

THE PROWLER

Quince Orchard High School
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Republicans Claim Senate Majority in Midterms *Massive Electoral Victories for Establishment Republicans in Midterm Elections*

By **ANDY GOLDSTEIN**
News Associate Editor

During the midterm elections this year, Democrats suffered crushing defeats by Republicans in senatorial, congressional, and gubernatorial elections across the country. In a plethora of influential and tight races, Republican challengers ousted incumbent Democrats to take a 52-45 majority of the Senate, with 3 independents. The hard hits to Democrats were not exclusively in the Senate either, with Republicans expanding their majority in the House of Representatives, and winning tight gubernatorial elections in Maryland, Wisconsin, and Florida.

The shift in the Senate majority was not unexpected to most, with many analysts calling for a wave of Republican victories weeks in advance. Of the eight to ten tight Senate races, Republicans won seven of these toss-ups. AP NSL teacher Joshua Schuman says, "People see the least productive and most out-of-touch Senate we've had, possibly ever, and want a change. This is mostly the result



CHANGES IN THE SENATE: Former Republican Minority Leader Mitch McConnell celebrates his election victory over Democrat Alison Grimes in Kentucky.

of partisan grand-standing, and putting politics ahead of the best interests of the nation." Senate races were very tight in many Republican-leaning states, where Democratic incumbents were trying to stay above water. States like Arkansas, Georgia,

North Carolina, Colorado, Louisiana, and South Dakota contributed to the Republican victory in the Senate. "This is possibly the worst group of states for Democrats since Dwight Eisenhower," said President Obama.

Democrats also suffered defeats in

close gubernatorial races, even some that were not supposed to be close at all. For the first time in eight years, and in a complete upset, Maryland elected a Republican, Larry Hogan, as governor of Maryland, over former Lieutenant Governor Anthony Brown. Brown was seen as a heavy favorite --in heavily democratic Maryland-- for the entirety of the race. As the election results began pouring in, a Democratic Brown victory looked less and less likely. With only 45% voter turnout statewide, it seems Hogan's surprise victory was thanks to the Democratic base that did not come out to vote. Hogan won by a relatively large margin: 53.83% to Brown's 44.79%.

Republicans also won many tight gubernatorial races across the country. In Wisconsin, Tea Party member and incumbent Governor Scott Walker defeated Democratic challenger Mary Burke, despite massive upheaval from the Democratic base over his conservative healthcare plan, dubbed "Walkercare." Walker defeated Burke by 6 points: 52.26% to 46.58%. In President Obama's home

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The Miracle Worker Comes to QO

By **LAWRENCE SIMON**
Editor-in-Chief

Earlier this month, the Quince Orchard Drama Department put on *The Miracle Worker* by William Gibson. The play tells the story of Helen Keller, the 20th-century political activist who lost her sight and hearing to a case of either scarlet fever or meningitis. The play itself revolves around Annie Sullivan, a Boston governess who attempts to teach Helen primitive sign language and change her behavior, while the rest of the Keller family and their servants try to help. Playing the role of James Keller, Helen's half-brother, is freshman Luke Tittle, who said about his first high school theatre experience: "It has been stressful, but not too bad. The great mostly-senior cast has made it worth it." Prior to coming to Quince Orchard, Luke had only worked on "The Little Mermaid" and...did construction crew in middle school for two years." During Tech Week, the

week leading up to the premiere on November 8, Tittle said that "We're almost done. The last scene is the toughest, though." However, Tittle later mentioned that "the toughest part has been perfecting [his] Southern accent," as the play

takes place in 1880s Alabama. While freshman like Tittle have made their first appearance on the Quince Orchard stage, experienced crew member and stage manager senior Elizabeth

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THIS TIME WITH FEELING: Seniors Destani Gross, Evan Main, and Joanna Wolfgram rehearse a key scene from the play in dress rehearsal.

Manna Food Drive

By **BELLA ROBERTS**
News Managing Editor

The QO community is giving back this November with the yearly canned food drive for Manna Food Center, the main food bank in Montgomery County. Students and teachers are inspirationally donating to help feed homeless families. Canned food will be collected from November 10 to November 21 in specially-marked boxes located in all first period classrooms and participating clubs. Both students and faculty can donate cans to the Manna Food Bank to support a community in need. The canned food drive was chosen over other fundraisers because "QO has a history with Manna," said SGA sponsor Omari James, "Even some parents are involved."

The Manna Food Drive brings together government, private corporations, nonprofit organizations, various faith-based organizations, community groups, and individuals with the

common cause of fighting hunger in Montgomery County. Since 1983, Manna has used education, advocacy, and food distribution to combat hunger and provide 5% of Montgomery County residents with food each year.

Many Cougars are passionate about the drive and believe it will make an impact on the community. "This is a worthy cause because people are really in need," exclaims senior Alyssa Katon. "Every effort helps," says SGA Vice President Brianna Ho. "When you give food, it goes to someone who legitimately needs it; it ends up in someone else's hands." Teacher Jessica Burdette believes strongly in the worthiness of the cause. "Students should donate because people in our community need our help. We are a compassionate school who understands the necessity of lending a hand to those who are struggling" says Mrs. Burdette.

The canned food drive connects QO students each year

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News

Many students at Quince Orchard are now deep in the college application process.

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Fall is here, and with it comes all the weather and holidays it has to offer.

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Varsity football playoffs are upon us, after Quince Orchard's win against Clarksburg.

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A Miracle Hits the Stage

By **LAWRENCE SIMON**
Editor-in-Chief

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stage manager senior Elizabeth Allnutt reflects on how this production compares to ones in the past: “*The Miracle Worker* is much more dramatic compared to our other productions.” Allnutt particularly likes that “it has a choreographed fight scene, which I think is pretty cool!” This will be Allnutt’s sixth show as part of QO Theatre: “I started stage crew my sophomore year to join some of my friends and find something to do.” Since then, Allnutt has been a stage crew member for shows like *Beauty and the Beast* and *Bye Bye Birdie*. “I think I’m much more lenient than other stage managers,” Allnutt said, but she likes the responsibility of her new role. “Now that I’m stage manager, I get to do more organizing and I have more of a say on what we do to prepare for the show.” Considering the large building process for *The Miracle Worker*, which included the construction and painting of a large Southern mansion, a select running crew was also chosen to help run the show during Tech Week and the performances. On running

crew, Allnutt mentioned that “we choose who gets up on running crew based on how often they show up to crew and the work they do, so we know they’ll be reliable during the real production.” Running crew for *The Miracle Worker* involves 13 students plus various sound, lighting, and makeup specialists.

The Miracle Worker was chosen by new director and English teacher Nicholas Saadipour, who wanted to pick a show that would portray the dramatic chops of QO students. Usually QO Drama does more comedic shows in the fall like *Noises Off* and *The Odd Couple*, but it has taken a darker turn in recent years with shows like *The Mousetrap* and *An Evening with Edgar Allan Poe*. The decision to pursue another dramatic show was made back in September by Saadipour. Although the choice for the spring musical is still undecided, audience members could enjoy the *The Miracle Worker*, which ran on November 8 and 15. Auditions, however, for the spring musical are already planned and will be run in December, with try-outs planned for the third week of December on December 15, 16, 17, and 18. Callbacks for the show to be held on December 19.

