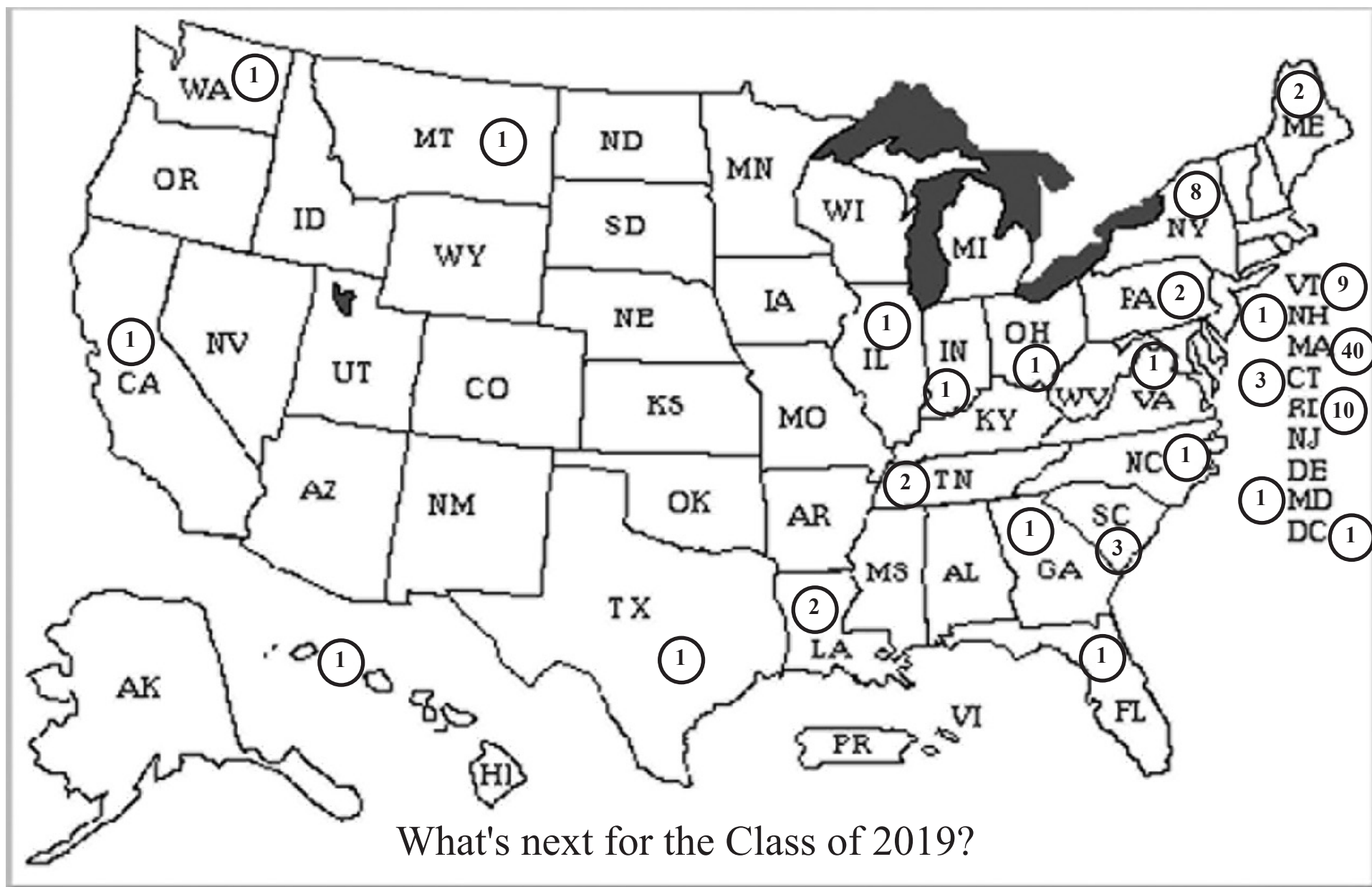


Sirine Benali, English teacher Mary Buckley-Harmon and Austin Woodman-Paré.



Teachers gather together at the elementary school before the ceremony.

MARY BUCKLEY-HARMON PHOTOS



What's next for the Class of 2019?

California: 1

Brigid Loftus Edgerton - University of San Diego, California

Connecticut: 3

Matthew David Carter - Connecticut College
Stephen Killian Curcuru - Sacred Heart University
Matthew Alexander Newton - Sacred Heart University

Florida: 1

Bennett Joseph O'Leary - University of Tampa

Georgia: 1

Zackery Josiah McPherson - Savannah College of Art and Design

Hawaii: 1

Katherine Atwater Reeve - Hawaii Pacific University

Illinois: 1

Margareta Hillier Taraska - DePaul University

Indiana: 2

Jillian Elizabeth Bowen - Saint Marys College
Michaela Jordan Edelstein - Indiana University

Louisiana: 2

John Edward Furber - Tulane University
Lydia Edith Garrett-Metz - Tulane University

Maine: 2

Jade Charlotte Cromwell - Bowdoin College
Lucas Augustus Leavitt - University of Southern Maine

