Assembly honors Crowley and Gates

By Julia Hanson

The Martin Luther King Action Project presented their annual award to Sgt. James Crowley of the Cambridge Police Department and Professor Henry Louis Gates of Harvard University last Friday. Meant to honor the life of Martin Luther King Jr., the award was given to individuals whose work furthers that of Dr. King.

Over the summer, the Crowley and Gates were involved in a widely publicized incident which sparked national debate when Crowley arrested Gates after a mistaken report of break-in. The two men were then invited to the White House by President Obama and Vice President Joe Biden, who helped facilitate a discussion between the two parties. In the months that have followed, both Crowley and Gates have acknowledged the extraordinary circumstances of the event, and the incredible opportunity it has provided for the discussion of racial issues in America.

On Friday, January 15, Crowley attended the annual MLK assembly to accept his award and speak to L-S students. In his speech, Crowley discussed the importance of his work, especially his efforts to educate young police officers about racial profiling through workshops. He acknowledged that police officers face situations where objectivity is crucial, and they cannot allow their own biases or opinions to interfere with their ability to uphold the law. Crowley also spoke about his role, saying that “the police are citizens, and the citizens are police.”

He stressed the idea that police officers must constantly check themselves to make sure they are communicating with the public.

Crowley did not discuss the specifics of the event that sparked national attention but rather

continued on page 2

L-S confronts calamity

A devastating start to the decade

School rushes to aid relief efforts in Haiti

By Stephanie Bauer

On January 12, a 7.0 magnitude earthquake rocked the small country of Haiti. The earthquake hit just southwest of the capital, Port-Au-Prince. Since then, the death toll has reached at least 100,000. Aid agencies are scrambling to provide supplies and doctors to over 300 million people in Haiti, in need of food, water, and medical assistance. Citizens are trying to remain hopeful as they search for family members and seek refuge amidst the rubble. Hospitals are overwhelmed with patients and bodies, and aid workers have been forced to bury bodies in mass graves due to the amount of deaths.

According to the Boston Globe, 600,000 humanitarian daily rations, or basic nutrition packages that provide 2,300 calories, reached Haiti on the evening of January 16. President Obama has compiled a team of advisors, including former President Bill Clinton, who met with Obama and former President George W. Bush on Saturday to plan relief efforts. They have encouraged Americans to donate to supplies and rebuilding efforts.

On January 22, several major TV networks will air the Hope for Haiti telethon, hosted by Haitian entertainer Wyclef Jean in New York, actor George Clooney in Los Angeles, and CNN anchor Anderson Cooper in Haiti.

Students react to the disaster

“It is a terrible heartbreak- ing disaster. But its amazing to think that something as horrifying as this can bring the best out of people and bring them together, including students here at L-S.” -- Katie Coleman, 11

“The earthquake in Haiti is a terrible event. Although it affects millions of lives, it is incredible how L-S was able to come together quickly and efficiently to raise money and send relief to Haiti.” -- Michael Shin, 11

“This natural disaster is horrible, to say the least. My hopes and prayers are with the people of Haiti and their families. But it is important to look forward and stay focused on the relief rather than the actual earthquake.” -- Zack Michel, 12
Coakley and Brown’s race gets local, national attention

By Chris Stock

Republican Scott Brown’s astonishing victory on Tuesday in the special race for U.S. Senate culminated a conservative uprising in Massachusetts and gave Senate Republicans a 41st seat in the Senate — a crucial seat that breaks the 60-vote, filibuster-proof majority that Democrats once had. As a result, Democrats in Washington are scrambling to salvage a now-threatened health reform bill, while at the same time worrying anew about midterm elections later this year.

Across the state, Brown won convincingly with 52 percent of the vote. Martha Coakley, a Democrat and the state Attorney General, was a distant five points behind. Indicating intense interest in the special election, both candidates garnered over a million votes. In Sudbury, over 8,000 residents voted, 51 percent for Coakley, and 48.5 percent for Brown. Lincoln swung more heavily toward Coakley, with 68 percent of its 1,400 voters supporting her and only 31.5 percent voting for Brown. Overall, towns with higher unemployment tended to swing more towards Brown, indicating anger at the economy and at apparent wasteful spending by the federal government.

At this point it is unclear how the Democratic lead — which usually holds Democratic Brown’s victory was a shock to Democratic politicians on nationwide. If anger at government spending, high deficits, and high unemployment can elect a Republican in Massachusetts — no less, to the seat last held by liberal lion Ted Kennedy — then the party’s prospects later this year, when many Senators and representatives face re-election, are grim indeed.

It was not just national issues, however, that contributed to Coakley’s defeat. She is widely seen as having run a lackluster and error-filled campaign, and despite last-minute campaigning from high-level Democrats such as President Obama and Senator John Kerry, she was never able to compete with Scott Brown’s compelling personality. Yet national concerns persist, and the vote in Massachusetts has made many lawmakers wary.

Brown’s win has also sparked immediate Democratic concerns about the future of the current health care bill. Democratic leaders including Senate President Harry Reid and House Majority Leader Seny Hoyer have promised to pass a bill regardless of Brown’s win. Lacking a 60th Democratic vote in the Senate, which prevents Republicans from filibustering, Reid will find it much more difficult to accomplish this, however.