Election Brings Change

By **ANDY GOLDSTEIN**
News Associate Editor

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state of Illinois, Republican Bruce Rauner defeated incumbent Democratic Governor Pat Quinn by taking every electoral district in the state. The popular vote was much closer, with Rauner winning by 5 points: 50.8% to 45.9%. In staunchly blue Massachusetts, Republican Charlie Baker beat Democratic Attorney General Martha Coakley by a slim 2 point margin, 48.5% to 46.6%. Even one of the most unpopular Republican incumbents in the country, Governor Paul LePage of Maine, was able to fend off Democratic challenger Mike Michaud. LePage’s approval ratings were low at 43%, and he was surrounded in several scandals of varying degree, including a federal investigation for bullying state employees to rule in favor of business deregulation regarding environmental responsibility. LePage, who topped Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington’s list of “Worst Governors in

America,” won by a comfortable 5 points.

Although many national issues were decisive in these elections, one seemed to have the biggest influence: money. “The single biggest issue that will decide outcomes is who has raised the most money to use for advertising and campaigning,” predicted Schuman. In recent elections, Republicans have raised massive amounts of money through Super PACs and extremely wealthy donors, but it was only slightly effective until this election. Kenneth Vogel from *Politico* wrote, “After two cycles during which conservative mega-donors’ record spending was plagued by flawed candidates and internecine squabbling, establishment Republican money finally got what it paid for.” The next two years under a Republican-controlled legislature will likely affect the political landscape leading up to the presidential election in 2016. This will likely be a decisive step leading up to the next presidential election as it could greatly assist, or be very detrimental to the campaign of any potential candidates for the presidency, no matter if they are a Democrat, a Republican, or a third-party candidate.

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Giving Tree Arrives at QO

By **ANDREW POULSON**
News Managing Editor

The Giving Tree, an annual charity project at Quince Orchard High School, has been helping underprivileged families in and around the community during the holiday season for 4 years, and it is back again this year to help even more families.

The sponsor of the Giving Tree is programming teacher Colleen Kelly, who is in control of the project for her first time this year. The Giving Tree, Kelly says, “is asking students or families at Quince Orchard to get new gifts for those [underprivileged] families.” Kelly says that the families receiving the gifts say that “their kids have either this size of clothing or they’re into these types of toys.” Then, Kelly will list out what each family wants and place it on a tree. At that point, Kelley says, “there will be fake trees on the side of the lobby on the second floor” where students can pick up the gift ideas. After all the gifts have been bought, Kelly says, “We plan on having a day in December where kids who need SSL hours or just want to help out can come to the cafeteria. [They will] help wrap all the presents and package them all up so the fam-

ilies can come and grab a whole big bag.”

The Giving Tree process is familiar to junior Liam Walsh, who gave to the Giving Tree last year and plans to do so again this year. Walsh recalls, “Last year my family and I went to Target and bought a t-shirt and jeans for some little six-year-old boy.” Walsh says that he and his family do the Giving Tree “because it is good to help those who are less fortunate than us and make sure that they have a good holiday season, too.” Walsh also notes that he is excited for this year’s Giving Tree because, he says, “I hope that I can help even more people than I did last year.”

Senior Tadiyah Danforth also plans on helping out with the Giving Tree, but in a different way. Danforth says that he “will probably go help out with wrapping the Giving Tree gifts.” Danforth says that, although he has never helped out with the Giving Tree before, he may participate this year. “I just think that it is a really good and helpful thing to do,” says Danforth.

The Giving Tree will be up in the lobby before Thanksgiving break, and Ms. Kelly says that “we need all the help we can get” and “any little thing that you could give us would be great.”

THE PROWLER

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Manna Energizes Students

By **BELLA ROBERTS**
News Managing Editor

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to make a difference, and is just one example of the impact QO has on the community. “I haven’t worked in many places with as much unity as QO. I want to help foster a society where the people are ready to help others without expecting anything back,” states James. The drive is a competition to see which class or club can collect the most cans. The winning class gets an IHOP breakfast, and the winning club gets a \$100 prize. “My class is totally going to win!” challenges Burdette. While hunger may not seem prevalent in MCPS, the Manna website says that “one of every four county residents is at risk of hunger and 32.3% of all MCPS students qualify for a free or reduced-price meal, an indication of the poverty we face daily

in our community.” “It goes to a good cause! 12% of families in Maryland live in food-insecure households. You never know who you’re really helping within the community,” says Ho. Cougars overall are passionate about community service. “Social action builds a community, especially in school,” says Katon. Not only is social action good for the community, but good for the individuals who donate, believes Burdette. “This is not just something that needs to be done, donating makes us better people. It’s good for humanity,” says Burdette. “Bring as many CANS as you CAN!” exclaims Ho. Quince Orchard is now a part of the 360 agencies that donate 3.3 million pounds of food to Manna Food Drive, feeding as many as 3,300 families in the Montgomery County area each month. The Manna Food Drive has been a part of the Montgomery County service community since 1983. Check out Mannafood.org for other volunteer opportunities.



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On a Scale of 2400 or 36, Rate the SAT and ACT

By Dylan Kearney
News Editor

Have you thought about taking the ACT or the SAT? The SAT is taken to measure students' ability to process subjects such as math, reading and writing. The SAT is also used by colleges to see students' ability to process what they've learned, and some colleges recommend certain scores to better one's chance of getting in. The SAT gives one point for

correct answers, and takes away ¼ point for incorrect answers, with no points taken away for questions you don't answer. Another option is the ACT, which is also used for colleges to measure one's ability to process and intelligently comprehend different subjects. Unlike the SAT, which only has 3 subjects, the ACT has more options: there are sections on English, reading, math, science, and an

optional writing section. Most colleges accept scores from either test, but there are still some that require the SAT. If you look up the colleges you are interested in, they will mention what test they are looking for.

Should you try both tests? "Yes! Sometimes one score is great on one test and not the other, because the tests are different," said senior Nazifa Chowdhury. "The ACT has a whole sci-

ence section the SAT doesn't have, and the ACT tests higher level math." There is a cost for both tests, and if taking one is a better option for you, you can research which test may be better for you. Some colleges also offer SAT fee waivers if you qualify for one. One way students prepare for the test is with test prep classes here at QO, where students switch from math to English every other day

to make sure they are practicing both. "The ACT math section is 60 questions in 60 minutes," said Dawn Gordy, a math teacher who teaches the math section of the test. "If you know the math, you know the math. What we try to work on is not missing the math when you really know it, by practicing and getting used to the questions." Says Chowdhury, "Some ways I prepared for the test was by using a review book,

and making sure [I was] well rested so [I could] feel fresh," says Chowdhury. Students should make sure to bring a snack and a sweater in case they get cold. "Practice a lot and start early! If you want to get a great score start practicing now even if you're a freshman," exclaims Chowdhury. Students take the SAT or ACT, usually in the spring of their junior year or fall of their senior year. Students can also

Seniors in Turmoil Due to College Applications

By Eve Poetzchke
Editor-In-Chief

Fall has finally made its appearance, with changing leaves, blustery winds, pumpkin spice lattes, and an air of stress that hits you like a wall immediately upon stepping foot into the senior hallway.

Fall is college application open season, and we are in the very thick of it. A recent national movement, "Apply to Four or More," as well as increasing competitive pressure, is encouraging students to apply to a growing number of schools. According to the College

Board website, students should apply to at least one "safety" school, at least two "good fit" schools, and at least one "reach" school.

