

# THE PROWLER

Quince Orchard High School  
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## Giving Tree blooms with opportunities to help others

By **LAWRENCE SIMON**  
News Managing Editor

The Giving Tree is a National English Honor Society tradition for the holiday season. Every year a small, decorated tree is erected in the front lobby and students select and donate presents that a needy child in the area desires.

At the head of the Giving Tree project is NEHS sponsor Linda Leslie, who said that, "The whole idea is that people buy gifts for children from Quince Orchard families to make sure that they have a great holiday season." As the head of the NEHS for four years, Leslie has seen how generous Cougars can be. "Last year all the presents were gone in 20 days, giving over \$75 for 22 families," she said.

The Giving Tree is a group effort by the NEHS, requiring the efforts of Leslie, as well as a number of officers, including Secretary of Service Madison Moe. "It's volunteer-based and requires 15 kids to put it together," Moe said. "It's a good and easy way for students to give back to the community and enjoy the holiday season." NEHS members must volunteer for five hours per semester in order to remain in the honor society,

and this project provides an opportunity for students to earn these service hours. The Giving Tree also gets help from the administration. Moe said, "They let us make posters and copies and do

what we need to do to get the word out, like using the announcements."

While the project is organized by NEHS, participation is not restricted to members only; anyone can help out.



PHOTO BY MATT QUINN

**GIVING BACK:** The trees in the main lobby are decorated with gift ornaments as well as cards containing people's clothing sizes along with their gift wishes.

In order to participate, students select a card from one of the two trees in the main lobby. The cards contain the age and gender of the recipient, their clothing and shoe sizes, and gift wishes. The students then go out and shop for the presents and turn them into room 252.

The NEHS also organizes the second part of the process, the wrapping. Members of the honor society can earn two hours of community service by volunteering to help package, wrap, and put ribbon on all the gifts that are brought in.

Students other than NEHS officers are also necessary to make the Giving Tree a success, as they are the ones providing the gifts. Junior Melissa Wilds said that, "When I give to the Giving Tree it makes me feel like a part of the community as well as a better person." Wilds went on to say that, "I thought I'd have to buy someone a big present, but there were smaller presents too and it's worth it anyways."

Just like every year, when December rolls around so too does the season of giving. The National English Honors Society's Giving Tree is one such way that any Quince Orchard student can give and receive a sense of happiness.



PHOTO BY NBC

**HERO FOR ALL:** Nelson Mandela was admired by many for his humanitarian work and leadership.

## Remembering the legend

By **JACOB ADLER**  
Current Events Managing Editor

Nelson Mandela, former South African President and humanitarian, died of a respiratory infection at age 95 on December

5, setting forth a wave of mourning throughout South Africa and the world.

After Mandela's passing, over 70 heads of state, including President Barack Obama and three former U.S. Presidents, traveled to South Africa for an elegant  
See **MANDELA PAGE 2**

## Students score scholarships

### National Merit semi-finalists named

By **ANDREW FINK**  
Editor-in-Chief

The National Merit Scholarship Program (NMSPP) recognizes high school students with the highest scores on the PSAT in each state. Quince Orchard seniors Joe Poetzchke, Jennifer Walker, and Andrew Yesnick were recently named semi-finalists based on their performance on the PSAT last fall.

In order to be recognized for scholarships through NMSPP, the semifinalists are required to submit an application to become finalists. David Mullaney, head of the counseling department, administers the nomination process. NMSPP sends the application information to the school and the school then reaches out to the students. "The application includes the student's classes, GPA, school information, and an essay. It is similar to a college application," said Mullaney. The finalists compete for a \$2500 scholarship awarded without the consideration of financial

need, college choice, or intended major.

There are several different approaches that student take when preparing for the PSAT. The test is not only given to help students win scholarships based on performance, but also to prepare them to take the SAT. Yesnick did not go into the test only for the National Merit award. Instead, he said, "I went into the test trying to do my best. My goal was to get the highest score possible."

This award not only allows students to receive scholarships from NMSPP, but also from the colleges they are applying to. Yesnick is looking at schools like the University of Chicago and U.C. Berkley that offer him small scholarships, but some schools will offer a lot more. "The University of Alabama offered me full tuition and an iPad just for becoming a semifinalist," stated Yesnick.

The National Merit award is a great honor, but winners Yesnick and Poetzchke both say that striving for the honor is not the way to go. "Just take the test like any other test," said Poetzchke. "Don't overthink it."

### News

The It's Academic team has advanced to the next competition round and looks toward the next match in March

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### Features

Cougars share their holiday traditions and exciting winter break plans.

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### Sports

The bocce team, last year's State Champions, prepares for their upcoming season.

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# It's Academic competitors buzz into playoff round

By **CHRIS HOZEMPA**  
News Associate Editor

On November 30, students had the chance to cheer on the It's Academic team whose competition aired on NBC 4. The team finished in first place and are now in the next round of the It's Academic playoffs.

"We just stayed focused and stayed loose," said club sponsor Joshua Schuman who, along with the rest of the It's Academic team, was in attendance at the NBC studio for this year's first It's Academic competition for the Quince Orchard team. "We also did a few practice questions [before the competition]," Schuman added. Once the preparation time was over, Quince Orchard representatives Sean Manners, Jacob Adler, and Lawrence Simon took the stage. "It was easy to spot when they hit their stride," said Schuman, whose team took first place over opposing teams from National Cathedral and Sherwood.

"We put in a lot of time and practice," said team captain Sean Manners, one of the three members who represented Quince Orchard during the competition. Manners, along with the rest of the team, has been preparing three times a week, with practice typically consisting of practice questions on a

variety of subjects. "Question topics range from medieval history to programming," said Manners, "It's really a grab-bag." Due to this wide range of categories, each team

member focuses on different question themes, such as math and science, or art and history. "Knowing the answer isn't everything. It's more about speed than anything," Manners added, saying that he was chosen to be one of the three competitors because of his proficiency in rapidly answering questions correctly. Manners and the rest of the team continue to practice, hoping to hone speed skills in anticipation of upcoming events and the next round of It's Academic.

One of the members hoping to gain more experience is Natalie Rubin who specializes in the literature question category. Rubin explained the advantages of practice, saying "We all play better with practice." Along with the weekly practice, the team also works on their skills at Quiz Bowl, a game of questions and answers in which each school is represented by three teams. This allows for more members of each school to participate and work on their proficiency in general trivia. Quiz Bowl, compared to It's Academic, is considered to be more challenging, and occurs on a more regular basis. "Our season is all year round," said Rubin, who hopes to continue improving upon her trivia knowledge. The first round of the playoffs will air on March 8 on NBC 4, with Quince Orchard facing off against Richard Montgomery and Georgetown Day School.



PHOTO BY JACOB ADLER

**CORRECT ANSWER:** From left to right, Lawrence Simon, Sean Manners, and Jacob Adler pose after their victory with Principal Carole Working and coach Josh Schuman.

# Student Government preps for prom and graduation

By **TAYLOR ALEXANDER**  
News Managing Editor

With just under six months remaining until the end of the school year, the junior and senior class

Student Governments have begun preparation for prom and graduation, respectively.

On behalf of the juniors, President Laney Rubenstein said, "The best part of being responsible for planning prom is the excitement of knowing you have a lot of options and [people] willing to help and [suggest] great ideas. I am looking forward to planning this event and providing our seniors, as well as the juniors, with a really fun night!"