In a state that usually votes heavily Democratic, Brown’s victory was a shock to Democratic politicians on nationwide. If anger at government spending, high deficits, and high unemployment can elect a Republican in Massachusetts — no less, to the seat last held by liberal lion Ted Kennedy — then the party’s prospects later this year, when many Senators and representatives face re-election, are grim indeed.

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At this point it is unclear how the Democratic leadership will be moving forward in the legislative process. However, until Brown is sworn in, Democratic Senator Paul Kirk will continue to hold the seat in Washington.
Organ donation: the greatest gift possible

BY AMANDA CASTANGA

53-year-old Rick was told that he had a rare autoimmune disease and had three months to live. Now, after receiving kidney and liver transplants, he is now enjoying a healthy life and even completed a triathlon only a year ago. Riding a bicycle and running is something that does not remember the events of that day. He is always at the back of our minds, reminding us that life is fragile and unpredictable. He inspires us to live our lives as best we can because we never know what will happen the next day. That is his true legacy. We honor him on the anniversary of his death, but we honor him everyday by learning from what he taught us.

It is virtually effortless to sign up to become an organ donor, yet only 38 percent of drivers are registered donors. This is a particularly relevant issue for high school students as they apply for their licenses. It can be easy to get swept up in the excitement of getting a license, simply blowing up in the excitement of getting a license, simply blowing through the question about becoming an organ donor on the application, but by sporting a tiny red heart on your license, you are expressing your willingness to give the gift of life just by checking a box.

The lack of donors is mostly due to fears and misconceptions. One of the most predominant concerns in the fear that becoming an organ donor will affect the quality of the medical care you receive at the hospital, but this is simply untrue. Television shows and movies often depict all organ transplants as unsuccessful and irreversible, but the reality is that the donor and recipient would never be under the care of the same doctor. Also, the doctors in charge of caring for patients are completely unaware of the transplants that are taking place because of the shortage of organ donors.

Another worry is that the government will try to convince you to donate organs while you are alive and well. Although it is possible to transfer organs even after a person has suffered brain death as the result of an accident, heart attack, or stroke. Brain death is when the brain completely ceases functioning in any manner and will never function again. Many people can be terrifying and depressing to think about death, but it is important to make sure that your wishes will be followed in the worst case of an accident. When a family is suffering through a tragedy, it can be incredibly healing to think of the people who are able to enjoy a better life because of the deceased person’s generosity.

Organ donation is accepted in Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, and many other denominations.

In terms of financial concerns, it is free to register and all medical costs are paid by the recipient of the transplant, not the donor’s family.

Also, anyone can be a donor, regardless of age or physical condition. Unless organ donation goes against your personal beliefs, there is really no excuse for checking “no.”

Another excellent motivation is that organ donation can help a victim’s family cope with a tragic loss. Most of the organs used in transplants come from people who have suffered brain death as the result of an accident, heart attack, or stroke. Brain death is when the brain completely ceases functioning in any manner and will never function again. For many people it can be terrifying and depressing to think about death, but it is important to make sure that your wishes will be followed in the worst case of an accident. When a family is suffering through a tragedy, it can be incredibly healing to think of the people who are able to enjoy a better life because of the deceased person’s generosity.

Organ donation today! You can express your wishes by indicating them on your driver’s license when you obtain or renew it, registering with the New England Organ Bank, or downloading a donor card and carrying it with you. The most important step is talking to your family and making sure they understand your wishes. It can seem like a depressing conversation, but it is an important one. Remember, if anything ever happened to you or a loved one, you would hope there would be organs available. As students, we tend to spend a lot of our time thinking about ourselves. It would be amazing to impact the national community and give the gift of life just by checking a box.
Voter apathy takes over Bay State

By Daniel Mills

On December 8, the senatorial primaries were held for Massachusetts. Despite the unquestionable importance of this election to the fate of eligible voters. Although many non-participants offered excuses for not voting, none of them can fail.

There are those who do not vote who often say their vote counts for a negligible amount. This view seems reasonable enough, but simple analyses show it is illogical. If one eligible voter cast his ballot, each vote would count for just under 0.0001% of the final count. 0.0001% seems very small, validating the claim that individual votes do not matter. However, if everyone engaged in other activities with even smaller individual effects, such as charitable donations. In 1996, the Salvation Army reported $1.6B in spending. This charitable donation will help cover roughly 0.000000625% of the Salvation Army's expenditure.

Casting a vote in the Massachusetts election has an effect 1,600 times larger than your dollar for the Salvation Army. It is often said that every contribution counts. Why does this logic not apply to voting? People say if they do not vote, their lack of participation will not affect the election. If you truly believe every little bit counts, so does every vote.

Another argument is that people feel the government is too corrupt and inefficient, and that there is no point in supporting such a system. However, statistics show that government corruption is only part of the problem. The U.S. citizen base as a whole was a total of $343 billion in taxes in 2001. $343 billion could pay for NASA's budget eighteen times over, or the federal education budget six times over.

If a person fails to vote because they are waiting for a government that is free of corruption and laziness, they should be prepared to wait a long time.

