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MAY 20-JUNE 6, 2013	May 20,21,22,23,	igh School (Room B-24) 28,29,30,31, June 3,4,5,6, 2013	GHS513 seg 1
JUNE 10-28, 2013	5:30-7:30 pm	14,17,18,24,25,26,27,28, 2013	GHS515 seg 1
JONE 10-28, 2013	5:30-7:30 pm	14,17,10,24,20,20,27,80, 2013	GHS613 seg 1
JULY 16-AUG 8, 2013	July 16,17,18,23,24,25,30,31, Aug 1,6,7,8, 2013 8-10 am		GHS713 seg 1
AUG 5-29, 2013	Aug 5,6,7,8,12,13,14,15,26,27,28,29, 2013 5:30-7:30 pm		GHS813 seg 1
Driver Education Segn		ligh School (Room B-25)	
JUNE 17,18,21, 2013	M, T, F	3:15-5:15 pm	GHS613 seg 2
JULY 16,17,18, 2013	T, W, Th	10:15a-12:15 pm	GHS713 seg 2
AUG 6,7,8, 2013	T, W, Th	3:15-5:15 pm	GHS813 seg 2

### These classes will meet at 6785 Telegraph, Bloomfield Hills, Suite 125

SEGMENT ONE CI	LASSES	SEG	MENT TWO CLASSES
MAY 13-30, 2013	May 13,14,15,16,20,21,22,	23,27,28,29,30, 2013	
4-6 pm	BFH513 seg 1		
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Note: Class dates and times subject to change



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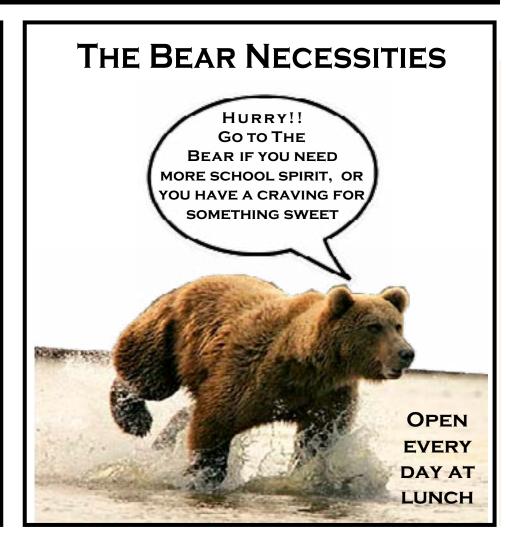
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# s own wins Teacher of the Year

Bennett Hart '16, Business/Ad Manager

On Tuesday, March 26 social studies teacher Mrs. Angie Church was surprised by a crowd of people storming into her room. One of Berkley's own history teachers had been awarded the 2013 Oakland County Outstanding High School Teacher of the Year.

Church was first recognized by Mr. Randy Gawel, when he nominated her as Berkley's representative for the award. Parents, students, and other teachers then wrote letters explaining why Church deserved the award to the Oakland Schools about their experiences with her. Church said,

"[The letters] all must have been pretty amazing letters because they picked me."

Although Church is extremely happy about the fact that she has won the award, she is especially happy that she is appreciated throughout the community. She said, "To tell you the truth, teachers don't really get recognized all that often. In fact, I think that is why this feels so sweet."

Church is very grateful for the people that helped her win this award, including Church bestows knowledge upon her students Gawel, Simone, Mr. Inman and her students. She said, "[They] must have really made me look good!"

Freshmen Max Marchek and Nick Cook both agreed that Church deserved the award. Marchek said "[Mrs. Church] probably won the award because she is nice, caring, respectful, and knows what she is doing." Cook was in the classroom when Church was surprised with the award. He explained, "People ran into the room with balloons and we took a picture." Marchek added that she is "one of [his] favorite teachers."

As a 15-year veteran teacher, Church continues to improve her already impressive teaching and make her classroom experience the best it possibly can be for her students. This year she helped Mrs. Jen Simone with the Military Appreciation event, and she is one of only five Berkley teachers leading the introduction of the new Reading Apprenticeship program. Church said, "I do think the shift to Reading Apprenticeship did have something to do with the award. I have really changed the format of my classes so that students are at the center of reading, writing

> and thinking." She added, "It has required a lot of time and thought to alter so much of what we do on a

> show her dedication to her job changing the way about order to enhance her classroom experience, which has been quite the undertaking.

> Although Church is extremely happy about the fact that she has won the award, she is especially happy that she is appreciated throughout the community. She said, "To tell you the truth, teachers don't

really get recognized all that often. In fact, I think that is why this feels so sweet."

Church is very grateful for the people that helped her win this award, including Gawel, Simone, Mr. Inman and her students. She said, "[They] must have really made me look good!"

Congratulations to Mrs. Angie Church, the Oakland County Outstanding High School Teacher of the Year.



## concert to remember

Josh Radom '16, Assistant Opinion Editor

On May 7, BHS's A cappella choir and symphony orchestra will be playing a memorial piece in honor of Holocaust victim Anne Frank. BHS's students are the first in the world to perform this song in English. The choir and orchestra will have three performances of this song at two different venues: the Holocaust Museum and the BHS auditorium.

Both musical groups have been preparing diligently to make the song the best it could be. The song, "My Name is Anne Frank," ("Mein Name ist Anne Frank") is 45 minutes long with some breathing room in between movements. Since this piece is so intricate, it requires more practice time, so members of the orchestra and choir have stayed after school many days to rehearse and even on some Saturday mornings due to limited class time.

BHS is debuting the song because the seeds from the tree that Anne Frank saw from her hiding place during the Holocaust are being replanted. Farmington Hills will not

be the only location for the plantings; the seeds will also be planted in Washington D.C, New York and other cities housing a Holocaust Museum around the world, so Franks legacy will continue on to live on forever.

The orchestra and choir members who are participating in the performance will have their names written in the Library of Congress along with a recording of the song in English. Freshman and orchestra member Josephine Pittman said, "I am excited to be able to perform the piece the way it was intended to be heard, with a full orchestra." The piece was performed in Germany but with only piano and percussion. Junior and member of A Cappella choir, Jenna Apostol, said, "It something that we will always remember and will give well deserved recognition to BHS."

This concert will make history and be an honor for BHS and the state of Michigan to be part of such a great cause and to send a message to the world that Anne Frank and the other victims of the Holocaust will never be forgotten.

## Driving while distracted proves dangerous; D can attest

Olivia Wood '14, Freelance Writer

It has been said that this generation of teenagers is addicted to cellphones. This creates a problem once they get behind the wheel. As more and more teens take the road, the amount of accidents due to distracted driving are bound to increase as well. Recently, Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) funded a Distracted Driving presentation and simulation to demonstrate the negative effects of distracted driving. Open to all juniors, this presentation and simulator "moved students by showing [them] numerous interviews of people who have lost family" as a result of distracted driving, Mrs. Tess Ferrara said, the club's supervisor.

The presentation, offered through the Save a Life Tour, has been around for ten years. It was only two years ago, though, that they added the driving simulator to their program in response to an overwhelming amount of textingwhile-driving accidents. The simulator places behind an actual steering wheel with a phone that sends texts that must be replied to. As one travels through the course, more obstacles arise that must be avoided, all the while responding to the many texts that are being sent. Cody Beerthuis, one of the presenters, remarked that the simulator "is designed to show many of the things that drivers see over the years in ten minutes time so as to exaggerate the experience."

Junior Elisa Strand, who is also a member of SADD, always tries to avoid texting while driving. Because of this, the simulator took her completely by surprise, as she swerved through the course, struggling to reply to the texts while keeping her car on the road. Strand said, "People think they can quickly look up and down, but when your head is constantly moving it can be a big distraction."

Strand is not the only one who had trouble with the course. Within minutes of taking the wheel, junior Eric Voisine lost control of the car and died. Voisine said that, as a result of the simulator, he is "much more wary about texting while driving."

Distracted driving comes in many forms. While the presentation focused on texting while driving, distracted driving also includes any activity that takes one's attention off of the road for any period of time. As a result of an increase in distracted driving over the years, preventative laws have been enforced. One such law is Kelsey's Law, named in honor of 17-year-old Kelsey Raffaele who died in a cell phone related incident in 2010. This law prohibits the use of cell phones while driving for all Level 1 and Level 2 drivers, which includes the majority of high school students. Although some may ignore the law, it has proven helpful for many others.

