

The
REGISTER FORUM

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Photo Credit: Cameron Lane-Flehinger

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REGISTER FORUM

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Established in 1891 as the C.M.T.S Register

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

Glocal Winners Head to Iceland

By

Diego Lasarte

Register Forum Editor

"As the saying goes, the Stone Age did not end because we ran out of stones; we transitioned to better solutions. The same opportunity lies before us with energy efficiency and clean energy," said Dr. Steven Chu to hundreds of students, including ten CRLS students.

The ten students, winners of the 2016 Glocal Challenge, spent five days traveling around Iceland this March. The tour culminated in the Global Student Leadership conference in Reykjavik, the capital of Iceland and the world's northernmost capital city. There the former U.S. Secretary of Energy, the President of Iceland, the U.S. ambassador to Iceland, and different innovators from around the world spoke to students.

"The whole trip was an incredible privilege," says junior Ignacio Roitman. Junior Immaad Mir agrees: "It was an amazing experience, I learned so much, from how to create and implement ideas, to how Iceland so peacefully coexists with the natural world."

Approximately 99.8%

of all of Iceland's electricity is created with renewable resources, a feat that has led to an extremely energy-conscious culture in the country. This amazing statistic is made possible because Iceland takes advantage of the massive cache of geothermal energy lying right below the island.

When speaking to students, the Icelandic president, Ólafur Ragnar Grímsson, stressed the importance of innovation and of seizing every possible opportunity to rely less on finite resources. One innovation is that for 15 years, Iceland has continuously heated all of its streets and sidewalks to a temperature just above freezing using natural geothermal heat. This means that Icelandic teens have never had to shovel snow.

The group also got the chance to experience the immensity of the Gullfoss waterfall, one of the world's biggest waterfalls, as well as Iceland's Great Geysir, a geothermal phenomenon that is the first known landmark referred to as a geyser. CRLS students saw Iceland's strong connection with the natural world firsthand on many nighttime nature walks around Faxaflói Bay.

Walking through the

city, the students dined in hip cafes and saw a life size Blue Whale in Reykjavik's famous whale museum. They also had a chance to visit the meeting place of Iceland's first ever session of Parliament, which met in 970, making Iceland the oldest surviving democracy in the world. The ancient house of parliament sits in the Mid-Atlantic Ridge, meaning Parliament met right between the tectonic plates of North America and Europe.

The students claim they now feel more knowledgeable about the current state of renewable energy sources and more motivated to limit the power of fossil fuels. Most of all, students on the trip felt inspired, not only by the summit, but also by the Icelandic air and from the passion of the like-minded students that came from all around the country.

Junior Bouchra Benghomari concludes, "Hard work is worth it when what you get out of it is truly life changing. [By] getting to experience the beauty that is Iceland, creating a closer bond with my peers, and working with people from around the world...the trip has completely changed the way I look at the world and life."

International CRLS Trips Provide Unique Learning Opportunities

By

Sun-Jung Yum

Register Forum Contributor

In the past year, students at Rindge have been presented with opportunities to travel to three different countries.

During February break, Latin and Spanish students had the chance to go on trips organized by their respective language programs to Italy and Costa Rica.

Aside from that, a handful of students had the chance to go to Panama for a trip organized and funded by the World Jazz Ensemble.

"I think it's really great that students get the opportunity to go abroad and see what they have been learning about within school in a real-world environment," commented sophomore Tyrone Quigley, who participated in the school trip to Italy.

Tours organized by the school are designed to help students connect the work they have done in school to a community outside of their own. "I learned about music, culture, performance, and so

much more that I would have never been able to learn by just staying at school," said sophomore Lila Lifton, who took part in the Panama trip.

Traveling abroad enables students to have first-hand experiences with the material that they have been learning and with the culture of foreign countries. Latin teacher and Italy trip coordinator Ms. Giacchino says, "There is no comparison to the amount of cultural learning that happens in one day in a foreign country."

Many students also claim that school-organized trips have lasting effects on their relationships with their peers and teachers.

"Going on a trip with students your age is a much more relaxed and different experience than going with family or alone," said freshman Nia Callender. Exploring another country alongside a group of people evidently serves as a great foundation for friendships. "I got closer to the nine other girls I went with than any other people in that short amount of time," Callender

continued, speaking about her experience on the Costa Rica.

Junior Maria Penrice added, "There always seems to be a trip going on, and as far as [the Panama trip], the administration seemed pretty supportive. They made it clear that no one would not be able to go as a result of the cost of the trip."

Though these travel opportunities are open to everyone and are supported by the school, travel expenses remains a concern for many. "Although there are scholarships

However, this program is still in development, and many believe that in order for a larger portion of the CRLS student body to experience these extraordinary trips, changes have to be made.

Executive Director of FoCRLS Elaine Schear explained, "Right now our budget is very modest (8K for the school year)." Students from low-income families often need more than \$1000 in financial aid, and though FoCRLS attempts to support as many students as possible, that is difficult with the resources they have.

"We look forward to soon collaborating with CRLS staff, students, and travel companies working in partnership with

CRLS, to formulate a plan to broaden access to travel for more of our students," Schear concluded.

Taking part in school trips has been a highlight of high school for many students, and many agree that the travel opportunities should be considered by all. Look out for upcoming trips, including ones to Spain, France, and another Italy trip in the next few months!

"There is no comparison to the amount of cultural learning that happens in one day in a foreign country."

awarded to certain students to help them...afford these opportunities, these scholarships often fall short or are not widely known," says sophomore and Italy trip member Chloe Beaumont-Smith.

Currently, FoCRLS provides Travel Fellowships to students with a high interest in travel, an average grade of B or higher, financial need, and teacher recommendations.

Where Do People Get Their News? Students Prefer Comedy to Major News Outlets

By
Adrienne Ashe
Register Forum Editor

The average high schooler has unlimited access to various sources of news, credible or not, everyday through articles or videos shared on social media, comedy shows, and online news outlets. Favorite outlets range from the *New York Times* and NPR, to NowThis and BuzzFeed. Major news networks are notably absent.

Although CNN, Fox News, and MSNBC have large audiences, with a combined average of 2.74 million views according to Politico, many people do not perceive these sources as reliable.

Junior Elliott Ronna states, “[The major news networks] are a lot less engaging and also a lot of them have really strong political biases.” However, he does concede that Stephen

Colbert, one of his favorite sources, and similar comedy hosts “have their own slant too.”

It is common for students, especially liberal ones, to trust comedy shows. As of October 2014, a study conducted by Pew showed that *The Daily Show* ranked in the top ten of most trusted news outlets, even though Jon Stewart, the former host, has said, “People would like to place a standard on our show that doesn’t exist. We’re not set up for reporting; we don’t have an apparatus for that.”

Many would agree that comedians have no ethical

It is common for students, especially liberal ones, to trust comedy shows, such as The Daily Show.

responsibility to provide unbiased, accurate information for their viewers, while journalists are under a strict code of ethics.

Sophomore Zoe Mc-Nerney is skeptical of com-

edy shows and their accuracy. She states, “It’s for the purposes of entertainment and we should not [rely on] a comedian [as a source of] our news. It is the responsibility of the citizen to figure out on their own time what is entertainment and what is not.”

Journalists facilitate a free exchange of information between citizens and their government. They keep citizens informed about their representatives and the issues those representatives vote on, while it keeps representatives informed about the demands of the people. The Code of Ethics written by the Society of Professional Journalists states that “neither speed nor format excuses inaccuracy,” and “journalists should boldly tell the story of the diversity and magnitude of the human experience.”

However, Ronna thinks that news provided



Stephen Colbert's Show, The Late Show, frequently discusses and satirizes current events.

Photo Credit: LA Times

by major outlets is rarely fully developed because of the demands of a twenty-four hour news cycle.

Other students get their news from a wider range of sources, depending upon what pops up on their news feed. Junior Rebecca Hornstein finds it difficult to find reliable news through social media.

Like Ronna, Hornstein also believes that news provided by major networks is underdeveloped and does

not always tell the complete story. For example, she wishes that when new outlets cover the presidential race, they “broadcast more than Donald Trump and more than whatever is the loudest.”

With various methods of staying informed that range from well respected and credible to subjective pandering, many agree that students need to sift through them with a sharp and critical eye.

Teacher Spotlight: Ms. Holmes and Ms. Anastasia



Photo Credit: Cameron Lane-Flehinger

By
Claire Healy
Register Forum Contributor

Register Forum: What do you teach?

Sofia Anastasia: Spanish, but as a student teacher for Ms. Holmes.

Kate Holmes: Spanish and French.

RF: How long have you been teaching?

SA: Four months.

KH: I was back and forth between CRLS and extension for three years, then for four years full time at extension. This year I chose to come back full time to CRLS.

RF: How have your experiences at CRLS and previous schools differed?

SA: I love teaching. Every day is a huge learning experience and I’m learning a lot from each student...Last semester I observed here a little and a little at RAUC.

KH: Extension is a smaller, more family-like environment...Because of the reduced class size,

there is more personalized learning. I think this can be done at CRLS, it just depends on the class and teacher.

RF: How do you like CRLS?

SA: I love it! One of the things that stands out most is the Falcons Nest; I think it’s wonderful that students can come together and learn a skill that they are then able to share with the greater community.

KH: It’s really great to be in a place with such diversity of people and of courses. It really lets students personalize education and focus on things they are passionate about. I went to a small high school and there was a very limited course selection. I always love hearing students say that they are taking genetics or something unique to their interests.

RF: Why are you teaching languages?

SA: I guess it’s just my passion. I grew up in a bilingual family speaking Italian and English at home and spending summers in Italy. I remember when I was around fourteen, I traveled to France and I was devastated that I couldn’t communicate with the people there. I remember thinking that languages should never be a barrier between people. When I started high school, I had a mentor who was an Italian/Spanish teacher. She made me take all of the languages taught at my high school and I loved all of them. When I went to college and I needed to have a language proficiency, I took Spanish and one of my professors said I had a gift...Freshman year of college I went to Paraguay to volunteer in an orphanage for a month and I dealt a lot with language barriers there. Nothing had ever made me

feel more exhausted, happy or fulfilled. I came to teach Spanish because of these experiences and because of a love for human connections and a desire to break barriers.

KH: When I was really young, I wanted to be a teacher. In high school, my passion for languages started after I took both Spanish and French and did an exchange program in Spain for a few weeks. I was inspired by a very dynamic teacher. He made me want to keep studying and exploring cultures and languages. After graduating, I went to UMASS Amherst...I did [a course] volunteering at a teen center for at-risk youth in Amherst. That got me thinking more seriously about teaching. I applied for a teaching position, and I was selected and got placed in D.C.