"Last year's prom was such a huge success and so many people had fun that we decided to keep the same location and the same weekend, [although the

graduation ceremony] is really early," added Rubenstein. "The junior class will be picking out some ideas for the theme. We have already come up with some good ideas and are still discussing which one we

*"You don't just pick a theme, you also have to worry about every little detail, down to the napkins that will be on the [tables]."*

-Junior Emily McGowan

will end up with. We will most likely make a decision within the next month or so."

The Second Vice President of the junior

class, Emily McGowan, points out that, "Planning prom has definitely changed my perception because now I realize everything that goes into it. You don't just pick a theme, you also have to worry about every little detail,

down to the napkins that will be on the [tables]."

"While planning prom last year, the SGA was looking to make the night as fun

as possible. Planning graduation is much simpler," said senior Second Vice President Scott Mongold. "Our goal is to make our graduation the best one yet so we can represent our wonderful class," he said.

First Vice President Megan Dougherty said, "Having been a graduation ambassador for two years I have gained an appreciation for all the hard work that goes into graduation behind the scenes. I am incredibly grateful for all the work that the staff put into the ceremony! As our class SGA begins to plan the 2014 graduation I hope to live up to the excellence of past ceremonies. It's the twenty-fifth graduation and we are determined to make it a memorable event."

Senior Class President Becca Carver agrees with Dougherty. "Planning graduation gets me so excited because it makes me realize that this is where the next chapter of our lives begins!"

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# World mourns Mandela death

[MANDELA from page 1] ceremony at the First National Bank Stadium in Johannesburg, South Africa. Obama was the first leader to eulogize Mandela, calling him a "great liberator of the 20th century" (NBC News) and a personal hero. Following Obama were leaders from Brazil, China, Namibia, India, and Cuba.

South African President Jacob Zuma declared a national mourning period immediately after Mandela's passing. To honor the man known as Madiba to many South Africans, Mandela's casket has been on exhibit on the lawn of the Union Buildings, where Mandela held political protests long ago. Thousands have embraced the opportunity to see the open casket, creating lines taking more than five hours for most. However, Kyle Garth, traveling from Cincinnati, said that a "once-in-a-lifetime opportunity" was worth the wait (*New York Times*).

Mandela was born as Rolihlahla of the Madiba clan on July 18, 1918 in Transkei, South Africa. A primary school teacher assigned him the Christian name Nelson, as was the custom with all schoolchildren. He attended the University College of Fort Hare until he was expelled for participating in a protest. He later graduated from the Uni-

versity of South Africa in 1943.

In 1944, Mandela joined the African National Congress (ANC), a socialist organization dedicated to ending Afrikaner rule in South Africa and apartheid. While rising up in the ANC, Mandela and Oliver Tambo established the first black law firm in South Africa, Mandela and Tambo.

On December 5, 1955, Mandela and more than 150 other activists were arrested for treason, although Mandela was acquitted in 1961. In 1962, Mandela covertly traveled to London in an attempt to gather support for his movement, and was denied. Prior to returning to South Africa, he received military training in Ethiopia and Morocco. Upon his return, he was arrested again, for "leaving the country illegally and inciting workers to strike," according to Mandela's foundation.

At what was known as the Rivonia trial, Mandela said, "I have fought against white domination, and I have fought against black domination. I have cherished the ideal of a democratic and free society in which all persons live together in harmony and with equal opportunities. It is an ideal which I hope to live for and to achieve. But if needs be, it is an ideal for which I am prepared to die." Mandela was not put to death and was instead

sentenced to life imprisonment.

Mandela spent approximately 18 years at the Robben Island prison off the coast of Cape Town, until his 1982 transfer to Pollsmoor Prison in Cape Town. From 1985 to 1990, Mandela suffered from ailments such as prostate problems and tuberculosis, which led to his staying in hospitals and a new prison until his release on February 11, 1990.

In 1991, he replaced Tambo as ANC President and worked with the white South African President F.W. de Klerk to end apartheid. They were both honored with the Nobel Peace Prize in 1993. Mandela was elected president of South Africa in April of 1994, and was celebrated for his "remarkable lack of bitterness," said de Klerk. Mandela stepped down after one term as president in 1999, and his deputy Thabo Mbeki succeeded him.

Mandela shied away from the public spotlight after his retirement, making his last public appearance in 2010 as his condition worsened. He has been portrayed in many movies, most notably by Morgan Freeman in the film *Invictus* and Idris Elba in the film *Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom*. However, mimicry can only go so far; as Obama said, "we will never see the likes of Nelson Mandela again."





# Wishing for s'no school

VIEWPOINT

By JEN WALKER  
*Editor-in-Chief*

The beginning of the week of December 9 brought snowfall, sledding, and, most importantly, no school. The wintry weather caused Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS), along with most other school districts in the area, to cancel classes and extracurricular activities on Monday and Tuesday. Even the University of Maryland and Towson University decided to cancel classes on December 10. And with social media and cell phones playing an increasingly large role in students' lives, the way we are alerted of these snow days is changing.

I remember in elementary school, waking up and running downstairs to turn on the news. I would stare at the screen, anxiously waiting for the alphabetical list of county closings scrolling along the bottom of the screen to reach the "m"s, for Montgomery County.

In middle school, I discovered the slightly more efficient way of checking cancellations by computer. However, I still had to make the tiring journey out of bed, down the stairs, and into the office where the glaring desktop screen awaited me with the news I so desperately anticipated.

But now, with the rise of technology and social media use, I no longer have to make this trek. Gone are the days when I had to rely on slowly scrolling news broadcast tickers, or on the achingly long start-up of a computer, to tell me if I can go back to sleep. I don't even have to get out of bed anymore. All

that I, along with most teenagers searching for the school system's decision, have to do is roll over and grab my phone.

Some of us simply refresh our Twitter feeds, while others rely on the more trustworthy source of MCPS's website. Either way, we do not have to go far or exert much effort in order to find out whether (or not) we have to drag ourselves out of bed and face a day of school.

However, this move toward social media is not always reliable. On the night of Sunday, December 8, somebody created a false Twitter account, under the username "@MCPS\_Alerts", and tweeted that school would be closed the following day. While this is a somewhat normal occurrence on Twitter, it is usually limited to a few gullible students falling for it, and then everyone realizing the mistake. However, this particular tweet had a bit more of an impact.

Fox 5 News saw this tweet and did not realize it was from a fake account. Their own Twitter account (@myfoxdc) relayed the false information to its 25.3K followers with a tweet of their own. Fox quickly corrected this statement and issued an apology to its followers, but not before many saw the false information.

School cancellations is just one of the areas where we are looking more and more to social media for information. Its immediate updates and convenient access make it a popular way to access news, but it is not always as reliable as it seems. As this dependency on social media increases, we must remain reasonably skeptical of what is presented to us and not believe everything we hear or see.

# Blood drive gives back

By ANDY GOLDSTEIN

*News Editor*

The holiday season is coming and with it comes the spirit of giving. In this spirit, the annual Quince Orchard blood drive lets students give the gift that could save another's life. Anyone 16 and older with a parent permission form who meets the iron requirement could come to the auditorium on December 11 between 8 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. to donate blood.

Many people like to give back to their community during the holidays, and this was one way to do so this year. SGA President Johnny Jung says, "The blood drive is a great opportunity to help people in your community. You don't need money or materials to donate. All that they ask for is your time and good will."

Nearly 15.7 million people in the U.S donate blood every year, which helps save patients with sickle cell anemia, blood loss, and other debilitating conditions that require blood transfusions. An estimated 4.5 million people would die each year without life saving blood transfusions. According to the Red Cross, although 60% of U.S adults are eligible to donate, fewer than 5% actually do on a yearly basis.

