

Aiming for Valedictorian? Top 10 seniors share strategies. Read page 5.



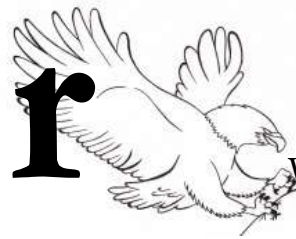
Save \$ and your Saturday. City offers seniors free SATs. Read page 3.



Autumn arrives. We asked, what are your favorite parts of the season? Read page 3.



The Eagle Flyer



October 2014
Kennedy High School
422 Highland Avenue
Waterbury, Conn. 06708
Volume XI, Issue I



They started
3-0
they're now
3-2
but they're still
Making History

By Leah Cocchiola
Staff Writer

3-0.

These numbers represent the amount of wins Kennedy's varsity football team had against Sacred Heart, Oxford and Watertown for the 2014-2015 school year, making history for the team.

"The fact that 18 seniors stayed for four years and worked hard to get better," was a key to success, said football coach and history teacher Mr. Sarlo.

After defeating Sacred Heart/Kaynor 49-6 Sept. 12, Oxford 20-6 Sept. 19 and Watertown 32-7 Sept. 26 for the best start in school history, the team lost to Naugatuck 24-57 Oct. 2 and Holy Cross 13-34 Oct. 9, according to the Connecticut Interscholastic Association website. Six games remain.

The seniors take the game more seriously, according to Sarlo.

"The seniors are more mature and have a more serious attitude during practice. They're mature enough to play against adversity in games," said Sarlo.

It also helped the teams they played against weren't their biggest opponents, he said.

"It helps opening up against a lesser opponent. I knew the schedule at the beginning of the season wasn't that tough," said Sarlo. "The teams we beat last year we should be able to beat this year."

The teams' three senior captains Jake D'Alusio, Thomas Ouellette, and Justin Jones were a huge part of the team's success, Sarlo said.

"The seniors are good models for other teammates to follow," said Sarlo.

The team is also proud of their season-opening wins.

"We've already made history with 3-0. I'm very proud of them,

they're all very hard workers. None of them are quitters," said Ouellette.

"I'm really enjoying our wins. It's the first time I remember being 1-0, let alone 3-0," said senior Patrick Luzio.

Certain players have contributed greatly to them, Sarlo said.

"Eli Benjamin had a lot of success as a junior and we're glad he came back this year," said Sarlo. "Bryan Garcia Medina won the spot as quarterback. He's a great young leader."

Although the players are strong, there's still room to progress, according to Ouellette.

"We still have improvements to make and I'm happy the players are willing to make them," he said.

They face New Milford Oct. 16 and Derby Oct. 24, both at Municipal Stadium in Waterbury.

"We're a better team this year than last year," said Sarlo.

SEASON KICKOFF

Varsity football team players take the field during Waterbury's annual jamboree Friday, Sept. 5, 2014 at 6 p.m. at Municipal Stadium. The team began their season 3-0 by defeating Sacred Heart/Kaynor, Oxford and Watertown, making school history.

Photos by Samantha Campanaro/staff



ROBERT L. BARONE
Realtor Associate

SHOWCASE REALTY, INC.

Bus: (860) 274-7000 Ext. 18
Fax: (860) 274-4455
Res: (203) 753-5719
Cell: (203) 706-0592
Email: bobmls444@aol.com

216 Davis Street
Oakville, CT 06779

BRADSHAW CHRYSLER JEEP

554 MAIN STREET • OAKVILLE, CT 06779
www.bradshawchryslerjeep.net

Jack Bradshaw
Sales Manager

Tel. (860) 274-8834, Ext. 106
Fax: (860) 274-2760
Email: jbradshaw@bradshawjeep.net

The Arc of Southington

Sandra A. Amato
C.E.O.
ceo@arcsouthington.org

Serving People with Disabilities
Support ♦ Advocacy ♦ Respect ♦ Community

201 West Main Street
Plantsville, CT 06479
Phone (860) 628-9220 Ext. 140
Fax (860) 621-2546
Website: www.arcofsouthington.org

Black Sand Creations

Sandy Amato
artist & beachcomber

p. 860.620.446
e. creations@sandyamato.com
www.blacksandcreations.com

Ann's Deli
waterbury, conn.

1595 BALDWIN ST.
WATERBURY, CT 06706
PHONE ORDERS
575-9051

Maurice's Haircutters
cut, colors, styling for men, women & children

1213 Baldwin St. • Waterbury, CT 06708 • 203.756.9083

Bushka Lumber & Millwork Co. LLC

305 Fairfield Ave.
Waterbury, CT 06708
Phone: 203-756-7068
Fax: 203-756-5795

Imagine. Create. Design. Enjoy.

Jeff Hunter
President
203-510-3574

James (JJ) Jackson
Vice President
203-232-5860

J & J INC.
Waterbury, CT

"Giving Back to the Community"

Jeff Stewart
2nd Vice President
203-808-7458

American Studies gains full credit

Teachers Martone, Harris both receive certification from UConn

By Anthony Jamele
Staff Writer

Husky certified. Although the 2013-2014 American Studies class lost credit, two Kennedy teachers got it reinstated for the 2014-2015 school year. English teacher Mrs. Martone and History teacher Mr. Aftowski, who has since left, were granted certification from the University of Connecticut, confirmed June 6 by principal Mr. Johnston for the 36 students signed up then to have a chance to obtain the three UConn credits upon successful course completion.

"So far I like it! I love the teachers and I thought the class was going to be way overwhelming because it's a college course and everything but it's all good," said junior Bailey Murphy. "I was totally scared that our teachers weren't going to be certified."

Martone and Aftowski both filed for the certification in March 2014 but Aftowski left Kennedy in July 2014 for a vice principal position at Thomaston High School, which he later resigned from in September 2014. History teacher Mrs. Harris, the former Ms. Mullai who was married this summer, obtained her UConn certification and now co-teaches the course with Martone.