Although the idea is reasonable enough, many students in our area have taken the "or more" route and run with it. Seniors Henry Peck and Chiso Osuji are applying to 8 and 13 schools, respectively. "I have three big state schools, four private schools, and one international school," said Peck. Although the added applications add stress as deadlines approach, in the long run, some students feel more com-

fortable with the idea of having several options to choose from. The unfortunate side effect of applying to a large number of colleges is the amount of time dedicated to the applications. "When I was working on [them] actively for the last few weeks of summer and the beginning of the school year," said Peck. "It took about an hour and a half each night." That adds up to almost 50 total hours spent on applications. The stress extends past the looming deadlines. Students have to deal with the pressure of find-

ing the "right" school, the one that fits all the most important criteria. Osuji said she wants a school that is "close, but not too close. I don't like small schools. I like schools that are in the city, but still have a campus." College consultant Susanna Smith thinks pressure is the most difficult part of the college process. "Getting into the 'right' school is a burden for many young people and families," said Smith.

Even with pressure placed on students, they are not alone. "My parents, my counselor, and Mrs. Stewart have all assisted me throughout the process," said Osuji. All the stress may be

worth it in the end, however. "I think it's important to get a good education past the typical four-year track. In order to continue learning and be happy and successful in life, college is an important step," said Peck.

Students often struggle under the weight of college applications. "None of this is easy, but tackling it one step at a time can alleviate a great deal of stress for all involved in the process," said Smith.

College applications may put seniors to the test, but many are able to persevere and achieve their goals.

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The Few, The Proud, The Substitutes

By **SAM HURWITZ**
Viewpoints Editor

Not all heroes wear capes. Some wear shape-up Sketchers and a GAP hoodie. Heroes do their jobs behind closed doors. More specifically, classroom doors. Most call these superhuman creatures substitute teachers; the gracious call them heroes. Subs appear just like the common student at Quince Orchard. They walk the same halls and breathe the same Axe-infested air. Often going unrecognized for their meritorious dedication to education, *The Prowler* felt the need to recognize such an integral part of our school. *The Prowler* slaved long, hard hours to compile a list some of our favorite substitute teachers and is proud to present the list to you. *The Prowler* appreciates all subs and the hard work they dedicate to the school, but unfortunately could not acknowledge everyone.

Dr. Ronald Lee – Absolute Legend: probably your grandma’s dream man. Although he’s long removed from his illustrious subbing career, there is no other sub as decorated as Dr. Ron Lee. His impeccable storytelling, comparable to Dr. Seuss, has taught kids lifelong lessons.

Mr. Greg Conte – Conte brings knowledge and a pristine teaching style to the classroom. You may confuse him for a frat boy; however, his mature demeanor and knowledge of Russian politics make him a dual threat in the classroom. Look out for him to make the jump to a full-time teacher in the coming years.

Mr. Michael Edwards, Jr. – Most interesting sub at QO, climbed Mt. Everest, Peace Corps member, boss. Mr. Edwards is your wild card of the pack: he may appear in the class short-

or long-term. His lenient teaching style is reflected by his choice of shoes: Teva sandals with mid-calf socks.

Mrs. Chitra – Been whipping QO students into shape for the past 8 years. Mothered a Stanford graduate student, her other son is an engineer. Sweetest lady you’ll ever meet. If she’s ever had to discipline you, you should reevaluate your character.

Mr. Wilson Faris – You’ve heard him announcing on Friday nights as the voice of Quince Orchard football. Voice smoother than Platinums, could drop some of the hottest tags on your latest mixtape.

Mr. Miller Redden – Former Social Studies teacher at Wootton HS, financial guru, one of the last men left on earth who can speak Morse Code. Licensed by the FCC, make sure to watch your mouth in class. Has to have his boats and radios, his favorite pastimes. Respected MoCo lawyer, been busting convicts out of jail for thirty years.



PHOTO BY SAM HURWITZ
HELPING HAND: Mr. Edwards (left) imparts his wisdom on senior Christian Walters (right) in culinary essentials class

Hellen Keller blows away the senses

By **SUZANNE ADANI-ALDRIN**
Arts & Entertainment Editor

After many lengthy and hard weeks, the theatre department is back again with their newest play, *The Miracle Worker*. The touching story of Helen Keller created a huge impact in the QO community.

The Miracle Worker was based off the remarkable journey of Helen Keller. She was born both deaf and blind and fought to overcome the many obstacles of missing two senses. However, Helen Keller learned to communicate despite her disability with the help of her teacher, Annie Sullivan. Joanna Wolfgram, who played Mrs. Kate

Keller, Helen’s loving mother, said that with the help of the theatre staff, “cast members had been working since early September to memorize lines and get their southern accents down.” The crew members had also been “working tirelessly to build a fantastic set with tech and costumes.”

With all the hard work being put

in, Wolfgram hoped that the play “teaches respect for the deaf and blind community and encourages students to get involved in organizations like the QO American Sign Language Club.” The play hoped to make students more aware of the struggles people face and have knowledge of how to help each other. As

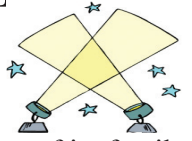
opening night approached, Wolfgram expressed that the “best part of being in the play is having the opportunity to witness the incredible talent of all fellow cast members and sharing the experience of telling a story with them.” All the hard work that was poured into this inspiring story eventually paid off, as the play rightfully turned out to be a huge success.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MARTIN MACPHEE
LIGHTS,CAMERA,ACTION: Senior Destani Gross (left) consoles an aggitated Hellen Keller played by sophomore Sarah MacPhee (right)

Staff in the Spotlight

By **PAIGE MIRKIN**
Features Managing Editor



QO gained a new member of its family this school year, security guard Mr. Steve Huerta.

Huerta, a graduate of Gaithersburg HS, has lived in Montgomery County his whole life. Following high school, Huerta attended Montgomery College for two years before starting his career as a Montgomery County Public School security guard. “It’s nice that I was already familiar with the school system,” he said.

Huerta has worked at numerous middle and high schools in MCPS before coming to QO, including Colonel Zadok A. Magruder High School, Watkins Mill High School, Albert Einstein High School, Montgomery Village Middle School, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Middle School. Out of all the schools he’s worked at, Huerta says QO is “without a doubt the best.” When Huerta found out an opening was available at QO, he packed his bags and said goodbye to all his fellow colleagues at Magruder. “I heard QO was the place to be,” he said. “I definitely made the right decision.”

Huerta knew being a security guard was his calling when he had his first child 14 years ago. “I get to be on the same schedule as my kids,” he explained. Huerta has 3 kids, ages 14, 12, and 7, with his wife. His son attends Magruder, where Huerta previously worked. “My son won’t have me watching over him all the time anymore,” Huerta joked.

As for his job, Huerta describes being a security guard as “fun and laid-back.” He gets to make unforgettable connections with the kids at his schools. “When I left Magruder, all the kids posted pictures with me on their Twitters and Instagrams,” Huerta said. “I get to mentor kids and be there as they grow up and graduate high school. The hardest part of my job is seeing kids who have potential make bad decisions.. And be the one to give them discipline,” he said. “But someone’s gotta do it!”

If you see Mr. Steve in the hallway, make sure to wave or shoot him a smile to make his transition into our school even easier!

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Cold weather brings back cuffing season

By **LILLY PRICE**
Editor-in-Chief

Cuffing season. The time of the year when the weather gets a little colder, and people's hearts get a whole lot warmer. Summer flings are becoming a thing of the past as fall turns into the season of romance.