Students understand the importance of their donations. Senior Sam Shin said, "I know there are people out there who need healthy blood and I'm willing to give up some of mine to help them out." Shin is not alone in his charitable attitude, as other Cougars are stepping up to help save lives this holiday season.

This blood drive would not be possible without the help of the staff at Quince Orchard. Staff members worked alongside SGA officers and members of the Red Cross Club and INOVA Blood Services. SGA Sponsor Penny Keune emphasized the importance of donating by saying, "The blood drive is extremely important because donated blood saves lives!" Keune ensures that "if you couldn't donate this time, there will be another drive in the spring."



PHOTO BY ANDY GOLDSTEIN

ALL STRAPPED IN: Junior Joanna Wolfgram gives a thumbs up after donating blood.

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## Winter fashion trends provide opportunity for bold choices

By **LILY MAKORI**  
*Fashion Editor*

Looks like it's already that time of the year again when the leaves fall off the trees and cool autumn days turn to bone-chilling winter months.

With winter already here students are pulling out their heavy coats, gloves and scarves. But that doesn't mean that you should put away your summer fashions. And if you've been thinking about trying out some new trends, your fashion prayers have been answered.

Some big trends that have been on the catwalk this season are leather, fur, structured coats, and combat and em-

robe but instead of the standard black leather shoes, try a military green trench coat with leather sleeves and an adjustable string to help accentuate your waist. If you just can't get enough of this trend, pair it with some leather leggings and a long sleeved shirt underneath.

Speaking of coats, winter is the prime season to break out all coats that have been waiting anxiously in your closet, anticipating these chilly winter months. Add flare to your typical winter coat with fur or, faux fur if you can't imagine harming a poor chinchilla to stay warm.

Trimmed hoods on coats are both fashionable and advantageous to your ears in the unforgiving winter wind. But if you're afraid a hood will mess up your hairdo, opt for a comfy button down coat or some sort of quilted puffer without a hood.

And just before you step out the door dressed to take on winter, don't forget a killer pair of boots to complete your outfit. With so many choices, picking the perfect pair can be quite the challenge. To narrow down your choice, a few winter winners are black, brown or gray. These colors are neutral and will match with any winter ensemble you choose. And you can't go wrong with boots that are making their mark. Embellished boots are all the hype this winter, and you can't go wrong with a zip-up pair of combat boots either.

Winter isn't just about holiday cheer and staying warm. This season, use these tips to spice up your wardrobe and maintain your fashion pride even in the low winter temperatures.



PHOTO BY NORM7.ORG

**WALK THE RUNWAY:** Models showcase this season's newest trends on a runway in New York City.

bellished boots. But making these looks school friendly is the real challenge.

Leather is a relatively easy material to integrate into your daily ward-

### VIEWPOINT

## Guide to great gift giving

By **MATT QUINN**  
*Viewpoints Associate Editor*

To all of you reading this: Congratulations, you survived. Now I'm sure many of you are perplexed. "What did I survive Matt?" you ask, while checking your twitter feed frantically to see if you've somehow survived some sort of supernatural disaster and didn't even know it. Well, the only disaster you survived (that pertains to this article) is holiday shopping: unless did not purchase any gifts for anyone this year due to budget cuts, passive aggressive personality, lack of friends, or the fact that you're too simplistic and independent to give into the whims of consumerism and purchase products that helps fuel the man.

It's important to congratulate you all because holiday shopping is truly stressful and in some cases dangerous (Black Friday). If the stress of getting up, going to the store, and potentially bare knuckle brawling with feeble elderly women over the season's newest toys doesn't get your hair to start falling out, then deciding on what gift to buy others will.

Gift selecting is possibly one of the most difficult tasks in human life. Gift giving sends a message and you want to be sure to send the right one. Nothing is more frustrating than sending someone a sweater, intending to send a message that will instill fear and guilt only to find out that they actually enjoyed it and plan on wearing it to the New Year's party. You want to be able to say exactly what you mean. That's why I'm here to help. First, you must divide recipients into three simple groups: lovers, non-lovers/friends, and enemies. Lovers are the least important group. Contrary to popular belief, lovers love it when they're taken for granted. Nothing warms a girl's heart more than you telling her that you didn't get her anything for the holidays because you spent all your money betting on fantasy games. Chicks dig simplicity. For non-lovers you must be very careful. Gifts that evoke too much joy and appreciation may make them think that they're important to you; too important. You must remind them of the cold hard truth. Buy them something awesome and unique, but buy every single friend/non-lover the same exact thing.

This will make them feel conflicted because you pick sweet gifts, but you honestly don't take individuals into account when purchasing the gift. Finally, when purchasing gifts for your enemies you must stoop to psychological warfare. Buy them something really abstract. Something that they'll look at and be so thrown off guard, it bothers them for the rest of the week. Give them an empty picture frame or a box full of origami figures. They'll be confused as to why you bought them a gift in the first place and the added ambiguity will be sure to take the flustering to the next level. If all else fails, remember this; the holidays are all about appreciating life and being able to express that appreciation to loved ones. Don't ever forget about the most important loved one, yourself. If you'd rather just sit back and avoid holiday shopping altogether, it's totally fine. You can always wait for next year to roll around so I can give you advice to fix the awful situations you've put yourself in.





# HAPPY H

## Winter time traditions bring holiday cheer

*Students celebrate holidays with family, friends, and festive rituals*

By **EVE POETZCHKE**

*Double Truck Managing Editor*

As the holiday season sneaks up on us, age old traditions are remembered and celebrated. Some Cougars will carry on past rituals this year, while others have big plans to make new traditions.

"I've been doing my Christmas traditions for my whole life," said sophomore Sophie Robinson, "and my favorite one is our family swap and drop." A swap and drop is a game where everyone brings a wrapped gift and players "swap" or "drop" presents, never knowing what's inside the gift they'll end up with.

Freshman Anna Goorevich celebrates Hanukkah with her family. "Each night we light a candle together,"

said Goorevich. "Even though we're not too specific with the food, we usually have potato latkes with dinner."

Some students celebrate with traditions that aren't as common. Senior Nunna Worku has celebrated Christmas all her life, but three years ago she began celebrating Hanukkah as well. "Every year during the holidays, my family and I go to homeless shelters to feed the people and give them gifts," said Worku.

The holidays are a time for family, as evident in many traditions. "I spend the holidays with my parents and aunts," said Worku.

Goorevich said, "I always spend Hanukkah with my sister and parents, but over winter break I get to see my cousins."

With age and experience, many

people begin to look past the gifts for the real meaning of the holiday season. "I like the meaning of the holidays because you

*"I like the togetherness that the holidays bring."*

-Freshman Anna Goorevich

get to see family members be grateful for what they have," said Robinson.

"I like the togetherness that the holidays bring," said Goorevich, "Sometimes it's hard to get along with my sister but things just seem better during this season."

Traditions are very special, but so is the idea of acquiring new ones. "I hope to keep going to shelters to help the homeless in years to come," said Worku. "I also hope to start a tradition of singing at Christmas."

Robinson said she hopes to continue her "swap and drop", and Goorevich is looking forward to keeping her Hanukkah traditions with her family.

As the holidays ensue, many students and families prepare to spend them in a variety of ways. Whether they are enjoying age-old traditions or mixing things up, they are always remembering that the holiday season is time to spend with loved ones.

