

# Headlight



Written by the students of Marblehead High School for our school and community

December 5th, 2013

www.mhsheadlight.weebly.com

## Epic Poem Episode III

Liam Reilly and Alex Kerai  
Entertainment Editor and Webmaster, Juniors

As the knight stood before them  
He made sure to stay calm  
He had lost his friends and colleagues  
And was prepared to rebound.

“The worst is yet to come  
You know not what is ahead,  
I am a Knight of the highest regard  
I have seen what you all dread.”

He pleaded with the King and Queen  
While they shook their heads in rage  
“That grey-bearded tyrant Ryan  
Would not haul us away!”

They called together their Kingdom,  
And told them of Sir Thom.  
He was expected to make a speech  
And he would educate them all.

The Court Jester directed them to the  
Lighthouse  
While the gatekeeper held open the gates;  
Pierce and Maddy, they led the charge  
Of citizens bearing hate.

They entered the Court where the Knight  
waited  
And they knew he had a story.  
“Why did he come to us?” they asked,  
As they unloaded their transport lorry.

He asked them all to be seated  
And thanked the King and Queen;  
“My friends,” he began his rousing  
speech,  
“We are all of the same name.”

Much confusion arose at this proclama-  
tion,  
But Sir Thom continued on:  
“We all take our quills and write the  
news,  
We do not care for the creative kind.

“Connor Ryan has broken that quill  
That we all held tight!  
He has crushed it into bits as he came in  
the night!  
He invaded my homeland with his dyed  
beard grey  
And laid waste to all I had known  
And torched everything away.

“My life was not better after the house  
fire,

All my friends and my family,  
My colleagues were burned to ashes  
You do not want to live what I have seen.

“He is a tyrant that man, you must un-  
derstand  
And somehow he is allowed to write  
How that is even possible  
Has he not lost all of his rights?

“We need to stop him before this goes  
farther  
Before he invades the Kingdom of Head-  
light.  
You must aid me in my quest  
To dethrone that tyrannous knight.”

The people were in upheaval:  
“It could have been us!” they exclaimed.  
They pleaded with King Dan and Queen  
Grace,  
“Please, we must help this poor man!”

Then the Jester commanded attention,  
With a slight wave of his hand,  
“My friends,” he began his oration.  
“What is our noble plan?”

Sir Thom turned to answer,  
But instead paused and recalled  
The consequences of the battle  
For his hometown Roma.

The battle was bloody and brutal, he said,  
And Sir Thom lost many a good man  
But he was still the valiant knight  
That would fight till the end.

The bearded tyrant came up to Sir Thom  
And he insulted him to his face  
“You’re a terrible writer, and compared  
to mine  
Your beard is a disgrace!”

Sir Thom could not believe the nerve  
Of that bearded two-faced cheat.  
One day he was like a faun —  
Playing his ukulele oh so free —  
But now he has devolved into  
The White Queen,  
Turning to stone his enemy.

And now Sir Thom let that sit.  
His story filled up the room.  
The people were silent,  
For they knew not what to do.

## Deals or Disappointments

The Truth about Black Friday

Morgan Hardwick  
News Coordinator, Junior

There is only one day  
a year that people line the  
sidewalks outside local  
Best Buys, Walmarts and  
Macy’s with wallets ready  
to be emptied in the ear-  
liest hours of the morn-  
ing. This day is known  
as Black Friday. The day  
is coined “Black” Friday  
because in business terms  
Black means gaining  
profits, which is exactly  
what retailers aim to do.  
But are the early morn-  
ing hours, long lines and  
psychotic shoppers all  
worth the so-called deals?  
I, myself, did participate  
in the Black Friday craze  
this year and was disap-  
pointed with my findings.