Maryland: 1

Christina Noelle Calandra - University of Maryland

Massachusetts: 40

Paul Johnson Albani - UMass Amherst
Emily Jane Andrews - UMass Dartmouth
Kriza Aguiar Baldow - UMass Amherst
Noah Nicolas Bell - Wentworth Institute of Technology
Madison Linda Ann Boisvert - UMass Lowell
Dean Alexander Campbell - Brandeis University
Emma Rose Cochand - UMass Amherst
Kaya Lily Crandall - North Shore Community College
Ruby Ann Cunney - UMass Boston
Jacob Francis D'Ambrosio - UMass Boston
Emma Laine DiZio - Simmons University
Jake Donovan - Bentley University
Casey Fackre - UMass Amherst
Eve Collins Feuerbach - College of the Holy Cross
Molly Rae Field - Massachusetts Maritime Academy
Caroline Finn - UMass Lowell
Evan Robert Fitzgerald - UMass Lowell
Elizabeth Graves - UMass Amherst
Isabelle Nicole Graves - UMass Amherst
Tucker Scott Jaworski - UMass Lowell
Judy Naomi Johnson - UMass Amherst
Azalea Kerber - Fitchburg State University
Natalie Anne Koopman - UMass Amherst
Sophia Janice Larson - UMass Amherst

Olivia Rose Mitrano - Northeastern University

Claire Althea O'Brien - UMass Amherst

Hannah Blythe Oettinger - UMass Amherst

Harry Allen Painter - UMass Lowell

Brianna Nicole Pappas - UMass Amherst

Isabella Lauren Pomeroy - UMass Amherst

Andrea Meagan Rennie - Babson College

Adam Hunter Roy - Fitchburg State University

William Thomas Russo - UMass Lowell

Geoffrey Luke Schlegel - North Shore Community College

Rebecca Gefei Shan - Boston College

Atticus Auden Unger Strack - Harvard Extension School

Leila Vala - North Shore Community College - UMass Lowell class of 2023

Samantha Willems - UMass Amherst

Dylan Alexander Wilson - UMass Amherst

Meredith Grace Wolf - Williams College

Montana: 1

Ava Angelina Glass - Montana State University

New Hampshire: 1

Jake Michael Athanas - Saint Anselm College

New York: 8

Emily Jane Beck - Fordham University

Alexis Devyn Brown - Syracuse University

Drew Beverly Charlton - Union College

Annika Kelley Dahlin - Cornell University

Clara Sophia Davis - Hamilton College

William Hester Janowicz - Syracuse University

Anna Gallup Mewkill - Pace University

Haley Anne Wolfe - Skidmore College

North Carolina: 1

Suzanne Grace Morton - Elon University

Ohio: 1

Grace Adams Brennan - Miami University

Pennsylvania: 2

Abigail Towle Lantz - Lafayette College

Ann Hamilton Cameron Martin - Gettysburg College

Rhode Island: 10

Robert Paul Beardsley - Providence College

Sirine Benali - Brown University

Anna Bonaccorso - Providence College

Lillian Claire Corcoran - Providence College

Elizabeth Marie Klebart - University of Rhode Island

Emma Andrewes Lacey - Bryant University

Austin Paige Paré - University of Rhode Island

Thespina Micaela Parianos - University of Rhode Island

Olivia Cecile Rodier - University of Rhode Island

Abigail Ann Twombly - Salve Regina University

South Carolina: 3

Emma Frances Harrington - College of Charleston

Annalise Mora - Winthrop University

Colton Spencer Tosi - Coastal Carolina University

Tennessee: 2

James Daniel Delisio - Belmont University

Jia Li Doucette Mulvey - Belmont University

Texas: 1

Sofia Puchniak - University of the Incarnate Word

Vermont: 9

Logan James Staiti Carroll - University of Vermont

Ava Margaret Gallagher - Champlain College

Maximilian Sawyer Hahn - University of Vermont

Ike Edgar Moloney - University of Vermont

Nicolo Bruno Rerisi-Patota - Champlain College

Luke Moynihan Quine - University of Vermont

Savannah Choate Reilly - University of Vermont

Jane Jefferson Severin - Saint Michael's College

Benjamin Soulard - Saint Michael's College

Virginia: 1

August Dianne Kahle - University of Virginia

Washington D.C.: 1

Lena Josephine Brzezinski - Georgetown University

Other: 7

Natascha Johanna Braase - Franklin University

Per Henry Hostage - Undecided

Benjamin Bromley Lantz - Northfield Mount Hermon School

Amelie Ann Golda Mittermaier - McGill University

Markus Gerrime Rennick - full-time employment

Ryan Patrick O'Connell - Gap Year

Atticus James Takayesu - Gap Year - UMass Amherst class of 2024

Congratulations
Class of
2019!

Senior class hosts prom at Ipswich Hellenic Center

Venue offers variety of food options, activities, photo opportunities

By Jenna Cirella
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

Although more people than anticipated attended the junior and senior prom at the Ipswich Hellenic Center, the event was a success, Principal Patricia Puglisi said.

About 270 students attended the prom on Friday night, and approximately 30 extra tickets were sold last minute, she said.

“I think it went really well. What I saw was kids on the dance floor all night long and enjoying the back lawn. The kids were very well-behaved, and the staff at the Hellenic Center could not say enough about how well-behaved the kids were,” she said.

Puglisi said that the food was “kid friendly.”

“What’s better than chicken fingers, macaroni and cheese, and french fries?” she asked.

When students arrived at the venue, there was a shortage of seats, so teachers gave up their table and moved outdoors to eat.

Math and science teacher, Josh Wladkowski said that he did not mind sitting outside to eat.