## What is the worst holiday gift you've ever received?

A razor and shaving cream  
-Senior Scott Mongold



A hideous sweater  
-Junior Jack Ploshnick



A Christmas tree ornament  
-Sophomore Niko Stahes



A pencil  
-Senior Staci Cohen





# HOLIDAYS



VIEWPOINT

## Walking in a winter wonderland

By **LILY MILWIT**  
*Editor-in-Chief*

Andy Williams wasn't messing around when he said that the holidays are "the most wonderful time of the year." I believe that the time in between Thanksgiving and New Year's is truly the most magnificent part of the calendar year.

For starters, the holiday season means snow, and if we're lucky, lots of it. This weather phenomenon makes for days off of school, chances for sledding and snow activities with friends, and endless opportunities for Instagrams. Although sometimes inconvenient for travel, snow is a beautiful physical representation for all that the holiday season means.

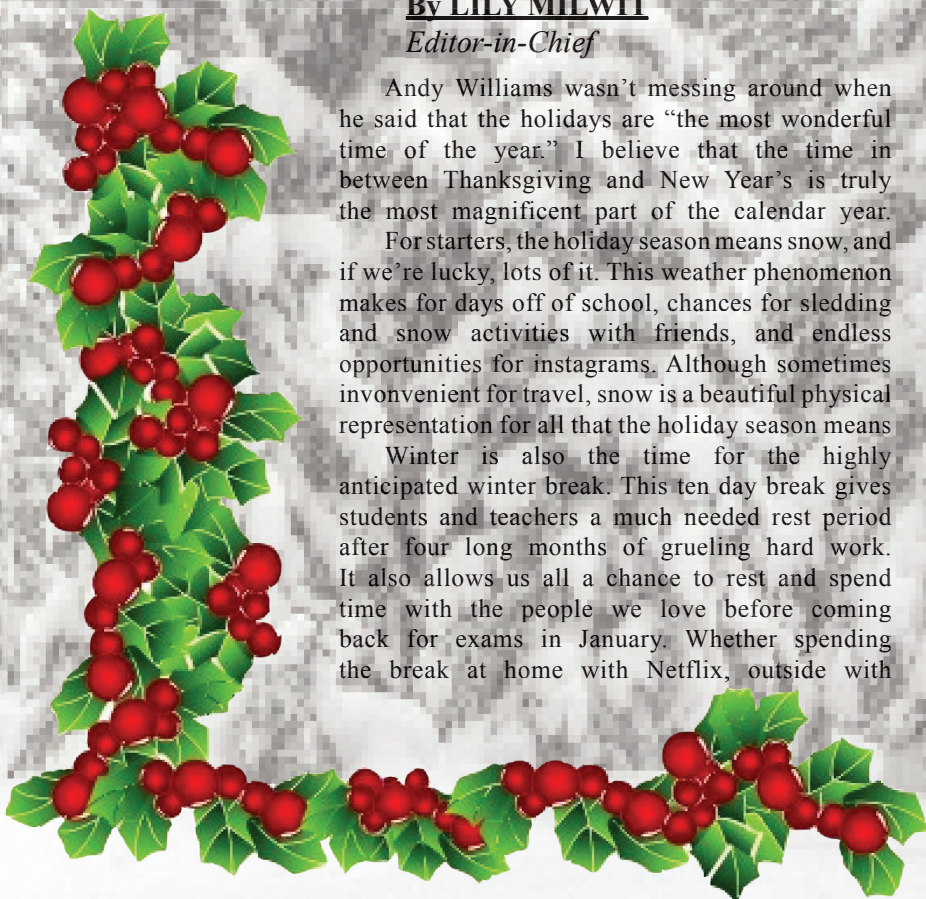
Winter is also the time for the highly anticipated winter break. This ten day break gives students and teachers a much needed rest period after four long months of grueling hard work. It also allows us all a chance to rest and spend time with the people we love before coming back for exams in January. Whether spending the break at home with Netflix, outside with

friends, or traveling beyond Montgomery County's borders, winter break is a special time and further justification of why this time of the year is the best.

The weeks surrounding the holidays also mean presents. Whether you celebrate Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanza, or Winter Solstice, chances are that gifts are coming your way. Whether it's the newest iPhone or that pair of socks you've had your eye on, presents symbolize more than just the newest products and commodities. The act of exchanging gifts symbolizes how the holidays are a time for giving and sharing.

Above all other perks of the holidays, the most magical aspect about this time of the year is that it brings people together. All it takes is a change in the seasons to ignite the love and happiness that is so prevalent around this time. The holidays are a time to forgive, reunite, and cherish.

So this winter, instead of complaining about the frost on your windshield or dreading the treacherous morning walk into school, embrace the season. Make sure to give more than you receive, laugh a lot, wear a jacket, and let the people you love know you love them.



## Cougars share winter break travel plans

By **LILLY PRICE**  
*Double Truck Managing Editor*

Winter break is a glorious occasion that grants students the opportunity to kick back and relax. During this break, however, a few Cougars will be a bit more adventurous and travel to far flung destinations.

Those who plan on spending their break at home can already picture the upcoming week. Junior Callyn Niesen predicts she will fill her time by, "sleeping, eating, and watching a lot of *Grey's Anatomy*."

While Marylanders often experience hot and cold weather that can only be characterized as "bi-polar", Junior Maria Pozo will be taking on more extreme weather challenges when she ventures to Saint Paul, Minnesota. "I'm dedicating two suitcases just for coats," said Pozo. "The record cold there was -20 degrees, and I'm not sure I'm ready for that".

Another Cougar braving the elements is freshman Cooper Stanley, who will be "chillin" in Killington, Vermont. "I will be skiing all week so I need to pack super warm so I don't freeze to death on the slopes," said Stanley.