Apathetic voters often say that they do not care for either candidate. There is a fundamental flaw in this logic; not voting will not change the fact that one candidate will win. By not voting, a dark horse candidate will not emerge from the shadow, championing your every ideal. If you want someone who believes in each and every idea you do,

Obama's bow cedes US sway

By Nate Kania

As many Americans know, Barack Obama recently embarked on a week long diplomatic mission to Asia. Visiting the nations of China, Singapore, Japan and South Korea, President Obama filled his schedule with such diverse events as EU talks, nuclear talks, talks on the global financial crisis, and even a martial arts demonstration.

And yet, in spite of the incessant media coverage the magnitude of the trip, Obama's most important gesture of the entire trip might have gone unnoticed or if not for the stultifying journalistic coverage of a few brave and principled American heroes.

Obama has been too timid to actually propose any sort of long-term solutions.

Ok, that last sentence was a little sarcastic because Obama does not consider the right wing talk show hosts that broke the story on Obama's bow to Japanese Emperor Hirohito in 1971.

While a seemingly innocuous bow to Hirohito in 1971), President Obama entered office promising to usher in long-term solutions on the world and more focused on establishing diplomatic agreements that could be mutually celebrated by all countries involved.

So almost by default, the President's seemingly inconsequential bow became one of the most important moments of his entire trip. The bow in and of itself meant very little, but as the President approaches the end of his first year in office, it is indicative of the foreign policy doctrine of his administration. Obama has embarked on eight foreign trips to twenty countries, far more than any other first-year President in history, and yet he has precious little to show for it.

President Obama entered office promising to usher in a new era of diplomatic relations that, unlike those of his predecessor, would be less concerned with imposing solutions on the world and more focused on establishing diplomatic agreements that could be mutually celebrated by all countries involved. While Obama was right to advocate a departure from the cowboy foreign policies of the Bush administration, in the process, he has lost sight of much of what makes the United States such a powerful diplomatic force.

Undoubtedly, President Obama will cite his high approval ratings with foreigners as evidence that his “softer” approach to foreign policy is having its desired effect, and it is true that those outside of our borders have a favorable view of the President in part because they view him as sensitive to the needs of their countries.

But foreigners also have come to accept the U.S. as one of the most important players on the global foreign policy stage. They expect that, in addition to his nuanced understanding of world affairs, the President will emerge as a leader on the foreign policy stage who will work tirelessly towards ensuring that any diplomatic developments that occur on his watch will fairly serve the needs of all countries involved.

Thus far, the President has done nothing but bow. While he has made efforts to understand the culture and pragmatic needs of other countries, he has been too timid to actually propose any sort of long-term solutions, and even those he has proposed have been overshadowed by climate change, economic development or nuclear proliferation.

The opportunity still exists for President Obama to emerge as a leader on the world stage, but doing so will require a departure from appease-everyone, accomplish-nothing doctrine that has dictated his stance on foreign policy.

WHY BOTHER? More and more voters are staying home during important elections

By Will Beckham

Despite the foiling of al-Qaeda and Umar Farook Abdulmutallab’s plot to blow up an airplane on Christmas Day, Al-Qaeda can unfortunately claim a victory even though they didn’t kill a single American.

Ever since Abdulmutallab’s arrest, Washington has been rocked by a tremendous amount of internal debate and discussion. Questions have been raised on how effective the United States’ terrorism policy really is: was this a preventable security breach? Was this an isolated incident that occurred in Yemen? Should the United States more aggressively and take military action there? And what about Abdulmutallab himself? Should he be tried as a criminal? Is a “terrorist? As an “enemy-of-the-state”? Should he be given a lawyer or any rights? Should he be interrogated? Fortuned? Waterboarded? The list of questions goes on.

Even though Abdulmutallab failed to ignite his bomb and take American lives, al-Qaeda has still managed to instill fear in the American populace and traces of doubt in the American government. The United States government has done very little to respond to this plot except argue amongst themselves. This crippling internal debate and inability to act, however, is exactly what al-Qaeda was hoping for - the group’s ultimate mission is to create chaos.

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Furthermore, the uncertainty caused by Abdulmutallab’s attack has undermined the effectiveness of the Department of Homeland Security and the entire intelligence community.

In addition to granting a bloodless victory for al-Qaeda, the Federal Government’s indecision reveals an even bigger issue - arguing and finger-pointing makes us even more vulnerable to terrorist attacks.

Experts argue that the key to ultimately winning the war on terrorism is to show the world that the United States and its allies are a kind, tolerant, and non-tyrannical people, united and willing to stand up to terrorism at any cost.

Accordingly, we cannot allow internal disagreement to interfere with our strategy if we want to put an end to al-Qaeda and other terrorist groups that are threatening our nation. The government needs to develop a plan that enables it to resolve disputes like Abdulmutallab’s efficiently, justly prosecute those responsible, and devote more time to focus on the larger goal of defeating terrorism.

After 9/11, our nation decided that we would never underestimate terrorist groups and always try to deal with them decisively and responsibly. It is vital that we retain this resolve and understand the importance of focusing on defeating the ever-present threat of terrorism abroad.
First decade of millennium will not soon be forgot-

Welcome to the new decade. The perpetual "oh nine's" that conclude seemingly every sentence have come to a close, leaving us with twenty-ten, which unfortunately doesn’t quite roll off the tongue the way last year’s abbrevi-ation did. This year being ever more important however, signaling the start of a new decade.