RF: How are your classes structured and why?

KH: For me, it’s very important to keep in mind the four skills (reading, writing, speaking, and listening). You can’t communicate without them. I always try to incorporate something with...trying to do more real life tasks. I prefer to let students take ownership of learning by focusing a lot on practice and practical assignments.

RF: What has been your best class experience?

SA: I love the surprise of having student say something I never even thought of and having them explore something new.

KH: I really like...when students come in knowing nothing and then they leave with knowledge from both their and my hard work. In languages, I like the concrete growth that I can see when the students leave.

New Voting System for Student Government

By
Grace Ramsdell
Register Forum Editor

On February 11th, Student Government hosted a forum after school in the Main Cafeteria to evaluate the voting system used in its annual elections.

“Last year, Student Government initiated a conversation about the school elections, what demographic of students are being elected every year, and what we can do to better diversify Student Government as a whole...[We] were motivated to hold a voting reform forum so that all members of the student body could voice their opinions,” explains Junior Class Representative Kester Messan-Hilla.

The forum was attended by Student Government members and faculty advisors Ms. VanBlaricum and Ms. Cesario. It was also open to members of the community, but only a few other students came.

During the forum, attendees discussed the benefits and drawbacks of the current voting system and alternatives. In the past, voters in Student Government elections have had four votes to use when voting for their class’s four representatives, and the individuals with the most votes have been elected.

Sophomore Lamisa Jahan be-

lieves this allocation of votes is not the best system, claiming that it causes elections to “become more of a popularity contest than a promotion of change.”

One of the alternative systems that attendees considered at the forum was Proportional Representation voting. This complicated system, used in Cambridge municipal elections, allows a voter to rank the candidates, and those ranked higher most often are elected.

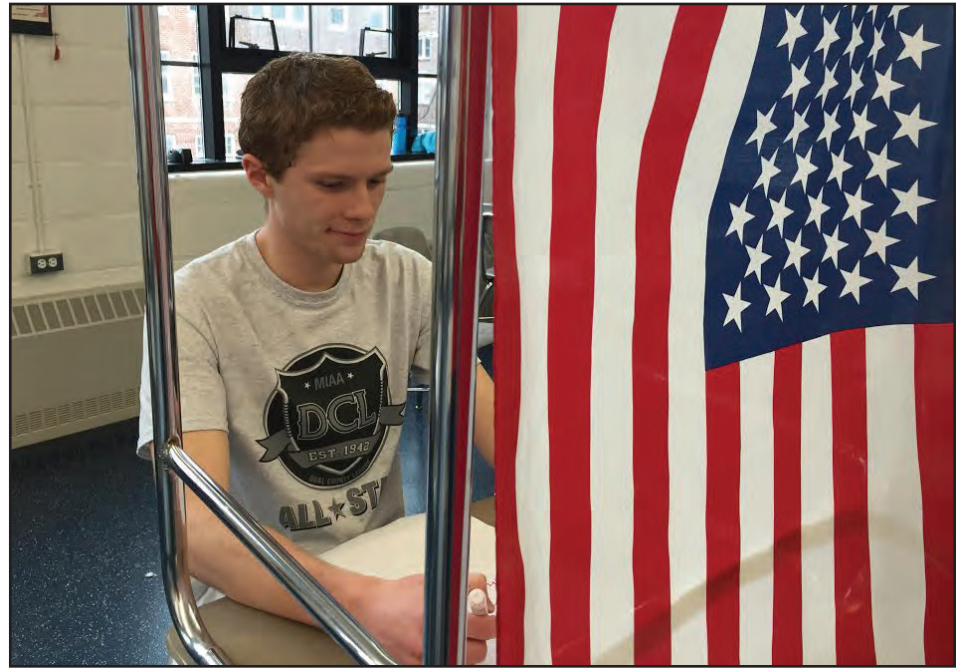
After hearing various options, everyone who attended the forum participated in a non-binding vote on a new voting system for Student Government elections. The vote revealed a clear preference for the Proportional Representation system, which Student Government later officially decided to implement in elections this June.

AP Comparative Government teacher Ms. Hylton believes that Proportional Representation Voting

The vote revealed a clear preference for the Proportional Representation system.

could be beneficial to Student Government, saying that voting systems like this “tend to produce more inclusive, coalition-based governance.”

She added that this kind of voting system “is particularly friendly to minority views and groups, en-



Even RF editors are trying to understand the Proportional Representation system.

Photo Credit: Liam Greenwell

suring that some seats at the table will be open to them.”

Junior Walker Gillett attended the forum and is satisfied with the new voting system, but says that due to the small turnout at the forum, “if the meeting’s purpose was to engage in a school wide discussion about voting...it was unsuccessful.”

Though the forum focused on voting reform, attendees considered other ways to make Student Government more diverse, including improving advertising.

Student Body President Ross Baker states, “Although I am excited about the new change in the actual voting process, the same issue persists...elections aren’t representative of the student body. There is little diversity in who runs and less than a third of the school votes.”

Sophomore Tara Jones agrees,

adding, “The problem isn’t as simple as students of color [not] getting votes, it’s that they’re not running.”

Student Government is currently testing the software necessary to implement Proportional Representation voting.

Aside from that, Baker says the hardest part of the change will be teaching students about the new voting system, saying, “We were apprehensive to adopt this system because we were afraid it would be more complicated, but [students] argued that it would actually help with overall civic engagement in Cambridge, because kids would learn the [same system used in city elections] in high school.”

The Register Forum will be moderating a discussion with candidates for Student Government before elections this year (date to be determined). To become involved in Student Government, go to room 1606 at 7:15 on Mondays.



Photo Credit: Deondre Starling

By
Ashley Nicole
Register Forum Contributor

In the years following Deondre Starling’s graduation from CRLS in 2011, he overcame tragic loss and career altering moments to become a rising fashion entrepreneur.

RF: What got you into the fashion business?

Deondre Starling: My mom was into fashion before she died, and when I was at Rindge I did digital art and kept those connections I made along the way. As years went on, during my mid year in college I got hit by a car and realized I didn’t want to just be known as a person who was good at basketball, I wanted to put my eggs in separate baskets. Knowing the love my mom had for fashion and my background in digital

Alumnus Spotlight: Deondre Starling

art, I was like, “I’m gonna release a fashion line, a line that’s gonna be very diverse and make a statement.” If my mother were alive today, she’d want to do something with our name, like a legacy thing, so I just used my last name and ink came from my desire for diversity. From there came Starling Ink.

RF: Did the accident change your career path or had you gone into college knowing you wanted to venture into fashion?

DS: I was going in on a basketball scholarship so I was mainly undecided...I always knew I wanted to do something else besides basketball.

RF: What’s your inspiration?

DS: First and foremost my mother. My friends and family, the youth, [too]. It’s my mother and grandmother’s strength that motivates [me]. It’s the youth and the people that consistently tell me they look up to me. That’s my inspiration.

RF: How would you describe your clothing line?

DS: My clothing line...is unique. It doesn’t matter what race you are, it doesn’t even if you don’t have that fashion mindset, you’re gonna get the shirt because I have a powerful message...I’m here to promote positivity, I’m here to have a positive brand, that goes beyond Cambridge. I’m thinking globally, universally.

RF: Tell me about your scholarship.

DS: I put the scholarship together because a lot of people don’t know how hard it is for people who’ve messed up their freshman or sophomore year to have the same opportunities [and funds] as everyone else...Just because you messed up before doesn’t mean you can’t make it up now. I’m not looking at your report card, extracurriculars, etc I’m just basing it off of [an] essay.

RF: What are you looking for in an essay?

DS: It’s gonna be hard because a lot of these kids are young kings and queens, but really I’m looking for that one sentence in the essay that glows me up, that one sentence that lets me know they’re really about it. It’s crazy cause I’ve got juniors texting me asking if they can apply for the scholarship and it’s great to see them already motivated. I’m grateful I don’t do any of this for recognition; I’m just here to do it for my mom. I just wanna give back to my community.

RF: What advice do you have for up and coming designers/entrepreneurs?

DS: The only thing I’d say is stay humble. You gotta remember where you started, you’ve gotta remember why you’re doing it. Love what you do, don’t step into something that you know isn’t right. Respect the hustle. Stay humble, stay motivated, boss up.

Our Society's Easter Celebrations Don't Make Sense

By
Anna Lowy
Register Forum
Contributor

Let me begin by saying I love Cadbury Creme Eggs, marshmallows shaped like baby animals, pastel colors, and little girls in silly poofy skirts—but someone has to stand up for sanity in our society!

The way we celebrate Easter makes no sense whatsoever. Easter is a holiday celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ after he had been dead for three days. Yet this miracle is celebrated by stalking bunny

rabbits and filling plastic eggs with cheap candy.

This isn't to say that I'm an outraged Christian who is disappointed with how our culture does not take Easter seriously enough. I am outraged for a different reason, though some might say I'm unreasonably outraged about this.

I am outraged because pastel grass and polka-dot eggs take over every craft store and coffee shop window display in every town, and we all blindly accept this as being a normal part of the holiday that celebrates the resurrection of the biblical Son of God.

Everyone accepts bunnies and candy as being an integral part of Easter, but very few people know the real origins of these cultural phenomena.

Before you ask—no, there is no mention of the Easter Bunny coming to visit Jesus after his resurrection and laying brightly colored eggs at his sandaled feet.

In fact, the Easter Bunny and Easter Eggs originated in 13th century pagan Germany as a representation of the fertile goddess Eostra.

Rabbits and eggs were symbols of fertility, and feasts were always held in her honor at the spring equinox. By the time the Roman Catholic Church took hold of Germany in the fifteenth century, these traditions were too deeply rooted in their society to eliminate completely.

This resulted in the merging of these two holidays, and before they knew it there were rumors of bunnies laying eggs on Easter morning.



In one year, there are enough Peeps made to circle Earth twice.

Photo Credit: Deadline

By the 1700s, people around the Catholic world were making nests on Easter morning for the bunnies to lay eggs in. As time went on, the nests became baskets, the eggs became candy, and now you can purchase a plastic, wind-up rabbit that poops candy eggs at every CVS in existence.

The biggest irony of all of this is that we celebrate this mutant Christian-Pagan holiday right after St. Patrick's day, which mostly revolves around how St. Patrick drove the Pagans out of

Ireland.

So the next time you find yourself digging through non-recyclable Easter grass to find one last chocolate egg or marshmallow peep, try to think about what crazy cultural things allowed you to be there in that moment. Or, don't, and just see how much festive candy you can eat in one day.

And whether or not you celebrate Easter, make sure you take advantage of all the half priced Easter candy the next day.



Easter eggs started as a Germanic pagan spring tradition.