“We realized there was an unexpectedly high attendance, and we as the teachers needed to make sure to accommodate all students, so they could have seats,” he said.

Junior Cagney Pallazola said that she really liked the food that they had because there were so many options.

“It was really nice for people who may have been picky eaters because they had so

many different things to choose from,” she said.

Before dinner, students were served a salad at their tables. Then they were able to choose their dinner options at a buffet.

Pallazola also liked how the event brought the junior and senior class together.

“There aren’t many times that the two grades are together out of school, so I think that was a great place for us to mingle, dance and have fun,” she said.

Junior Catherine Garlitz said her favorite part about the prom was the photo booth.

“I was really impressed with the quality of the pictures and the lighting. Also, the props made the pictures really fun,” she said.

Senior class officer Jia Mulvey said her favorite part of the prom was the venue.

“I really liked how there was an outdoor area to hang out in. There was a big lawn and rotunda that you could take pictures in. There were so many people there, and the dance floor was pretty small, so it was good to have to get outside and have some air,” she said.

Although the dance floor was small, junior Ellis Weber-Provost said he really enjoyed the music and seeing the teachers dance.

“Dr. B dancing was by far my favorite part of the night. After teaching her dance moves all year, it really paid off to see her using them,” he said.



MARY BUCKLEY-HARMON PHOTO
Juniors Lars Arntsen and Bridget Miller.



MARY BUCKLEY-HARMON PHOTO
Junior Anastasia Mescherova and sophomore Max Warnock.



SPENCER MEEK PHOTO
Students in the journalism class.



Juniors Genevieve Young, Naomi Franklin, and guest.



COURTESY OF EMILY ANDREWS

Seniors Ruby Cunney, Emily Andrews, and Molly Field.



Laurie Pomeroy Photo

Senior Bella Pomeroy and junior Sophia Pomeroy



The varsity girls’ lacrosse team.



MARY BUCKLEY-HARMON PHOTO

Chaperones math teacher Daniel Lundergan, athletic trainer Jill Levine, and biology teacher Maria Burgess.



COURTESY OF BRIANNA WARD

Senior Emma Harrington and junior Brianna Ward.



MARY BUCKLEY-HARMON PHOTO

Junior Henry Conway and senior Andrea Rennie.



MARY BUCKLEY-HARMON PHOTO

Seniors Jake D'Ambrosio and Thespina Parianos.



MARY BUCKLEY-HARMON PHOTO

Seniors Jia Mulvey, Anna Mewkill, and Savannah Reilly, and guests Riley Fennessy and Alex Strzemilowski.



COURTESY OF MOLLY BRADY

Juniors Claire Gendron, Molly Brady, Mason Pacconne, and Cagney Pallazola.



MARY BUCKLEY-HARMON PHOTO

Seniors Paige Mandia, Kylie Mcgroder, Elene Karlberg, and guest Jennifer Small.



COURTESY OF ABBY CORRAO

Juniors Olivia Mariotti, Abby Corrao, and Annika Smith.



COURTESY OF LELIA HEATH

Juniors Sophia Porter and Lelia Heath.



COURTESY OF BRIDGET TWOMBLEY

m.



COURTESY OF SOPHIE LARSON

Seniors Lizzy Klebart, Clara Davis, Meredith Wolf, Annika Dahlin, Natalie Koopman, Eve Feuerbach, Jillian Bowen, Sophie Larson, and Christina Calandra.



COURTESY OF BELLE GRAVES

Seniors Evan Fitzgerald, Belle Graves, Madi Boisvert, and Adam Roy.



COURTESY OF MAYA BAKER

Juniors Madeline Donnellan, Elizabeth Staid, Maya Baker, and Sydney Lavoisier, and guest Kaitlyn O'Connell.

Editors-in-chief reflect on their time in journalism

By Sirine Benali
Sophia Larson
Austin Woodman-Paré
INDEPENDENT EDITORS

Our experiences from our time on this paper are winding down to a close, after late layout nights at school, parking lot conversations, and the Thanksgiving buffet at the Suffolk University awards banquet. As we graduate and move on from our time with The Independent, we'll have to say goodbye to the paper that has taught us so much over the years.

We quickly had to learn how to conduct an interview, write an article, layout a page, etc. Needless to say, there was a steep learning curve.

However, from our years on the paper, we now found ourselves equipped to teach others about the tasks we once found difficult. We grew into writing articles naturally and picked up the skills essential to keep the paper up-and-running.

Austin and Sirine became editors-in-chief, while Sophie became the cartoonist and arts editor. Having Austin's older sister as a past editor-in-chief was intimidating, and when we became editors-in-chief, we felt like we had big shoes to fill.



MARY BUCKLEY-HARMON PHOTO

Sophia Larson, Austin Woodman-Paré and Sirine Benali have spent the 2018-2019 school year using their positions as editors to focus on issues impacting the community, such as Juuling and the importance of tolerance, in addition to guiding newer Independent staff.

While Sophie and Austin tackled the arts together, believing that a focus on the arts, both in and out of MERHS, provides the community with a perspective on our culture as a school and as citizens of the world, Sirine took difficult news articles about topics like the new administration

positions and JUUL articles.

We tried to continue the path of tackling challenging topics, as we felt like we were making large strides to be a paper that tackled real issues facing the school and the world.