The past ten years have been some of the most eventful in recent history. This decade has been far from dull: beginning with the unimaginable tragedy of September 11, 2001 to Britney Spears’ shocking buzz cut to our success-

This decade has been far from dull: beginning with the unimaginable tragedy of September 11, 2001 to Britney Spear’s shocking buzz cut to our successful landing on Mars.

At Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School, the 2000s (dubbed the One-ders by a website in Australia) have been monumental. The new building was completed in 2004, costing $74 million dollars and vastly enlarging the school. In 2006, Ms. Sotriou was tragically stabbed to death by classmate John Odgren who was charged with murder. Lastly, in 2009, Dr. John Ritchie retired after 13 years as superintendent-principal at L-S. And those are just three of the biggest stories. There have also been multiple state championships, trips to Nationals, the success of the NOSB team, and the tumult of the budget cuts. The history of the school has certainly boomed in the past ten years.

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3-D
If it doesn’t come with red and blue plastic glasses, it’s not worth seeing. *Avatar* wouldn’t have been the same without them.

**Twitter**
People were tweeting about Michael Jackson’s death on Twitter before any news station even knew about it. This social media sensation has made “tweeting” the new internet craze.

**Ba-ra-ah-ah-ah, Roma-roma-ma, Gaga-ooh-la-la**
Being coherent has nothing to do with being catchy. The eccentric Lady Gaga has conquered the pop charts, and her success and strange outfits will no doubt continue in the new year.

**Touch Screens**
Your cell phone, your computer, your iPod...all at the tips of your fingers. Literally. Touch screens are all the rage, these days. Just don’t drop them.

**Purell**
It’s on every wall at school, and it’s probably attached to your backpack on a keychain. Kiss those germs goodbye because Purrell is definitely in.

**Blu-Ray Discs**
Thankfully, we’ll never have to “Be Kind and Rewind” ever again. DVDs kicked VHS out of the picture...will Blu-Ray soon take over?

**Vampires**
They’re featured in *Twilight*, “True Blood,” “Vampire Diaries”...they’re everywhere. They’re dreamy, immortal, and they just might suck your blood, but who cares? This villain is in. (Don’t worry, Team Jacob. Werewolves are in, too).

**Snuggies**
It’s the blanket with sleeves! You may look like a monk, but you’ll definitely be warm and comfortable. Plus, now they come with sports logos on them, or even leopard print if you’re feeling wild.

**Going Green**
It won’t be long before you’ll never be asked “Paper or plastic?” ever again. With re-usable grocery bags and even shopping bags, society is slowly becoming more eco-friendly. If only we could stop cutting down the rainforests...

“One trend I’d like to see back in style would be...”

“...Hairstyles from the 60s.”
**Tanahsa Casado, 10**

“...Rollerblading.”
**Chris Broecker, 10**

“...Slinkys!”
**Drew Zieth, 12**

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Farewell 2009, Hello 2010!

What’s Out?

**Boom Boom Pow**
We all know the Black Eyed Peas’ hit single, but like most other songs that filter through KISS 108 and the iTunes Top Ten, it has been over-used and over-played. “I Gotta Feeling” that this song won’t make it to 3008. Sorry, Fergie.

**Nalgenes**
Everyone is abandoning these “indestructible” water bottles for BPA-free brands. Plastic bottles are on the way out, too. We all love our bottled water, but nobody wants cancer.

**Crocs**
These rubber clogs are possibly the most hideous form of footwear ever created. How were they ever popular in the first place? Anyone over the age of ten should be forbidden from wearing them.

**High School Musical**
Yes, Zac Efron will always be a gorgeous babe, but this Disney trilogy has taken a backseat to the smash-hit TV series, Glee. How can you not love a show where the characters spontaneously break into song?

**Swine 09**
The flu craze swept the nation up into full-freak-out mode this past year. The news stations hyped it up to be the Black Plague, but people aren’t buying the Code Red attitude anymore. Most of us already caught it anyway. The hype over H1N1 is officially out.

**Kanye West**
After storming the stage at the MTV Video Music Awards, many Kanye fans lost their patience with his arrogant attitude. Seriously, Kanye, how could you be so heartless? Taylor Swift, on the other hand, is definitely in.

**Commercials**
Remember the days when we actually had to sit through the commercial breaks when watching your favorite TV show? Thanks to DVR and TiVo, we can fast forward through all the annoying ads and jingles. If only we could do the same with live TV...

**“One trend I’m glad to see fade is...”**

“...Overalls and pigtails.”
Shannon Connolly, 10

“...‘09 after everything.”
Courtney Hayes, 10

“...Flat-brimmed hats.”
Mark Benham, 12

“...‘FML.”
Lauren Chueas, 11

“...Tiger Woods.”
Ryan Shelley, 11

“...George Bush.”
Ryan Kenney, 10

“...Jean jackets”
Isabel Freedman, 9
For twenty-six dollars (five if you’re a member of the museum), the magical world of Harry Potter is open to the public in full force. The Museum of Science in Boston opened the Harry Potter exhibit in late October and will continue to entertain guests until February. When you walk through the halls of the museum with the banners of the four Hogwart’s Houses hanging over your head, you are as much back to your youth. Inside this exhibit, you will find hidden treasures from the movies like costumes, wands, and broomsticks.