Urban Dictionary defines this bizarre turn of events as: "During the fall and winter months people who would normally rather be single or promiscuous find themselves...desiring to be 'cuffed' or tied down by a serious relationship." I once believed cuffing season was simply a myth, but that was until I walked down the halls of Quince Orchard and saw couples...couples everywhere.

Formerly known as Lilly "Can't-be-Cuffed" Price, I'm not the strongest supporter of cuffing season. Not to sound like the bitter girl who holes up in her dark room watching Netflix with her thirty cats, but I believe the whole season can't be handled by the tender hearts of today's youth. It seems that, at the first fallen leaf or the first whiff of pumpkin spice anything, girls and guys suddenly

spring into action, desperate to find someone to settle down with during the cold winter months.

The most prominent example of this is witnessed during the daily breaks between class periods. Recently, the sea of people seems to be just a little bit larger, and the flow of the crowd seems to be moving just a little bit slower. By using inductive reasoning, I've come to the realization that this traffic is the result of students stopping in the middle of the hallway to hold hands, chat, or suck face with their significant others. There's nothing I like more at 8 in the morning than to see some girl reenacting a scene from *The Notebook* with two minutes to spare before math class. Nothing screams romance like showing off your great kissing skills to teachers and peers alike. I know finally making it "Facebook official" with your lifelong crush can be exciting, but if the passion can be toned down during school hours, many would appreciate it.

Cuffing season outside of school is a whole different ballpark, however. When cold wind is blowing and snow is falling outside, all anyone wants to do is snuggle up



PHOTO COURTESY OF GOOGLE

with a warm blanket and a movie. Who better to do that with than your girl/man? Cuddling was the best thing ever invented, closely followed by the nap. So why not find a significant other with whom to enjoy these seasonal benefits (while snapping a few pics for the 'gram to make all your single friends jealous)? I encourage everyone to brave the elements and go out to find their "bae." Cuffing season causes people to be happier, spreads more holiday cheer, and, most importantly, stops unhappy singles from whining on Twitter about being "forever alone."

In our age of hook-up culture, where love is measured by the amount of hickeys one can make

a feeble attempt to cover up, what's important to remember is that, like all things, cuffing season comes to an end. When the sun starts to creep out from behind the tails of winter, prepare to get kicked to the curb with your emotional baggage. However, this is not the fate for all relationships sparked at the beginning of cuffing season. Some will turn into healthy, long-lasting relationships, which is all the better. So, when Valentine's Day rolls around and you're still with your significant other, congratulations, you've made it. If this isn't how things turned out, don't sweat it. You've had some fun times and made some great memories with someone you (hopefully) genuinely liked. If your relationship isn't a long-lasting one, it's not the end of the world and life will go on.

In preparation for this year's cuffing season, keep in mind lyrical genius Fabolous' observation ("Summer [ladies] turning into winter wifeys") and words of wisdom by Queen of Heartbreak Taylor Swift ("When you're fifteen and somebody tells you they love you, you're gonna believe them"). Happy hunting!

Let it grow, let it grow, let it grow

No-shave November intended to raise awareness for cancer

By **LILLY PRICE**
Editor-in-Chief

No-Shave November, a tradition sometimes seen as an excuse to stop tending to your personal hygiene for a couple of weeks, is also a time to raise charitable funds for organizations like The American Cancer Society.

The web-based, non-profit organization titled "No Shave November" began in the fall of 2009 as a way to allow people of all ages and genders an opportunity to raise money in a creative way. "If just for November, individuals gave the cost [usually spent on grooming] to a cancer charity instead, friends and family...could pool together [enough money] to help cancer patients and their families," said the organization.

Starting off as a Facebook fanpage with fewer than fifty participants, No-Shave November has now raised hundreds of thousands of dollars over the years. New participants to the cause now include a few of Quince Orchard's staff. English teacher Kunal Arora, an avid No-Shave fan, has brought the

campaign to his fellow co-workers and encouraged students to donate to the effort. Participants this month include teachers Joseph Boettcher, Ken Buffum, Pat Fay, Stephen Majkrzak, and Joshua Schuman. All participants must not shave until the end of November.

So far the participants have raised \$200, which is 800 dollars away from their goal of \$1,000. Another goal of the participants is to stop misconceptions of the tradition. "Most people think of the event as a time when men grow out their facial hair for the duration of the month just to be silly," said Arora. "The event also invites women and is geared toward raising money for the American Cancer Society."

No-Shave November is a time where hair should be embraced instead of being waxed, cut, trimmed, threaded, lasered and any other method of removal. "It's a time to appreciate hair, which many cancer patients lose, and let it grow wild and free," said Arora. So Cougars, now's the chance to put away your razors and attempt to grow a weak and patchy beard, and



PHOTO COURTESY OF GOOGLE

SETTING RECORDS: *This man holds the record for the world's longest beard.*

ladies now's the time to relax instead of hassling over your leg hair. Shave or not shave, remember to donate to the teacher you would like to see the most scruffy by the end of the month.

THANKSGIVING



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WORD BANK

- BAKE
- BLESSED
- CIDER
- CORNBREAD
- DISH

Not-so Traditional Thanksgiving Traditions

By **MICAH LEVEY**
Features Editor

With Thanksgiving fast approaching, you may start to hear your friends telling you about their family traditions for the upcoming holiday. This typically includes playing football, watching football, spending time with family, and eating a crazy amount of gravy-covered turkey and stuffing, all very American things to do.

For me, being a true American is doing what makes me happy at any given time. On the occasion of Thanksgiving, this means doing three of the four previously mentioned Thanksgiving traditions. However, rather than stuffing my face with disgusting amounts of average-tasting turkey drenched in below-average-tasting gravy (my Mawmaw's best dish isn't Thanksgiving dinner) accompanied by borderline-putrid stuffing, I choose to indulge in approximately 40 pieces of various types of delicious sushi from my favorite restaurant, Yoyogi. While the odd looks I

receive from my distant cousin's new boyfriend are somewhat upsetting, I find an unexplainable amount of jubilation from eating bottomless California and spicy salmon rolls, knowing that I could have been forced to eat something that just isn't as tasty to me.

Is this wrong? Is this un-American? Not in the slightest! It has been a full year since the last time I was able to shamelessly stuff my face, so I plan on doing it with the food of my choosing. Ever since I made the turkey-to-sushi switch in 2011, Thanksgiving has climbed its way to the number two spot on my favorite holidays list, only behind Chanukah. (Mawmaw makes much better potato latkes than she does stuffing.) What better way to complement the company of my belligerently drunk relatives screaming at Joe Buck's and Troy Aikman's monotonous commentating?

The only thing that I may find discomfort in is my inability to use chopsticks, but enough of my family members are eating their meals with their hands that



SCRUMPTIOUS SUSHI: Micah Levey uses trainer chopsticks to devour his Thanksgiving sushi.

I don't feel too insecure about it.

So, my fellow Cougars, I strongly encourage you to eat what you want and start new traditions this coming Thanksgiving, and, on behalf of everyone at the Prowler, have an amazing holiday!

COUGAR FOCUS

POMS (LINKIN PARK?) EDITION

By **ALEXIS KIM**
Features Managing Editor

This month I was able to interview sophomore Kasonde Chisaka, a member of the QOHS POMS team. Chisaka is admired by many of her teammates, including the older girls on the team. Senior Emily Katz, a team captain, stated, "Kasonde is really hard-working. She always comes prepared and you can tell after we learn a dance routine that she goes home and practices. She's great."