Photo Credit: AP

What Makes a Good Leader

By
Emily Larabee
Register Forum Contributor

"If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader." These are the words of the sixth president of these United States, John Quincy Adams.

What I want to talk about is: How do we inspire people? How do we establish our leadership? What is the foundation of leadership? I posit to you that confidence is the key.

Without confidence, there can be no leadership. As the author Floyd Filson once said: "He can inspire a group only if he himself is filled with confidence and hope of success."

Before we can really discuss why confidence is the foundation of leadership, we must understand what leadership is.

The United States Air Force defines leadership as "the art and science of influencing and directing people to accomplish the assigned mission." A leader is required to make decisions, often tough decisions, in order to accomplish the task at hand.

Now, let's turn to confidence.

Think of a leader in your life, someone who inspires you.

Now imagine they lost all of their confidence. Do you still see them as a leader?

How are you going to make a decision and stick to it without confidence? No matter how strong someone's communication skills, no matter how passionate they are about an issue, if they cannot stand up in front of their people and say one simple phrase, "I have made the decision to...", nothing will get done. If nothing gets done, there is no leadership.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel, often hailed as the most powerful woman in the world, is the epitome of confident decision making. In 2015, Merkel made the decision to back Greece in its desire to stay in the European Union.

Not all confident people are leaders, but all leaders are confident people.

Merkel biographers Alan Crawford and Tony Czuczka describe this decision as "the political gamble of her life."

She carefully studied the options; she knew the information. She made her decision with a cool-headedness only she could muster, and she calculated the political repercussions but she didn't let that be her deciding factor. She did not



Merkel has been more welcoming of immigrants than other European leaders.

Photo Credit: Hungary Today

stall or falter; she did not overcomplicate matters; she was straightforward, and she made a decision that actually worked.

She was able to make this possibly career-ending decision because she was confident. But confidence unfounded in intelligence, experience, and good judgement is very different from the confidence Merkel exhibits. In this year's political race we see many examples of confidence, true and empty confidence. Empty confidence amounts

to nothing more than blustering talk.

This is not the foundation of leadership. This is a series of soundbites that garners attention, but does not make for real leadership. Not all confident people are leaders, but all leaders are confident people.

Confidence allows a leader to make the tough decisions, to get things done, to accomplish the mission. As an arch would fall apart without its keystone, leadership will fall apart without confidence.

We Need More Racial Diversity in Extracurriculars

By
Rafael Goldstein
Register Forum Editor

Walk into an honors or AP class, and you will likely see mostly white people.

But this is nothing new. This is the reprehensible achievement gap, which is now being referred to as educational debt.

What is often left out of the educational debt discussion is racial diversity in clubs. White people make up about 38% of Rindge's population, followed by 32% African American and 13% Hispanic.

For starters, it is important to note that as someone who is white and does not represent diversity, I am also a major part of the problem.

However, it is also important to understand all aspects of educational debt, an issue just as pertinent outside of normal school hours. Aside from the overall membership of a certain club, the telltale signs of a lack of diversity are often shown among the club's leadership. If a club has diverse leadership, the diversity among members will often follow.

Let's paint this picture. National Honors Society is disproportionately white. *The Register Forum* has ten editors, seven of whom are white. Student Government is composed of a white student body President, white student body Vice President, and white senior class President. All four sophomore class representatives are

white, and both school committee reps are white as well. Both Club 4's and Model UN's leadership are disproportionately white. The CRLS Spanish club and Hip Hop club also both have white presidents (interestingly enough). These are just a few of the innumerable clubs which

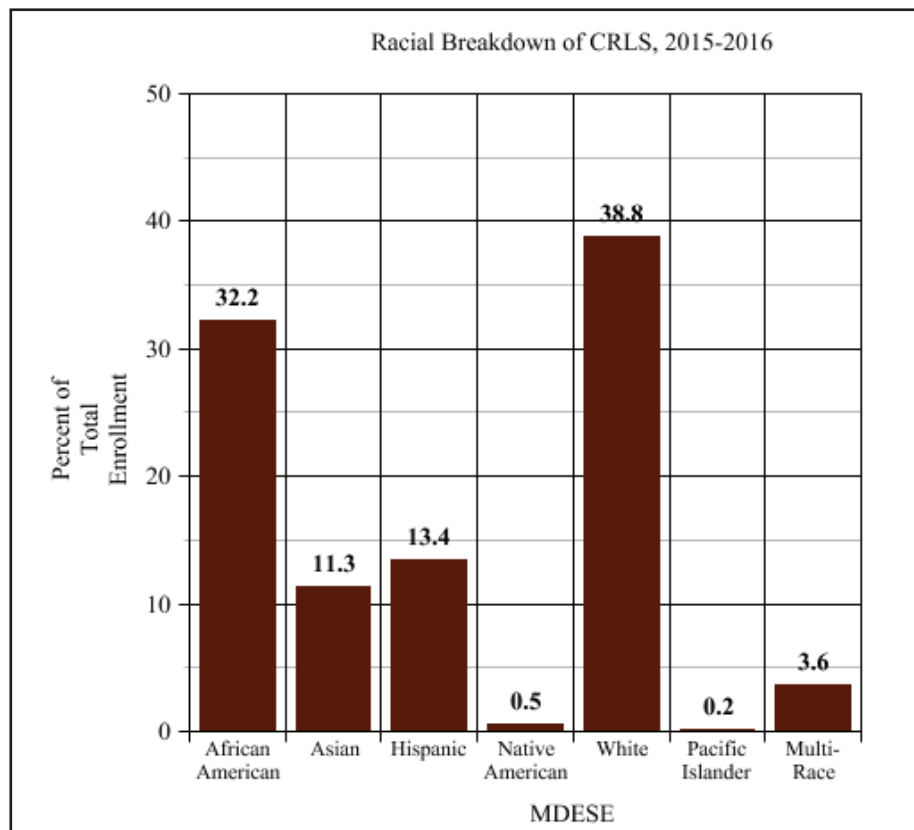
the outside. It enhances creativity, innovation, and overall experience. Extracurricular activities can strengthen students' time management and stress management skills, which improves overall productivity. Although this should not be a reason for a student to get involved in a club, extracurricular activities also increase a candidate's appeal to colleges.

The Institute of Education Sciences (IES) published their research on extracurricular activities and a student's overall success. In the article they say, "It is clear that participation [in extracurriculars] and success are strongly associated."

The issues in extracurriculars extend to more than just race. The study also points out that students of lower economic status participate in extracurriculars much less frequently than students of higher economic status. However, in schools where students of lower economic status are the majority, the students of lower economic status are much more likely to participate.

This gap is nauseating, and is not one that is caused by anyone's ability, or lack thereof, to succeed in a club. Like many other things in this world, the gap stems from the richer and whiter people controlling a major aspect of society.

I am not insisting that white club leaders step down, nor am I calling for immediate equal representation among CRLS clubs, but there must be something better than this drastic gap, and we need it now.



This year's racial breakdown at CRLS highlights the diversity of the school.

Source: Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

lack diverse leadership.

This lack of racial diversity is everywhere, and representation of all races in extracurriculars cannot be undervalued.

Diversity in classes, clubs, and organizations does a lot more than just look good from

The New SAT: Good or Bad?

By
Ursula Murray-Bozeman
Register Forum Contributor

"Because the skills you own should take you further. The new SAT champions the classroom skills and knowledge colleges want most," reads a poster hanging on the wall of the CCRC. The College Board claims that the new SAT is more relevant to schools and students, but in practice, is it? And does that make it a better test?

Having taken the old SAT and the PSAT for the new version, I can testify that there are major differences. The old SAT has 45 and 50 minute sections, a mandatory essay, and a vocabulary section that requires some memorization. The new SAT has a combined reading and writing section, an optional, longer essay, and 25, 20, and 10 minute sections.

The content is also very different. The old test's essay asks a general question that students answer with their own opinion, which they support with personal experience or general knowledge, whereas the new essay will provide a reading and ask a question that has a right and wrong answer. Students are then expected to support their

argument using knowledge they've learned in school.

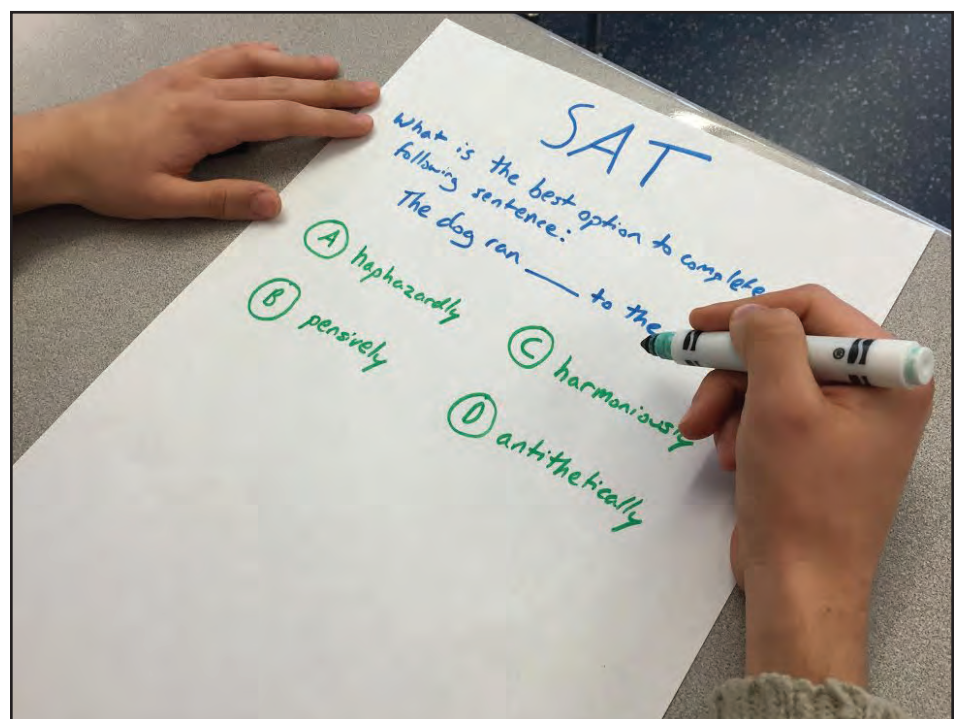
In the math section, the old SAT has 54 questions total in 70 minutes and they go from easiest to hardest. There is a calculator available and all the relevant formulas are listed in the front. In theory, a student who had never taken geometry could conceivably get every geometry question right. The questions are hard because they test the student's reasoning ability.