Harry Potter fanatic or not, walking through each room to see props from each movie will excite you more than you expect. The exhibit has TV monitors surrounding every room with clips from all of the movies. These let you reminisce on the hours you spent watching the movies and reading the books over and over again.

While the exhibit features cool artifacts and interesting designs, it is far too small. As I walked in, I hoped for a room that would allow me to walk through twice after just an hour. It may be short, but when Dementors, Quidditch, and even Voldemort fill the rooms, you can’t help but want to reread every book for a fifth time, and hold your own private Harry Potter movie marathon.

Mr. Carpenter addresses prevalent rumors

This is an interview with Wilson Roberts and Mr. Carpenter about popular questions that have been asked about changes being made in the school.

Q: Do you feel that you are overpaid, based upon the current budget situation?
A: Based on the amount of time that I have put into this role, versus the amount of time that I put in as a housemaster, I would say that I am somewhat underpaid. Just on the amount of time that I put into each role, with meetings and such, that’s part of it. And then it’s just non-stop. So if you asked me if I am overpaid, I would say no, I am probably in the average salary for western-suburban principals, and definitely under the average salary for western-suburban superintendents.

Q: What does the school plan to do with the students in child development classes?
A: The students in the child development class in the second semester will go into other electives. That happened quite some time ago. As far as the future, we put out a request for proposals, and they will now finish up the preschool and run it. So we will renovate the building this year so that it will be better for whatever comes in. The advantage for students next year is that the new White House Preschool would be accessible every block of the day. So there will be a lot more opportunities for students. Not only that, but there will also be job opportunities for students. So it would be conceivable that someone with a little training would be able to have a job there and after school.

Q: Will the school remove senior free day?
A: There is no way that we can remove senior free days. First, philosophically, I like senior free days. To have that choice during senior year, to have that time to ease your mind. Plus, to put all of those seniors into classes would probably cost the school five teacher’s salaries. And obviously that’s money that we would lose. And if you choose the hat is placed on your head and it analyzes your mind, deciding if you are brave enough to be in Gryffindor, or clever enough to be in Ravenclaw, then you know where you truly belong at Hogwarts, raise your hand as soon as you can.

Q: Do you feel that you are overpaid, based upon the current budget situation?
A: I actually love Senior Dress Up Day. Yes, I have one faint bar but I wouldn’t even be able to reach it. So there will be a lot more opportunities for students. So it would be conceivable that someone with a little training would be able to have a job there and after school.

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Q: Will the school push back senior release date?
A: The senior release date is more driven by Massachusetts’s law than us. I think for the near future we will not be forced to give a free to juniors. We don’t want to do that, but we have considered it. As for the budget times, we may be forced to give a free to juniors to graduate. So as long as the beginning of the school year is early, the beginning of the school year is early.

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A: There is no way we can remove senior free days. First, philosophically, I like senior free days. To have that choice during senior year, to have that time to ease your mind. Plus, to put all of those seniors into classes would probably cost the school five teacher’s salaries. And obviously that’s money that we would lose. And if you choose the hat is placed on your head and it analyzes your mind, deciding if you are brave enough to be in Gryffindor, or clever enough to be in Ravenclaw, then you know where you truly belong at Hogwarts, raise your hand as soon as you can.

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Kirsch debuts as choral director

BY NICOLE ZIZMAN

As a member of the Lincoln-Sudbury Chorus I have to speak for my fellow singers and deem our director, Jamie Kirsch, the triumph. All of us know that this would have never been reality without our wonderful new director Jamie Kirsch. This was Mr. Kirsch’s first concert and all we have to say is Bravo. With his careful organization and creative conducting methods the choir brought energy and excitement to the audience.

The concert was a compilation of select student run groups, groups such as chambers and the main group of the night- mixed choruses. The night started off with a bang with the new student run group Acquired Taste. This group started the show with Broadway’s hit “Seasons of Love” with soloists Ally Baxter and Dami Speranza who did a great job. Following this group the four choirs take the stage with the famous “Mamma who Bore Me” and “Baby, I’m in Love” showing the crowd how difficult tight harmonies really can be and making the crowd fawn with excitement.

Next, the all mighty Acafellas, the favorite of the girls not only for their voices but for their addicting charm. They started off their set with the popular Disney tune “Ill Make a Man Out Of You”. They started off their set with the romantic version of “My Girl” serenading one of our own chorus girls, Hannah Shealy. Next up was Chambers Choir, the next solo group directed by Jaime Kirsch. They start off their songs with “Rooks Fly Homeward” and “You walk with me”, doing a good job starting off. As their music continued the difficulty increased. “I Believe”, the popular “Send in the clowns” and the Spanish love ballad “Te Quiero” were all fun and exciting for the choir to perform and even more entertaining for the audience to listen to. However, nothing stood up to the catchy beats and creative lyrics of “Harlem Nocturne”, and “Words” which is not only a favorite of the choirs but, anyone who hears these songs will be drawn to their infectious tones and complicated musical phrases.