"There was a need for an English teacher to co-teach with Mr. Aftowski and I thought it would be a great opportunity to teach college level course work at a high school. I also want Kennedy students to have that opportunity to have college credit before actually entering college," said

"I want Kennedy students to have that opportunity to have college credit before actually entering college."

Mrs. Martone, English teacher, who co-teaches the American Studies course

Martone.

The History and English sections will coincide with each other, featuring more projects and rigor.

"That's the plan as long as we have the same two teachers we begin and end with," said Aftowski in May 2014.

"The idea is to help students be career and college ready, so it should have more rigor," said Martone.

Presently the class of 33 is one section and meets for two periods.

Students will need to obtain the 85 for the overall grade in the course in order to receive the three credits from UConn, according to the program's website.

"I was nervous to take the course and not get the credit," said junior Morgan Fasanelli. "So far the course isn't that difficult as long as you do your work. The only downside is there's 33 of us in one class, so it's difficult for Martone and Harris to teach everyone at one time because not everyone is paying attention. I like the information we've been taught."

The American Studies course was originated by retired History department chair Mr. Kalach, and English teacher Mrs. Carini, who took sick leave September 2014 and eventually retired effective June 2014, according to Board of Education minutes. Various teachers have filled the positions, including present vice principal Mr. McCasland, until he was appointed an administrator.

"So far I like it! I was totally scared that our teachers weren't going to be certified."

Bailey Murphy, junior, who takes the American Studies course

D'Jaslene Salón
Unisex

1954 Baldwin St Waterbury CT 06706

Myriam Professional Hairstylist
Phone: 203-756-2641 (salon)
203-510-3135 (cell phone)

Be a better reader, writer and thinker.

What are you waiting for?

Join The Eagle Flyer
Kennedy's award-winning student newspaper. Sign up in homeroom 105 with Leah Cocchiola.

DOWNLOAD THE GROGLME APP FOR FREE MUSIC, VIDEOS, RADIO & MUCH MORE

FOLLOW @GROGLME & HASHTAG #GROGLME ON INSTAGRAM WITH A PIC OF YOU AND THE APP AND GET A SHOUTOUT !!!

Available on the iPhone App Store

ANDROID APP ON Google play

What do you like best about Autumn?

By Mackenna Jacovich and Kelly Edwards
Staff Writers



"Pumpkin spice iced coffee" from DD
Briann Bergin



"Volleyball" and "pumpkin pie."
Tea Culani (left), Christi Ollero (right)



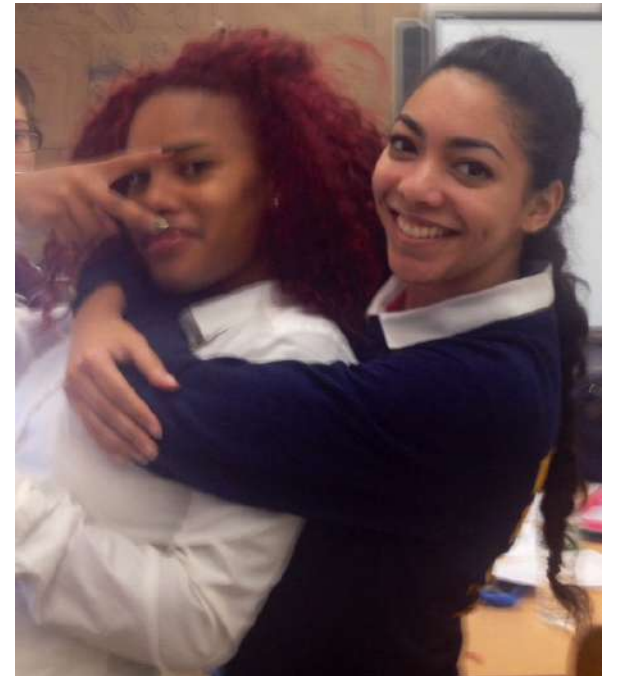
"Nice cold weather."
Mayowa Oloyede



"The fairs."
Ms. Velez, Science teacher



"The leaves changing."
Jailene Ortiz



"Hoodie season" and "Halloween, volleyball and football season."
Franchesca Villar (left), Samantha DeCena (right)

City pays for all seniors to take SAT during school

Wednesday, Oct. 15 becomes half day to accommodate testing

By Leah Cocchiola
Staff Writer

Wednesday, Oct. 15, 2014:
A day without classes.
A day of free opportunities.

SAT School Day is the program that made the SATs free for the 275 seniors signed up as of Oct. 10 thanks to a contract between the Waterbury school district and College Board, which also makes the city pay for the test, according to principal Mr. Johnston.

"The idea behind this is to increase access to the test. More kids will take the SATs and will go

to post secondary school," said Johnston.

This allows students to take the SAT in school during a school day rather than on a Saturday as the test is typically given, according to Johnston.

"Teachers have been trained. (Guidance counselor) Mrs. Yatsenick went through training with College Board and then she trained the other teachers," said Johnston regarding qualifications for teachers giving the test.

There has been some difficulties with setting it up, he said. "The difficult thing is logistically

setting it up in the building. Kids have to take tests in regular classes with regular desks. Labs and computer rooms have the desks too close together, so we can't use them," said Johnston.

Classes are filled with students who are testing since all grades will take a test: the ReadyStep test will be administered to freshmen, while sophomores and juniors take the PSATs. All students will be dismissed at 11:50 a.m. as a half day.

"There's 13 SAT classrooms, 22 PSAT classrooms, and 14 Ready Step classrooms," said Johnston.

He said he hopes to continue

with the program in the future.

"We'll see how it works out. It's hoped to become an annual thing," said Johnston.

The new program makes SATs different from previous years, according to building substitute Ms. George.