The simulator, a hands-on learning experience, doubled as an eve-opening practice for many students on the grave implications of distracted driving. In the future, SADD hopes to bring the Save a Life Tour back to BHS in an effort to educate the next junior class and prevent future tragedies.

## The Steve Weingarden experience

Corey Lipton '16, Assistant Copy Editor

If you currently have or have ever had math teacher, Mr. Steve Weingarden, you are all too familiar with his various antics. And if you do not have him, for that I am sorry. Weingarden is notorious around BHS for many reasons, a couple of which can be found in this homage to a legend. In the words of Weingarden, keep your arms and legs inside the vehicle at all times, buckle up, and enjoy the ride.

One thing that sets Weingarden apart from other teachers is the amount of upperclassmen visitors he gets per day. He has somewhere around ten visitors during per day. What makes these daily visits special is his reaction. Depending on the person, he gives out either a hearty "Hi \_\_\_\_," or if it is one of his regulars, they are usually greeted by a sharp "Bye, Billy!"

Weingarden is also quite the jokester, in addition to being very quick-witted. He has numerous running jokes with students: whether it is looking for the mute button of a student with an invisible remote, making jokes about his favorite Spartans, or someone owing him a slurpee for a wager from the latest sports game. His sense of humor, which is unmatched by any other, makes him so memorable.

Another thing that Weingarden does that cannot be forgotten is his desire to always prove himself right. For example, when he announces a test date, he will always finish the sentence with, and "that's a promise." During the Algebra II probability unit, he will say things like, "What is the probability we have a test tomorrow?", and he will then answer his own question with a rousing "One!", accompanied by a valiant thrust of his pen into

the air every time.

Do not worry, Weingarden's best characteristic is saved for last. If you have ever had him, you know about the famous pencil drop. The pencil drop may be the greatest/funniest/most amazing thing that a student may ever be witness to, especially when that momentous release of energy is caused by your own stupidity. In fifth grade, most of us from the Berkley School

District learned how to "zoom in" on a moment. That is exactly what I am going to do for you here. For the sake of not hurting anybody's feelings, we will say that I, Corey Lipton am the annoyance that caused the drop (totally unrealistic, I know).

Weingarden hears the annoyance, he turns. He looks directly into the eyes of the annoyance, as if to say, "This is your fault." He then proceeds to move his entire body upwards, in almost a throwing motion. Both arms begin to come

up, the right one holding the pen. Finally, the pen is thrown, and all is silent. Nobody says a thing as the pen eerily hangs in the air, until that silence is broken by the loud clank of the pen, usually followed by a roar of background laughter from the class. After the energy is released, he continues with the lesson, as if nothing went wrong.

All in all, Mr. Weingarden really is a great teacher, as shown by his many "Best Teacher" awards in the Senior Bear Awards. (However, this year's awards are still haunting him because of his no show at the ceremony.) As Weingarden would say, please exit to your left, and thank you for riding the Steve Weingarden experience. In closing, please don't lower my grade.





Students get to admire the greatness of Mr. Steven Weingarden everyday.

## Phobophobia, a fear of fear itself

Madison Huff '15, Bull's Eye Editor

Everyone has an irrational fear or two. Whether said fear is common or obscure depends on the individual. Unfortunately, for select persons, this "fear" can become extreme to the point where it evolves into a phobia. By definition, a phobia is when fears become so severe that they cause tremendous anxiety and interfere with one's normal life. Now some may say they are fearless or nothing can scare them, but let's be real now, everyone is scared of something no matter how small or insignificant.

There are what people tend to call "common" or "normal" fears and phobias, such as Arachnophobia, a big hit with the ladies especially, and Claustrophobia, the fear of small spaces (or the dislike of all things Christmas—darn those present smashing Santa haters). But the most common of them all is Thanatophobia, the infamous fear of death. Now there's no need to worry about passing on just yet as long as you can always have the over advertised, over exaggerated and always reliable life alert. All you have to do is make sure you scream, "Help! I have fallen and cannot get up," press your button, and voilà, you survived another day. (The staff and I cannot be held responsible for any faulty equipment or failure of

said product.)

The more "unique" phobias are somewhat shocking and downright hilarious, yet these fears are 100 percent real. There is Kathisophobia, the fear of sitting down (man those people must have some killer thighs) and Hippopotomonstrosesquippedaliophobia, the fear of long words (also known as the excuse to be illiterate.) Then there is Anatidaephobia, the fear that some time, somewhere, somehow, a duck is watching you (also known as being completely insane) and Arachibutyrophobia, the fear of peanut butter sticking to the roof of the mouth (feel very bad for these people, for they do not get to experience the ecstasy that is peanut butter).

Even some of our very own BHS students secretly suffer from phobias of all kinds. Sophomore Cheyanne McDonald suffers from one of the fears, that of needles, also known as Trypanophobia. She said, "Even when I just hear someone talking about needles I start twitching and get the chills which lead into my arms becoming numb." McDonald added, "Sometimes it gets so bad that I can literally feel needles poking into my skin and [I] go into hysterics."

Then there is sophomore Brazil Swayne who fears not just dolls, but one doll in particular: Raggedy Ann. "I go out of my way to avoid seeing let alone being around a Raggedy Ann doll even though all other dolls don't bother me," Brazil said. "Her hair reminds me of blood and causes me to remember the horrific dream that made me fear this doll in the first place, and let's just say Chucky is like rainbows and sunshine compared to how my dream played out."

Podophobia, is the fear of feet (only 1 in 1,000 people has it). An anonymous student with said fear said, "I have been thoroughly disgusted by feet for as long as I can remember, for reasons unknown to me, but what I do know is they scare the crap out of me." She said, "they literally make me cringe, my own feet included. As crazy as it sounds, I wish feet were hands."

Fear plays a huge role in our lives and of those around us, noticeable or not. It can be helpful or harmful depending on said fear, and it is definitely something you do not want to mess around with. Let's just say it would be in one's best interest to not throw someone's fear in their face. What goes around comes around.

Photos by Corey Lipton and ShelbySilve

# Remembering the Blackberry

Jake Rothman '14, Feature Editor

In the age of iPhones and Droids, the cell phone brand of our middle school and early high school days has long since been forgotten. Throughout our time at Norup and Anderson, Blackberrys dominated the smart phone scene, and if you had one of these coveted smart phones, your social life experienced immediate dividends. As many of us have progressed through BHS though, we have not even considered the once holy Blackberry as a comparable option. While its time in all of our pockets may have expired, the smart phones do deserve a proper eulogy and reflection on the greatness each Curve and Bold had.

One of the most intriguing features Blackberrys had were their games. Well, actually only one game: BrickBreaker. The game was a simple one—break the bricks by deflecting a ball against them while picking up extra abilities to help your quest. The simplicity of the game made it easy yet time consuming, and if you could manage to be successful at the addicting game then

your middle school life was complete. But how could measly BrickBreaker stand in comparison to the greatest games of all time on the iPhones and Droids? The truth is, it could not. Temple Run, Words with Friends and Angry Birds-all of these, and countless more, are very popular and addicting games that iPhone users have at their disposal. All of these games are offered on Blackberrys, but the phone's lack of a touch screen display severely inhibits its gaming ability. The overall quality of games on Blackberrys does not even compare to the unmatched gaming on new smart phones. Even the holy BrickBreaker cannot compare to the new, interactive games on iPhones and Droids.

Blackberry Messenger (BBM) was another fantastic innovation during our middle school days. In a sense, it brought another great middle school technology, AIM, to our phones. You could post statuses, put contacts into categories, and see who was available to talk. It

gave people a sense of exclusivity if they had a Blackberry and could BBM other users, while many people could only just regularly text. BBM also introduced the group chat into many of our middle school lives, which is still widely used with new smart phones. iPhones and Droids are not any better with communicating, but as people traded their old Blackberrys in for new smart phones, nobody had anyone to BBM anymore and therefore the app became obsolete. By the time of the iPhone generation, virtually all Blackberry users lacked any fellow Blackberry'ers to contact with their fantastic app. The death of BBM very closely symbolizes the fall of the great Blackberry.