I asked Chisaka some questions about her summer, her sport and her school year so far.
ME: So Kasonde, what did you do over the summer?
CHISAKA: This summer, I went to a Linkin Park concert with two of my friends and I got to meet the band and lead



COUGAR WITH CONNECTIONS: Kasonde Chisaka poses with Linkin Park at their concert over the summer.

singer of 30 Seconds to Mars, Jared Leto. I also took a Leaps and Turns class, a hip-hop class and a ballet class.

ME: Wow! Sounds like you're really dedicated to POMS and dance.

CHISAKA: Well, I love POMS. With POMS I get to do the thing I love, dance, and do it with a group of girls who are as passionate about it as I am.

ME: What's your role/position on the team?

CHISAKA: As a sophomore, I am still an underclassman, so my role in POMS is to learn everything I can to become the best POM I can be. [I also] help the new girls get adjusted to life as a POM.

ME: How do you like sophomore year? What's your favorite class?

CHISAKA: It's been great! I'm not going to lie, though: it's a lot more stressful than freshman year.

I have to be more organized and on top of my work. My favorite class this year is AP NSL. I've always liked learning about government and how it works. My mom's a lawyer so I guess it got handed down.

ME: What are your interests outside of school and sports?

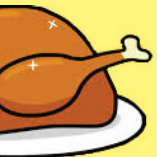
CHISAKA: I really like to cook, specifically baking. I like the fact that everything has to be exact and that you have to pay close attention to details. I also like to travel and learn about different traditions and cultures.

ME: Do you have any role models?

CHISAKA: Lupita Nyong'o. She is queen.

Chisaka is a valuable member of her team who is dedicated to her sport and her academics. Her accomplishments in and out of school are admirable and thoroughly demonstrate true Cougar character.

G WORD FIND



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“Poop-etrators” Causing Smelly Uproar

By **SAM HURWITZ**
Viewpoints Editor

An act of defiance is transcending the stalls of QO. School bathrooms, once a sanctuary for students, are now the subjects of vandalism of excessive and un-flushed feces, leaving many unsettled.

Poop, the four-letter palindrome, is causing waves of both laughter and outrage in the Quince Orchard community. The perpetrators, or “Poop-



PHOTO COURTESY OF GOOGLE

etrators,” are accused of leaving upper-deckers behind for the school to admire in male restrooms throughout the school on numerous occasions. The identities of those committing this debauchery is unknown, but it appears to be more than a one-man job. The line of crime prompted *The Prowler* to investigate further.

Outraged senior Sam Sprecher said, “I am no stranger to big stinkers. However, the placement of these poops defy anatomy.” Sprecher also asks, “What on earth is going through their minds?” referring to the alleged delinquent(s). Students are not the only ones taking notice. Junior and art-enthusiast Christine Holm said, “The culprit(s) behind the recent spike in vandalism may be trying to

send some sort of message to the school.” This is plausible; however, it could be that these person(s) are trying to express their “inner” selves. Witness and sophomore Sam Katzker describes the defecations as “nothing short of mesmerizing.” Katzker also added, “They are extremely big and smelly poops.” Could the bathroom stall be some sort of canvas for modern art, as Kanye West put it in his song “N****s in Paris”? No matter the reason, the crime spree must stop and those guilty should seek help. Whether the “Poop-etrators” have bowel issues, terrible aim, or are seeking attention, he/she must stop.

At some point, everyone has taken a whopping steamer and, at some point, everyone has laughed at one. Students must be conscious that school is not the place to be making such jokes. While it may be comical, please consider the always-humble Building Services staff. At the end of the day, they are the ones who must remove the feces from their improper locations. Building Services declined to comment on the incidents.

Keep in mind the saying “Would you leave your poop un-flushed in your mother’s toilet?” before you decide to leave your expression behind for others.

Practical jokesters, do not misconstrue this as a glorification of your actions. These acts are sickening, putrid, and repulsive. This article should serve as a warning to all future bathroom-goers. This may appear as a low-level threat, but should be taken seriously. Bystanders are just as guilty as the “Poop-etrators.” Lastly, to those guilty of vandalism, it is well understood the schools toilet paper is like sandpaper, but please don’t use this article to clean up the mess. It is understandable that when “You got to go, you got to go,” but please be considerate of those who follow.

Mourning a Legend

By **LILY MAKORI**
Fashionista

On Monday, October 20, the fashion world lost one of its greatest designers: Óscar Aristides Renta Fiallo, better known Oscar de la Renta. De la Renta passed away that morning due to complications from his ongoing cancer.

Oscar de la Renta was a designer widely known for his elegant and feminine dresses that embodied the true essence of women. Growing up in the Dominican Republic alongside six sisters, de la Renta left the Caribbean to study abstract painting in the Academy of San Fernando in Madrid. He was enthralled with the world of fashion. While on vacation in Paris in 1961, he landed his first fashion job at Lavin-Castillo, a fashion house (where clothes are designed, made, and sold) in Paris. Shortly after, he moved to New York and joined the American fashion house Elizabeth Arden. After learning the tricks and trade of fashion, he decided that he wanted to start his own signature collection in 1965.

After de la Renta’s first marriage to Françoise de Langlade, the Editor-in-Chief of *Vogue Paris*, he made connections with some of the most influential names in the game. Oscar de la Renta quickly became one of the best-known names in fashion. His clothes became known for their silk prints, use of ruffles, soft silhouettes and vibrant palette. Unfortunately, his wife died of bone cancer. He later decided to adopt a son in his native country, Dominican Republic, and remarried philanthropist and socialite Annette Engelhard Reed.

As well as being a world-renowned fashion designer, de la Renta was also a tireless patron of the arts, serving on the boards of The Metropolitan Opera, Carnegie Hall and Channel Thirteen/WNET. He supported several cultural institutions, including New Yorkers for Children, the Americas Society and the Spanish Institute.

Unfortunately, in 2006 de la Renta was diagnosed with cancer. The morning of October 20, he passed away. Social media was quick to respond to the tragic death of the beloved icon, with celebrities like Taylor Swift, Colton Hayes, and Ivanka Trump tweeting their farewells. Even though he is gone, Oscar de la Renta will never be forgotten, just as his designs will always be a symbol of true elegance.

Twitter Beef Escalates

The fine line between “beef” and bullying

By **MICAH LEVEY**
Features Editor

A recent trend at QOHS is students’ overuse of social media, especially Twitter, with the intent of criticizing other students. These pointless quarrels are better known as “Twitter beef.”

Those who are familiar with the recent “beefs” might be aware that I have participated in them, and who can blame me? There is nothing more amusing than responding to and/or providing commentary on the absurd politically and grammatically incorrect tweets that are, for some reason, intended to win a digital argument.

As a school, we have gotten to the point where someone cannot tweet “Go QO!” without inciting an inter-school twitter beef with Northwest. Northwest students remind us that their school won states, despite not having anything to do with themselves. This then causes one of our students, who may not even know our best football players personally, bragging about how his classmate is going to an impressive Division I school to continue his football career. While both of these points are true, the arguments can both be easily refuted. We can factually state that we made it to the state finals two years in a row, beating Northwest in the playoffs both times. On the other hand, Northwest was able to defeat our team, which consisted of a few incredible Division I athletes, twice last year.

My point is this: avoid this pointless drama that is better enjoyed by sitting back and watching the ignorance unfold. When people get too

hot-headed in Twitter beef, it then becomes cyber-bullying, which is no laughing matter. It is never appropriate to directly make fun of someone over social media, no matter how obscure the circumstances are. If you have a problem with someone, address that person in person or through text. If you’re so keen on using Twitter to solve this problem, then slide into his or her DM’s.