In the new SAT, there are 58 questions total in 80 minutes. There is one section in which a calculator is not permitted and the questions, rather than testing the student's logic skills, tests memorization of algebraic processes, geometric formulas, arithmetic, and calculator proficiency. In theory, it tests what students learn in school. In the

The new SAT doesn't test the student's logical skills.

PSAT we saw that multiple problems often test the same concept—so a student might FOIL something several times, without showing their knowledge in any new way.

The problem with the new SAT is that it doesn't test the stu-



Even RF editors struggle to answer SAT questions.

Photo Credit: Liam Greenwell

dent's rational or logical skills, it tests how well the student's teachers taught to the test. As schools adjust to the Common Core, a greater emphasis is put on meeting specific standards in certain subjects, and new SAT tests those standards. However, teachers often criticize the new national curriculum because it prevents them from being creative in what they teach and how they teach it. A student who has a more "creative" teacher might get a lower score on the new SAT.

The other question is whether colleges actually want the skills on

the new SAT. The vast majority of college classes allow students to use calculators, and the kind of repetitive math on the new SAT has no place in a system where students are supposed to learn how to do new things, rather than spit back the same method over and over again. Furthermore, old SAT scores generally correlate with IQ. This means colleges potentially know a lot more about you from your current SAT score than most people suppose—and maybe an admissions choice based on SAT scores is justified.

Our World in Pink and Blue: Gender Roles Are Harmful to Teens

By
Anna Griffin
Register Forum
Contributor

When a baby is born, they are assigned a gender which sends them down one path or another: the path of being a boy or a girl. If they're a boy, there is an endless pile of blue gifts from the baby shower, and if they're a girl, there is no escape from the pink.

In our society, gender is seen as a dichotomy—you are either male or female. Along with gender comes a set of unwritten rules that you are expected to know and follow. If you're a man, you should act tough, not cry, and show no signs of weakness. Women, on the other hand, are encouraged to be vulnerable, dependent, and quiet.

Why is it that the organs with which we are born determine how we should feel, think, and act? Gender roles limit people's characters and prevent them from living up to their potential.

At some point in our lives or another we've all

heard "you throw like a girl" or "that's a man's job." It is comments like these that get thrown around daily that suggest being like the opposite gender is an insult.

But what does "opposite gender" even mean? I'm a girl, but I like math and science—typically "masculine" subjects. Is that okay?

I am not the only one to ask this question. Though women make up about 50% of the workforce, they occupy only 25% of STEM jobs. Living in a society in which gender roles play a big part of our lives raises these unnecessary questions with which many people struggle.

The walls within which

Women make up about 50% of the workforce, but represent only 25% of the STEM jobs.

we confine ourselves based on gender can take a mental and physical toll on us.

It starts at birth, with the pink or blue balloons that fill the hospital room. And it continues to the second birthday, when she gets the doll and he the train set.



Mattel has claimed to make new Barbies more realistic, but they still may promote unrealistic standards.
Photo Credit: Glamour Magazine

Then, on the first day of school, she comes in with a pretty, pink dress her parents told her not to get dirty, but when he comes home with dirt and marker all over himself, they just roll their eyes and laugh.

She asks herself: "Am I too fat?" and answers with starving herself and throwing up the little food that she actually eats. These expectations never end. They just build and build.

Suicide is one of the main causes of teenage death. One in twelve high

school students attempt suicide and twice as many have considered it.

This is proof that the peer pressure and bullying in our schools have lasting effects. The demanding gender roles and expectations teens encounter while they are trying to carve out a path for their future add a whole new level of pressure to the inevitable academic stress.

While it is true there are biological differences between men and women, this is not a reason to limit an individual's potential. Hormonal differences do

not make a man any less capable of being a stay-at-home parent or a woman any less adept as a bread winner. We have grown up under the misconception that testosterone and estrogen determine what we can and cannot do. These stereotypes are only reinforced by society.

We often think we are born with a predetermined future that limits our potential. But it doesn't have to be this way. We have the chance to escape, to take responsibility for our futures, and to defy the expectations into which we were born.

Apple Shouldn't Let the Government through a Backdoor

By
Sophie Harrington
Register Forum Contributor

Before 2000, privacy meant that all of our conversations, photos, and data were kept a secret from anyone who we didn't want to see them. Following 9/11, all notions of privacy changed.

These changes are especially apparent now, at a time when our phones are used to store personal information ranging from security codes to our moms' birthdays.

The war on terrorism has be-

come a real issue people all around the world face. Nevertheless, the government is still not entitled to invade the personal privacy of all Americans through a backdoor.

On December 2, 2015, Syed Rizwan Farook and his wife, Tashfeen Malik, entered a holiday party at the Inland Regional Center in San Bernardino, California and shot company employees, killing 14 and injuring 22.

Prior to their attack, the couple had pledged their allegiance to ISIL. According to the *Los Angeles Times*, the couple had "an arsenal of

ammunition and pipe bombs in their home." Both Farook and Malik died in a shootout battle with the police.

In the days following the attack at San Bernardino, the FBI reached out to Apple asking for its help in unlocking the iPhone of the deceased Farook, but the company declined.

In response, Tim Cook, the CEO of the corporation, wrote an open letter to all Apple customers, saying, "[The U.S. government has] asked us to build a backdoor to the iPhone...In the wrong hands, this software—which does not exist today—would have the potential to unlock any iPhone in someone's physical possession."

As of 2015, 94 million Americans own an iPhone, but if Apple is to create a "backdoor," it would not only put that 34% of the population at risk of being hacked, but all other Americans as well.

Through search warrants, the government already has access to services like iCloud, and Google's mail service, Gmail. Apple has complied with most of the government's requests, such as valid subpoenas, search warrants, and data in their possession. Nonetheless, the demand for the backdoor is one that Apple should refuse.

We live in fear of terrorist at-

tacks. It is equitable that the FBI requested to gain entry into a terrorist's phone, but not in exchange for the privacy of 319 million Americans. The government has already spied on the American people without consent—Julian Assange and Edward Snowden proved that to us all in 2010.

Privacy should not be the trade-off for national security. If terrorists or intelligence agencies got a hold of the "backdoor" feature, they could exploit the nation's trade and government secrets as well as harm the entire population.

The Fourth Amendment states the right to "security over unreasonable searches," this prerogative to privacy would be violated if the government accessed citizens phones through a back door.

The *New York Times* claims writing code would go beyond unlocking just Farook's phone—I agree.

Once the government has access to the encryption, the government will be able to use such software for any future investigation, against any citizen. The power for surveillance will become limitless, and this we need to avoid.

UPDATE: The FBI has found a way into the San Bernardino killers phone without Apple's assistance.



Apple CEO Tim Cook is against letting the government have access to phone data.

Photo Credit: Mike Deerkoski/Flickr

The Media's Representation of Black Women Is Unfair and Inaccurate

By
Ashley Nicole
Register Forum Contributor

It is hard to remember the last time I saw a strong, independent black woman on television who was not jumping over tables or having an affair with the President. Whether it is reality TV or a scripted show, the black woman can never seem to catch a break.

From Oxygen's *Bad Girls Club* to Bravo's *Real Housewives*, reality TV is awash with black women who roll their eyes, bob their heads, snap their fingers, talk trash, and otherwise reinforce the ugly stereotype of the "angry black woman."

Take VH1's shows *Basketball Wives* and *Love and Hip-Hop*, which feature the "scorned ex-wives and baby mamas" of rich NBA stars and rappers. No episode is complete without a ugly confrontation or a threat to do bodily harm.

Reality TV thrives on disputes between women. It is no surprise television profits from pitting women against each other in conflicts based on trivial offences or the acquisition of a man's heart. The lucrativeness of drama is something



TV shows such as Basketball Wives are often criticized for embracing the negative stereotype of the "angry black woman."

that will never end.

Most of the time, black women are the very people playing these roles, but when it comes down to it, there are often no other roles offered, reality TV or not.

The number of leading black women in Hollywood is scarce. Even when represented in hit dramas such as Shonda Rhimes' *Scandal* and *How To Get Away With*

Murder, women still fall victim to the stereotypes that surround black women.

In both shows, whether it is their daddy issues or their career being interrupted by powerful men, Rhimes can not seem to shy away from the negative stereotypes.

Tyler Perry in particular has made it his mission to exemplify the "angry black woman" through

his famed Angela and Madea characters.

A whole new level of disrespect and ignorance is reached when such characters are created by black writers and producers.

It is shocking to see the tremendous power that media has on youth and the society as a whole and for such writers and producers to continue to perpetuate, cultivate, and protect such an ugly stereotype is disgusting.

I need to be able to voice my opinion in a class without being deemed an "angry black woman", or have my "blackness" challenged when I choose not to physically harm a girl over some petty beef.

Although media has made strides in having a healthy representation of positive black women such as Viola Davis and Lupita Nyong'o, giving them awards for portraying characters that embody negative stereotypes does not help eliminate the problem.

The issue is not with the actors. It has nothing to do with the individual people themselves, and everything to do with the roles they play. People believe what they see. In the society we live in, let's work to make sure what the people see is the truth.

The Legend: Lionel Messi *Why the Star Is One of Soccer's Greats*

By
Nicolás Livon-Navarro
Register Forum Contributor

On June 24th, 1987, a legend was born. Who knew that a small boy who wasn't expected to live past the age of 15 would grow up to become the greatest soccer player the world has ever known.

Born into an impoverished home in Rosario, Argentina, Lionel Messi began playing soccer at an early age, but was soon diagnosed with Growth Hormone Deficiency (GHD) which stops physical growth and requires very expensive medical treatment. Luckily, his soccer talents attracted scouts from Barcelona Football Club, and they offered to pay for his treatment if he would play for their team.

Messi made his La Liga debut in the 2004/05 season, stunning everyone with his quickness and beautiful style of play. At the age of 17, Messi became the youngest player to score a goal in the Spanish League. In 2012 Lionel Messi broke the all time record for most goals scored in a year with 91, surpassing German legend Gerd Mueller and Brazilian star Pelé. That same year Messi broke the all time world record by scoring 33 goals in 21 consecutive matches. What he lacks in height, he makes

up for in creativity and allusiveness.

At 5'7", Leo Messi plays with incredible strength to hold off defenders and amazing deception through his quick body movement. His style of play as well as his ball control is unique, unlike any other in the history of football. He is like a child, playing in the park, dancing, twisting and turning around defenders.

Messi has won six Supercopas, four UEFA Champions League Cups, six Spanish League Titles, five Golden Boot awards, and many more.

But his most impressive attribute is his clutchness. His ability to score when his team needs him to is astronomical, and his consistency is incomparable.