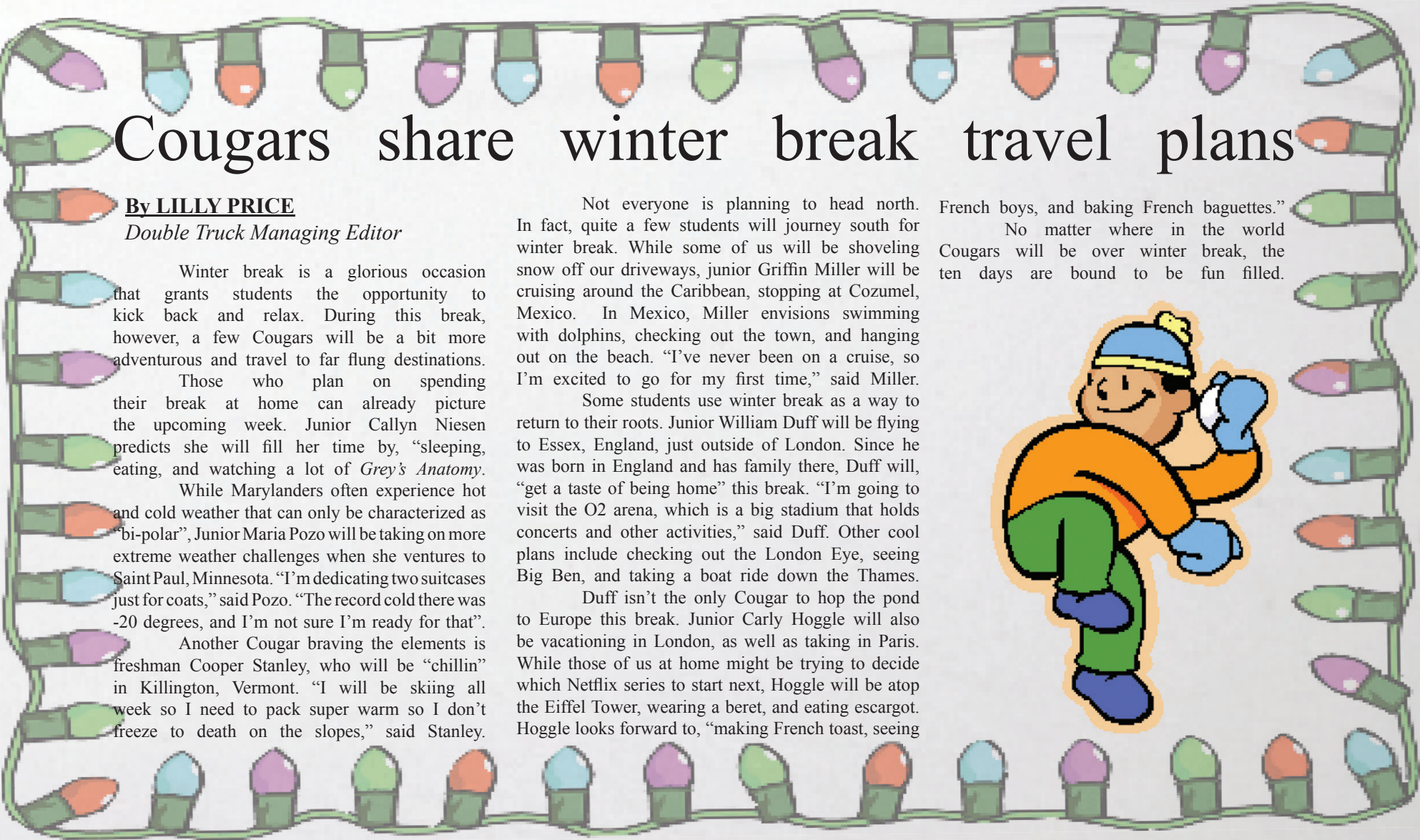
Not everyone is planning to head north. In fact, quite a few students will journey south for winter break. While some of us will be shoveling snow off our driveways, junior Griffin Miller will be cruising around the Caribbean, stopping at Cozumel, Mexico. In Mexico, Miller envisions swimming with dolphins, checking out the town, and hanging out on the beach. "I've never been on a cruise, so I'm excited to go for my first time," said Miller.

Some students use winter break as a way to return to their roots. Junior William Duff will be flying to Essex, England, just outside of London. Since he was born in England and has family there, Duff will, "get a taste of being home" this break. "I'm going to visit the O2 arena, which is a big stadium that holds concerts and other activities," said Duff. Other cool plans include checking out the London Eye, seeing Big Ben, and taking a boat ride down the Thames.

Duff isn't the only Cougar to hop the pond to Europe this break. Junior Carly Hoggle will also be vacationing in London, as well as taking in Paris. While those of us at home might be trying to decide which Netflix series to start next, Hoggle will be atop the Eiffel Tower, wearing a beret, and eating escargot. Hoggle looks forward to, "making French toast, seeing

French boys, and baking French baguettes."

No matter where in the world Cougars will be over winter break, the ten days are bound to be fun filled.







# JANUARY

With the New Year come new holidays. Check out these celebrations in the month of January!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1  New Year's Day	2 'Run up the flagpole and see if anyone salutes' Day	3 Fruitcake Toss Day	4 Trivia Day
5  National Bird Day	6 Cuddle Up Day	7 Old Rock Day	8 Bubble Bath Day 	9 Balloon Ascension Day	10  Houseplant Appreciation Day	11 Step in a puddle and splash your friends Day
12 National Pharmacist Day	13 Make your dreams come true day	14 Dress up your pets day	15 National Hat Day	16 National Nothing Day	17 Ditch New Years Resolution Day	18  Winnie the Pooh Day
19 National Popcorn Day	20 Penguin Awareness Day	21 Squirrel Appreciation Day	22 National Blonde Brownie Day	23 National Handwriting Day 	24 Compliment Day	25 Opposite Day
26 Spouses Day	27 Chocolate Cake Day 	28 National Kazoo Day	29 National Cornchip Day	30 National Inane Answering Message Day	31 Backwards Day	

## Clubs Corner

By **BRIANA BOOTHE**  
AND **HALEY KIRBY**

Features Associate Editor and  
Features Managing Editor

The Young Democrats Club is a way for like minded and motivated students to gather to discuss politics and engage in political action. This club gives students a chance to pursue what they think is right and have a say in how their lives will be run.

*“Canvassing is one of the things that makes being in the Young Democrats club such a memorable experience.”*

-Sophomore Connor Quinn

The Young Democrats Club is open to anyone who wants to join and is sponsored by history teacher Joshua Schuman.

“Students should get involved in this club because they’re in a position to impact their own lives. The causes that these clubs get involved with are real life causes, issues and campaigns that can affect both teen-

agers and adults,” said Schuman.

Signing up for the club isn’t formal. One can simply show up to a meeting. Meetings take place most Fridays in room 323E. Although there are no set dates for these gatherings, there is a facebook group students can request to join to stay up to date on what’s happening with the club.

“At meetings we discuss current news, how various campaigns are going and what our next plans are. Recently we’ve been organizing a trip to sit in on a session of Congress and meet our representatives,” sophomore Natalie Rubin said.

The club members like to involve themselves in activities outside of school as well, like canvassing. Canvassing by the club serves as a way to inform the community and possibly influence voters opinions.

“Canvassing is one of the things that makes being in the Young Democrats club such a memorable experience. We have canvassed in Northern Virginia and were the largest canvassing group for the governor’s race. We also canvas more locally like in the Lakelands and Kentlands,” sophomore Connor Quinn said.

“We’ve gotten doors slammed in our faces. We’ve gotten stuck on Metro cars. But seriously, working on the Terry McAuliffe campaign for Virginia governor was very exciting and memorable. That specific election was much more competitive than Maryland elections are and the outcome meant a lot for tons of Virginia woman and LGBT folk. I’m happy to say we were a part of it,” said Rubin.

## New sponsors brings change for National Honor Society

By **PAIGE MIRKIN**  
Features Editor

Senior Megan Dougherty explains the mission of the National Honor Society as, “leadership, community service, and academic excellence in a wide variety of subjects.”

The NHS performs community service throughout the year and is currently working on a holiday project that includes creating gift bags for people who are less fortunate. In addition to community service the NHS, “tutors and serves people in the community,” Dougherty said.

This year, the NHS received brand new sponsors. QO teachers Linda Leslie, Nathaniel Rockwood, and Omari James took upon the roles as sponsors for NHS. “The NHS has been a bit different because since we got new sponsors, we got off to a late start,” senior officer Lauren Kettl said.

“Although it was a slow rolling begin-

ning of the year, we’ve planned so many upcoming events that we’re really excited about,” said Dougherty.

Both Dougherty and Kettl are officers and both had sisters who were previously in the NHS. “My older sister was in the NHS and I realized it’s such a great way to get involved,” shared Kettl.

“I knew from the beginning of high school that I wanted to join since I had seen how much my older sister had enjoyed being a part of the NHS,” Dougherty said.

There are requirements students need to fulfill in order to become a member of the NHS. These requirements include having a 3.5 grade point average and past experiences with community service and leadership.

For future purposes, the NHS looks great on college applications and Dougherty described the NHS as, “a good way to know others who are smart and have been successful in high school.” She added, “You never know what connections you’ll make!”