"It was different back then. Today the students have more opportunities to do better on the SAT. I think they've leveled the playing field," said George. "I think this is a great thing for the seniors."



"The idea behind this is to increase access to the test. More kids will take the SATs and will go to post secondary school."

Mr. Johnston, principal

brooklynbakingco.com

Brooklyn Baking Co
464 Reidville Drive
Waterbury, CT
203-596-3500

Soo Ko

Bella

495 Union Street #1118
Waterbury, CT 06706
Tel: (203) 596-1226

Celebrity Cuts BARBERSHOP

Licensed Professionals
Omar
Hours:
Sun. 12pm - 5pm
Mon. OFF
Tues. - Thurs. & Sat. 12pm - 8pm
Fri. 2pm - 8pm

1860 Baldwin Street
Waterbury, CT

Cell - 203.808.6577
Shop - 203.573.9039

Walk-ins Always Welcomed
Call for Appointments

Welcome back to freedom of speech: thank your forefathers

Staff Editorial

We were just celebrating the end of school in June, saw some fireworks for Fourth of July, did school shopping in August, and suddenly it's October. We've somehow been back in school for nearly 6 weeks, but have we begun to appreciate the benefits of our public school education?

One of our greatest freedoms stems from our forefathers, who provided a document they hoped would develop as we also improved ourselves as citizens, the U.S. Constitution. While not everyone is familiar with its first 10 amendments, some people know The Bill of Rights or think they understand how we enjoy freedom of speech, but what do most people really comprehend?

Ratified by the states Dec. 15, 1791, the First Amendment states "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances." What does this mean to us? The portion granting us "freedom of speech" allows us to both study and practice journalism, which includes developing our editorial skills through writing and design, as well as our business skills, or advertising and marketing knowledge.

So what do we actually do? Aside from create from scratch the newspaper you hold in your hands, we study the Society of Professional Journalist's Code of Ethics with its 35 tenets for maintaining personal integrity, and try our best to produce a document that attempts to make sense of our world and society. We are far from perfect, but pledge to use the freedoms given by our forefathers to keep improving ourselves and our school. And for that, we are grateful to be back in school.

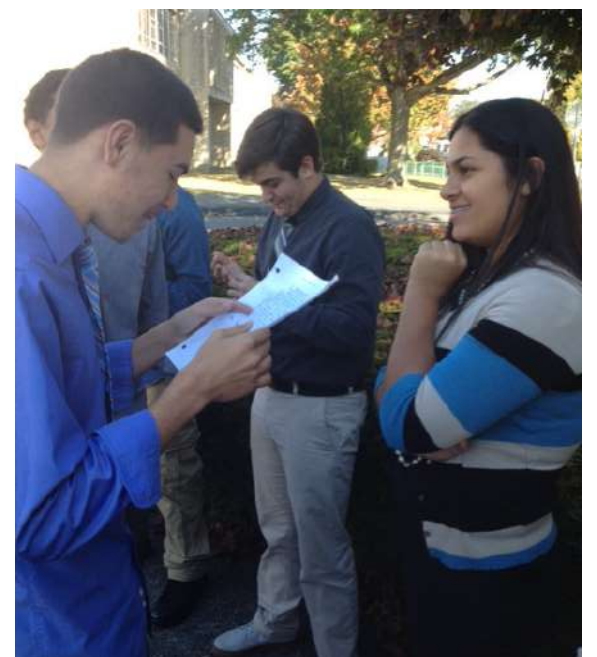


Who says this is "the most wonderful time of the year"?

Meet your newspaper staff



HONORING VOWS Eagle Flyer staff member Damian Luciano, senior, recites vows to senior Amber Hilario next to senior Francis Forino for their induction ceremony Oct. 6.



JOURNALISTS Below are half the staff who bring you this newspaper: junior Darian Houghtaling, seniors Joe Galante, Malieke Zimmerman, Damian Luciano, Perla Cora, Francis Forino, Lia Sforza, Amber Hilario, Kelly Edwards, Mackenna Jacovich, sophomore Alani Arias, junior Ganiya Hunter, senior Angelica Pollard-Knight, sophomore Samantha Campanaro, and senior Samuel Lopez. The second half of our staff will be featured next issue.

TAKING OUR VOWS Eagle Flyer newspaper staff members enjoyed warm weather Monday, Oct. 6, 2014 as they conducted their induction ceremony by the flagpole. Senior Damian Luciano (above) officiated the event, with senior Joe Galante assisting. Behind Galante are seniors Malieke Zimmerman and Francis Forino. Another ceremony was held in the afternoon.



The Eagle Flyer

The Eagle Flyer is published monthly and distributed free of charge to Kennedy High School and the greater Waterbury community.

Our mission is to educate, enlighten and inform our school and community while developing our journalism skills in both Editorial and Business.

The Eagle Flyer is a member of the Columbia Scholastic Press Association, the New England Scholastic Press Association and the Journalism Education Association.

Kennedy High School
School hours: 7:20 a.m. - 1:50 p.m.
Address: 422 Highland Avenue, Waterbury, CT 06708
Phone: 203-574-8150
Fax: 203-574-8154

Staff

Class of 2015

Perla Cora, Brittney Coran, Kelly Edwards, Francis Forino, Joe Galante, Amber Hilario, Mackenna Jacovich, Samuel Lopez, Angelica-Pollard Knight, Lia Sforza, Malieke Zimmerman, Leah Cocchiola, Tayah Farrow, Emma Finnegan, Don Jarrett, Damian Luciano, Anthony Jamele, Kerri Mastrantuono, Tashira Santiago

Class of 2016

Ganiya Hunter, Laurnea Farrow, Shareef Ferrer, Jessica Guardado, Darian Houghtaling

Class of 2017

Alani Arias, Samantha Campanaro, Aaron Hernandez, Aliya Hernandez

Class of 2018

Jaleesa Bellamy, Jocelyn Bermeo, Ashley Lamb, Andria Latifi, Christian Michaca, Riya Patel, Fuke Reale, Nikola Tili

Adviser

Mrs. Cybart-Persenaire

Valedictorian, salutatorian cite hard work, goal setting as key

By Ashanti Fleming and Fajar Alam
Correspondents

Wealth. Respect. Fame. Power. Is this all it takes to be successful? No, the qualities are not just these, but also character, passion and motivation.