Most importantly, the internet and social media became available to us in middle school wherever we were with our Blackberrys. At the touch of a button we could get to almost any webpage, Facebook, or even the now extinct MySpace (Twitter and other new sites yet to be invented).

For the time it was revolutionary and it gave all of us a reason to constantly be on our phones. The more appealing displays of current social media sites on newer smartphones put the once socially advanced Blackberry in the back seat.

In recent years, Blackberrys have taken a backseat to the new, elusive smart phones that seem to find a way to one-up our old prized possessions. Blackberrys were not insanely cool phones, but just because all your friends had one, you had to have the exact same thing. The aspect of helpful and innovative apps that assist us was not even discussed here because Blackberrys simply do not and have not provided these great features to their customers. Now, we can have our entire life in front of our eyes with iPhones and Droids, but it is important that we remember the great times Blackberrys provided us with during our years at Norup and Anderson.

## Join the venture for adventure

Rostyslav Yeshchenko '14, Sports Editor

A BHS junior started a venture crew in Berkley earlier this winter, and it is now in full swing. Venturing is part of Boys Scouts of America, however it is far more independent and intended for teenagers.

Junior Tristan Mortimer started his venturing crew this February, but venturing started in 1998 and has since gained more than 200,000 members across the country. It is an organization that facilitates a youth group to start an independent crew with assistance from Boy Scouts of America. Although venturing is part of BSA, participants do not need to be members of BSA. In a nutshell, venturing is an opportunity for youth to come together and do various activities such as camping, hiking, and kayaking.

Mortimer's venture crew is currently the largest crew in southeast Michigan. "I decided to start the crew for a number of reasons," Mortimer said. "The major one was that a lot of my friends like camping and wanted to try camping, and didn't want to join the Boy Scouts or something similar." The crew's official name is Venture Crew 117, which Mortimer said



The venture crew discusses their upcoming summer camping trips during their most recent meeting.

refers to the video game series Halo.

The crew's major event of the year is a camping trip in August. "We go out for a week in the summer and hike or canoe or do other radical things," Mortimer explained. However venture crew is more than camping. There are a multitude of activities that members can do, ranging from a bowling trip to a weekend camping in the Upper Peninsula. Adult supervision is limited so it is up to the members to decide what they want to do and when they want to do it.

With these various activities planned and an increasing number of members, the crew's funds are diminishing. Mortimer plans to raise money in every way including, but not limited to, bottle drives, t-shirt sales, and telethons. Mortimer said, "Camping for longer than a few days can be expensive, so I plan all of these trips independently and make the trips as cheap as possible, while also making them as awesome as possible."

There is no age restriction for high school students, so anyone can join the crew.

## 20 dollars/15 miles: Things to do over the summer

Jake Kreinbring '16, Photo Editor Rostyslav Yeshchenko '14, Sports Editor

## Detroit City Football Club: 15 dollars including food and drink, 14 miles away

After the fall of Detroit's last soccer team, the Ignition, the city has yearned for a team. Le Rouge is finally filling that need for a team. This may be only their second year playing, but their fan base has grown to an enormous size. They play games every week at Cass Tech against semi pro teams. All of this, along with the cheap admission price, makes the Detroit City Football Club and a must do for all Berkley students. Plus, there is loads of place to eat and adventure to before and after the game.

## People's Art Fair: 20 dollars to buy art, 3 miles away

Every year, a series of art fairs go around the Detroit area, and they are fantastic. Starting Sept. 13 and ending on the 15, he streets of Ferndale will be packed with people experiencing the amazing food, music, and artwork all supplied by local independent bands and artists. This is something all Berkley students looking for a cheap, fun way to spend a day should go to.

## Cranbrook Campus: Free, 6.5 miles away

Cranbrook is a private educational institution in Bloomfield Hills. It includes a high school, middle schools, elementary schools, and much more. Visitors can find beautiful sculptures, modern art, and fountains in every corner of the campus. Cranbrook has its own Art Museum and Institute of Science, however those have a cost of admission of eight dollars for Art Museum and \$6.50-\$12.50 for Institute of Science. Additionally, the campus has beautiful historic house and 40-acre gardens. The cost of attendance for the historic house and gardens is ten dollars, but for those who wish to only enjoy the beauty of gardens, the attendance would cost \$6.

## Detroit Tigers Game: 20 dollars, 15 miles away

After the Tigers disappointing playoff run last year, they are looking to redeem themselves. All of their games are a fantastic time, but the best time can be found during themed nights. The fun of going to a themed game is well worth the ticket price, which start at \$12.

Dates for Themed games: Saturday, Aug. 3 - Fiesta Themed Friday, Sept. 13 - Pink out the Park Every Friday - Fireworks after the game

## Detroit Institute of Arts: Free, 12 miles away

For the true ladies and gentlemen of BHS who enjoy fine art, the DIA is the ultimate summer destination. It is one of the top art museums in America and features more than 100 galleries with art from virtually every era. The institute also displays many unique exhibitions throughout the year. This summer, DIA will put on display works of artists Shirin Neshat and Ellsworth Kelly. Even those who have visited DIA before will find new artwork to enjoy, and each in attendance might walk away feeling just a bit more cultured.

## Robotics: The sport of the mind

Emma Weisberger '16, Circulation Manager

Everyone knows that students can attain a varsity letter by playing sports, but few students know that they can also receive one by being a part of the robotics team. The robotics team is led by Mr. Joel Bergeron, former Biology teacher at BHS. The squad meets an average of two times a week until it gets to competition time when they must meet nearly every day. They compete in multiple robotics competitions throughout the year.

The robotics team offers a great opportunity for students who enjoy using solely their mental ability for competition rather than their athletic abilities. Not only do they build robots, but they promote STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) in the community. They share the enthusiasm for building robots that are designed to complete a certain task. Freshman Ari Dubrinski said, "It is really fun and it really helps with careers." She added, "Now I know what I want to be [since] I have joined robotics." Students are able to discover what they love and even what they want to choose as a career choice by being a part of the BHS robotics team.

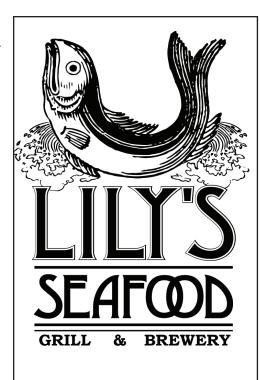
The students work together to build the robots, but there is no distinguished leader of the group. Instead, the students are divided into four groups, and parent and teacher mentors come in to supervise the team. The parents and teachers are there to guide and help the students with some of the more difficult aspects of building robots, like the complex math and engineering required.

This year, the robotics team has participated in three competitions, and even took home first place at Ultimate Assent.

The way the competitions work is the team is given a type of robot to build that must also be able to perform a certain task. For example, in the competition, Ultimate Assent, the team has to create a robot that is able to shoot frisbees through a slot. For additional points, the robot has to be able to climb up a 9-foot pyramid. If a student is not familiar with the type of robots that the robotics team has accomplished, just recall the t-shirt shooting cannon at the pep-rally. They built that robot and have created many that are very similar to it for their competitions.

Robotics requires students to utilize the math that they would otherwise "never use in the real world," Dubrinski said. The algebra and geometry formulas and theorems that seemed pointless and an unnecessary waste of time are used constantly when the team builds these robots. They also take into account the physics of building a functional machine to perform fairly complex tasks.

The students who take part in this team truly enjoy not only the finished product, but the process of building it and working on it together as a team. They learn and utilize math that, for most, would otherwise be wasted, and it could help participants decide what profession they want to be when they grow up. For many students who join, robotics provides an amazing opportunity to discover and explore what they are passionate about.



# 8 THE SPECTATOR Lights, camera, fashion

Josh Radom '16, Assistant Opinion Editor

On April 18, the 2012-2013 Marketing and Advanced Marketing classes put on the BHS Fashion Show. The show sold out day and night also worked as a fundraiser for the marketing classes and raked in a total of over \$4,000 with sold out shows.