Some might argue that Messi is not the greatest of all time because he has never won a World Cup. While this is a considerable difference when you look at the all time greats like Diego Maradona

Messi plays with incredible strength to hold off defenders and amazing deception.

and Pelé, Leo's accomplishments are far superior and groundbreaking.

No soccer player has ever won the Golden Boot five times, which



In the 34 games Messi has played for Barcelona this season, he has scored 33 goals.

Photo Credit: The Daily Mail

is the most prestigious trophy a player can receive. In addition, Messi has had great success in the World Cup, carrying Argentina to the quarterfinals twice and once to the finals in 2014. He also won an Olympic Gold Medal with Argentina in 2008, as well as winning the under-20 World Cup in his younger days. Messi has scored 1427 goals in all competitions as well as dishing out 563 assists through his career, which is far

from over.

Messi's impact on the world is monumental, inspiring millions of children around the globe to work hard and reach their full potential.

Lionel Messi has come a long way from dancing circles in a park, but his creative brilliance has not changed. He says, "I have changed nothing, my style of play is still that of a child. Football is a game. It is imperative one plays to amuse oneself, to be happy. That is what children do and I do the same thing."



Clockwise from top left: Glocal Challenge winners on their trip to Iceland; Spanish class students use their language skills in Costa Rica; Latin students experience Italian culture. Photo Credits: Jay Nguyen, Sylvia Fresco, Diego Lasarte

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FX Brings the O.J. Simpson Case Back to the People

American Crime Story Retells Infamous Trial to a New, Younger Audience



By
Cecilia Barron
Register Forum
Contributor

If there was any time to retell the case of *O.J. Simpson v. The People*, it would be this year. *The People v. O.J. Simpson: American Crime Story* recounts the 20 year-old case that encountered the same racial tension that is so familiar today in our legal system.

Cuba Gooding Jr. plays Orenthal James “O.J.” Simpson, a superstar former football player and major pillar in the black community during Rodney King era Los Angeles. The ten part mini-series recounts Simpson’s trial for the murder of his ex-wife, Nicole Brown Simpson. From Simpson’s “dream team” of lawyers, to the conflict over Simpson’s innocence in each neighborhood, all the way to the Kardashians, the show man-

ages to illustrate each detail without confusion.

The People v. O.J. Simpson was created and produced by Ryan Murphy, most famous for *Glee* and *American Horror Story*. The show contains some cheesy and over-dramatic shots of actors in pain that are undoubtedly Murphy’s doing.

However, Murphy’s best quality is relating the show to its audience. The protests against police brutality in the mid 90’s are eerily similar to those occurring all over the country now.

Forced commentary from Rob Kardashian (David Schwimmer) towards his children and future celebrities about the downfalls of fame are

unnecessary and distracting. The most impressive quality of the entire mini-series is its ability to create suspense when an audience already knows the ending. The script adds new and seemingly irrelevant factors that eventually add up



The People v. O.J. Simpson average 8.3 million viewers each week.

Photo Credit: FX

to create a tapestry of rich backstories even before the trial begins.

The show is as unbi-

ased as it could possibly be. It makes as many references to innocence as it does to guilt. The script isn’t trying to uncover the truth about O.J.; in fact, the show seems to take no interest in the actual verdict. The show circles around the two teams of lawyers, both diverse in background and opinion, and this is where the show really takes off.

The acting in *The People v. O.J. Simpson* exhibits classic Ryan Murphy range—the acting varies wildly with some characters turning out excellent performances and others falling flat. Sara Paulson as Marcia Clark is no less

than phenomenal. Clark is a complex character with remarkable aggressiveness, but a contrasting sensitivity, especially to abusive men. Paulson plays the role with elegance and understanding.

Unfortunately, John Travolta as Robert Shapiro not only falls short, but is also terrifying to watch. Travolta’s stiff stature and speech are confusing and uncomfortable. And ironically, the weakest performance is Cuba Gooding Jr. as Simpson himself. Gooding Jr.’s meltdowns, while disingenuous, are thankfully not the most important factor of the show and are practically irrelevant.

The People v. O.J. Simpson: American Crime Story is outstanding because of its relevance to the present day and the performances put in by some of its characters, but the few instances of poor acting and the cheesiness of specific scenes keeps it from reaching its full potential.

Wings Advances to Finals

By
Honor O’Shaughnessy
Register Forum Contributor

CRLS’s Drama Department put together yet another sensational play with its amazing cast and crew. The 2016 drama festival production, *The Secret in the Wings*, written by Mary Zimmerman, is competing in the 2016 Massachusetts Educational Theater Guild Drama Festival. The play was directed by drama teacher Brett Cramp and includes a cast of ten people and a tech team of over twenty students, led by technical director Joanne Farwell. The CRLS Drama Department competed against 114 high schools from around Massachusetts in the preliminary round.

The forty-minute play is based off of the art of storytelling and where it can lead your imagination.

The play incorporated the actors’ names into the characters’ names, making it both unique and personal to Rindge audience members. Young girl Jesse, played by Jesse Pellman, is left by her parents (played by Ethan Hermanson and Charlotte Eccles) to the care of Mr. Fitzconlin, played by Eli Conlin, who won an award for the role. Mr. Fitzconlin is a ghoulish neighbor with a tail, and also tells Jesse tall tales through his incredible story book.

Jesse Pellman, talking about the mood of the play, says, “The show is very dark and has a lot of heavy concepts, but we counter it with a lot of goofy moments.” This play is very ensemble-based, which is amazingly executed. Actor Paul Sullivan, speaking of what is necessary when being part of the tightly knit ensemble, states, “A lot of the acting that takes place requires actors to be in sync, both with timing and movement. In this play, the acting is really in the reacting.” Actors Sullivan, Cooper Kelley, and Kendrick Bellan won an award for their energetic and entertaining ensemble acting.

Mr. Cramp says he chose this play because “fairy tales are universal, cross-cultural, and can influence our collective unconscious.”

Because of the outstanding performance that the cast put on at

“I don’t think I’ve ever gripped someone’s hand so hard in my life.”

preliminary contests and the semifinals, and the hard work that crew put into the play, CRLS was one of fourteen schools to make it to the state finals, held March 31st-April 2nd.

Sullivan speaks of his anticipation leading up to the announcement, saying, “As is our tradition,



Seven CRLS students received awards for their roles in the performance.

Photo Credit: Aidan Richards

our company held hands as the schools that were passing on to semifinals were being announced. I don’t think I’ve ever gripped someone’s hand so hard in my life.”

The heads of tech, Olivia Paden and Natalie McPherson-Siegrist, won an award at preliminaries for their complex set design that made audience members feel as though they were part of the play. Many say that the combination of the sets and costumes captivated the audience throughout the entire performance and brought the play to life.

Tech member Nora Gallant Green says, “Tech for festival requires 100% commitment. You are often in the basement past 10 PM which can be grueling. However it’s an amazing bonding experience

and is very rewarding to put the show on for other high school theater kids!”

Of course, the show would have not come together without stage manager Maisha Lakri, who won two awards at prelims for stage managing. The in-school performance of festival was held on Thursday, March 10. After seeing the show, freshman Madeleine Dickman said, “I thought that the Festival play was put together very well and the actors were extremely committed. It seemed like it was a really fun show to put on.”

Director Brett Cramp says of the experience, “I believe it has been a rewarding experience for all of us who have worked on *The Secret in the Wings*. We are proud of our story and proud of our work.”

Kendrick Brings Raw Passion

Momentum Continues in untitled unmastered



By
Shuvom Sadhuka
Register Forum Contributor

With the release of *untitled unmastered*, Compton rapper Kendrick Lamar cemented his status as one of the greatest rappers of the modern era, if not ever.

Although the album lacks a clear plotline, theme, or purpose, Kendrick meant it to be just that—a collection of loosely connected social commentaries rapped over unfinished beats. The tracks are generally considered to be ones which were recorded for his Grammy-winning album *To Pimp a Butterfly* but didn't quite make the album.

However, in typical Kendrick fashion, he delivers a series of spoken word poems, raps, and verses with unparalleled lyrical genius. Opening with a track that begins with a sexual encounter and then shifting to a reflection grounded in Christianity, Kendrick starts the album with tough-to-listen lyrics on

the plight of humanity.

He then shifts to a track contemplating similar themes to those in "How Much A Dollar Cost?" in *TPAB*, pondering his newfound wealth and greed in "untitled 02": "Seen black turn 'em Burgundy/ Hundred of them, I know I'm greedy/ Stuck inside the belly of the beast."

But a Kendrick album wouldn't be complete without a discussion of the institutional problems of racism, capitalism, and incarceration, which he does in the next few critical tracks.

In "untitled 03," Lamar first asks for guidance from an Asian, Native American, and Black, representative of each minority's culture, each of them answering with their humble opinions that both demonstrate cultural differences and link back to a critique of white culture.

He then speaks to the white man, who offers an exploitative message attempting to coopt his music and voice for personal capital gain.

Kendrick shifts his discussion to one of free thought and the authorities' intentions to control



untitled unmastered debuted at #1 on the billboard music charts.

Photo Credit: Rolling Stone Magazine

thoughts. In a short verse, he urges people—especially youth—to reclaim their intellect and produce original and genuine thoughts.

The fifth track, debuted at the Grammys in a widely acclaimed performance, criticizes the modern prison-industrial complex's remarkable ability to take away lives and bodies and suppress their voices. He again brings to light the intersection of multiple forms of institutional oppression, remarking, "I'm passin' lives on a daily, maybe I'm losing faith/ Genocism and capitalism just made me hate/ Correctionals and these private prisons gave me a date/ Professional dream killers reason why I'm awake."

The next two tracks offer more light listening with one call to a lover and another eight minute journey through an emotional experience.

However, the eighth and final song brings back Kendrick's theme of racial disparity, with a self-reflection on his own success in contrast with the plight of most black communities: "I wrote this song looking at a broke home baby, You know the poverty stricken the little broke boy and babies, Somebody yell 'Kendrick American, they sho' is crazy.'"

Despite being incomplete and holistically underachieving relative to Kendrick's other albums, Lamar's lyrical genius and frank commentary warrants four Falcons.

Only Yesterday Impresses with Understated Beauty



By
Grace Ramsdell
Register Forum Editor

The studio that brought us childhood favorites like *My Neighbor Totoro*, *Castle in the Sky*, and *Spirited Away* impresses more than ever with its most recent U.S. release. Studio Ghibli of Japan premiered Isao Takahata's *Only Yesterday* for the first time in 1991, but the animated film is new to American audiences.

For those of us who grew up watching other Studio Ghibli movies, nostalgia is inherent to *Only Yesterday*. However, the premise of the film itself is moving enough to make anyone leave the theater feeling sentimental.