We worked hard to bring attention to these issues using

the newspaper as a platform; we aimed to open up conversations about the topics that we write about (sexual assault cases, displaying the confederate flag, etc.) by writing our honest opinions.

As editors, we tried to create connections and served as liaisons to the student body.

We are so sad to have to leave the paper, but we are now opening up a new chapter in our lives, and so is The Independent. We hope that the essentials of journalism — truth, accuracy, accountability, ethics, and independence — continue to be upheld in our community.

Government must ensure population's safety by mandating vaccines

By Julia Kaper
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

As the popularity of anti-vaccination rhetoric increases, the federal government must take action to make sure as many children as possible in the country gets vaccinated.

The recent ignorance with regard to the importance of vaccines started largely due to a claim made by ex-researcher Andrew Wakefield in 1998 that a connection exists between the measles, mumps, and rubella vaccine and development of autism in children.

However, several studies published later disproved a causal association between the MMR vaccine and autism, and Wakefield's investigation has been redacted due to his unethical research methods and a conflict of interest, according to "The Anti-vaccination Movement: A Regression in Modern Medicine," published in the scientific journal *Cureus*.

Despite the study being disproved, many parents continue to believe that vaccinating their children will cause them to develop autism, and this has led to an increase in parents not vaccinating their children.

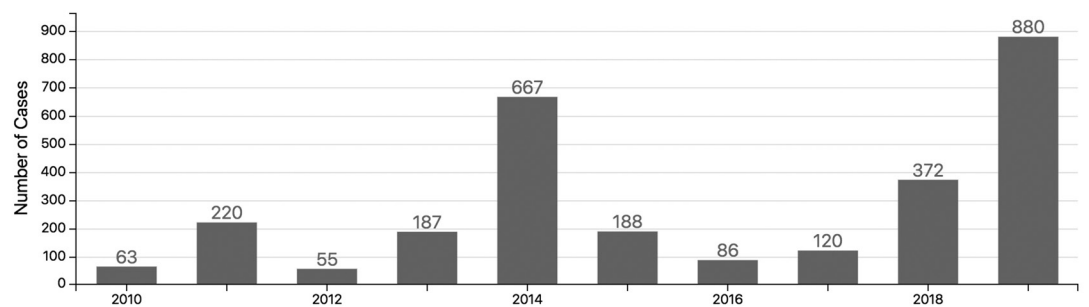
Currently, all 50 states require vaccinations for children entering public schools, but 47 states allow religious exemptions, and 17 states allow exemptions for loose philosophical reasons, according to the Washington Post.

Although it is important for the government to respect one's religious views, exempting children from vaccinations for nonmedical reasons is extremely dangerous for the entire population. Ninety-six percent of the population must be vaccinated to create herd immunity, which is of paramount importance in keeping those who cannot be vaccinated healthy.

Groups that can't be vaccinated, such as young babies,

Number of Measles Cases Reported by Year

2010-2019** (as of May 17, 2019)



CDC.GOV

Vaccinations not only protect those individuals receiving them, but they also help to maintain "herd immunity." A lack of vaccinations has led to recent outbreaks of diseases such as measles.

those who are immunocompromised, those going through chemotherapy, and others who are struggling with poor health, are put under severe risk when a significant portion of the population is choosing not to vaccinate their children.

The anti-vaccine trend has caused outbreaks of diseases that were thought to have been almost eradicated.

According to the CDC, between Jan. 1 to May 17, 2019, 880 individual cases of measles have been confirmed in 22 states. The number of cases in only these five months surpassed the total number of cases per year in any year since 1994 and since measles was declared eliminated in 2000.

Because of the dangers that promoting anti-vaccination

rhetoric can cause, the World Health Organization now lists "vaccine hesitancy" as a top 10 global health threat.

To prevent further outbreaks of diseases that are preventable by vaccines, the federal government must require that all states create and enforce laws mandating vaccinations for every child unless they are medically exempt.

the
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Editorial space is available to all MERHS students, faculty, and community members.

All submissions must be signed and put in the newspaper mailbox in the front office of MERHS. The Independent reserves the right not to print letters and to edit the content for clarity and length. While letters can be critical of an individual's actions, they cannot slander or libel.

The staff editorial may be considered the opinion of the staff of The Independent.

By-line opinions are written by individual staff members and should not be considered representative of the entire staff.

The Independent staff hopes that all Manchester and Essex citizens will take advantage of this forum. The paper is meant to serve the school community, and we are open to suggestions to help it better serve its purposes.

Girls' tennis team qualifies for North Sectional Final in 2019 State Tournament

Focuses on hard work, resilience throughout undefeated season

By Hannah Freeman
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

After an undefeated 14-0 regular season, the girls' tennis team will compete against Weston in the North Sectional Final of the State tournament, which coach Kennard Rawson attributes to the girls' hard work and resilience.

"The players have to be willing to put in the work to develop because everybody gets better over the season, so, we have to get better too. The players have to be willing to do the work in practice so that they can be successful in matches," he said.

Rawson said this season was more challenging this year than last season, so the work the players put in was important.

"It was a tougher undefeated season than the year before. The year before we were loaded with talent. This year we had a struggle; we had quite a few 3-2 matches. The girls have been willing to put in the effort [to win] though, and it shows," he said.

'We are a very resilient team. We have had a lot of changes in the lineup, but we are still performing well.'

- ANDREA RENNIE

Senior captain Andrea Rennie said resilience has been a key factor for success throughout the season.