The students who took part in the show worked very hard. During the weeks prior to the show, each group had to have at least one sponsor, this leads to a total of 13 show sponsors in all. Students had a total of two and a half weeks to prepare for the show. Junior Jeremy Paczos said, "Due to the amazing minds in our group we turned on the burners and put in work making an icy- fresh dance routine by the end." All of the groups involved created interesting dance routines which revolved around the product they were advertising, ranging from tuxes to vintage clothing.

The audience is fundamental for two aspects, raising money and keeping the performances hype. Freshman Mackenzie Newman said, "It was my first fashion show and I was really impressed; it was a lot better than I expected and I will definitely be attending next year." Everyone else who attended was also likely convinced to go to next year's show as well.

The show would not have happened if it were not for the teacher/supervisor, Ms. Beth Cameron. She commented, "I thought this year went really well." She was really happy with the support from the BHS community. She said, "The main goal of the Fashion Show is to raise money for DECA, but also to teach cooperation, team work and working together towards a common goal.

This 26th Fashion Show was an absolute success. They accomplished their goal of raising money for the class but also created a fun atmosphere and performance for BHS students who attended.









Each group showing off their best dance moves on the fashion show stage.

## How awkward are you?

Veronica Marchese '13, Assistant Editor-in-Chief

Most people have heard or even hashtagged the popular expression "that awkward moment when" but how does one handle said awkward situation? By simply hashtagging or exclaiming they have encountered the situation? Very rarely do we ever acknowledge this situation further, so here my readers is a quiz to determine how awkward you really are.

■ You're walking in an empty BHS hallway, not even Rick is in sight, and you turn the corner and someone you semi know is walking towards

A. utter a caveman grunt of a hello that turns into more of a cough/question \*uhhuggh hello?\* B. smile and wave

C. take out your phone and tweet about the situation #thatawkwardmomentwhen

■ The BHS varsity girls soccer team just won a game and you turn to your friend to celebrate in a highfive but they go in for a fist bump and what happens as a result is like a paper covering rock situation. Do you...

A. look them in the eyes and walk away

B. declare you've won the game of rock-paper-scissors

C. attempt to make up an intricate handshake

You're sitting in class probably not paying attention, day dreaming and realize someone has caught you staring at them. Do you...

> A. go cross-eyed and act like your eyes had a moment of laziness

> B. continue staring and mouth "staring contest" at them

C. avert your gaze, never look back, and pretend it never happened

You're anywhere – on the street, in the hall, at a party, etc – and someone down yonder throws up their hand and gives a wave, but you're unsure if it was meant for you. How do you react?

A. stare at them, peering into the deep pit of

B. wave back

. look behind you and see if there's any other person that the wave could've been meant for, and if there's not, wave back

● You're walking along, minding your own business and out of nowhere you trip over a lone rock or break in the ground. You then trip and tumble to a cat-cow yoga position. Do you then...

A. break down and cry

B. turn the trip into a summersault and then exclaim "nailed it"

C. look around nervously and, blushing like crazy, quietly shuffle away

You walk into class late and everyone just don't get it. Do you... turns to stare as you sit down. Do you...

If you picked mostly Bs.

you're doin' alright in life. You treat

potentially awkward situations like a

cool breeze on a Sunday afternoon.

A. proceed to explain your story of how there was an emergency in your bladder and apologize for the tardy interruption

B. apologize and take your seat

C. keep quiet and sit down

If you picked mostly As.

congratulations, you're an awkward

Allie/Andrew. In fact, you're so

awkward you shouldn't really be let

out into social situations.

■ Your friend just told a joke that everyone is laughing about, but you

A. attempt a fake laugh that turns a little villainous \*hahmahauaha\*

B. take drink of something/cough making it appear you are too busy to laugh

C. sit quietly and smiggle (smile/giggle)

You're walking towards another person, assuming one of you will move out of the way when you both go to your left, then you both shuffle to the right. In order to get out of this awkward shuffle,

A. sit down right where you are and let them decide which way to go

B. say excuse me so he/she knows you will be deciding which way to go

C. turn the awkward dance into a real dance and then continue on your way

If you picked mostly C's... you should ask B pickers how they operate because you're close to being alright, but you're not quite there yet.

## THE SPECTATOR 9 Variety show: the spice of BHS

Shelby Silver '14, Opinion Editor

On April 12, 2013, the annual Berkley High School Variety Show took place at 7 p.m. in the auditorium. BHS student leadership organized a fantastic and noteworthy show and deserves a round of applause for their hard work. The contestants were grand, and with an abundance of singers, the audience was thoroughly entertained. Student Leadership member and Variety Show hostess Shelby Miller said, "Everyone brought their A-game to the show and everyone did a great job.' Hosting alongside her, twin Ian Miller, their jokes and playful bickering made everyone

show from first year Student Leaderships advisor, Ms. Lauren Dixon, the variety show was fresh and very entertaining to the audience Many of the acts were unforgettable, especially the winners of the show, the band F8. With a breathtaking performance of one of their original songs, the band deserved the victory. Junior Shannon Smith and senior Aaron Cohen deserve a shout out for singing their own version of "Unaware" by Allen Stone which blew everyone's mind. Although they didn't place in the show (for reasons I cannot fathom), their performance was outstanding along with

juniors Ayumi Perez and Jenna Apostol

who sang their own version of "Fix You"

by Cold Play. Perez said, "Performing

alongside Jenna was so fun and I'm so glad

that I was able to be a part of the Variety

laugh out loud. With a new outlook on the

Show. I'm already excited for next year." To all who didn't attend: You're a dingus. It was an event that one had to be there for in order to really understand how great the show was, so too bad for you. Good job to all the contestants and Student Leadership for putting on a fantastic show. It was great and everyone's effort paid off. Kudos to you all.



Junior Norah Strickstein performs an individual dance routine.



# Prom: Logistics now, memories later

Aaron Cohen' 13, Copy Editor

I've never been a fan of logistics—the little things that fit into the grand scheme. I love thinking about ideas, but more than anything, I despise being responsible for the intricacies that make their execution possible. Prom is just around the corner and while I couldn't be more excited to tear it up with my friends and bask in the sentiment of being at my Senior Prom, I also dread the inevitable annoyances that come along with it.

The thing is, prom is not just the dance. Prom is renting tuxedos. Prom is transportation. Prom is corsages and boutonnieres. Prom is a pain in the ass. Luckily, I have never been the one responsible for renting the party bus, or organizing tables, but if I were, I would most certainly dread the tasks required of me. For girls, the perfect prom night includes a beautiful dress, a trip to the salon, a corsage that matches, and a fun bus ride. As for me, a perfect prom night includes doing as little planning as possible and enjoying the night for what it is, a school dance.

Which brings up one more thing—the dancing. I have nothing against the way people dance at prom. Some find it inappropriate, but in my opinion, you can't expect any different putting a few hundred teenagers in a room with loud music. But is it wrong to say I miss actually dancing? There was onece a time when guys could do more than just stand there and enjoy their date's (hopefully) decent dancing. There is nothing I would love to do more than break out some old school moves when the beat drops, but alas, the times have changed, and the era of males sharing equal responsibility on the dance floor is no longer.

Almost every guy however bears an even greater responsibility because in order for any of this to happen, he's got to put up some serious dough. Between the price of tickets, transportation, and looking fly, prom can easily exceed \$300-400. That is not to say the expense isn't worth it, but for those who don't have jobs or are in the process of finding one, the money tree is not yet in its fruitful season.

As a junior, I really enjoyed prom. My senior friends covered all of the logistics, leaving me to do nothing but have a great time. This year, there are no upperclassmen to fall back on. It's up to me to make sure everything runs smoothly. The reality is that five, ten, and 50 years from now, nobody will remember the company that provided our party bus or the drama behind who sat at which table. What we will remember is a night that, if only for a few hours, brought us all together to celebrate all that we have accomplished in high school. It is a chance for us to take a step back and realize, maybe for the first time, that this stage of life is nearly complete, and while the future could not be brighter, we will certainly at one point or another miss the way things were. This prom, I invite all (especially seniors) to join together in enjoying each other and create a final memory that will bring back "the good 'ole days" for years to come.