27 year-old Taeko has always wished her family had a home away from the busy city of Tokyo, so she dedicates a ten day vacation from her office job in the city to harvesting safflowers in the Japanese countryside. As she journeys toward her brother-in-law's

family farm, Taeko finds herself easily slipping into memories of her time in the fifth grade. As most of us have experienced the ups and downs of being a fifth grader ourselves, we can empathize with Taeko's reflections.

In the countryside Taeko meets Toshio, and in a sense, *Only Yesterday* becomes a love story. More importantly, though, it is a quiet look at the development of a young woman. Romance contributes to that, but it doesn't distract from the contemplative nature of the film.

This entire story is told through deceptively simple, stunning animation. Every bustling city scene and breathtaking countryside landscape is masterfully executed—stills from this film are truly works of art. We are gently pulled into Taeko's memories by slight



Only Yesterday has been praised by critics, receiving a rare rating of 100% on Rotten Tomatoes.

Photo Credit: Studio Ghibli

texture of the animation is the expressive faces of the characters. We can't help but laugh aloud at Taeko's obvious embarrassment when she finds out a boy has a crush on her, or sigh at her expression upon overhearing her mother say that she is not a normal child. Throughout the entire film, the pleasant soundtrack—surprisingly featuring some stirring Hungarian folk music—is well balanced with captivating moments of silence that make us hold our breath.

With its U.S. release, *Only Yesterday* is presented in two formats: a dubbed version featuring the voices of Daisy Ridley (*Star Wars: The Force Awakens*) and Dev Patel (*Slumdog Millionaire*), and the original Japanese version with English subtitles.

The original feels most authentic, but the subtitles tend to draw attention away from the beautiful animation. The version dubbed in English allows us to appreciate the details of the animation while also staying true enough to the script from the original. Both ver-

sions are playing at Kendall Square Cinema, and either is absolutely worth seeing.

It is almost hard to believe this film was first released over 20 years ago. The juxtaposition of city and country life is timeless and familiar, and the movie does not seem to have lost any of its charm over the years.

The ending leaves us genuinely satisfied—it is both heartwarming and understated. This refreshing conclusion is truly fitting for the poignant, thoughtful film that *Only Yesterday* is, through and through.

The entire story is told through deceptively simple, stunning animation.

shifts to softer, water-color quality animation. Only occasionally do these windows into her past feel a little drawn out.

Another distinct fea-

Nancy Reagan: An Obituary

The Overlooked Architect of the Reagan Revolution

By
Rosa Munson-Blatt
Register Forum
Contributor

While many people may think of Nancy Reagan just as Ronald Reagan's wife, her influential presence in and after his presidency was imperative to what is remembered as the formidable Reagan Era.

Mrs. Reagan, like Mr. Reagan, got her start with acting, attending school in Chicago and at Smith College where she majored in drama. She met Mr. Reagan in a seemingly unconventional way, having found her name on a newspaper list of suspected communist sympathizers, prompting her to confer with the president of the Screen Actors Guild, a position filled by Ronald Reagan. He informed her it was actually another actress by the name Nancy Davis (her maiden name). They married several months later.

The Reagan marriage is esteemed through American history for their unwav-

ering love and commitment. President Reagan, who had to frequently travel, would write letters adorned with adoration for his wife, that she would come to cherish and eventually publish when his Alzheimer's reached a point where he could not remember her.

For the former first lady, her husband was her life, encapsulated in a quote from an interview, "My job is being Mrs. Ronald Reagan." This devotion and quiet presence on television made many people perceive her as deferential and uncaring for politics.

However, even with a start in theater, Ms. Reagan

office, the First Lady may have stayed out of the spotlight, but she still actively aided him, particularly through the many scandals and adversities his administration faced.

For example, she mitigated the negative effects of the Iran Contra affair, a devastating embarrassment for the American government. In 1987, secret arrangements were unearthed in which the US had been providing funds, gained by selling arms to Iran, to Nicaraguan contra rebels. The First Lady compelled her husband to make a public apology, which spiked his rapidly dwindling approval ratings.

During her time in the White House Mrs. Reagan also took on much advocacy work. After beating breast cancer, she began an awareness campaign for survivors, and was also staunch proponent of her husband's War on Drugs. The War on Drugs, a major part of the Reagan's conservative revolution, primarily targeted low income Afri-



The Reagans in 1964, two years after Nancy retired from acting and three years before Ronald was elected Governor of California.

Photo Credit: PBS

can-Americans. She coined the saying "Just say no" that was frequently branded on advertising campaigns.

However, the most important and controversial role she assumed was that of puppeteer for President Reagan when he was suffering from Alzheimer's. It's unclear when President Reagan contracted Alzheimer's, but some believe that it first started affecting him in the later years of his presidency. In addition to other presidential advisors, Ms. Reagan helped to manage presidential affairs and furiously conceal Reagan's

illness from the public.

On March 6, Ms. Reagan passed away of congestive heart failure, leaving behind two children and three grandchildren.

At her memorial her son, Ron Reagan, chose not only to remember her as a loving, loyal wife, but also as a political power machine. "It would be a mistake...to consider her as somehow subordinate to him just because he was the one usually taking the center stage," Reagan explained, adding that "they were co-equals. They complemented one another."

"They were co-equals. They complemented one another."

was instrumental in politics, particularly in her husband's conservative revolution. She helped Mr. Reagan's successful campaigns for the California governorship. Then she worked to ensure triumph in his presidential bid in 1980.

Once Mr. Reagan took

Merrick Garland, SCOTUS, and the Republican Conundrum

A Conversation with New York Times Editorial Board Member Jesse Wegman

By
Liam Greenwell
and Tomek Maciak
Register Forum Editors

After Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia's surprise death in February, both sides of the political aisle seem primed for a fight. President Obama has nominated DC Circuit Chief Judge Merrick Garland, widely seen as a moderate, to the court as a replacement. But Senate Republicans have stated that they will stop every attempt to confirm a replacement to the court before a new president is sworn in next January.

Jesse Wegman is a member of the *New York Times* editorial board focusing on the Supreme Court and has been following the story closely. Though Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell has said that he will not even consider the nominee, Wegman says, "There's a chance anything could happen."

Some Republicans have broken from the hard line of McConnell and agreed to meet with Garland, though they say they are still opposed to a vote. "I guess [meet-

ing with Garland] counts as a major concession in modern Senate terms," comments Wegman.

But, Wegman says, the Republicans may want to take "a bird in the hand" instead of dealing with either a Clinton or Trump nominee. "My hunch is that when Donald Trump becomes the nominee, [the Republicans] are going to have to reassess their position. Right now, I think they still have the belief that they can stop him, and I just don't see it happening. No matter how it will play out at the convention, he will be a major force in the election."

Wegman continues, "It's a bizarre position [for the Republicans] to say that [Trump] is a vile, vulgar, racist bigot who is not fit to run...the country, but [they] want him to pick the next nominee. It doesn't make sense."

Establishment forces seem to be forging an uncomfortable alliance with Ted Cruz, who is the only other candidate in the Republican race who can still win enough delegates to receive the nomination outright.

However, Trump has said that if he does not end up being the



Pres. Obama nominated Garland on March 17.

Photo Credit: The Guardian

nominee, there may be "riots" at the convention. Lindsey Graham, the senior Senator from South Carolina, compared the choice between Trump and Cruz to being "shot or poisoned." Graham recently endorsed Cruz, saying, "You might find an antidote to poisoning."

"[The Republican] Party is being torn apart. I don't see how this plays out well for the establishment. They must be terrified," Wegman says.

But for the time being, the

eight-person Supreme Court is hearing arguments, leaving the door open for a 4-4 tie in its rulings. If that happens, the Court can decide either to wait and re-do the arguments when there is a ninth justice or to let the lower court ruling stand.

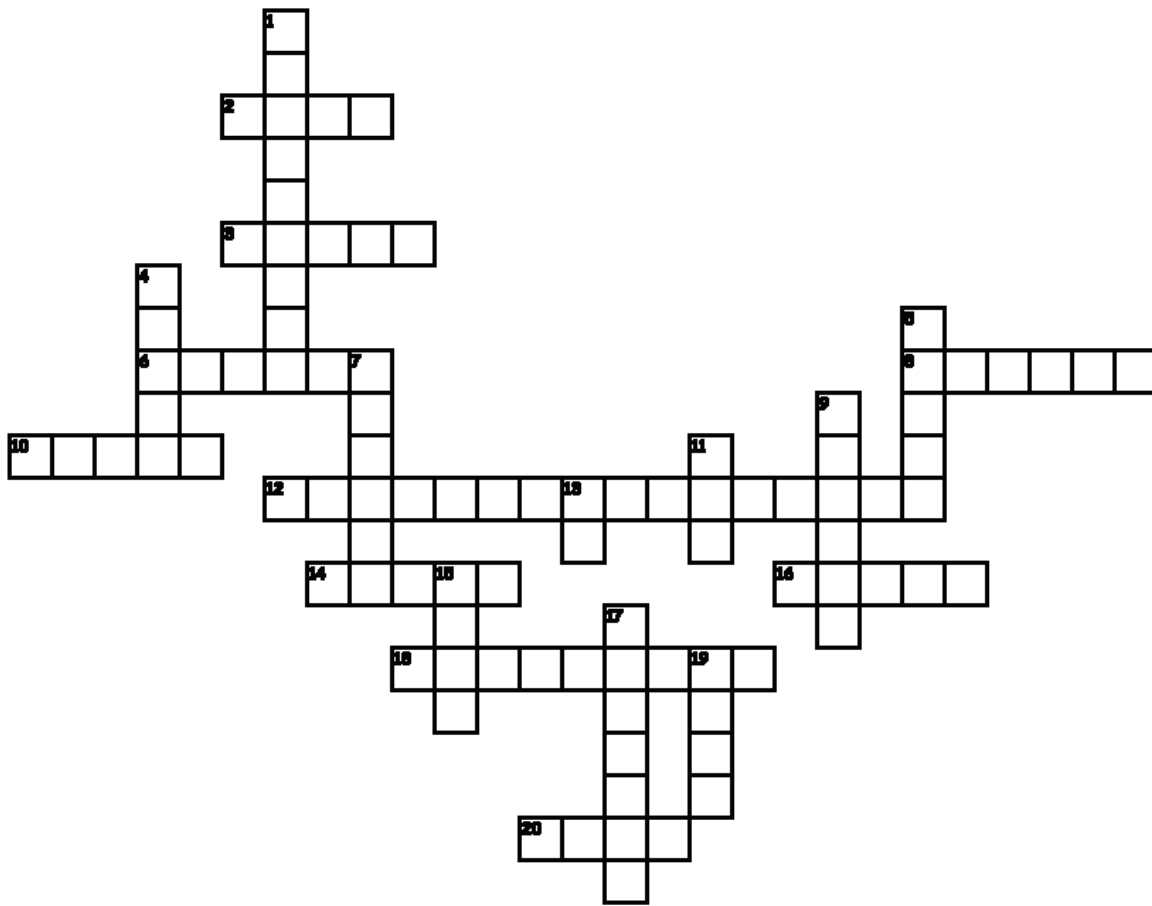
Wegman states, "Both situations are pretty disruptive to the administration of law and justice in the country, and that's one of the reasons why there's a very strong push to get a new justice confirmed."