Students have often looked up to the top 10 ranked seniors, and want to know their secrets to success. It takes hard work, determination and integrity, according to the Class of 2014 top seniors.

Renee Manelli

"Everything starts over in the fall"
--*The Great Gatsby*.

This is the quote that Renee Manelli, ranked tenth, adheres to. Manelli's motivation of achieving academic excellence originated from her "dream to go to California for college," she said.

Manelli's dream will become a reality Fall 2014 because she will be attending the University of California Irvine.

She "was hoping" to achieve a top 10 position in Kennedy, when she became valedictorian at West Side Middle School in 2010.

Manelli has been active as an officer for Art Club and Yoga Club. Moreover, she is a member of the National Honor Society and the 1800 Club.

"Renee is a good student," said Mr. Nicholson, Physics teacher. She is the type of student that "always participates and always asks questions," said Nicholson.

"Renee has the maturity that you normally see in college age students which allows her to focus on academics; this is a unique trait and is key to her success," said Mr. Nardozi, mathematics teacher, who retired June 2014.

Manelli advises others "to stay on track and do not slack off even if you are a senior."

Cheyenne Banks

Cheyenne Banks is ranked ninth. Banks had always been on the honor roll at her middle school, West Side, and she "definitely wanted to be on the top ten list at Kennedy," she said.

"Cheyanne is a born leader," said Mrs. Mulligan, guidance counselor.

Banks received the Superintendent's Award in 8th grade at West Side. She was also in Yoga Club and the president of the YES Club.

Moreover, Banks is a "self-driven individual who works diligently to achieve her goals," said Nardozi.

She will be attending Naugatuck Valley Community College for general studies Fall 2014.

"I am very independent," said Banks, whose motivation is "my mom because she works hard, and I want to be like her."

She advises students to "make sure the pressure and procrastination do not get the best of you."

Therefore, "Cheyanne has always been a consistent student who works hard," said Nicholson.

She advises students: "always work hard and never give up."

Emma Billett

Emma Billett is a punctual person, ranked number eight of the top 10 students in the class of 2014.



AWARDS NIGHT MEMORIES

Class of 2014 top 10 ranked seniors take their own photo during the annual Awards Night ceremony in June held in the auditorium. Starting from bottom left and going counterclockwise is David Aldarondo, Sergei Ivani, Sasha Biagiarelli, Tiana Robinson, William Wisti Jr., Cheyanne Banks, Emma Billett, Tyler Czupryk, Michael Mannello, and Renee Manelli.

She never does anything last minute. In fact, she often does assignments at least five days before the due date, she said. She also finds it is better to study all of your subjects. Listening to music helps her with studying as well, she said.

Billett "studies well" and is "very good with the language," said Mrs. Crudele, her Italian teacher, who retired June 2014.

Even asking the teachers questions could help students overall.

"Don't be afraid to ask questions," is Billett's advice.

This is what makes her a "great student," said Crudele.

Billett was also in Italian, PASS and Key clubs. She also participates in Relay for Life with the National Honor Society.

"I do not want to rely on people to get things done," she said about her motivation.

Billett plans to attend the University of Rhode Island. She is not sure what to study, but is looking at the medical and teaching fields, she said.

Michael Mannello

"Focus on your goals," said Michael Mannello, ranked number seven. Mannello completed community service in the H.O.P.E. Club for four years, at St. Mary's Hospital, and did Habitat for Humanity in Florida.

His primary school was St. Peters and Paul, "Kennedy offered (him) more opportunities," he said.

Manelli will be attending American University in Washington, D.C., and aspires to major in International Studies.

Throughout high school, he was fairly independent, but he said his parents played a huge part in his success by pushing him to do well.

He said he lives by his personal quote "do not judge anything you do not understand" plus the secret to his success is keeping an open mind and having a passion for education.

Tyler Czupryk

Tyler Czupryk is ranked sixth

in the senior class.

As for his study habits, Czupryk said they were "terrible." He said instead of studying a lot, he just pays attention in class, and does not study outside of school.

This rings true since he "is very involved in class" and has a "good sense of humor," said Nicholson.

The motivation Czupryk has to succeed is "to be better than everyone else in life," he said jokingly.

He was president of the senior class, captain of the robotics team, was the Eagle school mascot, and was part of the Audio Visual, National Honor Society, and Drama clubs, he said.

Czupryk will be attending the Rochester Institute of Technology in New York. He plans to major in Electrical Engineering.

David Aldarondo

David Aldarondo is ranked fifth in the senior class

To study, he takes notes and reads the textbooks. He also finds that it is easier to type his notes instead of writing them, he said.

"It stays more organized," said Aldarondo about typing his notes.

He was also part of the Robotics, Relay for Life as the team captain, and the PASS clubs.

What motivates him? "I just want to be successful in life," said Aldarondo, who will be attending the University of California Irvine, where he will major in computer science.

Top 10 ranked seniors Class of 2014

1. Sergei Ivani
2. Sasha Biagiarelli
3. William Wisti, Jr.
4. Tiana Robinson
5. David Aldarondo
6. Tyler Czupryk
7. Michael Mannello
8. Emma Billett
9. Cheyanne Banks
10. Renee Manelli

Tiana Robinson

Tiana is "just so smart," said Robinson's history teacher, Ms. Thompson.

Tiana Robinson is ranked fourth in the senior class. To study and prepare for tests, she reads the chapters, take notes, then rereads the chapters again.