While the QO-Northwest Twitter beef usually turns into personal jabs from stranger to stranger, I am referring to the recent and disgusting instances of cyber-bullying that have occurred among our own students. This includes calling out an innocent person for his or her personal issues, something that is absolutely unacceptable. People have killed themselves due to cyber-bullying.

As I stated previously, I have participated in twitter beef, but not bullying. It is fun and entertaining to jump into arguments that do not involve me. I encourage everyone else to do the same, and not let the moronic tweets from intellectually-inferior others bother you. Let them make themselves look like fools while you sit back and watch the humorous drama become heated. But whatever you do, do not cyber-bully.



PHOTO COURTESY OF GOOGLE



Football Moves on to the Second Round of Playoffs

By **DAVID FINGERET**
Editor-in Chief

As the regular season comes to a close, the Quince Orchard Cougars football team looks onwards to their push towards States led by their impressive defense and running game.

“Coach Kelley has brought a demanding work ethic to this team,” said senior captain Jason Heyn. He added, “He constantly pushes us in practice so we play to the best of our ability come game time.” Coach Kelley has brought an intensity that the team has built off to go on their long winning streak. The team has been led by a very strong running game. “We run our plays based on our personnel; since we have great running backs and a strong offensive line, we’re more run-oriented,” said Heyn. The running game has worked as the Cougars have gashed other defenses on leading by starting senior running back Kyle Green. Green leads the team in rushing with 1,216 yards and 18 rushing touchdowns. One of Green’s biggest games was when the Cougars played against Gaithersburg High School, where he ran for 143 yards on 17 carries and had four touchdowns. The Cougars were ranked 12th this year in the Washington Post’s top 20 football high schools in the state.

Under new head coach John Kelley, the team has only lost one game this season, exceeding all expectations. They are riding

an eight-game winning streak into the playoffs, with an impressive win against Northwest High School. The Jaguars won the 4A state title last year, beating Quince Orchard in the regional finals. However, the Cougars steamrolled

of the Cougars’ seven touchdowns. Northwest gave up 52 points to the Cougars, which was more than they had given up to all other teams combined throughout the season.

The Cougars played Wootton High School on their

done just that, running all over opponents’ defenses and having a stellar defense. The Cougars have been on a defensive tear the past couple of weeks, only giving up an average of 9 points per game. “Playoffs is a new atmosphere.

we’ve won States,” said Kelley.

The Cougars had a challenge in the first round going up against Clarksburg High School, who they beat 22-19 in the first week of the season. However, the Cougars were able to beat Clarksburg 21-14 with three defensive stops by the Cougars in the fourth quarter, resulting in no points and win with a score of 21-14. The one dark spot on the Cougars’ win was senior offensive linemen Nolan Barkdoll going down with an injury. Barkdoll was injured early in the first quarter with a broken femur and a dislocated knee. He was taken to the hospital during the game. With his absence, the rest of the line stepped up, allowing Green and Beander to combine for 214 rushing yards and three touchdowns. Clarksburg took the lead early before the Cougars began a comeback, scoring 21 unanswered points in the first three quarters. “We’re not changing anything, it’s just next man up,” said Kelley. With the loss of senior Adam McLean and Barkdoll, the team has had to look at other options to contribute towards the team’s success.

The Cougars have a rematch against Northwest tonight in the Cougar Dome in the second round of the playoffs. The Cougars look to use the same approach they had in their first matchup this year. “We’re just going to worry about our own responsibilities. We need to make sure we don’t get caught up in the moment,” said Kelley. The Red Army should be there decked out in red for the 7:00 game.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE GAZETTE

RUNNING FOR GLORY : Senior Kyle Green runs towards the endzone as he rushes for 166 yards

Northwest with a score of 52-27 on November 1. The defense was able to intercept three of senior Mark Pierce’s passes and swing the momentum in the Cougars’ favor. Green and sophomore Marvin Beander combined for five

senior night as the team celebrated 21 seniors and demolished Wootton 42-14. As the Cougars begin playoffs, the team is playing their best football. “We wanted to play our best football by week 10,” said Kelley. The Cougars have

No one cares if you were the best team or the worst: everyone has the same chance,” said Kelley. The Cougars are looking to take each game one at a time. “We just need to go 1-0 each week and if we end up going 4-0, then

Boys and Girls Soccer Have Incredible Run in Their Playoffs

By **BRENNALOFGREN**

Sports Editor

Now that their seasons are over, the boys and girls soccer teams have time to reflect on their great seasons, as each team was able to advance to playoffs.

Girls soccer started out strong and carried that intensity throughout the season. They have a very young team, with 11 underclassmen, and four more were moved up by playoffs. During their regular season, the girls went 7-5 and received a bye for the first round of playoffs. The seniors did everything they could to help the younger girls further their skills and be confident in what they do. Senior, Gabby Kase said, “We motivated the team by giving inspirational speeches, showing the girls tweets/posts doubting us, and being really positive.”

With a tough journey going into their first playoff game against Northwest, who had beaten them in the regular season, the girls’ biggest obstacle was keeping their minds in the game. Scoring early, the girls were playing confidently, beating the Northwest players to every ball. As time went on, though, the girls started to get complacent and the Jaguars were able to sneak in a goal,



PHOTO COURTESY OF QOHS

DIRTY DANCING: Freshman Amber Argubie puts the moves on a Northwest defender

tying the game. The girls played through the full 60 minutes, but were unable to score again, allowing the Jaguars to pull away with a 2-1 win.

Ending their season with an overall record of 7-6, the girls look forward to redeeming themselves next year. Senior Sam Sullenger said, “We have some awesome

junior captains that will be able to support a growing team, and I know all the girls are willing to improve and push each other to play better.”

Boys soccer (9-3-2) won more than half their games during the regular season and had the number one overall seed on their side of the bracket, which earned

them a first-round bye in the playoffs. Going into their first playoff game against Magruder, the boys knew they had a lot to prove to show they were a different team after last year’s playoff loss to the Colonels.

Originally coming from a 3-10-2 record last year, the boys were seen as underdogs, but hard work in the off-season put them ahead of many other teams in the area. Junior Ben Gross said, “The captains and seniors really played hard and tried their best to push us to our limits in practices and motivate us before big games.” The boys played a tough game and did not allow a goal. Going into penalty kicks, the boys were determined to come out with a victory. Goalie Patrick Paolini made the game-winning save and moved them on to the third round of playoffs.

Unfortunately, the boys lost against Gaithersburg in another match that came down to penalty kicks. Gross said, “Having a winning record really gave us confidence and got us as far as we possibly could in our season and playoffs, and it has definitely motivated us for next year.”

The Prowler would like to congratulate all the seniors on a great season and wish them the best in college!



Cheer Tumbles to Third Place; Fockey Makes a Run

By **JARED GOLDSTEIN**
Sports Editor

Brunettes, blondes, braids, beautiful girls, breathtaking routines, and a big blue floor mat at Blair High School. While there were certainly lots of Bs, the Quince Orchard Varsity Cheerleaders showed up to the competition with their A-game.

Blair's gym was packed from morning until sundown. By the time the Division I competition started at around 4:30 p.m., it was hard to find a seat unless you had already been there for a while. Four cheer teams were squeezed onto each sideline, while their friends and family were packed like sardines into the stands behind them all the way to the top.