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## The next wave of commercials

Bennett Hart '16, Business/Ad Manager

It has become harder and harder for advertisers to capture viewers' attention. While watching television, people are always skipping commercials in order to continue watching any show and to avoid someone entering their living room to try and sell them something. It is so easy to avoid advertisements by turning the channel, DVRing the show, or watching it online without normal commercials. Advertisers must step up their game to stay relevant and overcome the challenges that technology has created.

About a month ago, family and friends gathered at my house to watch a Michigan basketball game. A commercial came on and everyone got up to refill their plates. My sister Sophie yelled out, "The AT&T commercial is on." Suddenly everyone went silent. It was the one with the kids sitting around the small table answering the adult's question in a comical way. We enjoyed the hilarious commercial and even rewound it to watch it again. As

soon as it was done people began talking about which of the several versions of the commercial was their favorite. AT&T got it right with this ad campaign.

The next morning, I sat down at the kitchen table with a bowl of cereal and some OJ, and flipped on the news. When a commercial came on, I instinctively turned the channel to SportsCenter, but I was frustrated to find a commercial on that channel, too. I turned back to the news and saw a short African American kid, without a shirt, on the screen. The commercial captured my attention. I turned up the volume. I was intrigued by the unusual beginning to this Powerade commercial. The ad started flipping through multiple people's "stories" of how they overcame stereotypes to become successful in their respective sports. While the AT&T campaign captures the viewers' attention by using humor, the Powerade ad is compelling because it makes the viewer think beyond the length of the commercial. It could even start a conversation about stereotypes in sports. To cause people to think about a commercial after the TV has been turned off is the ultimate achievement for any advertisement, but how to get their initial attention is the question.

When I sit down to watch TV, I want to be in control of what I watch. Commercials infringe on my freedom and try to sell me something in which I am likely not interested. Since the advertisers are the ones interrupting our source of entertainment, they really have to impress viewers. For advertisers to remain

relevant, they need to follow in the footsteps of the likeness of AT&T and Powerade.

Advertisers need to improve their commercials to stay relevant and overcome the challenges that new technology has created. Instead of the average commercial that contains the minimum amount of information to get their point across, these two savvy advertisers have learned to cater to the tastes of today's viewers. If future ads achieve what these commercials have and are even more sophisticated, maybe next time and tv watchers will stay tuned.

# Words losing meaning, becoming mean spirited

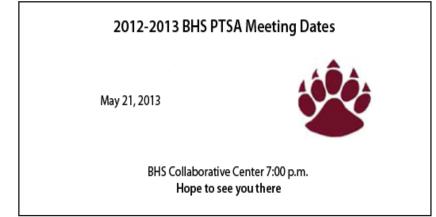
Lindsay McFern '13, Student Life Editor

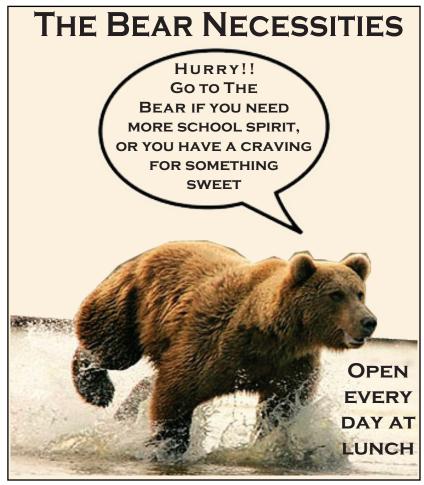
In teenage culture it has become typical to use forbidden words insensitively. The "N" word has transcended slavery, and has now become a common thing to call a friend, and "you're so gay," a phrase now meant to mean "lame" or "stupid," is overused by most. Though seemingly used playfully, our society has lost sight of the origin of these words. We've become desensitized to the complete disrespect such words as these convey.

Using these words so normally gives permission for others to do so as well, and as they do we are breeding hate. These types of words continue to be present throughout our culture, and subsequently our school, making it nothing out of the ordinary to hear vulgarity tossed around the hallways. We fail to realize the impact left on those of which they may have been directed towards in the past. It is important to realize where these words were coined and how they came to be, the "N" word was created as an insult to African Americans and gay when said, should be simply used to refer to one's sexual orientation. Each time we repeat these misinterpreted words, we reiterate the disdain now associated with them and others interpret the connotation incorrectly.

Our generation is supposed to be one of change, one in which we strive for equality of all race, gender, and religion, yet we revert to classic ways of putting others down with unintentionally or intentionally misconstrued statements. In order to achieve a mutual respect for one another, our vocabularies must be changed. In no case is it suitable for one to be called words originating from hate. It is not conducive to an accepting society.

Insensitively, people tend to also overuse the phrase "I'm going to kill myself." This is completely insensitive to those who have been affected by suicide, as we should have learned earlier this year when our student body was hurt by a tragedy of our own. We use these words without thinking, and in turn create a tactless atmosphere. We need to stop using our words to spread animosity and a lack of consideration for others, and start spreading a greater understanding of what we are saying.





## HITS AND MISSES OF APRIL

### HIT: Justin Timberlake's Comeback Rostyslav Yeshchenko '14, Sports Editor

No matter what your stance on modern pop music is, you cannot deny that Justin Timberlake's music is marvelous. You may know Timberlake from recent movies such as Friends with Benefits, from great Saturday Night Live sketches such as "Mother Lover," or perhaps you just know him as the guy who exposed Janet Jackson's breast during Super Bowl XXXVIII. Despite his numerous roles, his true profession is singing. Back in the 1990s and early 2000s, Timberlake performed in a popular boy band 'N Sync. After the band's breakup, Timberlake released two incredible solo albums earning 29 awards, six of which were Grammys. After a lengthy break from singing, Timberlake, now in 2013, finally returns to the stage. Timberlake's poorly titled album *The* 20/20 Experience will be out later this year, and he is already on the road doing concerts with rapper Jay-Z. Good news, Detroit fans, he and Jay-Z will be coming to Detroit on Aug. 6 at Ford Field.

### HIT: Record Store Day Jake Kreinbring '16, Photo Editor

Every April 20, record stores across the United States participate in Record Store Day. These shops will be filled almost to max capacity with music lovers trying to obtain the new, special merchandise sold on this very cool day. Royal Oak's local record store, UHF, offers a series of concerts from local bands this year including Timmy's Organism and The Henchmen. Both of these local bands put on one heck of a show for the people participating in the events, but we cannot look past the one thing that all of this is about: the music. The new releases for this year include a new 7" from the Black Keys along with new live releases from Bon Jovi and David Bowie. These, along with loads of other exclusive albums, made this Record Store Day a fantastic one.

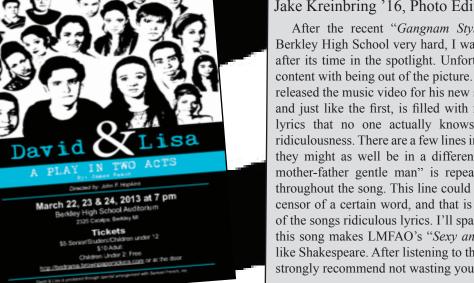
### HIT: David and Lisa

### Madison Huff '15, Bull's Eye Editor

Our very own Berkley High drama department conducted the play David and Lisa. The male lead of David was played by senior Aaron Cohen, while the leading lady, named Lisa, was played by fellow senior Claire Hayostek. They portrayed two disturbed youngsters who met, by chance, in an adolescent mental institution. The play transported the audience into a life unknown to many and provides a greater understanding of those with mental illness. From building a clever and creative set to delivering lines with unmatchable emotion and execution, the drama department put on phenomenal weekend shows. The show was a great way to the end the 2012-2013 drama season.

### MISS: Psy-Gentleman Jake Kreinbring '16, Photo Editor

After the recent "Gangnam Style" phase that hit Berkley High School very hard, I was glad to see it end after its time in the spotlight. Unfortunately, Psy is not content with being out of the picture. So, on April 13, he released the music video for his new song "Gentleman", and just like the first, is filled with ridiculous dancing, lyrics that no one actually knows, and just overall ridiculousness. There are a few lines in English, however, they might as well be in a different language. "I'm a mother-father gentle man" is repeated over and over throughout the song. This line could be seen as a mockcensor of a certain word, and that is not even the worst of the songs ridiculous lyrics. I'll spare the specifics, but this song makes LMFAO's "Sexy and I Know It" seem like Shakespeare. After listening to this mess of a song, I strongly recommend not wasting your time.