However, despite doing this, Robinson still "carries across effortlessly," said Thompson.

She works hard because she wants to go into the medical field and said, "I have to work hard to get where I want to be in life," Robinson said.

"Tiana is passionate about her work," Thompson said.

She was part of the National Honor Society and PASS clubs. She will be attending the University of Connecticut, Storrs and will be studying biology.

"Work hard and focus on what you want in life," said Robinson to any student who wants to become successful.

William Wisti, Jr.

"Study hard, stay motivated, and stay focused," said William Wisti, Jr., ranked third in the Class of 2014.

Wisti's main quality "is passion," said history teacher Mr. Mobilio.

Whether it is gymnastics which he has done from a young age, National Honor Society, Spanish Club, or the PASS Committee, Wisti was actively involved.

"William is not only smart, he is also a gentleman," said Wisti's AP English teacher Mrs. Martins.

Wisti wanted to be in the top 10 since entering high school, but it was not his main aspiration. Instead, his motivation was his "goal to become a doctor," Wisti said.

Moreover, Wisti said he feels his "friends, family and teachers pushed" him to get to where he is today.

Wisti is "awesome," said Mr. Clark, Kennedy's Talented and Gifted teacher.

He has an "amazing level of dedication," said Clark.

Wisti will be attending the University of Connecticut in Storrs and will major in bio-chemistry and pre-med.

Sasha Biagiarelli

"Hard work and determination" is what Sasha Biagiarelli said it takes for someone to become successful.

It must work and be effective as she is the second ranked student in the top 10 of the senior class, making her the salutatorian.

Studying from the textbook, taking notes, and "repetition and rereading" is how she learns information.

Biagiarelli was involved with Key Club, the Eagle Flyer newspaper, and does ballet.

Sasha is talented in ballet and has been doing it since she was four years old. She has even won the Brass City Ballet Award. This, of course, is in addition to studying her schoolwork.

The last piece of advice Biagiarelli has to give is for everyone to just "be their self."

Biagiarelli plans to attend Butler University in Indiana, and will double major in dance/performance and journalism.

Sergei Ivani

Ranking number one in the senior class is the valedictorian Sergei Ivani.

Many students are familiar with Ivani. He has been on the soccer and diving teams all four years in high school, and the swimming team for the past three years.

To do well in class, Ivani said he looks over his notes, and the chapters, and chooses what to focus on.

Ms. Thompson, history teacher, said Ivani is "very inquisitive."

Foreign language teacher Mrs. Crudele, said Ivani "was a hard worker (who) understood the language well" and has a "great personality."

His motivation for getting good grades is his "personal drive for success" and "to reach his goals," he said.

Ivani was part of the Key and Italian clubs.

He will be attending the University of Connecticut and will be studying sub and molecular biology.

A piece of advice Ivani has to give is to "find something that motivates you, and use that" to accomplish your goals.

Overall, it is quite clear to see that many of the top 10 seniors exhibit the qualities it takes to become successful. In order to achieve that same success, students should follow their lead.

Meaning, students should actively participate in class, which include taking notes and asking questions. Students should develop their own type of study method, one that works for them, whether it is rereading the chapters, or listening to music. However, the most important is to never lose motivation or sight of one's goal because without a start there can never be a finish.

Body shame: why do we love to loathe ourselves?

Fashion, school, stereotype, or media--which promotes more problems?

By Samantha DeCena and Barbaraliz Ortiz
Correspondents

COMMENTARY

They all had one common enemy: the media.

Kennedy students as well as adolescents nationwide have become strangers in their own skin. Body shaming has become a fashion in the school environment where the media has consumed the minds of those who used to be healthy, vibrant, confident students.

Mrs. Ann Mari, a substance abuse educator, believes much of it is because students incessantly “compare themselves with the ‘JLos’ and evaluate themselves based upon” unrealistic expectations without realizing the “media gives mixed messages,” she said.

These models then seem to shape and form the basis upon which students judge the appearances of themselves and others.

The standards set by celebrities are soon accepted “as being the norm,” said nurse’s aide Mrs. Anne Esposito.

Blaming social media?

Many feel part of this inherent problem is the unrestricted use of social media by students.

Mr. Vincent Balsamo, math teacher, finds himself “constantly telling kids to put” electronic devices “away” in classrooms.

When it comes to their priorities, students seem to put their own appearances and social media before studying, doing homework and paying attention.

“Half of the time the kids are on their phones while a teacher is lecturing,” said Lauren DiDominio, a senior, noting students at Kennedy “worry about \$200 shoes more than their grades.”

Fashion focus?

In what should be a classroom environment, it is common to find students being affected by the influence of fashion.

Senior Tashira Santiago said while students could be “finding themselves through academics,” they’re busy comparing appearance related subjects such as “the latest kicks.”

Some students don’t seem to grasp the importance of an education and need help realizing this, some believe.

“Many people don’t realize how important school is, so schools need to help kids understand their grades and education are far more important than Jordans and fancy clothes,” said Krysta Scriven, a senior.

Glamorizing icons?

Concerns over how they look and how they are meeting certain appearance-related standards seem to stem from whom students idolize.

“If a popular figure endorses it, anything could be considered cool and attractive,” said Scriven.

When viewed through the lens of the media, the icons regular students glamorize set what for some may be unattainable standards when it comes to appearances. Nevertheless, it gives the impression of being “a high

priority to everybody, and people seem to thrive off the attention they then receive,” said Scriven.

Santiago feels the common goal in schools has become the “pursuit of fame rather than wanting to be an individual.”

Desire for attention?

As a former member of girls’ softball, Santiago said she has noticed the desire for attention in the competitive setting that can be a part of after-school activities.

“People tend to compete against each other, especially in a place where there are certain standards, such as try outs,” she said.