"We are a very resilient team. We have had a lot of changes in the lineup, but we are still performing well," she said.

Rennie said one challenge the team has faced throughout the season has been the weather, which has delayed the start of the



COURTESY OF CHRISTINA CALANDRA

Senior captain Andrea Rennie has been a large factor in the team's success this year, coach Kennard Rawson said. Rennie and junior captain Christina Bullock said the team is focusing on teamwork and mental toughness in preparation for the North Sectional Final of the State tournament.

tournament.

"It's been really tough this season with all the rain outs, so just sticking with it has been important," she said.

Going into the tournament, Rennie and junior captain Christina Bullock said the team will continue to focus on resilience, but will also work on their mental strength.

"We need to focus on patience and teamwork going into the tournament. It's really important when you are starting a match or losing," Bullock said.

The team had a bye during the first round of the tournament, then defeated Amesbury 5-0 and Austin Prep 3-2 to make it to the North Sectional Final on June 11.

Junior Olivia Mariotti said the

match against Weston will be challenging and test the team's mental strength, but she is confident in the team's ability to do well.

"Weston has a really strong group of girls on their team, but I know that we do as well. We're going to do our best against them, and I hope it will be a good match," she said.

Track team places at Divisionals

Feuerbach reaches Nationals, Kenney New Englands

By Jenna Cirella
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

With an ending record of boys 1-4 and girls 2-3, the co-op track team with Gloucester High School qualified runners for the league and state meets, coach Mark Dawson said.

"Although we did wish to have a few more successes, our season went pretty well," he said.

Senior captain Eve Feuerbach said their biggest accomplishment was placing well at NEC's. The girls came in fifth out of 16 teams, and the boys came in eighth.

"It was super cool because we are such a little team, and were still able to compete against schools twice our size," she said.

Sophomore Will Kenney competed in All-States on June 1. He medaled with eighth-

place with a 4:21 in the mile and placed sixth overall at New Englands.

"It wasn't a bad race, but it was a little different because I ran the 1600. It was the end of the season, so I'm pretty burnt out and I don't think

I have a lot of racing left in me, so it's good to be done," he said.

Senior captain, Dean Campbell said that junior, Olivia Ford demonstrates the most sportsmanship on the team.

"Often times she would be doing a cool down run from her event, and would always be

cheering the other people who were running, and it was really nice," he said.

'We had a ton of freshmen and sophomores this year who were all pretty skilled... the team has a lot of potential...'

- DEAN CAMPBELL

Campbell said he himself set many records and improved in every event that he participated this year.

"I am really happy with my

season, and I ended up getting a medal at the divisional meet, so that is pretty cool," he said.

Feuerbach said that meeting back up with the Gloucester track team has made the season enjoyable.

"Outdoor track is always so much fun reconnecting with the

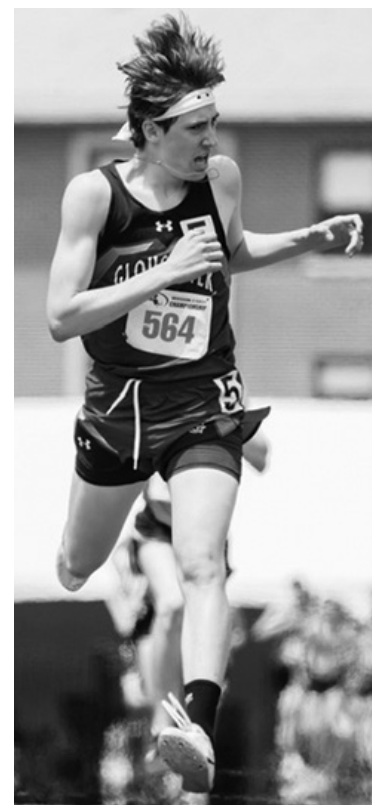
Gloucester kids, coming together as two schools and being a team and supporting each other. Even though we do not go to the same schools coming together, running and doing it all really can connect people and makes them stronger," she said.

Feuerbach qualified for National for the third time in her running career. She and three runners from Gloucester will compete in the distance medley relay.

"I'm very excited to go to Nationals. It is always really fun going down and seeing all of the amazing competition," she said.

Campbell said one thing that stood out was the big age gap on the team this year, but everyone bonded really well.

"We had a ton of freshmen and sophomores this year who were all pretty skilled. I feel like the team has a lot of potential and are going to be doing very well in the next few years," he said.



COURTESY OF MATHEW MUISE

Sophomore Will Kenney placed 8th at All-States.

Boys tennis works as a team, works to improve skill

Junior captains lead team by example

By Paige Swanson
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

With a league record of 4-5 and an overall record of 5-7, the boys' tennis team's season is coming to a close, and although the team does not have a winning record this year, junior captain Thomas Birkeland said the team has been successful in bonding with each other.

"I'm proud that we've grown as a team and developed a good chemistry together," he said.

Junior captain Nils Taylor said organizing activities like team dinners, making practices fun, or encouraging team members to dress up on game days helped to bring the team together.

Coach Robert Bilsbury said the juniors on the team have helped lead the team and bring

the boys together.

"I love the fact that we have eight juniors that really get how hard we have to work everyday, and what practices have to look and feel like," he said.

Bilsbury said the captains have been especially helpful in motivating and leading the team.

