

Headlight

Written by the students of Marblehead High School for our school and community
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MHS Taken Over By Spirit

Danny Plunkett
Makeup Artist,
Senior

Both students and faculty are still reeling from Marblehead High School's annual countdown to Thanksgiving: Spirit Week. The senior girls kicked things off early, dressing up differently every day for the week before their big Powderpuff game against Swampscott on Saturday. They dressed up as MHS football players, and they also wore all black clothing, shredded Swampscott sports shirts, and army attire for the first four days of the week. They were excited to play after over a month of preparation, and their intensity reverberated throughout the school.

Spirit Week did not officially start until the Friday before the Powderpuff game, which the student government chose to be Jersey Day. Students and teachers alike came to school in their favorite team apparel. The Powderpuff girls finished their week off by wearing their brand new red jerseys, braiding their hair, and running around the school screaming like banshees. Everyone was definitely excited to see what the next week would bring after a fun, spirited start.

The school week prior to Thanksgiving is only three days long, but it is the most fun week of the year. Monday is always class color day. Each grade is given colors to work with, and it is customary to choose a theme to go along with your colors. The seniors chose red, white, and blue (America of course), the juniors had green and orange (Ireland), the sophomores had black and yellow (Bat-

man), and the freshmen were given pink and brown (pigs). Each class worked hard decorating their hallway on Sunday, and most students dressed up in their class colors on Monday. Body-paint was abundant.

Tuesday was a different matter entirely. Every year, Tuesday's theme changes to something new. For instance in past years we have had pirate day, superhero day, and pajama day. It takes a little more effort, but it's always fun. This year it was decided that Tuesday would be tropical day, so people came in to school wearing sandals, grass skirts, bathing suits, sunglasses, and floral shirts, a strange sight in November. Some kids really went all out, wearing snorkel gear and flippers (like our Editor-in-Chief Matt Lieberson), but they were few and far between. Unfortunately this year's theme made it more difficult for widespread participation, but a respectable number took the plunge.

Wednesday was easily the most fun day of the week. On account of the impending holiday, it is always a half day, but it is no normal half day. There is a pep rally from eleven to twelve o'clock, leaving only three hours for academic classes, in which little get done. All day there is a feeling of excitement, unimpeded by the usual drudgery of tests and discussions. The entire school is united, wearing the Marblehead colors of red and black to support the football team at the pep rally. This year was great, and every grade was decked out in Marblehead regalia, from band uniforms to fireman hats. The pep rally ended the week with a bang, fueled by rousing songs from the MHS Marching Band

which was in top form. Each varsity sports team was recognized at the beginning of the rally, and then the grades competed in assorted events such as tug-of-war, musical chairs, and a relay race. Additionally, the cheerleaders performed and the Powderpuff team briefly played against the football team.

Finally, the moment everyone was waiting for: the announcement of the spirit winners. A boy and girl are chosen from among the students to be crowned Spirit King and Queen, two faculty members are picked as most spirited, and a grade is also chosen for overall spirit throughout the week. Nolan Raimo and Sean Gibbons shared the title of Spirit King, Jen Taranto won Spirit Queen, and teachers Caroline Todd (with her toddler son Jeremy) and O'Malley Barton (who was wearing roller blades) were the winners among the faculty. As it usually happens (and to their delight) the seniors were picked once again as the most enthusiastic grade.

Spirit week is a ton of fun, and it is a great way to start the holiday season. The whole school appreciates the break it affords from the seriousness of high school, and taking a few days to smile and cheer is good for morale. The entire week was outdone by Thursday, though, when the Marblehead High School football team brought down the Big Blue in their new red jerseys, 21-14. May the tradition continue for years to come!

"Thoroughly Modern Millie" Comes to MHS

Olivia Gould
Special To Headlight,
Senior

"I'm changing and how!"

This 1920's jargon may sound strange, but it is all part of the good clean fun that is the newest musical Marblehead High School has decided to tackle: Thoroughly Modern Millie! Set in 1922, a time of underground speakeasies and women calling themselves "moderns", the show tells the classic story of a young woman from Kansas who travels to New York City to make a life for herself. Millie Dillmount has a plan: to find a career and then marry her boss—love has nothing to do with it! However, a naïve young woman, a famous singer, a carefree man, and a white slavery ring turn Millie's plan upside-down!