As a whole the select groups did a great job and everyone commends them for all their work and confidence in their performance. Finally, the last act of the night, the mixed chorus belted their hearts out with seven very different and very difficult songs. They started out with the booming Beethoven classic “Hallelujah” which made the audience jump out their seats in surprise. Next Mr. Kirsch decided to tone it down with the beautiful “Suitc circus”. After the ballad ended the audience entered the music of Latin America

Twilight encroaches on classic literature: an opinion

BY SAVANNAH TENNEY

I’ve sat by and watched silently as Twilight over-whelms everything from movie theater screens to book-shelves to the bedroom walls of teenage girls. After a recent trip to Barnes and Noble, I can be silent no longer. Fans of the books may know that Bella is fond of the classic novel Wuthering Heights by Emily Bronte. While for me, this was the only point at which I could relate to her otherwise dull, spineless character, it never fully redeemed her in my eyes. And now, there is nothing to be done to reverse the terrible offense Twilight has created.

What, you may ask, could be so unforgivable? Twilight has begun its invasion of classic literature. Yes, it’s true. Sitting on the shelves of Barnes and Noble are copies of Wuthering Heights, Romeo and Juliet and Pride and Prejudice all bearing Twilight-inspired book jackets. The connection between these classic novels and the Twilight phenomenon is they are stories about a man and a woman who fall in love. The similarity ends there. The language in Wuthering Heights was far more sophisticated. The romance of Romeo and Juliet was far more tortured. Honestly, Mr. Darcy could run rings around Edward Cullen.

Forcing a Twilight-sized cover on these famous romances is an insult to our intelligence as readers. Slapping a Twilight cover on Wuthering Heights doesn’t make it any easier to read. Stephanie Pratt from The Hills is quoted saying that she was inspired by Twilight to read Bronte’s famous novel. But she the goes on to say she did not understand the word and needed a dictionary to decipher it. Furthermore, it is an insult to the talent of the writers. By forcing their cover on classic romances, Twilight is attempting to lay claim to the entire romance genre. But without the likes of the Brontes, Austen, and Shakespeare, there would be no Stephanie Meyer. And without Darcy and Elizabeth, Romeo and Juliet and Heathcliff and Cathy, there would be no Edward and Bella. So listen, Twilight. You can invade my movie theaters, my favorite bookstore, and even my bedroom. But you may not invade my the classics. One word of advice: Stay away from the cover of Tristan and Isolde, or there is going to be hell to pay.
On January 8, 12 L-S bands rocked out in the Rogers Black Box Theater for the 7th Annual Steve Richard Memorial Concert. All of the proceeds for the show go to the Steve Richard Memorial Scholarship. Every year, the concert honors Steven Richard, an L-S student lost too early in a car accident. It also gives L-S students a chance to show off their talent.

The night started off with a two-piece band Sam and Ian, made up of Sam McGuire and Ian Lippincott. They were followed by the solo act My 60s Apology, whose sophomore Casey O’Brien displayed incredible songwriting ability on the piano and guitar. The next act, I Have Know Idea, included Matt Migliorzi, Chip Clarke and Adam Schellenberg in a rock-oriented trio. New Amsterdam, lead by singer and guitarist Ori Raviv, soothed the crowd with melodious acoustic songs, including original songs and a cover of the pop sensation, “Party in the USA.”

The Jack Flappers and the Happy Hippo Sunshine Crew took the stage next, and played a crowd pleasing set including covers of Weezer, Pink Floyd, Modest Mouse and Taylor Swift. Their energy was shown in full when they played a cover of the pop sensation, “Foxy Lady.” The next portion of the night displayed the talent of the senior members of the L-S music scene, the veterans. First up was The Dan Gordon Band. With their bassist, Eric Olson, missing from the scene, Nathan Gerry stepped in to play bass in the trio. With Dan Gordon on vocals and Chip Clark behind him on drums, the trio provided the most hard-rocking set of the night. Senior Josh Sternberg, the drummer for The Deadly Styles, said, “I was most impressed with the drumming. They have experienced drummers who seek it. All questions are anonymous and can always be done. At the end of the night, drummer Josh Sternberg commented on the concert saying, “The L-S music scene has really grown over the past four years, and I hope it continues this trend for years to come.”

Volante explains orange masterpiece in Fine-Wilson’s Studio Art

BY ABBY KIKURA

Everybody has a medium with which they express themselves. Whether it is religion, music, cooking, or art, a personality is defined by the passions of a character. In Sarah Fine-Wilson’s block 4 Studio Art class, a small group of upperclassmen reveal their artistic passion and ability through a broad range of assignments. For their latest task, the students were told to create a self portrait. In the center of the room, a portrait of a face attached to a string floats on a canvas of cloudless sky. Nearby is a painting of a brick wall inspired American flag, and near the entrance of the classroom stands a canvas decorated with half of a face, an orange peel, and scrawls of silvery script.