One of the most noticeable attempts at lessening the competition between students is the establishment of dress code, which dictates what students are supposed to wear.

Mariette DeCena, a sophomore, said that “public school dress codes restrict options for students and how they present themselves.”

Role of dress code?

Area private Catholic schools have taken it a step further by making the dress code even more strict.

“At times it gets annoying always having to wear a tie, said Isaiah Roscoe, a senior at Sacred Heart High School.

Having transferred to Sacred Heart from Kennedy, Kayla Ferrucci said the dress code at the private school contrasts from that of Kennedy and provides several benefits.

“I feel the stricter dress code is much easier for picking out outfits” and lessens the “judging of what you wear,” she said.

However, others believe whether the dress code is strict, it still won’t address issues with body image.

“No matter what you wear, even if everyone’s wearing the same thing, people will find a way to judge you,” said Samantha Cruz, a Class of 2014 graduate.

One of the biggest drawbacks to this is that it “can start up unnecessary drama and problems where you’re supposed to be learning,” said DeCena, since students appear to be always comparing themselves and others.

Influence of media fads?

Concern over the fads featured in media seems to play a role in how students perceive themselves.

“It’s always like that,” said Antonio Oliveira, a senior. “People start wanting to wear the same stuff (the people they glamorize have and) it’s a tough time now because people are bullied because of these things.”

But media impacts more than just those who concern themselves with the latest fashions.

“Media has a big impact because when people who don’t like the way they look see people similar to them being made fun of, they become insecure,” said Sarah Namazi, a senior.

Revealing volleyball attire?

Kerri Mastrantuono, a senior on the varsity softball and volleyball teams, has also noticed the way views on body image have been shaped by concern over appearances.

She said she felt uncomfortable with the “scarcity of fabric” volleyball involves.

“Both genders as well as people from the LGBT community have many stereotypes and the media just encourages them all, but most of the pressure is put upon females.”

Samantha Cruz,
graduate, Class of 2014

A volleyball uniform consists of a tight-fitting jersey and spandex shorts. When wearing it, Mastrantuono said she feels people judge her.

“People assume that’s the kind of person you are, when again, that’s my uniform,” said Mastrantuono.

She feels particularly displeased towards the way students “come to the volleyball games not to express interest in the sport, but because they want to see the skimpy uniforms,” she said.

She characterized this as a process members of the volleyball team must just “have to get used to.”

Distracting students?

How people dress is becoming a distraction not only among spectators but even among the players themselves.

“Even with basketball someone always needs the brightest shoes,” said Roscoe, captain of his school’s varsity boys’ basketball team.

For those whose educational experiences are impacted by such distractions, issues with body image may be related to other problems in schools.

A significant amount of people believe that at this time in adolescents’ lives, they are considerably impressionable and most susceptible to developing issues with themselves and their self-images.

“How you feel about yourself” as well as “body appearance...being skinny, overweight...it’s a big thing here with the kids,” said Esposito.

Many have noticed these patterns amongst all types of students at Kennedy.

However, one math teacher, Mr. Flaherty, said he “hasn’t noticed” any students dealing with issues regarding their appearance in the classroom.

Gender matters?

A multitude of people believe one gender has more pressure when it comes to body image than any other.

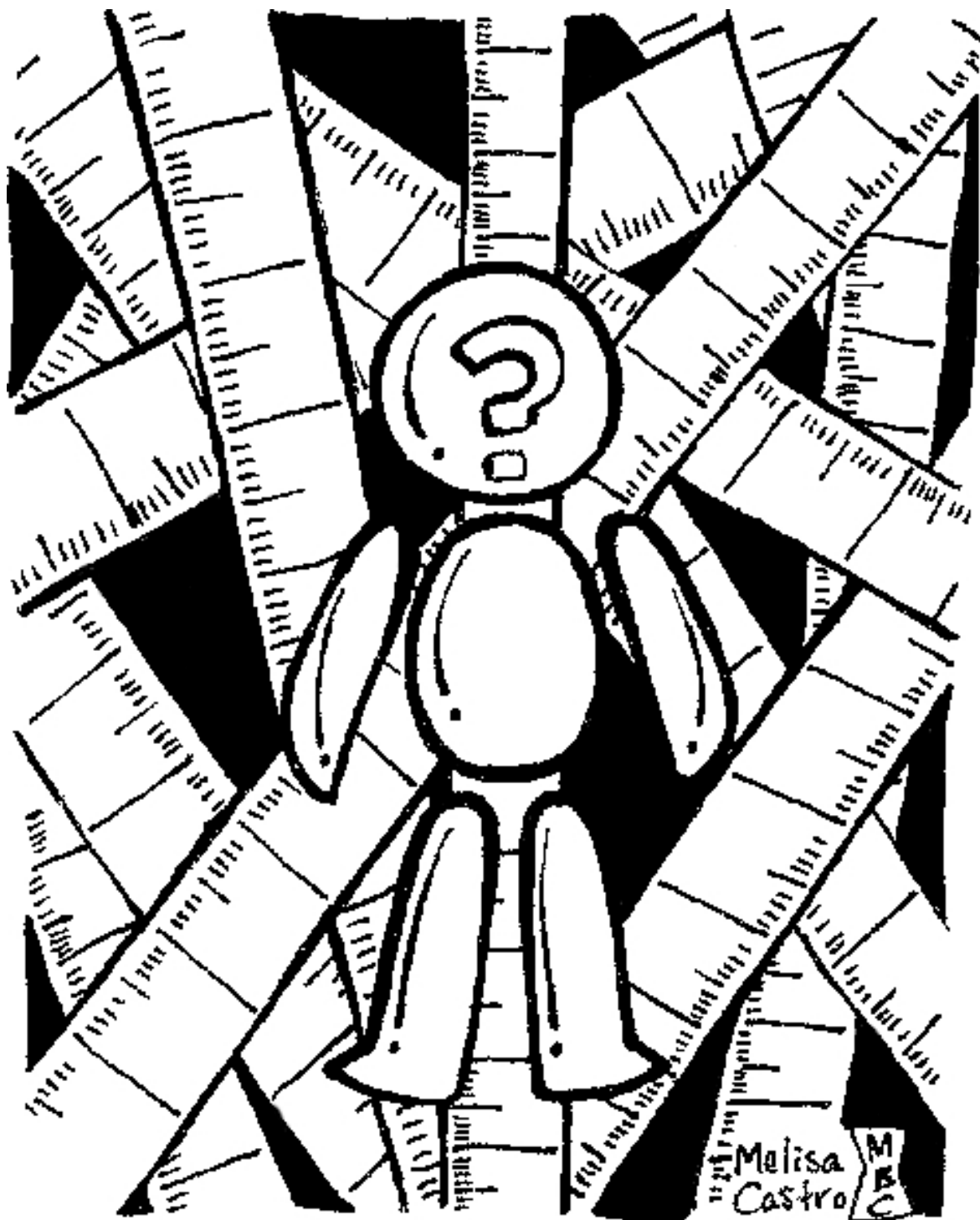
Esposito said women definitely “have a lot more pressure on them.”