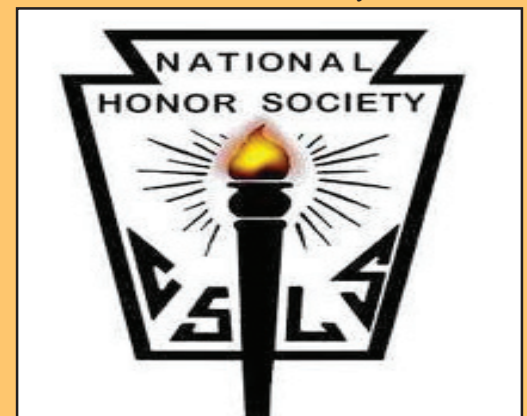


PHOTO BY GOOGLE.COM

**NATIONWIDE SUCCESS:** *Though every school gets involved differently, the logo of the NHS is always as shown above.*





# Indoor track and field embarks on tough race towards states

By **SAM KIRSCH**  
Sports Editor

Headlined by the defending state champion long jumper and a strong long distance trio, the indoor track team is suiting up for yet another competitive, fast-paced season.

"We expect to compete for the state championships," said coach Seann Pelkey. The team has added a new volunteer coach, Bill Goodman, and feels confident on both the girls and boys sides.

The indoor season, which began on December 7, requires all athletes to be prepared for all of the different types of events.

"Each group [throwers, sprinters, and distance] does their own thing to get ready," said sophomore Liam Walsh. When asked about how they deal with running in the cold, Walsh responded, "You warm up and run!"

The Cougars, while expecting fierce competition from Paint

Branch, Northwest, and Clarksburg, know they have a great chance to do really well. "I expect to win the county championships and hope to qualify many people to the state meet," said senior Teddy Gelman.

*"We expect to compete for the state championships."*

*-Coach Seann Pelkey*

"Donovan Tyler, Jamillah Jonjo, junior Justin Sorra, senior Elliot Davis, junior Lauren Calvin, and senior long distance runners Regina Schreiber, Ryan McCann, and Bradley Shawen are all leaders that will use their experience to help improve the team for another strong season," added Gelman.

Adding on to the experienced athletes, the indoor track team has

brought in many speedy underclassmen to help improve their chances come meet time.

"I expect everyone to run really fast and for our 4x8 to compete really well," said Walsh.

McCann agreed, "This year we return all of last years members so we don't really expect anything less than a state championship," he said. The group is composed of Walsh, McCann, Shawen, and junior Nick Ransing and is just one of the events that has high expectations. Other events are shot-put and sprints.

"There is a sense of urgency since there is a lot of talent on both sides and in all events," said Pelkey.

Most of the meets are in Prince George's County but Red Army members are highly encouraged not only to attend, but also to cheer on all indoor track members as they go on their mission to win big this season.

# NFL Redskins end season in turmoil

## A Cougar's view on the anything but smooth football season for the Skins

By **BRADLEY WALKER**  
Sports Associate Editor

As they fell from NFC east champions to being the laughing-stock of the league, the Washington Redskins have absolutely crumbled in less than a year. Sitting at 3-10, the Redskins are in at last place in their division.

In the Redskins 2012 campaign there looked to be so much promise in DC. The team was lead by two talented and proven rookies. Starting quarterback Robert Griffin and running back Alfred Morris battled for the NFL's Rookie of the Year. As a long time die-hard Redskin's fan, I was ecstatic knowing that my team was good and that it would continue to be good behind these two rookies. Not the case. The Redskins are now sitting at 31 out of 32 teams in the league, and in my opinion they deserve that 32 spot.

I strongly believe that the team's disappointing season rides on Griffin's sub-par performance. Due to a torn ACL in the wild-card round of the playoffs in 2012, Griffin missed the whole off-season rehabbing

his knee. Obviously his absence over the off-season took a toll on this young quarterback. It was evident that Griffin was not the same after the injury. My argument is pretty much proven in Griffin's stats throughout the horrendous season. Griffin has thrown 12 interceptions so far. This by far surpasses his rookie season when he only threw five. Known for explosiveness and speed in his rookie campaign, Griffin has not shown those attributes as a second-year player. Cutting back Alfred Morris battled for the NFL's Rookie of the Year. As a long time die-hard Redskin's fan, I was ecstatic knowing that my team was good and that it would continue to be good behind these two rookies. Not the case. The Redskins are now sitting at 31 out of 32 teams in the league, and in my opinion they deserve that 32 spot.

I also believe that Griffin is not getting the protection needed to succeed. As I force myself to watch this team every melancholy Sunday, I feel like all I see is Griffin on his back. When Tyler Polumbus is your starting right tackle your quarterback will end up on his butt somehow. If the Skins don't upgrade at this position there is no hope for a successful offense in DC. Despite the struggles in pass protection and

efficiency through the air, the Skins have once again had success on the ground led by Morris. The Shanahan run Redskins are sitting at second in the NFL in rushing yards per game with 143.8.

Don't get too caught up in the RG3 drama-the Redskins still manage to maintain one of the worst defenses in the NFL. The biggest problem is the troubled secondary. Teams have absolutely gashed the Skins putting up 256.7 passing yards per game. The best defender is a 10-year veteran that won't be good for too much longer. Deangelo Hall has done a good job checking opposing teams' best receivers so far. One of very few bright spots: GM Bruce Allen tried to upgrade this position in the draft. He happened to draft two guys in Bacari Rambo and David Amerson that are just not ready for the bright lights of the NFL.

It's evident that there are huge problems on the field. However like a true Redskins fan I say "it's all Dan's fault". Owner Dan Snyder made headlines again this year when a stoppage broke about him

treating Griffin differently than the rest of the team. In my opinion this creates huge problems in the locker room. When one player is put on a pedestal it makes everyone else feel like they aren't relevant to the franchise's success. Snyder is known for doing this with players like Clinton Portis, Lavar Arrington, and most recently Robert Griffin III. You know, the players that will make him the most money.

Snyder was also able to mess up his relationship with head coach Mike Shanahan. The ESPN story that leaked explained that Shanahan was upset with the treatment that his quarterback was getting from his owner. Rumors flew that Shanahan was ready to pack his stuff after the loss to Seattle last year in the wild-card.

The 3-13 record of the "Deadskins" has a direct correlation to the turmoil that has been flying around in Ashburn the past couple weeks. Hopefully Snyder and Shanahan can settle this little feud and the Redskins can improve on this treacherous season in the years to come. But probably not. Hail!

\*OUTSIDE VOICE\*

## Letter to the Editor

*Although this football season ended sooner than expected, we take this time to think about all four incredible years we have had being in the Red Army. We feel privileged to have been a part of such a unique and personable tradition here at QO. We were ecstatic when we received a request from Mr. Lee Faris, the "Voice of Cougar Football," to print the following letter about one of the best student cheering sections in the state. We are honored to share that letter with you now.*

*With love, the Editors*

Dear Prowler Editors,

In the nineteen years since becoming the 'Voice of Cougar Football' I have witnessed many wonderful highs and yes some disappointments. I have known some wonderful coaches and said goodbye to many hundreds of some of the finest young men and women who I could ever hope to meet both in the classroom and on the playing field. I could write volumes praising their accomplishments, however; this letter will focus on a special group dear to my heart.