"[Junior captain] Thymen de Widt is exactly how I want kids at Manchester Essex to act in

terms of sportsmanship... [Junior captains] Thomas Birkeland and Nils Taylor both

'I love the fact that we have eight juniors that really get how hard we have to work everyday, and what practices have to look and feel like.'

-ROBERT BILSBURY

have really intense passion about them which helps with practice intensity," he said.

While the boys did achieve their goal of becoming closer as a team, they were not able to win the league or qualify for the state tournament, which are things Birkeland said were difficult to

do with no seniors. However, he said the team is looking forward to trying again next season. "We were a team with no seniors this year, so we always knew things were going to be a little bit difficult. We are excited to go back at it next season though," Birkeland said.

Bilsbury said he is most proud of the team's overall growth.

"I think the talent level has really increased on the team and I'm definitely proud of the boys. The Cape Ann League is definitely a bit tougher than in years past so we've definitely been battling but we're playing well," he said.

Girls' lacrosse achieves tournament goals

Players work as a team to overcome challenges, struggles with injuries

By Domino Morris
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

As of today, the girls' lacrosse team won their first two games in the state tournament and looks to achieve their goal of becoming state champions, senior captains Abby Lantz, Drew Charlton and Brigid Edgerton said.

The team had another successful season with a record of 12-5-0 despite many injuries and illnesses, the captains said.

The toughest obstacle was dealing with players missing games, coach Nan Gorton said. She said it is difficult to rework the team's structure when every player already has a certain position in the team.

The hardest game was a 15-12 loss against Ipswich because a player was out due to an injury, so the team had to adjust their entire defense,

Gorton said.

She said the team also had a lot of great moments throughout the season. Gorton said she loved watching almost every player score a goal.

The best game was an 8-7 win against Newburyport, Edgerton said. "They have always been our rivals, and we lost to them in the Division Final last year, so it was like redemption," she said.

Gorton said Bella Pomeroy makes the largest contribution to the team, even though she thinks all of the seniors were vital this year.

"I'm the team's eyes," Pomeroy said. She said she also helps keep the team together by staying calm.

The player with the best attitude towards the game is Lantz, Gorton said. "Abby Lantz has a love for the game that is in every

'Abby Lantz has a love for the game that is in every step she takes,'

- NAN GORTON



COURTESY OF VICKI DONNELLAN

Sophomore Lily Athanas plays during an away game against Beverly. Despite their loss against this team, they said that they had a successful season with a tournament win and a record of 12-5-0.

step she takes," she said.

Lantz said she enjoys the team's mentality of "picking up

your teammates in order to pick yourself up."

Gorton said she plans on stay-

ing with this team next year and is excited to come back and keep building this program.

Sailing team places 7th at Phebe King National High School Invitational

By Charlotte Pick
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

To close out the season, the sailing team finished second at the Massachusetts State Championship, a regatta hosted by MIT on the Charles River from May 20-21.

Assistant sailing coach Matthew Brzezinski said the conditions for this race were very trying because of the high wind speeds; several of the teams participating capsized during the race. He also said junior captain Hannah Freeman and senior Lena Brzezinski were at the forefront of the race.

Freeman skippered the A Boat with Lena Brzezinski as crew, while senior Luke Quine

was at the helm of the B Boat with junior Rowan Schanley crewing.

The team placed second overall at this event, losing the championship by only six points in the 20 race series.

"It was a difficult event because it was really windy and shifty and because both of our boats are smaller than most of the other teams on the racecourse. Sailing against the bigger teams was a challenge upwind, which was where we accumulated most of our points, but overall the team persevered and performed well at the event," Freeman said.

Matthew Brzezinski said another significant race for the



COURTESY OF MATTHEW BRZEZINSKI

Junior captain Hannah Freeman and senior Lena Brzezinski cross the finish line during a race at the Phebe King Regatta.

team this season was the Phebe King National High School Regatta in Annapolis.

"The regatta featured some of the best high school sailors in the United States; Hannah Freeman and Lena Brzezinski finished third while the team as a whole

placed seventh," he said.

Freeman said she was impressed with the team's performance at the Phebe King National High School Invitational.

"Everyone on the team really performed at their highest level during the race, and it was nice

to see all of our hard work from this season pay off with a third-place finish for one of our boats, and a seventh-place finish for the team as a whole," she said.

Matthew Brzezinski said the sailing team exceeded expectations during the 2019 season.

"We went up against many bigger and better-funded programs this season. Both lead skippers, Freeman and Quine, had an excellent year while some of the younger middle school sailors, Anna Brzezinski [eighth-grade], Bella Wright [seventh-grade], and Mark Matook [eighth-grade], also showed great promise," Brzezinski said.

Junior captain Rowan Schanley said she believes the team will be able to improve even more in the coming years.

"This season we continuously advanced our skills with every race, and I have no doubt that this improvement will continue next season," she said.

Boys' lacrosse team beats rival, accomplishes goals for season

By Isabella DiPasquale
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

Despite the adversity they faced from early on in the season, the boys' lacrosse team continued to work together to beat one of their main rivals.

Coach John McCavanaugh said one of the teams' main goals at the start of the season was to beat Georgetown, making this win very special for the team. They won the game 13-11 and while this was one of their only wins, the triumph was significant.



COURTESY OF MARK DIPASQUALE

Freshman Teddy Delisio plays in a home game against Lynnfield. After multiple losses, the team won their game with a score of 6-5

The teams' overall record is 4-13-0.