Since different lower courts hold authority over different parts of the country, a split decision may mean that the rule will depend where someone lives—just a scenario, Wegman says, the Supreme Court is set up to avoid. "That's one of the key reasons the Supreme Court exists: to resolve disputes among the federal courts. When it can't resolve those disputes, that's a problem."

"It's not a situation anyone would have chosen," he summarizes.

Jesse Wegman pens *New York Times* editorials about law, criminal justice, and the ongoing confirmation battle. You can follow him on twitter @jessewegman.

Falcon Crossword



- ACROSS**
- 2. Trip to Panama
 - 3. 38% of Rindge
 - 6. 94 million Americans own an _____
 - 8. Won 2013 World Series
 - 10. Current voting location
 - 12. Racial divide
 - 14. "Big Papi"
 - 16. *untitled unmastered*
 - 18. Proportional Representation voting
 - 20. Apple CEO
- DOWN**
- 1. Latin teacher
 - 4. New Red Sox ace
 - 5. War on
 - 7. Doesn't make sense
 - 9. Nancy
 - 11. SAT Enemy
 - 13. 5 of 7 editors
 - 15. Reagan Contra affair
 - 17. The People v.
 - 19. Player Spotlight

Crossword created with Discovery Education Puzzlemaker

Answers on Page 14

Editorial Note: *The following are works of EDITORIAL SATIRE and do not represent the views of The Register Forum*

NEXT MONTH'S HEADLINES

Senate Republicans Enlist Dimon Carrigan in Last-Ditch Attempt to Block Supreme Court Nomination



Spoon Game Jeopardized after Cambridge Institutes City-Wide Plastic Spoon Ban

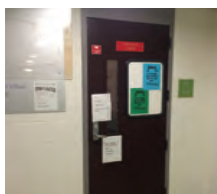
Outgoing CPS Superintendent Dr. Young Gets Senioritis, Calls Fifteen Consecutive Snow Days



Coach Dottin Assigns Basketball Team Grueling Offseason Regimen of Facebook Basketball



Tragic Lunch A Radiator Collapse Outside CCRC Shocks Student Body, Vindicates Administrators



Angelo's Debuts New "Secret in the Wings" Barbecue Sauce

New RF Poll Shows 84% of Students Support Bernie Sanders, 38% Believe He Is Already President

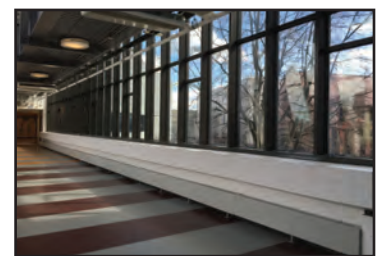


Stand-Up by Creators of *Next Month's Headline Only Act* Rejected from CRLS Talent Show

By Diego Lasarte, Adrienne Ashe, Cameron Lane-Flehinger and Will MacArthur

Opposing Viewpoints, Key Issues Which Bridge? The Second Floor

By Will MacArthur
Register Forum Editor



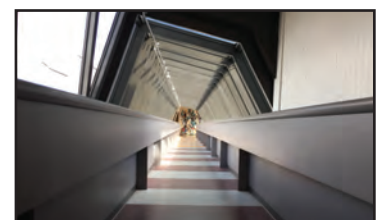
I've never heard anyone say "I'll cross that bridge when I come to it." It's always "we." Like a bridge over troubled water, Paul Simon lays himself down, and when you irreparably damage a friendship, you've burnt a bridge. Even our fair city is often known as "the Bridge."

Bridges are tethered to community in our collective consciousness, and the best bridge at Rindge for social interaction is clear.

The second floor bridge is where you dap up friends, make ambiguous eye contact with acquaintances, steal a forbidden lunch with an unbeatable view of the Falcon statue, or take a nap with the Class of 2014 in an unforgettable senior prank. It's where you take in what's best about this amazing school: the people.

The Third Floor

By Grace Ramsdell
Register Forum Editor



As you distractedly hurry to your next class, beauty is far from your mind. In the four minutes allotted as passing time, you might agitatedly glance down at your phone as you walk, or shut out the world by listening to a single song before reaching your destination. You are riding a wave of preoccupied students that could carry you uneventfully to your next class—unless you make one simple decision.

As you approach the beautiful third floor bridge, the crowd thins. Warmth and sunshine greet you from all sides as you cross, encouraging you to look up, around, and beyond confining walls.

On the third floor bridge, school falls away. It only takes seconds to get from one wall to the other, but those seconds are a breath of fresh air.



Photo Credit: Tre'Von Busby White

Player Spotlight: Toru Goto

Wrestling Champion on the Season, Future Plans

By
Tre'von Busby White
Register Forum Contributor

Register Forum: Who is Toru?

Toru Goto: I'm a sectional champion, I placed third at the D1 state tournament and I placed 8th at the all-state tournament...I got invited to New England's, but due to my meniscus [knee] problem I can't wrestle there. I'm currently ranked 5th in my weight class.

RF: How long have you been wrestling?

TG: I've been wrestling for four years now.

RF: What are your future aspirations after high school in terms of wrestling? Do you plan on wrestling in college?

TG: Yes, definitely. This is a sport I plan on doing for the rest of my life. I definitely want to go to college and do well, and then the biggest goal for me is one day go to the Olympics. That's a big goal, but who knows—anything can happen. You just have to believe in yourself.

RF: What weight class do you wrestle in?

TG: I wrestle in the 182 weight class. I'm actually the smallest kid in my weight class, believe it or not.

RF: How did it feel when you won first place in your sectional?

TG: It was crazy; it was surreal. I felt like I was the man, like no one could beat me. I got a gold medal and a bracket with it. Not only that, because I won sectionals, I get my name on a banner at school—who doesn't want a banner? When people walk in the field house next year... they're going to see my name. I want to go down as one of the greats at this school.

RF: How did it feel to be ranked 5th in the state? How did your parents feel?

TG: I was very happy. It gave me a new way of thinking. When I wrestle, I can go toe to toe with anyone in the state. People fear me, like when people see me, they're like, "I have to wrestle this guy!" My parents were super happy. They were proud.

RF: Why did you choose wrestling?

TG: It's not like I chose; the head coach [Roy Howard] suggested that I wrestle. So, you know, during my 8th grade year I went to my brothers football camp, and Roy—being the assistant head coach for the football team—said, "Hey, you should come out to the team and wrestle and practice this year." So the next season in the winter I went to go practice with the team.

RF: What is your go-to move?

TG: The granby roll. It's a tricky move where you're on the bottom. What you do is you come out to the side a little bit, then you roll across your neck and your shoulder. Basically, you look like a rolling ball.

RF: What do you do during the offseason?

TG: During the offseason, I usually do try to get my lift on, do a lot of body weight more than heavyweight. For wrestling, I go to Harvard at least three times a week.

RF: Do you play any other sport besides wrestling?

TG: I do football in the fall. Football is going good for me. Being able to start my sophomore year rather than coming back and starting again was a very good thing. I hope to be named captain next season. It would be a big milestone.

RF: Do you think you had a good season of wrestling?

TG: I had a great season. I ended with a record of winning 31 matches and just losing five.

RF: What do you think you need to do to be ranked 1st in the state?

TG: Work hard during the offseason, [and] push myself like I always do. Then go into the season hard, and come out undefeated. But I have challenges in front of me, because I will be facing the #1 ranked kid in the state.

With New Blood, Red Sox Look for a Year to Remember

By
Will Telingator
Register Forum Contributor

Along with warmer weather and MCAS half-days, the start of spring can be associated with one more thing: baseball. Every March, all thirty Major League Baseball teams begin to gather in their spring training facilities, thereby marking the beginning of another glorious season of baseball.

Although the Red Sox have struggled since winning the World Series championship in 2013, accumulating two last-place finishes in the American League East in back-to-back years, many

sports analysts have pegged the Red Sox as possibly being one of the best teams in the league this year. Some have even predicted that the Sox could make a run at another World Series title.

The secret to their newfound hope can be found in

their aggressive off-season moves this year. Most notably, the Red Sox signed left-handed pitcher David Price to an exorbitant seven-year, \$217 million contract. The Red Sox are hoping that this "pricey" deal will pay off in the long-run, as one more quality starting pitcher may be the final thing that they need in order to seriously compete for the American League title.

Many fans are very excited about bringing Price into the Red Sox rotation. Junior Michael Hume notes, "Signing David Price was huge; we needed a guy like him that could break a bad

The start of spring can be associated with one thing: baseball.

losing streak and just come out every game with an advantage. Of course, our hitting still needs to perform in order to win."

Furthermore, the Red Sox' success this season also hinges on the young core of players that they

have brought up through their minor league system over the past few years, including Jackie Bradley Jr., Mookie Betts, Xander Bogaerts, and Blake Swihart. These players showed flashes of brilliance last year, but now is the year when they have to put it all together.

Junior Zeke Taylor is optimistic that this young core can put the franchise back on track and bring the Red Sox back to the playoffs after a woeful two-year drought. "My prediction? Jackie Bradley Jr. and company will turn it around and give us enough support to turn out a bid for the World Series," he says.

Another Sox storyline to follow this year is the retirement of one of the all-time greats and Red Sox heroes, fan-favorite David "Big Papi" Ortiz. Ortiz has been one of the most consistent Sox hitters over the past decade, and losing him will be huge for a Red Sox team trying to build up a juggernaut offense. It is fair to say that Ortiz will be sorely

missed, as nobody will ever be able to truly replace the power of his bat as well as his incredible leadership abilities and veteran presence in the locker room.

Junior Grace Toner agrees, "I think losing a Red Sox legend like Ortiz is always sad and nostalgic, and the amount of home runs will definitely not be the same. But over time they'll recover, just not right away."

Perhaps the Sox will be even more motivated to reward Ortiz for all of his hard work and dedication over the years by bring-

ing him one more run at a World Series championship. With the additional support of new pitcher David Price and young stars within the organization, the Red Sox seem to have a very promising future, both in 2016 and beyond. Undoubtedly, the Red Sox will be trying their hardest to bring their fourth World Series title since 2004 back to Boston this year.