## MARCH MADNESS 2013: TOURNAMENT OF UPSETS

Mitchell Hart '13, News Editor and Corey Lipton '16, Assistant Copy Editor

### WEST

Wichita State was this year's Cinderella story, coming out of the West region. The 1 seed, Gonzaga, had a nail biter in the Second Round, edging out Southern University, who was trying to become the first 16 seed to beat a 1 seed. During that near upset, a real upset happened in the first round. 14 seed and Ivy League champion, Harvard, upset 3 seed and Mountain West champion, New Mexico. The Lobos were a popular pick to make the Final Four, but instead made an early exit. In the middle of the West, the 4 seed Kansas State and the 5 seed Wisconsin, were both popular picks to advance to the Sweet Sixteen, if not further. The two teams were upset in the Second Round. Wisconsin lost to 12 seed Ole Miss, and Kansas State lost to La Salle. This made for a rare Third Round matchup between 12 and 13 seed. Wichita State, after beating Pitt in the first round, then met Gonzaga in the Third Round. Wichita State beat Gonzaga, advancing to the Sweet Sixteen and ending Gonzaga's run. La Salle barely edged out La Salle by 2 points, and Harvard was downed by the 6 seed Arizona. That left Wichita State to play La Salle, and Arizona to play Ohio State Wichita State handled La Salle quite easily, and Ohio State edged out Arizona. In the Elite Eight, Wichita State beat Ohio State by four, completing their run into the Final Four.

### NORTH

With the exception of the at-large 12 seed University of Oregon this region went as expected. In the future, look out for junior Russ Smith from Louisville. He scored 31 points in the Sweet Sixteen against a tough Oregon defense. In the Elite Eight, perennial powerhouse Michigan State University, led by head coach Tom Izzo, was beat down by Mike Krzyzewski's Blue Devils of Duke University. This was one of the most anticipated games of the tournament because it pitted two of the best coaches and historically powerful programs together; unfortunately for State fans, super star Keith Appling and the rest of the Spartans could not pull off the upset.



### FINALS

The four regional champions: Michigan out of the South, Syracuse out of the East, Louisville out of the Midwest and Wichita State out of the West met in Atlanta to compete for the national title. In the National Semi-final, Michigan won by the skin of their teeth with a 61 - 56 victory over the Orange of Syracuse. And over-all number 1 seed Louisville came back from a 12-point deficit to beat the Shockers of Wichita State. In what has been described as the best final game in recent history, Louisville came back 12 with two minutes from being down



The South proved to be the most predictable region, apart from the 15 seed Florida Gulf Coast. Florida Gulf Coast beat Georgetown, becoming the fifth 15 seed to beat a two seed. Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU), or as they have become known as #Dunkcity, became the first 15 seed to make it to the Regional Semifinal (Sweet Sixteen). Led by senior Sherwood Brown, who scored 24 points in FGCU's Second Round matchup with second seeded perennial Georgetown, and shot 75 percent from the field in the third round against San Diego State University, FGCU exceeded all expectations. Unfortunately for the Eagles, Head Coach Andy Enfield will be leaving Fort Myers to coach for the University Of Southern California (USC). Their run was ended by the 3 seed, Florida who advanced to the Elite Eight. In the Sweet Sixteen, hometown favorite, Michigan faced off with Kansas in a game that proved to be the best game of the tournament. climaxing with the iconic Trey Burke 3-pointer that sent the game into overtime. In the Elite Eight, Michigan dismantled Florida, earning a spot in the Final Four.

### EAST

The only early upset of this bracket was the 12 seed out of the PAC 12 University of California Berkeley when they upset the 5 seed University of Nevada, Las Vegas. However in the Sweet Sixteen, Syracuse University upset number 1 seed Indiana University, and the Marquette University



the first half to win

their first national

SPRING SPORT UPDATE Alison Jones '13, Assistant Editor-in-Chief

Girls Softball

Record: 2-2

"Our season is going really

well so far. We're much

what's yet to come.'

-Robin Voisine

better than we were last

year and are still improving

as the season continues. We

have high expectations for

Girls Soccer Record: 4-3

"This year we have been doing better than I thought with a bunch of new girls all playing together. But, we've suffered with a lot of injuries and that's hurting us because more and more people are unable to

- Madison Murray

Record: 2-1

left in

"The season is going really Every tournament/ match we are in we always have a chance to win. This is the best we have looked in four years. There's more love on this team than an actual marriage" - Eric Israel

Girls Tennis Record: 1-2

"We're stronger than last year. We got a lot of new, good players; even though we lost a lot of people last year, We're really improving." Marlee Rothman

Boys Basebal Record: 3-1 good. We're strong all around and have the will and devotion to do big things this year."

Track and Field "The guys are smoking everyone Record: 2-1 in they race in our league. Jeremy [Shephard], Raymond [Stoves], Kevin [Bibby], Elijah [Jones], Josh [Coleman] and Eric [Braun] are so fast. When they come out of the

blocks they are going to win. The throwers are doing great too. For myself I feel stronger than I did last year. No one wants to lose, it is win medals or go home." - Zack Finzel

## TV shows fly under the radar, still deserve respect

Alison Jones '13, Assistant Editor-in-Chief

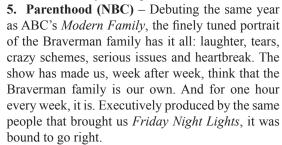
Glee, The Office, American Idol, The Real Housewives of... everything – you've all heard of and probably seen them all., but what about those shows that don't get their proper dues?



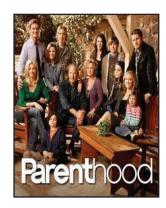


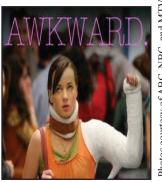
- **1.** Happy Endings (ABC) From its start, *Happy* Endings has always been seen as a second-tier series to ABC's Modern Family, yet it is still one of the strongest comedies on the network. Sure, it doesn't have the sassy family appeal of some of the network's other shows, but Happy Endings brings a more mature telling of friends living (and growing) together, similar to How I Met Your Mother and Friends. Thanks to the series not needing a 9-year reveal of the "mother," viewers get to explore a more realistic version of the "current" generation. Moved to Fridays, fans need to watch to save Happy Endings.
- 2. Blue Bloods (CBS) Debuting in Sept. 2010, Blue Bloods is yet another police drama series filmed in New York City. Revolving around a family of New York City cops, though it brings more dimensions than any other police show on television now. Blue Bloods has been picked up for a fourth season to air March 27.
- 3. Parks and Recreation (NBC) Two words: Amy Poehler.
- **4.** Nashville (ABC) A show about country music was sure to be a tough sell for those not into Nashville sounds. The beautiful Hayden Paniettiere

portrays Juliet Barnes, up and coming country singer (with a surprising likeness to Taylor Swift), and Friday Night Lights' Connie Britton plays Reyna James. When the two clash, it is nothing short of a country masterpiece.



6. Awkward. (MTV) - The show may have had a rough second season, getting too caught up in the ongoing Matty-Jake love triangle, but the first season was the best thing since Gilmore Girls premiered in 2000. Though some can compare it to Clueless and shows/movies of the same liking, the show is less about what the characters say and more so what it says *about* them—how their blog-centric lives act as a channel for their teen disappointments and hopes for a better school day tomorrow.





otos courtesy of ABC, NBC, and MTV

## Songs of high school: Music that defined our four years

Aaron Cohen '13, Senior Copy Editor

The high school experience can vary as much as the music we listen to. Like a movie, we live our lives to a soundtrack we make for ourselves. The songs below are not all creative masterpieces. On the contrary, some of them may not qualify as music to the more developed ear. Still, as the senior class moves on to bigger and better things, we will always remember the music that defined our time in high school:

### "Single Ladies" - Beyonce

Beyonce has redefined what it means to be a female in the music biz. Her stunning looks, amazing talent and outspoken personality have launched her career into a self-made brand. With her evenmore-successful husband, Jay-Z, she became a mother, and then proceeded to light up the stage at the 2013 Superbowl. Included in the 15-minute spectacle was her song "Single Ladies", a female anthem that in the future will serve as a lyrical monument to how far women have come in American culture.