Although the team did not go

to the playoffs, they said they feel as though they learned a lot about themselves this season.

"The kids are learning what it means to be respectful to other teams no matter the score, which has been a very valuable lesson for them McCavanaugh said.

McCavanaugh said that freshman Teddy Delisio was an outstanding member of the team both on and off the field.

"Teddy Delisio is a great player to watch and he really stood out during [a lot of] the games," he said.

Delisio, who has been a part of the team for two years, attributes some of the teams' hardships to the graduation of many starting players the year prior.

"[The loss of these players] really changed of the whole team dynamic but we have tried to keep a positive mindset and continue to improve," he said.

One of the captains' main goals since the beginning of the season was to help the younger players succeed. Senior captain Logan Carroll said that he and his fellow captains have worked hard this season to be good role models for their younger teammates and share their expertise.

"As captains, I feel that we have done a good job showing the younger players how to handle themselves in the face of adversity and tough results," he said.

McCavanaugh said he is impressed by the relationships that have formed between the older and younger players.

"The younger kids have gotten a lot of experience and have learned some great lessons from their older teammates," he said.

Baseball team advances, wins first game of state tournament

Coach praises players' positive attitudes, strong leadership from captains

By Thymen de Widt
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

Having won their first game in the division 4 state tournament against Lowell Catholic, the baseball team must win against Snowden in order to reach the North Sectional Final.

The team defeated Lowell Catholic 4-2 on June 10 and will play Snowden on June 12.

The boys placed first in the CAL alongside rivals Hamilton-Wenham, after beating other rival Georgetown 10-4 in their final league game.

The team also placed first in the Memorial Day tournament, beating Rockport 13-1, and defeating Hamilton-Wenham 3-2.

Coach James Weed said the team has been working hard for the tournament, despite having played some tough opponents.

"Our end goal is to do something in the state finals. The boys

have been working very hard, [and] we keep moving forward one game at a time," he said.

The team had a tough middle of the season, playing some strong opponents such as Hamilton-Wenham and Lynnfield.

Senior captain Harry Painter said the team has had some setbacks as a result of a few losses but has kept fighting.

"We have definitely had a few disappointing games, but we still [treat each game] with equal importance, and play harder each time," he said.

Senior captain Dylan Wilson also said the team has been pushing through tough games but has maintained a positive attitude throughout.

"We all give it our best each match. We all play for each other. [Despite] hard games in the past, we help each other get better every day," he said.



THYMEN DE WIDT PHOTO

Coach James Weed motivates players in a team huddle before a home game. The team advanced to the state tournament and finished the regular season with a Cape Ann League record of 10-4-0.

Wilson, along with senior captains Harry Painter, Luke Leavitt, Will Janowicz, Bennett O'Leary, and junior captain Lars Arntsen, has showed strong leadership both during games and practices, Weed said.

"The captains have shown really good leadership. [They have all] had a strong season. [There are also] a lot of good young players that have stepped up their game," Weed said.

Arntsen also said the captains

have been leading by example while also playing very well.

"The captains have been getting big hits, playing good defense, and have shown great leadership throughout the season," he said.

Softball improves record, plays in CAL tournament

Captains exhibit leadership, teach players skills

By Olivia Turner
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

The softball team won their first Cape Ann League tournament game against Greater Lowell and

lost their next game against Austin Prep two days later.

They had qualified for the tournament with a league record of 9-6-0 and an overall record of 10-9-0.

Varsity coach Frank Sarro said the three games the team played

outside of the league were challenging, but within the league, the team achieved wins over rival teams such as Ipswich.

He said the 4-3 victory over Ipswich was impactful.

"That solidified us being in [the competition] now," Sarro said.

Sarro said he accredits most of the team's success to strong leadership from the four captains, seniors Belle Graves and Molly Field and juniors Sydney Levasseur and Claire Gendron.

The cohesive-

'I think we're a lot stronger than we thought we were going to come out to be.'

- BELLE GRAVES



COURTESY OF SYDNEY LEVASSEUR

Coach Frank Sarro said junior captain Claire Gendron has been a consistently strong pitcher for the team throughout the season.

ness of the players was also a factor in the high-achieving season, he said.

"I'm really happy with the way the team's playing, the way

everybody's... playing as a team. Sometimes that's hard when you have 8th-graders playing with kids who are seniors," Sarro said. Senior captain Belle Graves

said despite many rainouts and postponements throughout the season, the team has still played strongly and consistently.

"I think we're a lot stronger than we thought we were going to come out to be," she said.

In a game against Lynnfield, Graves said the team was losing with a score of 7-1 until their eventual 10-9 victory.

"Everyone contributed to the win, not just one person," she said.

Sarro said the team's goal of making it to the tournament placed importance on regular season games.

"We're taking the approach right now that every game is like a playoff game," he said in mid-May.

Sarro said he is pleased that the team achieved its goals this season.

"Our hope at the beginning of the year was to make it to the tournament," he said.

Frisbee team goes undefeated in league, beats rival schools

By Olivia Turner
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

The ultimate Frisbee team ended the 2019 season with a league record of 9-0.

Sophomore captain and coach Eli Heanue said the team had a lot of talent and worked well together during games and practices.

"Our team had great chemistry, and we played really well this season," he said.

The season was unique, Heanue said, because the team was comprised of more sixth graders and female players respectively than years prior.