"It would be crazy," says freshman Jordan Rosado. "But Ortiz and the team will definitely try their hardest to win it all this year."

20. Cook	19. Goto
18. Cambridge	17. Simpson
16. Lamar	15. Iran
14. Ortiz	13. RF
12. Extracurriculars	11. ACT
10. Bagel	9. Wrestling
8. RedSox	7. Easter
6. iPhone	5. Drugs
3. White	4. Price
2. Jazz	1. Giacchino
ACROSS	
DOWN	
FALCON CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWER	



SPRING SPORTS PREVIEW



As CRLS athletes gear up for the spring season, *Register Forum* contributor Will MacArthur gives his take on the various teams' possible obstacles and paths to success.



Photo Credit: David Yee



LACROSSE



Both the Girls and Boys lacrosse teams have been a fixture in the field house of late, with after-school captain's practices that build ball skills and endanger any other athlete without a stick and a pair of goggles. They'll need this level of commitment to hold their own against a raft of extremely strong suburban teams, many of which have been laxing hard together since elementary school. This proved too much for the Falcons last year, and both teams posted losing records, but senior leadership has gotten them to the face-off in a good position to impres. The boys will be tested early by league adversaries Wayland on March 31st at Russell Field at 4:00, and the girls home opener is a tough matchup with DCL powerhouse Concord-Carlisle on April 4th.



TENNIS



Girls captain Sara Hauf is looking to sophomore Maggie Thompson to put wins on the board and hopes that Josie Underwood's standout talent will inspire the newer players. On the boys side, captain Ben Rosand has high hopes that freshmen Phoenix Tamaoki, Oscar Berry, and David Lee can translate their tournament experience into DCL success. The girls host an early threat in league powerhouse Lincoln-Sudbury on April 6th, while the boys are in for a battle with a strong Concord-Carlisle team at home on April 8th.



SOFTBALL



"Play together, stay humble and hungry, and of course have fun!" That's how senior captain Yuleska Ramirez describes her team's keys to the season. The star shortstop says that her team can make a playoff run, and with Jayla Vicente, who Ramirez called "the best sophomore pitcher in the state," they appear to have everything it takes to make a strong bid for the DCL championship and more. See the Falcons in their home opener against Wilmington on April 4th at St. Peters field.



BASEBALL



With a seasoned senior class, an emerging ace in senior Ben Austin on the mound, and strong fundamentals honed in months of bullpen sessions and batting practice before school, the Falcons are ready for all comers in what promises to be a dogfight for tournament spots in the extremely competitive Dual County League. They fell to .273 to end their season in the league last year, including just 3 wins in league play, but they seem poised to start fast in their home opener against Reading on March 27th.



TRACK



Scheduling eccentricities will keep the Falcons off the Danehy oval until their fifth meet on May 4th, but track fans couldn't have asked for a better matchup; both the boys and the girls will host Newton South, an emerging league rival for several Rindge programs. When the two boys teams clashed this winter, CRLS took the meet in a tense pair of relay wins to split the league title with... Newton South. The home opener/Senior Night/Blackout promises to be tight from the starting gun to the finish line, and every meter in between. On the girls side, the Lions appear to hold the edge in the team meet, but all eyes will be on senior standout Brianna Duncan as she looks to match her 20-foot indoor long jump record and take the 100m and triple jump to put up maximum points in her last home meet.



Photo Credit: MileSplit Massachusetts



SAILING



After claiming second in the C Divison of the Mass Bay League last year, the sailing team is focused on filling the holes left by graduates Hugh Dougherty and Beau Rideout. Dougherty returns to assist new head coach Amanda Janet's transition. The Falcons race a fleet of 14-foot Mercuries, with a few bold sailors taking on the high-performance 420s, which can max out over at 20 knots (24 mph). With Paloma O'Connor at the helm, the team could luff up the likes of Nobles and Greenough, Newton North, and Quincy.



RUGBY



At their preseason meeting, prospective members of the CRLS Rugby team were given flyers detailing the five core values of the game: integrity, respect, solidarity, passion, and discipline. They'll need all five, along with a strong performance from senior Sejah Rollins-Laurent to get through a schedule packed with tough opponents. They do have home-field advantage on their side, with four of their five games slated at Russell Field, starting with their April 7th matchup against Arlington Catholic.



VOLLEYBALL



The team hasn't taken the stacked Dual County League since they cleaned up en route to a state title in 2012, but with a raft of returners, including senior captain Colin McNeely at outside hitter and senior captain Daniel Walsh running the defense as libero, they have cause for excitement, especially if basketball star Dimon "DC" Carrigan proves as strong at the net as he is off the backboard. With DCL great Wayland on the docket at home on April 1st, the Falcons look ready for an April Fools upset to open a league title run.



Photo Credit: Gordon Lee



CREW



The Falcons won't have to wait long to put their winter of training to the test, as their season kicks off with a challenging matchup against river rivals BB&N in the Mayor's Cup on April 9th. Both teams are excited to get off the ergs and onto the water. The CRLS girls haven't hoisted the Cup in at least five years, but with strong returners from their fabled fall Head of the Charles boat and familiarity with the course from coxswains who have been rowing it for four years, this could well be their time. The boys look to have the upper hand; four of the seven senior captains return from the same boat that took this race last year, and should be the clear favorites to bring the cup back to Mr. Smith for another year if they can recreate the cohesion and "swing" that has brought them glory on this course in the past.

Falcons Soar to First State Title in 15 Years

By
Cameron Lane-Fleehinger
& Will MacArthur
Register Forum Editors

When 2015 Boston Globe Player of the Year Isaiah McLeod stepped off the polished parquet of the TD Garden after Cambridge's loss to Catholic Memorial in last year's state semi-finals, many thought the Falcons had flown their highest. With four starters leaving the team, even the most committed fans could wonder how much longer the team's championship banner would remain untouched.

But the underclassmen on that team refused to believe that their run was over, and by March 19th when the buzz-

er sounded on their 66-51 victory over St. John's in the state championship at the MassMutual Center in Springfield, they had added the rest of Massachusetts to the growing legion of believers at their backs. "In the locker room at the Garden last year they promised us that they were going to win it all, and they followed through," remembered McLeod.

For many members of the team, this past season was about more than just basketball. The memory of Davonte Neal, a former teammate who passed away from leukemia two years ago, was a constant motivator throughout the season, with orange headbands and a #DavonteStrong banner bearing his jersey number 34 making his presence felt during the most pivotal games of their run. Said junior guard Malik Correia,

"When we lost Davonte and he wasn't able to physically be here with us we had him here mentally and we won it for him."

The Falcons entered the 2015-16 season ranked first in the state, with enormous potential and expectations to match. Powered by the continued excellence of junior captain Jakigh Dottin, who became the second consecutive Cambridge player to be named Mr. Basketball, and the emergence of DCL all-stars Dimon Carrigan, Daniel Rymer, and Kareem Octavien, the Falcons cruised to a 19-1 regular season record. Coach Lance Dottin credits

"It's a lot of fun to watch guys I grew up with go out and do something really special like that."

the team's ability to play as a unit as the reason for their success, saying, "When you look at it, it's the entire team... Naming those guys doesn't do the team enough justice, it's everybody who's stepped up this year and helped to replace the guys who left last year."

The team's charmed run nearly ended before it began, as the Falcons were a buzzer-beater away from falling to the Andover Golden Warriors in their first tournament game. With the score tied at 65 entering overtime, the Falcons closed the game with a 19-1 run for the win and didn't look back until the Massachusetts Division 1 trophy was in Coach Dottin's hands.

As the season progressed team increasingly served as a focus of the community, and the fan-base swelled with both ca-

sual Falcon fans and new converts. But the core of the cheering section remained in the front row, where the heart of the "Sixth Man," super-fans senior Donald LaBraico, and junior Rob Favreau, took up residence.

LaBraico started a variety of cheers, but he was proudest of leading the crowd in spelling C-A-M-B-R-I-D-G-E, part of what senior Lily Keats called "a great community feeling" at the games that she wished she had been a part of sooner. Sophomore Corey Burgman agreed, adding, "It's a lot of fun to watch guys I grew up with go out and do something really special like that."

Girls basketball senior captain Yuleska Ramirez also admired the community and commitment of the fans, reminiscing that after the newly crowned champions returned "they let us in the gym and we celebrated till like 12:30 a.m.!"

The emotion of the season came to a head in the state semifinal against Catholic Memorial at TD Garden, a rematch that offered the Falcons a chance

to avenge last year's season-ending loss at the hands the Knights. Faced with a late-game tie almost identical to the year before, the Falcons kept their composure and prevailed on lay-ups from Jaelen George-Bellitti and Kareem Octavien for a 77-73 win.

Five days later in Springfield, the Falcons faced off with the Pioneers of St. John's for a chance to seal the deal. Cambridge struggled to contain St.



Senior guard Jaelen George-Bellitti hits the game-winning shot at the TD Garden against Catholic Memorial.

Photo Credit: Cameron Lane-Fleehinger

John's star Adham Floyd in the first half, and entered the break trailing 28-27. An explosive 3rd quarter run led by sophomore sensation Aidan "Chief" Keefer, who scored a career high 11 points in the game, stretched the lead to double digits. The Pioneers played hard to the very end, but as the final buzzer sounded it was the Falcons who had earned the right to hoist the state champion's trophy.

Jakigh Dottin, who led

"Winning is one thing but to have the whole city on the ride with you...is simply amazing."

Cambridge with 14 points in the championship game, called the feeling "amazing," and continued, "Winning is one thing but to have the whole city on the ride with you the whole way is just simply amazing. I feel good, my team feels good and we're blessed."

Lone senior starter Jaelen George-Bellitti emphasized the brotherhood he felt with each and every member of the team, from the juniors he's been team-

mates with for many years to his brother Jordan, who "pushes me to be the best I can on the court." In his words, "I loved playing with him, I played with him all my life, and I can't wait to play with him in college."

George-Bellitti explained what made this year's team so special, stating, "Each and everyone of us has a strong passion for the game, we love it. We have the best coaches in the world... The coaches

were on us, and that made us want it even more. They seen the potential in the team and believed in us every-day, it made us want to be better."

With four starters and many other important contributors returning next year, only time will tell what the team's ceiling can ultimately be. Until then, the players have their sights set squarely on the rafters. Proclaimed Keefer, "Obviously we are so excited about this win and this season, but when we get started next year we will definitely be looking to get back to Springfield."



From Left: Junior guard Malik Correia lead the team in 3-point shooting; the "Sixth Man" student section was a force to be reckoned with throughout the tournament run.

Photo Credit: Cameron Lane-Fleehinger