### "Tik Tok" - Ke\$ha

I will never really know what it feels like to wake up in the morning feeling like P. Diddy, but thanks to Ke\$ha, I will at least know what to expect. "Tik Tok" is about partying. Nothing else. High schoolers like to party (Berkley being an exception, of course). The connection is obvious. A hit was the only possible outcome.

### "Teenage Dream" - Katy Perry

Cheesy, gooey, catchy. Katy Perry's "Teenage Dream" is best played driving 80 mph down 11 mile with eight people in your back seat. The song speaks to high school students, which is why top-40 radio stations played the song on loop all summer. Everyone remembers at least one occasion where they couldn't help but belt out the words "put your hand on me in my skintight jeans, be your teenage dream tonight" at the top of their lungs.

### "I Gotta Feeling" - Black Eyed Peas

After listening to this song, you can rest assure that your night will be, in fact, good. Will.i.Am and the Black Eyed Peas will be remembered for their mastery of the catchy pop hook. Other songs like "Boom Boom Pow" and a new-generation remix of "Time of My Life" all rely on a central repeated phrase that once engrained in the listeners mind is almost impossible to erase. In 20 years, we will still remember the lyrics to "I Gotta Feeling", guaranteed.

### "Friday" – Rebecca Black

Arguably the worst song ever written, "Friday" will forever be remembered as the viral YouTube video that provided a musical send-off to the weekend. Unfortunately, airtime carried over to every other day of the week. There aren't many who would declare the song as their favorite, but for sentimental purposes alone, "Friday" deserves a spot on this list.

## MESSAGE FROM A STUDENT: KEEPING THE ARTS AT BHS

Aaron Cohen '13, Senior Copy Editor

The Burton Elementary School ball field was never exactly my domain. Countless dropped passes, endless missed baskets – it was clear early on that this white, Jewish kid from Huntington Woods, Michigan would never break Usain Bolt's record in speed, or pitch a perfect game in the World Series.

But I remember wondering as a kid, "Why do we have to play football at recess? Why doesn't anybody want to play an instrument or draw in the art room? It can't be that nobody would rather do something else.

School felt that way for a long time, but when high school came around, the tides turned. There were so many creative opportunities: art classes, choirs, orchestra, band, computer design and drama. I was a freshman in high school, but club day on the courtyard was my first recess

We've all heard about "keeping the arts in schools," and the importance they carry in academic and social life. But with financial struggles for districts nationwide, that has not been enough to prevent many schools from cutting back on their art programs. Berkley has always done a great job supporting its creative endeavors, but as a senior nearing the completion of high school, I can't help but worry for the future. It is imperative that the BHS student body continues to push for arts in the classroom, and allow other students to experience the indescribable rewards a creative outlet may provide.

Art is dedication. Those associated with Berkley's art programs will tell you that the daily 60 minutes allotted for class make up only a portion of the endless hours spent rehearsing, refining, and perfecting their respective craft. Marching band begins well before the start of the school year. Orchestra members sacrifice hours of sleep to come in early and practice. During the week leading up to a performance, those involved in drama productions may not leave school until 11:00 at night.

But in these moments are when one's connection to the arts is the strongest. The sensation the marching band feels taking Hurley field for the first time each season, the indescribable joy that comes from lifting a trophy for first place in a national orchestra competition, and the pride that ensues as final bows are taken on stage makes every minute worth it. As a part of the program, students work to preserve traditions established by prior classes and advocate for the success of the department. In the arts, you learn what it means to really accomplish something. To set a goal and work tirelessly to achieve it – lessons that students carry with them for the rest of their lives.

Art is discipline. The word creativity is often juxtaposed with words like organization, routine, and tedium, but in reality, they are all unavoidable aspects of any art medium. A painter may redo a left eye 50 times before the light hits it just right. A Cappella choir may run through bars 75-85 of the renaissance piece, Sicut Cervus, for an hour before their vowels match perfectly. Through these trials and tribulations however, the student artist learns what the pursuit of perfection really means, and the importance of pushing your own boundaries. Just as repetition is the only way to perfect the tennis serve, or hit a fastball, its role in the arts plays an essential part in how students learn to conquer challenges throughout their lives.

Art is family. Most will never play in the Trans-Siberian Orchestra, nor will all of our works be placed in exhibits at the New York Metropolitan Museum of Art. People are what make the student art experience. Creativity provides a unique backdrop to establish and nurture so many different kinds of relationships: the senior who takes a freshman under his wing in choir may be the difference in his/her high school experience. Friends can become like siblings after weeks of preparing for the fall musical. And we've all heard the stories of the high school sweethearts who met in band class freshman year. Whether a student is the next Beethoven, or incapable of counting to four in rhythm, the relationships that derive from a mutual love for something can be the strongest there are.

Art is passion. Confucius once said, "Choose a job you love, and you will never work a day in your life." Each student that takes part in one of Berkley's various art programs is guaranteed, at least for an hour every day, that they will be able to do something that they love in a positive, safe environment. No art form is easy, but those who find passion in their craft will reap the benefits for the rest of their lives.

Within the walls of Berkley High School are students capable of remarkable things. In providing art programs, we foster an environment where creativity can flourish, and the creative thinker can prosper. Our generation will be defined by those who were given the opportunity to realize their own potential. The future of our society sits in the art and music rooms that will nurture and develop the minds of students who hope to one day make a difference in the world.

# 13,000 FEET ABOVE AND FULL OF THOUGHTS

Veronica Marchese '13, Assistant Editor-in-Chief

One of my favorite things to do is look out windows. There is something about being able to stare out into the world without it staring back that has always intrigued me. So, being 13,000 feet above our world on the way to my spring break destination and staring down at it all was, to say the least, my perfect situation. Moments like these I do not take for granted – moments like my morning showers, the minutes before I fall asleep, a rainy day, a long car ride, and the occasional plane ride. These various moments all have the same outcome for me: deep thoughts swirling around in my mind. As I sat on the plane on April 2 and 8, looking down out at every tiny city below, more than a million column ideas popped up, all of which I thought to be genius, and all of which, after reviewing the ideas later, turned out to be ridiculously stupid. It was like when you dream about pants for cats and wake up in the middle of the night and think "Wow, what a great idea! I'm gonna make millions," and then in the morning you think "What the? No."

One out of the million things I thought about was how on the Wednesday before we were released on spring break Ms. Dildine told my sixth hour physics class to be careful on our trips, but to have fun, and also how they are our "stupid years." Stupid years. What a funny way of putting it – such a casual two word phrase and yet, there I was, a thousand miles and thousands of feet from and above BHS, thinking back to it. I couldn't help but wonder what Dildine meant by these words. Obviously, I knew she was saying it's okay to make mistakes, we are, after all, only teenagers – we have to learn somehow, but I started to think about what else could've been taken away from those two little words: Stupid years. Are they pointless? Lacking intelligence? Dazed and confused? With all these thoughts, I began to go on a bit of a tangent and think about how differently the people in my sixth hour may have taken those two words, or if any of them other than myself were even paying attention.

This multitude of connotations for "stupid" allow us to all take away something different, and the biggest thing I thought about was how much we've learned this year, and although these may be deemed our "stupid years," we don't have to stop taking risks and trying new things – however, many would argue otherwise. There comes a time in our lives, maybe it's Aug. 25 for me (the day I move into Lyman Briggs and begin life on my "own"), or maybe it's in 2017 when most of us complete four years of college, when eventually we are expected to take responsibility for our actions and make "smart" decisions day in, day out. This is where the problems begin, when people stop being courageous and stop taking risks because we are expected to outgrow our "stupid years."

A lot of teenagers tend to blame their parents for being punished for the mistakes they make because said disgruntled students claim their parents did what they're getting in trouble for, and maybe worse when they were young, but here's the real truth, parents have already learned from their mistakes and are trying to help their offspring stay away from the same slipups. This year a lot of people have "yolo'ed" a little too hard and made some mistakes, crossing the line from taking risks and experiencing high school to the fullest to the dark side of being straight up stupid. These "yolo'ing" students are the same ones that blame parents and have lost the ability to gage what risks to take and which to leave alone. As a senior I know I'm trying to live by the cliché phrase "live life to the fullest" this summer since I may not see a lot of the people I've spent the last 12 years with, however, I will not, by any means be out pushing the limits to the point where I lose all common sense, and as I continue on after high school and meet new people and experience new things, I will continue to take risks – as everyone should. But do not blame others for your mistakes when you go too far, take responsibility for your actions, because one day you will be on your own, hopefully more wise from past mistakes and hopefully not afraid to continue taking risks, "stupid years" or not.