However, gender is not believed to be the only factor. Some believe the sexuality of a student makes them more susceptible to having issues with their body image.

Former guidance counselor Ms. Yesenia Diaz said she noticed a trend growing in “gay male students.”

“The media portrays boys” as if they’re supposed to be “masculine and if (they aren’t) they get outcasted from society and bullied,” said Cruz, a member of the LGBT community.

See BODY IMAGE, page 7



Body shame: should school step in?

Who addresses athletes' attire, dress code inequality or confidence?

BODY IMAGE, from page 6

"Both genders as well as people from the LGBT community have many stereotypes and the media just encourages them all," said Cruz, "but most of the pressure is put on females" as they have to live up to certain expectations or else not be "deemed 'attractive.' "

Targeting females?

The prevalent view was still the media targets the way girls look more than how guys look, thus affecting a large majority of female students.

"Most girls seem to worry a lot about how they look," said Andi Bylykbashi, a senior.

"Females seem to have it a little harder for them, especially in a school setting where kids' maturity levels aren't so high," said Mr. Levasseur, former math teacher.

Jasmin Caraballo, a senior and Allied Health member, said the issue of negative body image has less of an impact on students as "people mature and understand that it's not important."

Spending the majority of her day at the hospital as part of her academic program "teaches you body image is never important but being healthy and fit is the way to go," Caraballo said.

Focusing on the health of one's body rather than on what others think of it allows "students to focus more in school" on what matters and "be challenged every day," said Victor Lopez, a former Kennedy student.

What Levasseur, a Kennedy graduate, experiences today is "completely" different from what it was like when he attended Kennedy as a student, with the main difference "there's a lot less kids with respect for each other."

Awareness needed?

"There's really not a lot of places in the educational school system that motivate social emotional learning," said Mari, where students could learn to deal with issues of body image in a conducive manner.

Dr. Charles E. Basch, professor of Health and Education at Teacher's College at Columbia University noted in his study titled "Healthier Students Are Better Learners: A Missing Link in School Reforms to Close the Achievement Gap" the lack of attention provided to such issues.

He contends that "with more than 50 million students spending a significant portion of their daily lives in school" this is "surely one of the most powerful social institutions shaping the next generation of youth." Due to this, "climate and physical environment at school play a pivotal role" in development both in school and out, he wrote.

“As people mature and understand that it's not important (body image has less impact on students).”

Jasmin Caraballo
senior in Allied Health

Chelsiah Joseph, a Class of 2014 graduate said that "at this day and age" school and the need for body image awareness "can have a big influence" on students.

She particularly disapproves of what she said is "a double standard" in the dress code policies regarding female students.

"They ask us to cover up as if there's something wrong with us" which is "sad" because "it doesn't feel right when everyone's not treated the same," Joseph said.

Neglecting to address issue?

The effects of body shaming, unfairness in dress code policies, and other negative products of media among students of both genders has shown no observable patterns in being addressed, many believe.

This issue of negative body image among students is "just an ongoing thing and no one really does anything about it," said Aaron Stuarde, a senior.

Yet some believe it should be properly addressed.

"It's a big issue that needs our attention as a school and as a school district," said vice principal Mr.

McCasland, who gave multiple reasons why negative body image among students should be addressed.

"It's a big issue given the fact high school students" usually tend to have poor self body images that "directly carry over to all aspects of their lives whether it be academics, the circle of friends they chose to hang out with, or even participation in extracurriculars," he said.

On the more optimistic side of the issue was Diaz.

She said most students are "comfortable in their skin" given that Kennedy administrators "try to send the message to have confidence with your body, and if you're unhappy with something, (you should) be proactive in a healthy way to make a change."

Future implications: addressing confidence?

Whether for better or worse, physical appearance is part of an individual's social identity in what is a high school's hierarchy, but according to Mari "there's no magic formula" other than awareness.

Will the media continue its pursuit of adolescents' confidence even at the safe haven that should be their school? The consensus seemed to be the importance placed on the issue will determine the outcome, as well as the kind of society the adolescents of today will develop to form tomorrow.

Best Wishes
to the
Eagle Flyer staff

from
West Side Middle School



BRADSHAW CHRYSLER JEEP

554 MAIN STREET • OAKVILLE, CT 06779
www.bradshawjeep.com

Susan C. Atkins
President

Tel. (860) 274-8834, Ext. 111
Fax: (860) 274-2760
Email: susanatkins@snet.net



1249 WEST MAIN STREET | WATERBURY, CT | (203) 527-3546
10% OFF WITH A VALID STUDENT ID
WAYBACKBURGERS.COM

Register now for our Gymnastics,
Tumbling and Trampoline classes
Call 203-419-0661 today!

