

Headlight

Written by the students of Marblehead High School for our school and community
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Dodgeball A Smash Hit at Marblehead High

Dan Rosenberg
Headlight Staff,
Sophomore

Every year, Marblehead High School holds a multitude of fundraisers for the school. The most popular fundraiser however, and arguably the most successful, is the annual High School Dodgeball Tournament, run by the Student Government. Every year, coinciding with the beginning of March Madness, 5 man teams are assembled by the students and faculty of the high school, and for 25 dollars any group of five is entered into the tournament. This year, 17 teams entered into the tournament, for the ultimate bragging right: being the best dodgeball team at the school. The teams are a mix of boys and girls, from

freshman to senior, and even faculty members.

One of the fun bonuses of the dodgeball tournament is the names of each team. Not only is the tournament a display of athletic prowess, but the team names show just how clever the Marblehead dodgers can be. From "The Average Joels," a name based on the movie Dodgeball, to "Money in the Bank," the competition to make the best name is almost as fun to watch as the actual games of dodgeball.

The tournament began on Wednesday, March 14th. Before the first game, the teams warmed up, and there was an air of determination in the gym unusual for school fundraisers. By the time the referees started up the first game, almost 150 spectators had gathered on the bleachers to watch the games unfold. Two games went on at once, and teams

were slowly eliminated until the pool was narrowed to four. Just like in March Madness, there were many upsets; with underdog teams surprising the bigger, more experienced favorites. At the end of Wednesday, four teams remained.

On Thursday, with the field down to the final four, the intensity grew even more. After two hard fought games, the only teams left were the Slice Men, composed of all sophomores, and the Shyo Men, a senior team. The championship was best two out of three and each team won a game. In the final game, however, The Shyo Men, led by varsity baseball players Eric Lundgren, Kyle Forsgard, and Jeremy Meyer, pulled out the win. The fundraiser was a great success for another year, and is set to be another smash hit in 2013.

Mock Trial Makes Tourney Run

Danny Plunkett
Legal Analyst,
Senior

After attending each of my mock trials for the past two years my parents have said: "We had fun! The trials are so interesting!"

Either my parents love me too much or they are blatantly lying to me, because mock trial could not be less of a spectator sport. The audience is not allowed to talk, cheer, clap, or encourage, and if anyone watching makes too much noise they receive hateful looks from everyone in the room. Additionally, if you are not lucky or dedicated enough to score front seats it is highly unlikely that you will be able hear most of the words spoken at the front of the room. The majority of the students competing are facing away from the audience toward the judge, and they are focusing only on the trial, not the poor acoustics of Saugus's town hall.

However, as a lawyer or witness there is nothing more riveting than being in a trial. We sit there in our suits, sweat like crazy, and listen to every single word the other team says, praying they will make a mistake. It's nerve-racking and stressful, but that's what makes it so great; it's a mental struggle, a contest of wits.

Some teams only compete

in three trials each year, getting knocked out after the preliminary round. Marblehead has had luck in recent years, however, and has made it to the Elite Eight round for four years running, competing in at least six trials in each of these years. And so, once a week for about two months we hop in our yellow van, feeling nauseous and giddy at the same time for the next four hours until the trial is finished, one way or the other.

I was a witness on the team this year, and the feelings of déjà vu were constant. One of my favorite parts of mock trial is its repetitive nature. Facing the same teams and having the same judges year after year can be fun. Seeing your old nemeses and noticing how they have improved is a great part of the competition. We have even started to develop rivalries over the years, which make up the high points of each season.

St. John's Prep has undeniably become our rival over the past four years. Both of our teams belong to the same preliminary region, but never face each other in the first three trials. As such, we both go undefeated in those trials and are forced to compete in a tiebreaker round each year to determine who continues on to the state tournament. Every year it is a close match, but we have managed to beat them for four years

straight. And they hate it. So this year our trial against St. John's had a special excitement to it. Could we beat them again? We did, fortunately, but it is these trials that make the seasons as good as they are.

The same was true with our trial against Winthrop this year. We faced them in the same building as last year and with the same judge. Going into the trial we were excited. We had beaten them last year and we thought we could do it again. Unfortunately, they had learned from their mistakes and were able to come out with the win, ejecting us from the tournament in a heart wrenching tie breaker decision by the judge. Regardless of the result, however, it is this type of spirited competition that makes mock trial so enjoyable. The audience could never understand the thrill of executing a perfect cross examination or the satisfaction of successfully evading the other team's questions as a witness.

I wish I could return for another year just to be on the team again, but I don't think the school would let me complete senior year again just to make another run at the state title. For every member of the team, however, it has been a truly thrilling experience. Hopefully next year's team will continue to have the same success.

MHS Senior Show a Critical Success

Grace Perry
Design Coordinator,
Sophomore

Throughout every long and complicated school year, there are countless events that are held inside Marblehead High School. The one thing that I have learned over the course of my high school career is that Senior Show has proven to be an annual favorite.

According to Answers.com, a talent show is a show that features amateur performers whose talents may win them recognition or awards. In this case, performing in Senior Show is a reward in itself. Not only do performers get to showcase their interesting talent, but they are also given a front-row seat to a hilarious, must-see event.

This year, seniors Zach Romanovsky and Joel Katz hosted the talent show. Together the hosts proved to be a complete and utterly entertaining dynamic duo. The hosts had hilarious jokes; they also created a

video that poked fun at other seniors and MHS in general.

Joel Katz also showcased his musical talent. While Katz played piano, both hosts sang along to creative cover songs. The melodies were absolutely hilarious and poked fun at other seniors and MHS inside jokes. Katz was also in an act in which he played the song "Jar of Hearts."

Shortly after the show, I got a chance to talk to some audience members. Liza Tosi, a sophomore at MHS, absolutely loved the show. She notes, "I loved all of the performances! The hosts were hysterical." Everyone that I talked to agreed with Liza. Laurel Perry, my own mother, could even agree; she said, "That was the best talent show I have ever been to!" Senior Show was a complete success!

Peyton Weston, Ben Webber and Jen Taranto, all seniors at MHS, were a part of the Senior Show Committee supervised by Ms. Clough. The committee spent countless hours preparing for the successful performance. After choosing Joel and Zach

as hosts, they played a huge role in the organization of the show.

Peyton Weston notes, "The Senior Show was a great way to let the senior class unite as a whole and involve the whole school. We had way too much fun! I'm so glad I was a part of the Senior Show Committee and a performance that was so amazing!"

Dylan Mace, also a senior at MHS notes, "Senior Show was funny. I loved how the hosts crossed some lines at some points. Their jokes were very clever. It was overall a good time."

MHS film club has also filmed the Senior Show. If you are interested in a DVD copy of the show please let Grace Perry know. The DVD copies are five dollars each and will be available starting April 1st. Clips of the show will also be on our YouTube channel and or MHTV. Please email MsGperry@hotmail.com if you are interested and/or have any questions.

ATTENTION SENIORS Citizens' Scholarship Foundation of Marblehead, Inc.

Applications for high school seniors must be submitted to the Marblehead High School Guidance Office by Monday, April 2.

Applications may be found on-line at <http://www.csfmarblehead.org/> or at the MHS Guidance Office.

CSFM bestows awards based primarily on financial need.

For more information about the high school application process contact Debbie Green at fin2rite@aol.com, Mary Ellen Hart at rams12351@aol.com or Sara Foster at swfoster@downbucket.com.

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