## When hard work and training just isn't enough

Alison Jones '13, Assistant Editor-in-Chief

In life, we all work so hard for years and train to become better people. We go to school and work to do different things in the hopes that we will learn more and be better prepared for life. But sometimes, in life, our hard work just does not pay off. We may think that we know all that it takes to make our lives fulfilling, but that's where we go wrong. A person's mind is a beautiful yet scary thing. It's the only place that we can think freely without being judged, without thinking that we are wrong. We spend our lives training and preparing for the rest of our life. Just as the athletes that participated in the Boston Marathon on April 15 trained for months and months for this one race.

The morning the citizens of Boston woke up, there was no way they could have imagined this, or any other type of tragedy for that matter. We see tragedies of this caliber and ones even greater and never think how many people truly are affected by such a heartless act. It was a normal, groggy Monday in Boston, but within hours, the busy spectator-filled sidewalks and runner-filled streets were in a sudden panic from the heartless act just committed by two brothers from Chechnya. Three people were killed and more than 200 others were wounded when two powerful homemade bombs exploded near the race's finish line.

It was a normal day and a seemingly normal kid. So what went wrong? What made this 19-year-old boy and his brother bomb the spectators and runners near the finish line of the Boston Marathon? As of now, we may not know the answer, and maybe that's a good thing.

This is a true testament to the fact that you never really know what is going on inside a person's head. Every day you pass people in the hallway or on the street. You truly have no idea what a person is thinking or going through without being in their mind or walking in their shoes. Same goes for the Boston bombers. The boy went to school as normal, even went to a party that night after committing such a horrible crime against so many innocent people.

No human should ever have to experience these kinds of tragedies, but they happen. They are unpredictable and inhumane, yet somehow they have the power to change an immense number of people's lives in a short amount of time. Take 9/11, the Sandy Hook Elementary shooting, and the Virginia Tech campus shootings; these one day, one minute, one split second acts forever changed the world and everyone involved. I know it shouldn't take events like this to bring out the giving side of our population, but they do. Following the Boston bombing, people from all over the world offered places to stay, food, and transportation to anyone in need.

My point is all this is that there is no point. These events are unexplainable and indescribable. With a hearing set for March 30, there may be some peace of mind for those involved, but it still won't change what happened. The only way the world can even start to heal the wounds is to pick ourselves up and band together. For people to train and dedicate a large portion of their life to one thing, and have it literally blow up in their face is such a devastating realization. But it's something, by the faultiness of our society, that we are forced to live with. We are forced to accept that our hard work and training won't always prepare us for the obstacles life has to offer. We can, instead, use that training to pick ourselves up, and hope for a better tomorrow.

## Be a Man:

### Constraints of females imposed by prototypical males

Clarissa Donnelly '13, Editor-in-Chief

A few days ago I was talking to a friend who is a freshman girl. The topic of our conversation came to the guys in my grade, and how she thinks that they're scary. I asked why she thinks they're scary, but she didn't have a concrete answer—they just come off that way. Even though there really was no obvious logic behind her reasoning, I understood, and I could sympathize because during my time as a freshman girl, I remember being intimidated by the senior boys. I remember specifically that having to carry a lunch box (which wasn't even really a lunch box, it was a lululemon bag) seemed like the most embarrassing thing ever because the senior boys were going to think I was stupid.

My assumption that the senior boys of my time must've thought I was stupid stemmed from experience eating around guys my own age. I often felt self-conscious, so I ate less than I normally would, and only healthy or 'girly' foods—like salads. I did this because for some reason, I was aware of this rule that eating, especially eating unhealthy or a lot, was apparently a guy thing to do. Girls shouldn't feel hunger, and certainly not act on it. If I felt this way around guys my own age, imagine how much greater that feeling was around older and bigger boys. The senior boys would think I was stupid because I was eating, and what girl eats?!

The role of hunger as a male characteristic seems to be a part of a set of unspoken rules constructed around and for boys, especially the role of the Senior Boy. Who knows where these odd rules and restrictions came from, but in order to be a Senior Boy, we've come to understand that you must act a certain way and do certain things: drink, smoke, get with girls but don't have feelings for them, and be especially good at making people feel dumb who don't abide by the same rules that you do (i.e. girls who eat). These characteristics and so many more allow the Senior Boy to be seen as a figure of power. This invisible yet totally exerted power then explains why the Senior Boys "just come off that way," or are intimidating. Senior Boy mentality also seems oddly parallel to another—the Frat Boy.

An ideal Frat Boy would be known for drinking a lot, holding his power of exclusivity over those who are not members of fraternity, loving phrases like 'that's so gay' and 'no homo,' and having a discourteous attitude towards women. Despite his less than endearing qualities though, this Frat Boy is understood as a 'well-liked guy,' since he's popular, hooks up with lots of girls, and ultimately, has just a seemingly vast amount of power he can wield. As you've probably noticed, there are almost no differences between the Senior Boy and the Frat Boy. This is because the idea of how the Frat Boy acts (or should act) is seemingly passed on to younger generations. This attitude then drives how Senior Boys (and other high school boys) act. They believe that if they act like the Frat Boy, they'll get what the Frat Boy has. In simpler terms, by the end, the Senior Boys end up acting how a Frat Boy would act, which is ultimately barbaric and ill-mannered, because they think that's the way to power.

So, some boys are rude—what's the big deal, right? If they're inconsiderate, can't we just ignore them? We don't have to talk to them or hook up with them; we'll just change our lifestyle so we don't mix with them.

But there are some major problems with the mentality that just ignores the obvious destructive consequences of the Senior Boy/Frat Boy attitude. For one, this ideology of how any and all guys are supposed to act, like Boys, is so widespread that it is visible almost anywhere. And since it's everywhere it will always have some sort of effect on you (especially women). This is referring back to me again, but it encompasses a wide spread of emotions. I was in a frat house a few weeks ago (my first time), and as I went from room to room I found myself looked at, evaluated, and then ignored by a bunch of nameless Frat Boys. Even though I thought didn't really care what these boys thought of me, I still felt vulnerable as I was subjected to their gaze, their evaluation, and finally their power over me. I was in *their* house after all.

As this cycle continued, I felt self-conscious—what was my facial expression? Should I suck in my stomach? After realizing how much I had been critiquing myself, I got mad. Why should these boys have such a power to control how I see myself (how they see me)? This is the exact reason why the discourteous behavior of the Frat Boys and the Senior Boys cannot be ignored. Because I understood the Frat Boys to be in a position of power over me, I attempted to change myself to better fit their needs, to be accepted by these power figures. Acceptance and approval by these power figures (Senior Boys and Frat Boys) is a driving characteristic behind the ways in which so many girls act: they put on make up in the morning because they want the Senior Boys to think they're pretty and they Instagram pictures of broccoli and salad and say "mmmm dinner!" because they don't want the Senior Boy to think that they actually eat food since that's not what a Girl would do; girls change their lifestyles to fit in with and please these boys.

As widespread and in control as these attitudes are, they are also unseen at the same time; we're allowing boys to control our lives because of an invisible power they've appropriated to themselves by acting a certain way. They've done nothing productive or influential that *should* change the way we think about the world and each other; they just act a certain way so we think they are a certain way and thus deserve certain things from us. All of this so called progress we've made over the last 50 years in terms of gender equality seems to ultimately amount to nothing as we not only allow Boys to control our actions, but also how we see ourselves. My point is not, I repeat NOT, to slander the entire male gender—some boys are great, I love boys—but it is an attempted realization to what is actually going on if so many boys continue to demoralize and conform themselves in the hopes of gaining power and popularity. Boys, you're killing societal progression by trying to exemplify a type of person we never even know really existed. Have some individuality, form your own opinion and don't just join a frat because that's what you're supposed to do. Do something other than be a Boy.