KATHERINE FITZGIBBON PHOTO

Sophomore captain Finn Carlson throws the disc past a player on the North Reading team during a home game at Coach Field turf.

"We played against a lot of high school teams that were heavily juniors and seniors, and we were still undefeated and did really well," he said.

Sophomore captain Finn Carl-

son said he was impressed with the success of the team.

"We really improved throughout the season, so I was really happy about that," he said.

Heanue said the team beat ri-

vals from Rockport High School on three separate occasions, each game going into overtime.

He said a victory over St. John's Prep was the first since he began playing the sport five years ago.

"Our team was really proud to defeat St. John's prep because they are a very organized and dedicated Frisbee team," Heanue said.

He said they play against college level teams in the area such as Gordon College and Endicott College.

"It was also very satisfying to have some of our players score

against them," Heanue said.

He said the team's success relied on the captains' leadership.

"Finn and I did a really good job of teaching our players the skills and strategies around Ultimate Frisbee," Heanue said.

He said new leadership was instrumental in the team's success.

"This year, our team got to have a new captain, Finn Hawley, and he did a really good job working with the middle schoolers," Heanue said.

Heanue said he hopes the members of the team continue to play in following years.

"I'd love to have another great season," he said.

'Our team was really proud to defeat St. John's Prep because they are a very organized and dedicated Frisbee team.'

- ELI HEANUE



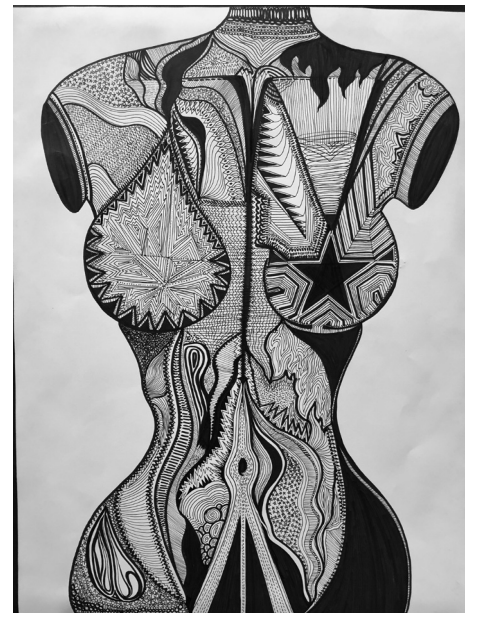
COURTESY OF CAROLINE EPP

AP photography student junior Hannah Burnett took a photo of her grandfather and won first place from the Sixth Congressional Art Show.



COURTESY OF TAMERA BURNS

Senior Ava Gallagher of Burns' portfolio class made a 3-D ceramic sculpture of a miniature house that had a roof made out of copper; she made the piece during the unit focused on the interior of objects.



COURTESY OF TAMERA BURNS

AP studio art student senior Lillian Corcoran created a piece and displayed it with her other works from this year.

Spring art exhibit showcases pieces from students of differing levels

Show of student work displays designs using a variety of mediums

By Sofia Gillespie
INDEPENDENT EDITOR

With pieces from a wide variety of mediums and a range of students, the spring art show well represented this year's art classes, art department head Tamera Burns said.

A showcase and reception for the art show was held on April 4 before the spring chorus concert. Art teacher Caroline Epp said she felt a positive response from parents and attendees at the event.

"More and more people come each year to the reception, which might be due to the growing number of AP students we have each year. I have 12 students in AP Photography, and Ms. Burns has five in AP Portfolio, which is the most we have ever had," she said.

Epp said it was nice to have the reception before the chorus concert as it brought music and art together.

Burns said that exhibiting work is a key element to the

process of growing as an artist.

"Besides the making and creating of a work, the sharing of artwork is such an important aspect. Getting up there, getting feedback, and being proud of it all helps students to grow," she said.

She said she has also noticed a strong artistic talent among the underclassmen this year, particularly the sophomore class.

"This group works well together, they collaborate well, they are very humble, they are amazingly hard working, and they all support each other well," she said.

Burns said the NAHS has been helpful to the art program this year; she said the leadership has

grown well throughout the year and has made a positive group for students.

Sophomore Abigail Thomas, a

student in Burns' portfolio class who had a few pieces up in the show, said it was nice to see the works of other students in the halls.

"It's a great showcase for everyone's hard work throughout the course of the year," she said.

Epp said the show serves as a great opportunity for students to show their pieces to peers, staff, and the greater community.

"The whole point of art is to be able to express ideas to other people and to communicate," Epp said.

'Besides the making and creating of a work, the sharing of artwork is such an important aspect. Getting up there, getting feedback, and being proud of it all helps students to grow.'

-TAMERA BURNS



COURTESY OF TAMERA BURNS

Sophomore Isabella Lilly, a student in the portfolio class, made a 3-D piece using a book, paper cutouts, and copper wire.



COURTESY OF TAMERA BURNS

Sophomore Grayson Lockwood created a mixed media piece in the portfolio class's unit focused on the interior of objects.



COURTESY OF TAMERA BURNS

Sophomore Abigail Thomas painted a piece using the painting material gouache in her portfolio class during the figure unit.



COURTESY OF CAROLINE EPP

Sophomore Charlie Gendron, a student in Epp's photography II class, used his drone to capture a photo of Tucks' Point and got honorable mention from the Scholastic Art Awards for it.