In performing Millie, MHS is branching out and doing a show that is completely different from its most recent one. This stereotypical musical, with its puns, tap-dancing and random bursts of song, is a far cry from last year's bohemian rock opera RENT. However, it has been inspiring for the cast to expand their horizons and try out a musical that is somewhat more traditional. This kind of show uses different staging and involves different abilities from the actors than does RENT. It also requires much more dancing and unified movement from the cast as a whole. Learning to tap-dance has been a new experience for many, but it has been a lot of fun!

So why should you go see Thoroughly Modern Millie? "We went to your football games..." one cast member offers. Another, James Zissulis, replies, "Because I play a woman!" In a more serious light, the

cast has researched the time period in which the show is set, specifically the idea of the "modern" woman and the Prohibition Act. As Jacob Sundlie says, "In society today [similar to the 1920's] many are protesting and calling for change... it's something we can relate to." This is a fun, upbeat musical that is sure to entertain even the harshest critics. "So beat the drums, 'cuz here comes Thoroughly Modern Millie now!"

Olivia is a cast member of "Thoroughly Modern Millie" and an avid supporter of the MHS Theatre Department. The show is running December 3, 4, 11, and 12, at the PAC at MVMS.

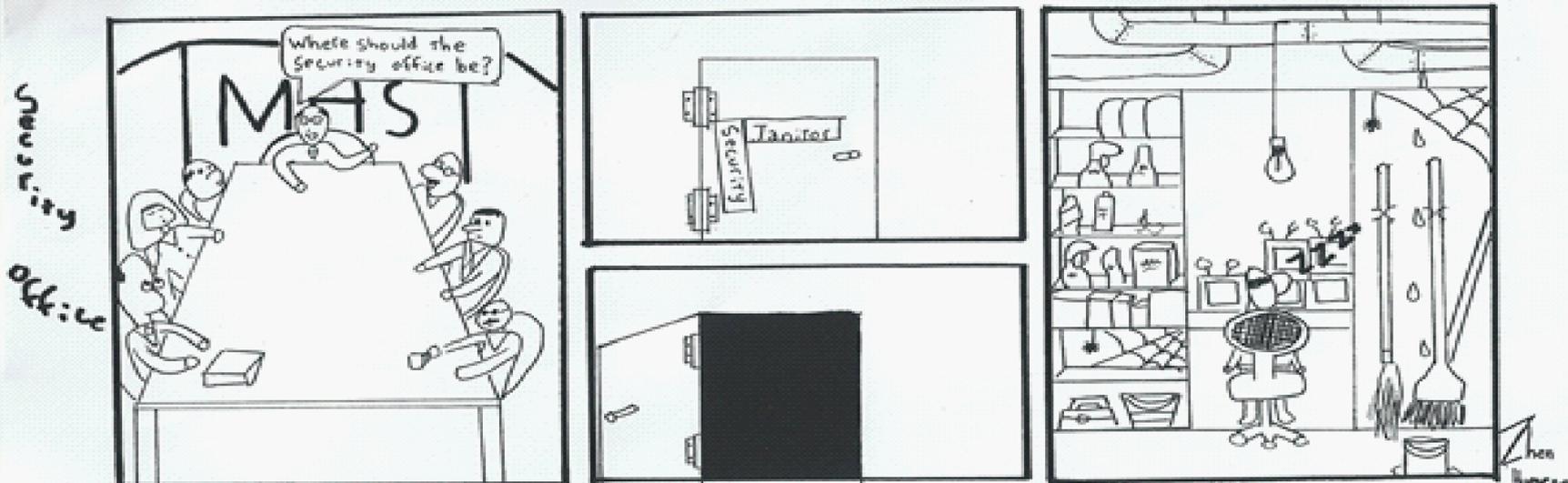
WE HAVE A CARTOON!

Headlight is featuring a cartoon from Zhen Humenn, for the first time in the paper's history.

If you (MHS students only!) want to submit a cartoon, scan it into your computer and email it to

headlight_mhs@yahoo.com, or put it in Mr. Higgins' mailbox in the main office.

CARTOON-"THE SECURITY OFFICE"



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