After performances by six other schools, the cheer team took the floor to show the crowd and the judges all the hard work they'd put in to

their routine. Senior cheerleader Alyssa Winderlich said, "We'd been working on our routine since August, so it took more than two whole months to put all of that together."

The Red Army and the parents rose to their feet to watch the girls perform. Quince Orchard separated themselves from the rest of the competitors from the very beginning, as the crowd was directly involved in their routine. Following a signal from senior cheer team captain, Laura Luteran, Red Army Generals Sam Feldman and Jake Christensen led the rowdy student section in a "Let's Go QO!" cheer.

After the loud roar from the crowd, the squad was off. Girls were flying around the mat left and right, up and down. The team pulled off, in unison, a plethora of moves of which only cheerleaders know the actual names. There were many moving parts; it was amazing how well it all worked together. Some girls

were tumbling all around the floor, while others were dancing on the sides. "Tumbling definitely isn't as easy as we make it seem," Winderlich said, "It takes a pretty long time to master the skill, but once you get it, it's one of the best feelings in the world."

The acrobatics were not limited to the ground, however, as the team started stunting and girls were lifted high in the air. From the top of these stunts, the flyers performed scorpions and heel stretches. They would dismount in fascinating fashion, often twisting or flipping on their way down. Every time the girls would hit a move, the Red Army would erupt with thunderous applause and cheers.

As the routine ended and the music came to a stop, the team struck a pose to put an exclamation point on their performance. This was followed by jumping, hugging, and screaming. The passion was contagious as the Red Army and parents screamed in approval.

The team returned to its place and awaited the results as the big blue mat was rolled up and returned to its storage closet. Although the girls had an exceptional routine, they placed third in the event, to the displeasure of some, but to the pleasure of many more. Winderlich said she and the team appreciated the attendance from the Red Army, as "It was nice to see them support the team that supports them."

By **GREG BURNHAM**
Sports Managing Editor

All the preseason workouts and fitness training seemed to pay off for the Field Hockey girls this fall as they made a postseason run to the State Semifinals, meeting a formidable foe in Bethesda-Chevy Chase. The girls' final record was fourteen wins and two losses, finishing as both division champs and regional champs.

Although the girls beat BCC on senior night with a score of 1-0, they unfortunately lost a heartbreaker with 30 seconds left 3-2 at a neutral location at Paint Branch. Despite the loss, the girls surpassed all expectations the county had for them and finished atop the regional standings, which makes the school very proud.

"The season met all of my expectations," said senior captain Laney Rubenstein. "From the summer, I knew we had a strong team and I was excited to see what we could accomplish." The team's confidence and trust in one another paid off early in the season. Following an opening loss to Winston

Churchill High School, the team rebounded with a long winning streak that they rode all the way to the state semi-finals.

"Though we have captains, it's never just one person being a leader," Rubenstein added. This proved

"We worked our butts off all season and it definitely paid off."

-Skylar Saffer

true all season long as contributions came from everywhere on the team. [The depth proved key late in the season's grueling games as the underclassmen proved their worth in aiding the core group of returning seniors.]

"We worked our butts off all season, and it definitely paid off with

our successful turnout," said sophomore starter Skylar Saffer. A returning varsity player, Saffer was a key part of the team's success and added that the season surpassed any expectations she had going in.

"We got a taste of success and realized what it's like to be top dog and it's not going to be easy," said Saffer when asked about the chances the team has to repeat this success next year. "It will be hard to replace the important roles the seniors played this year, but we definitely have great potential."

On an ending note, Rubenstein said, "I have very high expectations for the girls next year. The program is continuing to grow and they have an unbelievable amount of potential."

The girls' success this year definitely set a high bar for future teams, and we wish all the seniors good luck with their future field hockey careers, and the underclassmen good luck, as they get to represent the Cougars on the field again next year to hopefully make another run to states.



PHOTO COURTESY OF FACEBOOK

ONE LARGE SISTERHOOD: The girls get together for a team photo prior to their competition at Blair High School.

Golf Completes Fall Season in Ravishing Fashion

By **SAM KIRSCH**
Sports Associate Editor

The Varsity Golf team finished off yet another competitive season that includes strong runs at both the districts and states competitions, and they are already eager to make it further next year. Coming into this season, the team had high hopes to not only improve their individual scores but also to do well as a team. Senior Colton Christensen said, "Personally, I was hoping to have one of the highest-scoring averages and, as a team, we hoped to make states and finish with one of the top-scoring averages as well."

Christensen and fellow senior captain Sam Feldman were able to set up the young team for years to come. Feldman stated, "We have five solid seniors, one junior and the rest are freshmen." Feldman and the other seniors were able to "[take] them under their wing and set them up to be a great team in the future."

The team started off well, coming third out of four teams at Worthington Manor and second at the P.B. Dye course. Senior Claudia Edell placed seventh in two girls' meets, solidifying Quince Orchard's place as contenders in Montgomery County. This is important since they have to compete against tough schools like Churchill and tough players like

Graham Hutchinson, a sophomore at Walt Whitman, whom both captains agreed was their biggest challenge.

As the season went on, the team continued to play well at courses all across Montgomery County, defending their home course, Poolesville, in the process. The golfers practice at the Poolesville golf course at least once a week and frequently play on their own time. Practicing is very important, as Feldman explained: "We are a very wealthy county, and golf is something that we really excel in, which makes the sport very competitive." The repetition of practice is crucial if the players want to make the multiple cuts after county and district competitions. Playing spots are extremely competitive, and all members treat each stroke seriously. "If you aren't the lowest score at practice, then you won't play," said Feldman. "Golf isn't like any other sport because it's all number-based. We never have any time to mess around, and every practice has to be taken seriously."

After coming in first place at the Scrambler, it became obvious to the team that all of their hard work had paid off. The players went on to the county playoffs at Poolesville, where Christensen, Feldman, seniors Jared Goldstein and Jared Swick, and sophomore Jordan Swick finished ninth overall in the county competition. The boys went on to place

sixth in Districts, qualifying for the states competition as a result.

When at States, the boys played well, but unfortunately finished right outside the

top 15 and missed the cut. While the season may have not ended as well as they hoped, the team still had a very successful season and are set to go further in the fall of 2015.