Yes, I was there when the Red Army student section was founded. Shocked as I was, in the early years, I found its mascot to be a student in a Russian Army Uniform waving a red banner on a long pole. I quickly realized the tongue in cheek meaning and also got into the spirit of the birth of the Red Army. I watched the Army grow with excitement and enthusiasm. Some years more excited than others; however this year presented a seminal moment that proved to me, and I hope everyone, how really important these wonderful students are to our fans, athletes, and guests. That moment came on November 22, 2013 at the end of the Northwest game that saw our playoff hopes fade. All dressed in my double breasted tux, and ready for the big dance that was not to be, I sadly began to gather my belongings in the press box. I glanced from the booth to view about twenty Red Army students sitting at the front row with their hands gripping the top rail and their

heads hung low. I guessed they were seniors since most were in war paint with blazing hair. The young ladies, and some of the gentlemen, had tears in their eyes. They sat there as most everyone else had departed the field. Normally I would not have intruded into their solitude but I suddenly realized how much these young people had really meant to me and hopefully everyone who has attended a Quince Orchard sporting event.

I decided to make my way down to them. I am sure that they wondered why this old guy, dressed for a formal, was standing in their midst. As best I could, and holding back a tear myself, tried to reassure them, that other than strapping on helmets, they had had done everything that could have been asked of them. As I did, they wanted one more trip to the show before graduation. They eventually slowly left. I shook hands with a few but I shall never forget them.

The Red Army students still to come will have to measure their excitement against the Army of 2013. I hope they have the will and desire to get it done. To those unknown seniors of November 22 I wish you all the best that life can offer. Approach it with that same unbridled enthusiasm and nothing will stand in your way.

Sincerely,  
Mr. Lee Faris  
"Voice of Cougar Football"



PHOTO BY ANDY GOLDSTEIN

**LEAVING A MARK:** *Some of the Red Army's best display the student section's contagious spirit under the Friday night lights in the Cougar Dome. By tradition, the Red Army is led by some of the most spirited senior boys, who come out each night with red-painted chests.*





# Girls basketball intensely prepares for winter season

By **DAKOTA BURTON**  
Editor-in-Chief

The girls basketball team has high hopes and goals this season, not unlike those of any other team: to play their best, and come out on top.

Coming off a 10-13 record from the 2012-2013 season, the team looks to improve that record to a winning one. To achieve this goal, the Lady Cougars will have to overcome some of the county's stiffest competition. The girls will face off against repeatedly tough teams such as Wootton, Gaithersburg, and Magruder, three games that happen to fall all in a row.

In order to be an effective team during the winter, the girls prepare year round. Many of the QO team played for off-season teams as well, one prominent one being IonNone, an AAU team compiled of girls from schools all around the county. "Playing AAU has been one of the greatest experiences. You learn so much and get to play against some really intense competition," said senior Babette Sanmartin.

The girls participate in a fall league each year, playing against other Montgomery County teams in a sort of unofficial preseason. "In the off-season, I played fall league and worked out," said senior Megan Fisher.

Sanmartin, a captain and four year varsity starter, has hopes for herself and her team for her concluding season as a Cougar basketball player. "I'd really like to see us get a winning season and go far in playoffs," said Sanmartin, adding, "I want my last season playing for QO to be a memorable one."

Both Sanmartin and senior Brittany Beckwith are expected to be two of the team's top scorers this season. The two girls are both going on to play for Saint Vincent College in Pennsylvania next winter. Sanmartin and Beckwith are so far proving their place on the team, putting up 12 and 18 points in their first game against Seneca Valley, respectively.

The girls truly enjoy working hard in order to improve their game. "My favorite part of basketball season is improving and playing with my team," said Fisher.

The girls come together during practice in order for drills and plays to run smoothly. Working on shooting, defense, and basic skills is what the girls focus on in practice, along with their fair share of suicides. "Conditioning and drills are important to us winning because you have to be able to give it your all for the whole 32 minutes of game play," said Sanmartin.

While we non-athletes will be spending the holiday break snuggled up on our couches, the hardworking Cougars will be playing in the Bobby Miller Clas-

sic hosted by Churchill on December 27 and 28. Since it may be hard for the Red Army to come show support, check

out the girls as they play at home tonight against Northwest at 5:15-and stay for the varsity boys at 7:00!



**DOUBLE TEAMED:** Senior Brittany Beckwith goes up for a shot against multiple defenders in a game against Wootton last winter.

## Wrestling pins hopes on hard work, meeting goals

By **DAVID FINGERET**  
Sports Managing Editor

After a strong season last year the varsity wrestling team looks to continue their success with a strong start against some good competition in their division.

The team began the season against a tough Sherwood team. "Playing against Sherwood will be a great indicator of how good our team will be," said Coach Rob Wolf. Beside regular season matches, the team also has tournaments such as the holiday dual tournament. This tournament shows some of the best competition from schools all around the state who come to play and show off their talent. The team has many returning players after a strong 10-4 season last year.

Every practice the team goes hard to make sure they are in great shape for their matches. "If wrestlers aren't crawling out of the room at the end of the day then I didn't work then hard enough," said Wolf. The team wants to keep getting better after seeing Damascus win the state championship last season. "Our motto is

without sacrifice there can be no victory," said Wolf. That motto is on the back of each wrestler's shirt to remind him that hard work pays off.

get better for the competition," said Bollinger. The team has some very young wrestlers that have great potential. "The team has a lot of

*"If wrestlers aren't crawling out of the room at the end of the day then I didn't work them hard enough."*

-Coach Rob Wolf

The team had some injuries last year and the team hopes to have a healthy season. "We could have been 12-2 had we not lost a few key wrestlers last year," said Wolf.

"Our team goals are to make it to regional duals, go on to state duals, and have all 14 varsity member place top six in the county tournament," said junior Kyle Bollinger. The team has very high goals and looks to build on their success from last year. The team is really well bonded and has great player-coach relationships. "We're all really close and everyone helps each other to

potential and with some great returning players we have a great shot this season," said Bollinger.

"Our coach always expects more from us and this drives us to be better wrestlers," said sophomore Danny Henn. "The team is better because of how coach motivates us." The team has a tough schedule this year and wants to make sure they are ranked with some of the top teams in the state.

The Red Army can support the wrestlers at their next home match, the Cougar Clause Holiday Duel Tournament on December 30 and 31 at 9:00 a.m.

## Team goes back to the basics

*Swim and dive stresses importance of techniques, stroke, and speed*

By **DAVID COHEN**  
Sports Editor

The 2013-14 co-ed varsity swim and dive team is off to a good start, tying their first scrimmage against Einstein on December 7. Most of last year's swimmers returned, along with a surprising increase in new freshman swimmers joining the team. The young talent was very impressive at the meet against Einstein. Senior Tyler Shapiro said, "Our team is looking very strong this year. We have a lot of depth in both the boys and the girls teams. We have a strong competitive edge that I believe will help us come out on top in all of our meets." Swim and dive is different than other sports because the swimmers have individual goals as well as team goals. It is also unique because of the early morning practices-these truly dedicated swimmers practice at 5 a.m. before school.

"Stroke, techniques and speed are all essential," said Shapiro. Both technique and speed are crucial to win. "The better the technique, the smoother you will be able to move through the water. Speed work is obvious, as you must practice hard to get the desired results," explained Shapiro.

Senior Andrew Mann said, "In practice we focus on all the strokes, and do the necessary drills stressing mechanics to perfect our strokes." For these swimmers, the desired result is to drop time and place in meets. "With 30-40 returning swimmers, the team should have the experience that is needed to continue to improve times and help score the valu-

able points for the team," said Mann.