AVON
the company for women
MADOKA REALE
AVON INDEPENDENT SALES REPRESENTATIVE
UNIT LEADER
203.755.9983 TEL
madoka-avon@hotmail.com
youravon.com/lreale



Wainscoting AMERICA.com

Custom Wainscoting
10% Discount – Kennedy HS

888-536-0002

770 Bound Line Road, Wolcott, CT 06716

www.WainscotingAmerica.com

Oscar Jaramillo
Licensed Barber
203-721-2920
Oscar.jaramillo203@gmail.com

BABY BLANKETS BY DESIGN
blanketsbydesign@outlook.com
Handmade Blankets
You pick the colors
203-525-5957
Lorna Johnson

BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HomeServices
Noreen R. Sinclair
REALTOR®
New England Properties
441 North Main Street
Southington, CT 06489
203-525-5960 cell 860-276-8474 fax
860-378-3211 dir
noreensinclair@bhhsNE.com
A member of the franchise system of BHI: Allstates, LLC

We even got you to read sideways! Join The Eagle Flyer. See Leah Cocchiola in homeroom 105. No experience needed.

Sports

Soccer claims title, volleyball leads league, swimmers start Twitter account

Compiled by staff reports

VOLLEYBALL
Volleyball has an 11-3 record as of Tuesday, Oct. 14. The team's next two games are Tuesday, Oct. 14 against Naugatuck and Thursday, Oct. 16 against Wolcott. Both are home at 5:30 p.m. Senior night, or the last home game of the season, is Thursday, Oct. 23 against Ansonia at home, 5:30 p.m.



GIRLS' SWIMMING
While record details were not available, the next two home meets are Tuesday, Oct. 14 against Holy Cross and Friday, Oct. 17 against St. Paul Catholic. Both start at 4 p.m. Senior night has yet to be determined but NVL Trials are Wednesday, Oct. 29 at 4 p.m. and Finals are Saturday, Nov. 1, also at 4 p.m. All NVL events are at home. NVL Diving is



Thursday, Oct. 30 at 6 p.m. Captain Kelly Edwards, along with other swimmers, started a Twitter account to inform others of the teams events.

FOOTBALL
See front page for details. Information on this page provided by CIAC.



SOCCER
Soccer, the 2014 City Jamboree Champs, has a 5-5 record as of Tuesday, Oct. 14. The team's next two games are Tuesday, Oct. 14 against Oxford in Oxford at 5 p.m. and Thursday, Oct. 16 against Holy Cross at Holy Cross for 3:30 p.m. Their last home game, which is typically Senior Night, is Wednesday, Oct. 22 against Watertown at West Side Middle School, 4:45 p.m.



2nd-12th • Math Help • Math Enrichment
Test Prep • Homework Help

FREE TRIAL
Expires 10/31/2014

Get ready.
Get set.
Get ahead.

Now enrolling for fall.

MATHNASIUM
The Math Learning Center

203-757-1234 • www.mathnasium.com/naugatuckvalley
1249 West Main Street, Waterbury, CT 06708

DUCK DYNASTY? While one duck swims, a spring softball game in the back field was relocated April 28, 2014 due to these conditions. Next issue, writer Kerri Mastrantuono studies the problem.

S S P P

"Everybody is Somebody at Saints Peter and Paul School"

Saints Peter and Paul School
116 Beecher Avenue
Waterbury, CT 06705
203-755-0881

Proclaim His Name
Catholic Book and Gift Store

Bibles • Medals
Religious Books • T-Shirts
Rosaries • Statues
Communion Gifts • Baptismal Gifts
Easter Gifts • Lenten Reading

615 Highland Avenue
Waterbury, CT 06708
(203) 573-1773
Hours: Wed. 11-4 • Thurs. 11-5 • Fri. 11-5 • Sat. 10-2

Lord Jesus Christ, I am sorry for my sin.
I acknowledge you are the Son of the Living God.
I accept you as my Lord and my God.
I invite you into my life.
Lord Jesus Christ, I receive you as my personal Savior.
Fill me with your Holy Spirit.
Heal and strengthen me.
I love you Jesus.

paid advertisement

Tony's

TIRES & WHEELS

"Due to the current state of the economy, You can't afford NOT to go to Tony's Tires!"

MANUFACTURERS' REBATES AVAILABLE

"My prices are worth the ride!"

WHEEL PACKAGE LAYAWAYS

USED TIRES \$15 & up

4 WHEEL ALIGNMENT \$60
our EVERYDAY LOW PRICE!

FREE Alignment w/purchase of 4 tires

OPEN: M-F 7:30AM-6PM, SAT 8:30AM-3PM
2067 S. Main Street
WATERBURY • 203-575-1350

Anthony Bartholomeo,
R.Ph.

Joseph Livolsi,
R.Ph.

DELLA PIETRA
P H A R M A C Y

792 Highland Avenue
Waterbury, CT 06705

Phone 203-754-0181
Fax 203-596-8144

Hours
Monday - Friday 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Carvel

AMERICA'S FRESHEST ICE CREAM! SINCE 1934.

MONDAY - FRIDAY
7:00AM - 5:30PM

BARBARA P. JONES
OWNER/DIRECTOR

RainbowAcademy
CHILD CARE DEVELOPMENT CENTER

"FROM MUDDIES TO MANNERS"

145 BUCKS HILL RD., PO 4712
WATERBURY, CT 06704

OFFICE: (203) 754-7815
FAX: (203) 754-7833
RAINBOWACADEMYLLC@ATT.NET

Expedia
cruiseshipcenters

Alnisa Dampeer
Cruise & Vacation Consultant
Waterbury, CT
Direct: (917) 807 6707 Fax: (203) 591 9296

adampeer@cruiseshipcenters.com
www.cruiseshipcenters.com/AlnisaDampeer