L-S senior Sabrina Volante is the woman behind the orange masterpiece. When asked what inspired such an incredible work of art, she explained, “I used myself and the metaphor of an orange because it has layers. There is another side of me that people don’t see until they peel back the outer layer.” Volante’s painting begins with a portrait of her face on the rightmost region of the canvas. The face soon disappears, and to the left half becomes an orange peel spiraling outward, towards a peachy blankness filled with words of expression and the occasional orange drip. Even without peeling back the layers of Volante’s personality, one can tell she certainly has a future in art.

Volante’s self-portrait is one of the standout pieces in her portfolio that will help her get accepted into art school. After attending art school, she aspires to become a graphic designer, or work in the field of magazine and newspaper illustration. As for the portrait itself, Volante feels that this painting accurately portrays her character because, “you need to look closely to see the whole picture, and it is weird and bizarre like most of my art.”

THE LAYERS OF AN ORANGE! Volante’s work takes on a personal, more metaphorical meaning.
I GOT PUCK! An L-S player battles for a loose puck against Westford Academy.

**Hockey relying on defense and leadership**

**By Jake Dean**

As the L-S boy’s hockey team approaches the halfway point in their season, their record sits at 5-5-1.

In the first game against Canton, which L-S won 3-2, senior captain John Lewis and defenseman Kyle Anderson were injured. Though Lewis was out for a few games with a concussion, he has come back strong with two goals and two assists in the last five games. Anderson has been recovering from a separated shoulder. He returned in time to play Tewksbury January 16.

After the first few games, Coach Elenbaas switched the forward lines around with junior Sean Ashe centering senior captain John Lewis and junior Henry Fairbairn. Junior Clay Russell has been a force equal in magnitude to that of gravity. Russell’s favorite racing tactic is to sit and kick: sometimes it works; sometimes it does not. He has run 2:38:07 for 1000m, 3:07 seconds away from qualifying for nationals, winning the race while kick passing an A-B and Newton South runner. Russell has also posted a fast time of 1:26 for 600m, easily besting L-S’s best 600m runner last year, Kyle Ray. Russell’s sit and kick failed him in the mile, being beat by a Newton South runner but still running a big personal best of 4:35.81.

Although the L-S defense has grown much stronger.

Senior Clay Russell has been owning his competition in the 55m hurdles, although recently he was dethroned by a runner from Concord-Carlisle.

**Basketball using youth**

**By Kate Sisk**

The L-S girls’ basketball team has come ready to play in this 2009-2010 season, with a strong 5-2 record. The Warriors are a young team, led by senior captain Elizabeth Newman. L-S welcomes freshmen Ashley Lutz and Mandy Sifferlen to the crew. Coaching the Warriors is Liza Feldman.

It seems that the young energy of last year’s team has translated into wins this year for Newman and the rest of the squad. They have pulled out of situations where they were down and came back to take the lead many times. Having lost only to Westford Academy in the DCL, and to Wellesley in a non-league match-up, the Warriors are producing wins well so far.

In a recent competition against Bedford, L-S came back from being behind (albeit by a small margin) at halftime to beating the Buccaneers. In doing so, the Warriors displayed their capability of winning the very important second half. They also showed the depth of their bench, as L-S was missing a starter for that game.

Last Tuesday, the Warriors faced DCL competitor Waltham. The girls won and improved their record to 6-2, setting them on a good track to the post-season.

“Waltham is an aggressive team. They’re not historical compared to L-S, but still running a big personal best of 4:35.81.” said Newman. It looks as though the Warriors are now the team that opponents will have to think long and hard about as they continue to win.

Halsey also competes in the long jump, an event area where he has not performed up to his expectations. After talking about how he was going to jump 21 feet, Halsey has yet to jump 19”-6” and was disqualified from one meet for wearing a Livestrong. Sliwkowski as well has not performed up to his desired results. He was the top returning 55m runner but has yet to post the fastest time in the DCL. Apparently being six million years behind in evolution is starting to hurt him.

Senior Devin Acton who has the team’s best looks and flow, freshman Sam Chen in the 300m, and freshman Tyler McCarthy in high jump.

The next meet for the Warriors is the Division 1 State Relays. The most notable relay team here is the distance medley relay, constituted of Russell, Holtzman, Jake Earle, and Barnes. The team looks to go for the win and a national qualifier. When they qualify for nationals, they will have to purchase some undisguisedly fresh uniforms.

For those who do not know, Eli Hoening is a boss.

**I GOT PUCK! An L-S player battles for a loose puck against Westford Academy.**

**SCOREBOARD**

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**FAST BREAK**

Junior Nyah Berg puts up a lay up for the fast starting Warriors.

**Sports**

**The Forum**

Barnes and Holtzman lead boys’ track to fun, defining victories

**By Bryan Holtzman**

After a month of competition, the L-S boys’ track team has compiled a 4-1 record, disposing of Westford Academy, Waltham, and Boston Latin while falling to Acton-Boxborough. The Warriors only have one dual meet left where they face Newton South, a team they should easily beat due to exponentially better looks.

Senior captain Alec Barnes has led the team valiantly this season in the distances. After a disappointing cross-country season, Barnes rededicated himself to the sport and began running 60 miles a week. The results were instant: Barnes ran a state leading time for two miles in the first meet of the season, setting a new indoor personal best at 9.54. At the next meet, Barnes battled two of the best mid-distance runners in the DCL in the 1000m, an event that does not match-up well with his strengths. Despite this, Barnes posted a strong time of 2:37.21, placing third over-all and qualifying for nationals. Barnes had the warmest ankles in this race, sporting black mid-calf’s, and looked especially crisp in a new pair of spikes.