I started out at J.  
Crew, one of my favor-  
ite stores, to find that the  
highest sale they had was  
only 30% off. As much as  
I love their jeweled sweat-  
ers I wasn’t ready to drain  
my wallet just yet. Later, I  
found myself inside Sun-  
glass Hut ready to invest  
in a new pair. I was direct

ed to the Black Friday sale  
section, or rather a small  
display of about five pairs  
of sunglasses. The variety  
was lacking and so was  
my interest. Following  
my disappointment came  
more. My Macy’s coupons  
didn’t apply to their “spe-  
cial Black Friday deals,”  
and the shoes I looked  
at weren’t marked down  
more than 20%. Seems  
as though Black Friday  
wasn’t convincing me to  
give up my green just yet.

I did however find  
luck at Ann Taylor’s The  
Loft, where the entire  
store was 50% off, a deal  
I was more than willing  
to indulge in. I ended up  
leaving with two sweaters  
for the price of one and a  
scarf to match. However  
that purchase, along with  
my dissatisfaction, is all I  
the left with mall with on  
Black Friday. If the craze  
of the day wasn’t so in-  
tense, people might actu-  
ally start seeing that the  
deals aren’t so much as  
savings but rather blind-  
folds for them to spend  
their money with. I’ve

found that stores offer  
better deals throughout  
the year than they ever  
do on this day. Shoppers  
have become so wrapped  
up in the thought of the  
day, that they’ve con-  
vinced themselves there  
is no better deal out there  
than on Black Friday. If  
they just waited until the  
rage was over, or even  
started shopping earlier in  
the year, they would find  
themselves saving more.  
Black Friday works just  
the way retailers want it  
to, but sucking custom-  
ers into the trend. The  
infamous day of deals is  
nothing more than a mar-  
keting technique that has  
consumers blinded by  
the label Black Friday.

## Christmas in October

How early is too early?

Rebecca Twaalfhoven  
Editor's Assistant, Freshman

You often hear com-  
plaints about radio sta-  
tions making the switch  
to Christmas music “too  
early.” Let’s face it, play-  
ing “Jingle Bell Rock”  
on Halloween, as a radio  
station did in Milwau-  
kee, may be overkill.  
But at what point does  
it become acceptable?

As a student, Christmas  
break is perhaps the most  
exciting prospect of the  
first half of the year, and  
a cause for major excite-  
ment. Two weeks without  
school is an intoxicating  
idea, and helps to remedy  
some of the monotony of  
the school week, not to  
mention the thrill of shop-  
ping for presents and, in  
my case, the joy of the en-  
tire family returning home.

So why is it objection-  
able that we look for-  
ward to the holidays a  
little early? There are  
several different possibi-  
lities. First, that in looking  
forward to Christmas and  
holiday break, we forget  
to appreciate Thanksgiv-  
ing. Thanksgiving is, of  
course, a national holiday  
dedicated to being thank-  
ful; and now, it becomes  
a “stepping stone” to  
Christmas, leaving behind  
the tradition of the day.

Another possibility is  
that for some, the wait  
is simply unbearable. I  
personally find that the  
countdown to Christ-  
mas is a good way to  
break the repetition in  
the weeks leading up to  
vacation. However, an-  
ticipating the holidays six  
weeks in advance could  
make the time in between  
seem like an eternity.

This year, Thanksgiving  
was very late, which less-  
ens the anticipation. All  
the same, thinking about  
Christmas while pre-  
paring for another three  
weeks of school is agoniz-  
ing.

Alternatively,  
maybe it is simply the  
thought of Christmas time  
— presents, vacation plan-  
ning, and family — that is  
cause for worry. For some,  
all of the hype about the  
holidays triggers appre-  
hension for the likely  
stresses of celebration,  
and being reminded weeks  
beforehand only adds to  
the pressure. In general,  
however, I think there is  
an acceptable limit on  
when it is appropriate to  
break out the holiday sales  
and themed music, the  
boundaries of which are  
pushed more every year.

### MHS Updates:

TO ALL SENIORS:  
All transcript request forms for college  
applications with a January 1, 2014 deadline  
MUST be submitted to the Guidance Office NO  
LATER THAN WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4,

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