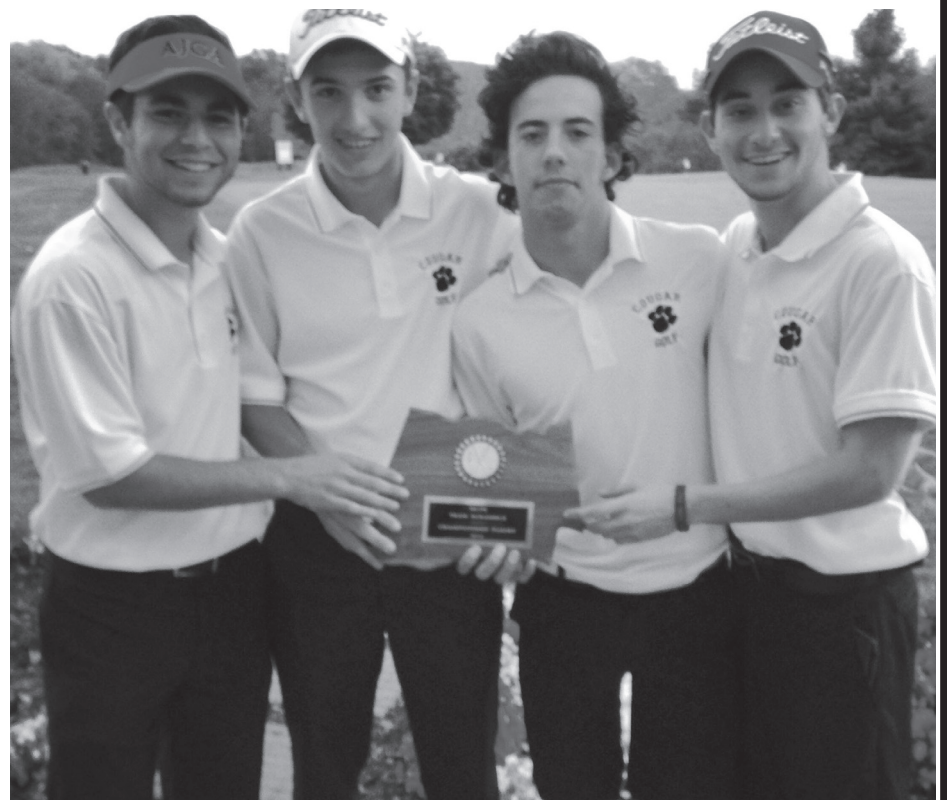









PHOTO COURTESY OF SAM FELDMAN

TAKING THE W: Seniors Jared Goldstein, Jared Swick, Colton Christensen, and Sam Feldman pose with their trophy after winning the Scrambler.



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

<i>The Prowler asked...</i>	 LIAM WALSH	 KELLY BROTT	 LAINEY SEINIGER	 CHRISTIAN WALTERS	 LAURA LUTERAN	 TROY PORTER	 JULI BERNSTEIN
Favorite Halloween candy?	York Peppermint Patties	Kit Kats	Kit Kats	Rolos	Coconut M&Ms	Who doesn't love a good Blow Pop :)	Sour Patch Kids
Favorite costume?	Batman	Olaf	Conservative Mormon	Mr. T	Micah's Wife <3	Anita Waxin	Miranda Sings
Favorite scary movie?	Scary Movie	Annabelle	Insidious	Insidious 2	3 :)	Halloweentown	Super Size Me
Best Thanksgiving food?	Cranberry sauce	Turkey	Turkey	Fried chicken	Tofurkey (I'm a vegetarian)	Koogle with raisins	Turkey is obviously the best
Most thankful for?	Brianna Ho	My family	Halle Grossett	My movah	My cheer team #NCC	Spicoli	Danielle Pasekoff
Thanksgiving travel plans?	Nike XC meet	New Hampshire	None	Stay home	Watching The Bachelor at Max's	Getting ready for states	Stay home
Stuffing or mashers?	Why not both?	Stuffing	Mashers	Mashers	Mashed stuffing	I love a good stuffing once in a while :)	Both
What is Drake doing for Thanksgiving this year?	Watching "A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving"	Be having trust issues	Going 0-100... real quick	Going to his exes in Texas putting the club up	Prob hanging with Josh haha	He's celebrating Thanksgiving.. on a Tuesday	Writing a sappy song about the Torah

Boys and Girls Basketball Hope For A Strong Start

By **MATT LOWINGER**
Sports Editor

The boys and girls varsity basketball teams have been putting in hard work to compensate for their young team. The teams look to continue their success into the upcoming season, building on previous years to prove they are a force to be reckoned with.

Junior Damon Daniels looks to improve every day, to be a "dynamic leader on and off of the court" in order to help the team continue its success. Daniels expects that the team will "have a winning record" and hopefully have a "chance at a title." Although the team is looking great, they will have to cope with the recent loss of Daryl Lewis, now at Montrose Christian Academy. However, Daniels looks to step up to the challenge

by doing "everything possible in order for [the team] to win as many games as possible."

Senior Sam Ling wants the Red Army to support the team "as long as they come and cheer" against rivals Magruder, Gaithersburg, and Clarksburg. Ling was appointed by Coach Paul Foringer as one of the team captains. According to Ling, he showed "leadership in practices and games" and tried to "be the best teammate [he] could be," so he "was [eventually] rewarded." Ling hopes to play like great players in years past by pouring his heart and soul into the game he loves.

Before every game, junior Jack Ropeleski blasts music in order to get him pumped up. He is trying to get motivated after moving up from JV to varsity. One challenge Ropeleski

will have to overcome is the "bigger and taller players" and the rife amount of "good basketball players," the team is playing against. Ropeleski has been putting in a lot of work throughout the offseason in order to improve rudimentary basketball skills, which could be the difference between a win and a loss. He hopes to give a good impression to his teammates that he can fulfill every requirement.

The boys' first game of the season is December 9 at Quince Orchard. The whole team would love to see as many members of the Red Army as possible to cheer them on to victory against Blake High School

Just like the boys, the girls basketball team looks to continue their success from last year. Under new head coach Chris Campbell, the team is looking stronger than ever

Junior Lainey Seiniger is looking forward to the upcoming season and taking care of business. "The team will have to stay positive and work hard in practices," she says. She believes in the team, because of cohesiveness between the players: "We need to work [on] playing together as one single unit." Seiniger explains that a basketball player needs to be "hardworking and motivated" in addition to having "good endurance." She goes on to say,

"You cannot let setbacks hold you down."

-Lainey Seiniger

The whole team has been working on these physical and mental aspects of the game through long practices.

The team travels to Blake for their first game and would like to see a strong turnout from the Red Army.





ATHLETES TO WATCH

Boys Football



Kyle Green

Senior captain Kyle Green is a huge asset to the team, one of the top rushers in Montgomery County this year. Green has put in a tremendous amount of work to make sure he can be the best he is able to be.

Boys Basketball



Sam Ling

Senior captain Sam Ling has been part of the basketball team since he was a freshman. Ling was one of the team's leading scorers this fall season. Coaches are expecting great things to come this year from Ling.

GO COUGARS



Boys Soccer



Patrick Paolini

Junior Patrick Paolini has been part of the varsity soccer team since he was a freshman. This year, Paolini had an outstanding season and led the team to multiple victories by doing fantastic in goal. Paolini is a great leader.

Boys Cross Country



Ben Thoms

Senior Ben Thoms did an outstanding job this year for the cross country team. Thoms was one of the top runners for this season. He is a huge asset and role model for the team and the younger athletes.

Girls Basketball



Emily Baumgartner

Junior Emily Baumgartner works in and out of practice all year long to make her skills better. Coaches have seen improvement in her skills since she was a freshman. She is a huge asset to the team.

Girls Field Hockey



Laney Rubenstein

Senior captain Laney Rubenstein was a huge help for field hockey this season. Through her hard work on the field, she was able to be a big part in the team's success. Rubenstein was able to help younger athletes.

Poms



Julia Song

Senior captain Julia Song has shown great leadership in her four years of being on the team. This year, Julia has become a very strong leader by helping younger athletes during practices and choreographing dances.

Cheerleading



Amanda Goldman

Senior Amanda Goldman has been a vocal leader on her third year of varsity cheer. Amanda brings a lot of pep and enthusiasm to the table. These skills have helped her team in competitions this year.

CONGRATS TO ALL OUR FALL ATHLETES

GIRLS SOCCER: 7-6

BOYS SOCCER: 9-3-2

GOLF: 5-3

FOOTBALL: 9-1

FIELD HOCKEY: 14-2

VOLLEYBALL: 6-8