Against Acton-Boxborough, Barnes ran the mile, setting a new personal best at 4:31.97, easily besting all DCL runners. Barnes had the warmest ankles in this race, sporting black mid-calf’s, and looked especially crisp in a new pair of spikes.

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Wilson's Word: Tiger situation crippling to all involved

By Wilson Roberts

Forgive me for beating a dead horse, but I just wanted to give my two cents on Tiger Woods.

For those of you who do not know, (although, at this point, I don’t know how you couldn’t…) Tiger Woods was in a car accident on Thanksgiving. After that, it was found that Woods had cheated on his wife. Eleven women then came out, saying that they had slept with Woods. Woods has not been seen in public since the accident.

Finally, this is a shame both for Woods and for golf. Woods is likely facing a divorce from his striking Swedish super model wife, Elin Woods. That means a big lawsuit, and a large part of Tiger’s fortune going to Elin. Tiger was once the richest man in sports, but even he will have a tough time losing that much money. And why did he do it? Just to be able to have sex with any woman in this world, with my super model wife and not have to worry about my golf career being ruined.

Tiger Woods was idolized in the world of sports. In the age of uncertainty, where controversy surrounding steroids graces the pages of ESPN.com every day, we have always been able to look up and see Tiger doing things only in Tiger. In Tiger, we’ve been shown that that’s not always true. Everybody idolized Tiger for his mental concentration and perseverance and did not think Tiger Woods was (and I emphasize was) the biggest money maker in sports. He was the top player in a sport that’s not divided by the boundaries of teams. He played a sport that is played by five-year-olds and 85-year-olds. He was the ultimate role model. Was. Not anymore.

The PGA must be devastated. Tiger would be the reason that people go to tournaments in the middle of Kansas. Wayne’s World taught us that, “If you book them, they will come.” If you get Tiger to play in your tournament, people will come. But now, Tiger has taken an indefinite leave of absence from the game and his future in professional golf is in doubt. I mean, would you go back if you had been so thoroughly embarrassed?

When he does come back, the sport could turn two ways. One thought says that when Tiger returns, he will pick up where he left off, and everybody will want to come watch him play again. In fact, along this line, everybody will want to watch him play more to see how he acts after his ordeal.

But then there is the other thought. The thought that says people will stop coming once he comes back, boycotting the player who cheated on his wife with at least eleven women. This could be a devastating blow for golf, which is a sport that many people find boring and dull already. Even with the return of Tiger, golf may not be able to rebound.

In other sports, Tiger’s actions would not have been as serious of an issue. There are not many sports where the focus is so much on the individual. There are no allegiances to teams such as the Yankees or the Red Sox in golf. Tiger v. Phil may be a rivalry, but you won’t see people fighting in the street over the two players. The fact of the matter is that if Kevin Youkilis was to cheat on his wife, the Red Sox would, presumably, be able to come together and play as if nothing happened. In golf, where individual attention is magnified, Tiger does not have teammates to pick up the slack of his mistakes.

In golf, however, Tiger Woods is it. He is a one man team. He is THE superstar. Argue all you want about Phil Mickelson or Vijay Singh, but this is Tiger’s sport. Think what would happen to Tiger if the Red Sox were to lose. They would probably lose the next four games. Tiger would probably lose the next day. In golf, where individual attention is magnified, Tiger does not have teammates to pick up the slack of his mistakes.

Why I love the Super Bowl

By Jeff Kasle

Next month, millions of people around the world will come together for four hours as a part of one of America’s most celebrated events. And no, I’m not talking about Groundhog Day. This year’s edition of the Super Bowl is coming soon, and I can’t wait. The Super Bowl is unlike any other sports championship.

The Super Bowl is a sports fanatic’s dream come true; a culmination of a 16-game regular season and its spectacular ups and downs, played out on the field. The Super Bowl is one of the biggest events in sports, leaving an intense night rather than seven games like other major sports. The all-or-nothing stakes require the competitors to play their hearts out for sixty minutes. For people who are not football enthusiasts, the superior production value throughout the game helps make the Super Bowl a fan-filled spectacle for all. Surprisingly hilarious commercials and dazzling halftime shows are trademarks of the Super Bowl, consistently making it one of the year’s most anticipated events.

Each Super Bowl is memorable in one way or another and never fails to capture everyone’s attention. Who could forget David Tyree’s miraculous catch in the 4th quarter (even though we would like to), Adam Vinatteri’s game-winning field goal, or even Janet Jackson’s infamous halftime incident. Aside from the game itself, just enjoying a social outing with friends and lots of food is more than enough of a reason to partake in this classic American tradition.

I love the Super Bowl because it exhibits the pinnacle of human athleticism, captures the American spirit, and brings people together. Super Bowl XLVI will be played in Miami, Florida, and even though the Patriots are not going to be playing I am still eagerly anticipating the game, no matter which teams participate. February 7 is quickly approaching, so call up some friends, make your plans, and let’s get ready for some football.