Another reason swim and dive differs from most other sports is the size of the team. "Leadership is key due to the size of the team. It is very important that there are multiple captains to help lead the team because there are so many swimmers and Coach Garner cannot physically tend to so many

*"We have a lot of depth in both the boys and the girls teams. We have a strong competitive edge that I believe will help us come out on top in all of our meets."*

-Senior Tyler Shapiro








people on his own," explains Shapiro.

Shapiro, Mann, and seniors Alvin Wang and Mike Palmiere all plan to swim in college next year. "The team is extremely supportive and all the swimmers give solid effort and compete well," concluded Mann.





# Here's what some Quince Orchard athletes think...

<i>The Prowler asked...</i>	 ALVIN WANG	 RICKI SHULTZ	 JOHN FIERSTEIN	 KATIE PALMIERE	 MATTHEW FUSTER	 EMILY BAUMGARTNER	 JAMIE SOLOMON
Favorite holiday food?	Anything Tyler Shapiro makes.	Candy canes.	Eggnog.	Mashed Potatoes.	Bacon.	Chocolate.	Latkes!
What is on the top of your wish list?	For people to stop comparing me to Michael Phelps.	John Ten Eyck	To catch Santa this year.	Michael Kors wallet.	I wish I was taller.	A butt.	Getting first place in our competition!
Prowler member you hope to catch under the miseltoe?	That is classified information.	Taylor, obviously.	James.	Lily Milwit, duh!	No comment.	I'd rather have Babette.	Lesbehonest... Dakota.
What keeps you warm on cold winter nights?	Migrating south.	John's love.	My snuggly and James.	Girls lax training sessions.	A blanket?	Babette.	My doggy Teddy<3
Hot chocolate or apple cider?	Hot choco-apple cider.	Apple cider.	Orange Juice.	Hot chocolate.	Hot chocolate.	Hot chocolate.	Eggnog.
Naughty or nice?	Naughty.	Super nice :)	I'll let you be the judge.	Nice ;)	Naughty ;)	Naughty.	NICE.
Favorite holiday movie?	Home videos of Jana.	<i>Mickey Mouse's Christmas Adventures.</i>	<i>Elf.</i>	<i>Home Alone or the Grinch.</i>	<i>Home Alone.</i>	<i>Elf.</i>	<i>21 Jump Street</i>
What makes your jingle bells rock?	Watching Lorde dance.	You.	Billy Sewell.	Christmas music of course!	Is this a trick question?	Can't tell you that one.	The Crew
What color would your nose be if you were a reindeer?	Everything is purple.	Red.	It would change depending on my mood.	Red!	Red, white, and blue.	Purple.	That would be a problem if I was a reindeer.
New Year's Eve plans?	Make a dance with Nora to Timber.	NYC with the bae.	Celebrating Mr. Lynch's anniversary.	Chilling, cooling, relaxing.	Eating and stuff.	Hanging with Laney.	Celebrate my birthday of course!
What type of cookies do you leave for Santa?	The burnt ones, sorry bout it.	Goopy with chocolate chips.	Sugar cookies.	All different ones.	The chocolate kind.	My gluten free cookies.	Special cookies.
How are you spending your winter break?	Training in Alaskan waters.	Drinking water.	Getting in touch with my inner self.	Swimming, diving, etc.	Wrestling.	Hanging with Laney some more.	With Babette.

## Bocce looks to continue success from last season

**By JAMES NEVELEFF**  
*Sports Editor*

After an impressive season in 2012, the 2013 Quince Orchard bocce team looks to defend its title as state champions. Bocce, the Italian sport, has been the most successful corollary sport at Quince Orchard.

With their new coach in place, the bocce team hopes to play strong this year. New head coach Gregory Benas is very enthusiastic about coaching the bocce team and loves working with these students. "Bocce showcases the abilities of our special needs students in the inclusive spirit of Quince Orchard High School," said Benas.

Emily Goorevich, bocce team member,

is also very excited to start the season. "I enjoy corollary sports because I wanted to further my involvement in Best Buddies," said Goorevich.

*"Bocce showcases the abilities of our special needs students in the inclusive spirit of Quince Orchard High School."*

**-Coach Gregory Benas**

"My favorite part is being involved in an activity that no one is excluded from, no matter their

abilities or disabilities," said Goorevich. Playing corollary sports also teaches players lessons for later in life. "I've learned to be very patient

through corollary sports," said Goorevich. "Being on the bocce team will help me later on in life, knowing

that just appearances don't show someone's abilities or talents."

Bocce team member Bridget Garagusi is also looking forward to the season, and plays corollary sports for many reasons. "I play because they are fun sports that I can play without feeling so stressed, pressured or judged.

The games are competitive but mostly about having fun, which means a lot to everyone on the team," said Garagusi. Helping these student athletes is very important to Garagusi, who says, "I help the students play sports by allowing them to feel like part of a team. Many of them aren't able to be on any of the other QO sports teams, but corollary sports gives anyone, no matter how

athletic they are, a chance at being part of a team and have fun while playing."

Gaining friends is also an essential part of corollary sports. Meeting new people and interacting with them in a competitive manner is very important.

"I started off knowing barely any of the students on corollary sports, but now I am friends with all of them. We have become a close team and I love working together with new people. These sports have given us all a sense of camaraderie, and I'm so lucky to have become friends with everyone on the team," said Garagusi. Although the team members have a lot of differences, this also allows them to be successful.



PHOTO BY ANDY GOLDSTEIN  
**BALLIN':** Tossin' the ball, junior Drew Slater looks determined as he practices his skills for the next upcoming match.





# ATHLETES TO WATCH

## Boys Wrestling



**Kyle Bollinger**

Junior co-captain Kyle Bollinger faced one of Maryland's top ranked wrestlers in his weight class and came away with a decisive 7-0 victory. Kyle is a huge asset to the wrestling team this year.

## Swim and Dive



**Tyler Shapiro**

Senior Tyler Shapiro brings not just athleticism, but hardwork and a positive attitude. Shapiro is a great attribute to the swim and dive team here at Quince Orchard. Coaches expects great things from this returning senior.

## GO COUGARS



## Boys Basketball



**Jake Seiniger**

Senior captain Jake Seiniger has been a part of the basketball team for four years. This year Seiniger has led the team in points and rebounds in the team's scrimmages. Seiniger was the leading scorer in the first game.

## Girls Basketball



**Babette Sanmartin**

Senior captain Babette Sanmartin has worked hard in practice and is one of the leading scorers. She does a great job attacking the basket and getting to the foul line.

## Boys Indoor Track



**Dorian Jones**

Junior Dorian Jones, who is one of the team's top triple jumpers, has very high expectations this season. At the team's meet earlier in the season Dorian set a new personal record for the triple jump.

## Girls Indoor Track



**Ashley Seymour**

Freshman Ashley Seymour is new to the indoor track team this year. At the team's first meet, Seymour placed fifth in the fifty-five dash with a time of 7.4 seconds. She works hard and inspires others.

## Cheerleading



**Katherine Lin**

Sophomore Katherine Lin has worked extremely hard this season and has stepped up for the team. She is an amazing athlete and a huge asset to the team. The team expects great things to come from this young athlete.

## Poms



**Tara Del Prete**

Senior captain Tara Del Prete has been on poms for four years. She is very dedicated to poms and often puts in time after school and on the weekends. She hopes to continue dance in college.

# Bye Bye

# BLOODE

## Stage Crew will begin after Break!

Opportunities Include:

- set construction
- painting
- props
- costumes

Check the Drama call board and Drama Club Facebook group for info and start dates.