



Interview with Tyra Ott

By: Scott Marceca

Sophomore Tyra Ott has inarguably had her best tennis season yet. Her illustrious high school tennis career has sparked admiration throughout Pennsylvania. During this year's tennis season, Ott boasted an impressive 17-2 record.

She went on to beat Coco Chen of Notre Dame in the District 11 Class AA girls' tennis singles championship, which was held on October 6th at Lehigh University. Ott swept Chen in two sets with a score of 6-2, 6-0. Winning districts two years in a row is

a remarkable feat. However, her accomplishments only get better.

On November 1st, Ott defeated Bronwyne Mellot of McConnellsburg in the PIAA Class AA girls' tennis singles championships in Hershey, PA. At Hershey Racquet Club, Ott used a combination of spin, power, and finesse to overcome the challenging match with a score of 2-6, 6-3, 6-1. She is the first female from District 11 to win the state championship. Not only did Ott bring home a gold

medal, but she also set a school record.

I was able to interview Ott less than a week after her triumphant win. When asked how she felt after she won states, Tyra stated that the entire situation felt unreal to her. In order to prepare for states, Tyra told me that she played points with a friend and a few guys who are training for the professional tennis tour. Evidently, her method of training was successful.

To wrap up the interview, I asked Tyra about her future tennis goals. She aspires to win states her next two years playing high school tennis. Also, she hopes to

- Emily Reiter: Editor-in-Chief
- Shelby Soliwoda: Managing Editor
- Ryan O'Brian: Assistant Managing Editor
- Scott Marceca: Assistant Editor
- Taylor Garrison: Assistant Editor

win states her next two years playing high school tennis. Also, she hopes to receive a tennis scholarship. Tyra has undoubtedly left a permanent mark on Wilson and I wish her the best of luck with her tennis career.

NHS Food Collection

By: Andorra Bastein

ProJeCt is a nonprofit, charitable organization that operates a food bank in Easton. The purpose of this organization is to bring awareness and take action to the rising under-served, poor population in Easton, Pennsylvania. The charity provides aid to more than 5,000 people a year, helping Easton and nearby communities in Northampton County, Pennsylvania. An emergency assistance program was established in 1985 to help the poor assemble the most essential needs of food, shelter, and medicine.

The National Honor Society hosted a food drive collection from November 3rd to November 14th. The purpose of this food drive was to collect non-perishable boxed, canned, and jarred goods to donate to ProJeCt. The society's mission this school year is to accomplish several community service projects, along with all of their regular activities such as peer tutoring. Their main objective is to give back to the community.

The food pantry is located at Saint John's Lutheran Church, 330 Ferry Street. It is strongly encouraged that students involve themselves in giving back all throughout the year. Anyone can donate, at any time, to ProJeCt. National Honor Society President Emily Reiter says, "The food drive was a way for every individual to help their community. We will be hosting a book drive in the Spring for ProJeCt's summer literacy program! NHS thanks everyone for their support." Grand total: 742 cans donated!

The Echo

Making A Comeback

By: Ashley Emann



Pictures courtesy of Scott Marceca

As the cold season attacks, the sounds of coughing, sneezing, and sniffing are thought to be nothing unusual. However, unbeknownst to many, these can be symptoms of a deadly virus. Enterovirus D68 is just one of a hundred known non-polio viruses and has been making a comeback in the United States since first discovered in California in the 1960s. Unfortunately, there is a problem that exists with strand D68; it's mutated.

In the 1960s when a victim was diagnosed with Enterovirus, the symptoms and the issues that arose from this disease were easily combated. Now Enterovirus D68 has taken on a more sinister role, not only attacking the respiratory system, but also the brain.

Just this last August, scientists and hospitals alike took notice when two states had a staggering

number of hospitalized children with respiratory illnesses unlike any year before. The troubling fact about this mutated strand is its ability to attack mostly children. Children with asthma and allergies are particularly at risk. Common symptoms are runny nose, fever, and sneezing, but the most serious are paralysis and muscle weakness.

The death count nationwide has risen to twelve, with toddlers having died in Michigan, Colorado, and New Jersey. Seventy-five more children are still suffering paralysis like symptoms. The reason why this virus has suddenly attacked the neurological system baffles scientists and they remain confounded.

With the recent news of Ebola entering and spreading across the United States, the severity of Enterovirus is dismissed as the general public remains unaware. Enterovirus is easier

to transfer than Ebola. A simple touch can transfer the illness from one child to another. But how does someone decipher a common cold from Enterovirus D68? Symptoms of the flu are a sudden onset of fever, fatigue, muscle aches, and headaches with it lasting 3-7 days. Enterovirus D68 shows symptoms that include fever, sore throat, cough, rash, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain, muscle aches, and eye redness.

As there is no vaccination for Enterovirus D68, the best way to prevent the spread of the deadly illness is to wash hands, clean surfaces, cover your mouth, avoid touching your hands or face with unwashed hands, and stay away from sick individuals, or stay home. Until scientists find more information on the virus or until it disappears with winter, D68 remains a mystery.

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Ebola in the U.S

By: Ashley-Rose Starry

There has been a great deal of talk recently about the Ebola outbreak in the United States, but how can we sort the truth from false preconceptions?

Formerly known as Ebola hemorrhagic fever, Ebola virus disease (EVD) is a severe, and often deadly, illness in humans. This illness has an alarmingly high fatality rate of about 50% of all cases. Ebola is spreading in the human population through human-to-human transmission. This is not an air-borne virus; however, you are put at risk for developing this virus if you come into direct contact with the blood, secretions, organs, or other bodily fluids of infected people, or with surfaces and materials contaminated with these fluids.

Symptoms of Ebola include fever, fatigue, muscle pain, headache, and sore throat. As the illness progresses, vomiting, diarrhea, rash, impaired liver and

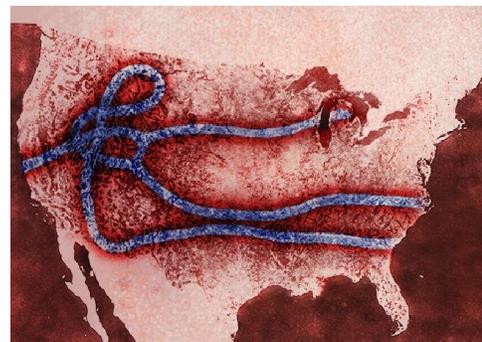
kidney function, and internal, as well as external, bleeding can occur. There is no proven treatment for Ebola; however, rehydration and treatment of specific symptoms can increase the chance of survival in infected patients. There are no licensed vaccines available yet, but two potential vaccines are currently undergoing testing.

The current epidemic in West Africa is the largest outbreak since the virus was first discovered in 1976. Guinea, Sierra Leone, and Liberia are the most affected countries in Africa suffering from the spread of EVD. Over 4,900 people have died in these countries alone, since the beginning of the outbreak in December.

Recently, the news and social media have been reporting on the confirmed cases of Ebola in the United States. The first case was confirmed by the CDC on September 30,

2014 in Dallas, Texas. The man diagnosed with this horrific virus had previously been in Liberia, but did not start to show symptoms of Ebola until four days after his arrival in Dallas. Unfortunately, the man died eight days later on October 8, 2014. Shortly after treating the index patient in Dallas, two nurses tested positive for Ebola. They were then isolated and have recovered and been discharged since their diagnosis.

The most recent confirmed case of Ebola is in New York City, where a man who just returned from Guinea has tested positive for the virus. The patient is currently in isolation in a New York City hospital. As of October 27, 2014, 105 people are being monitored for Ebola in the state



Pictures courtesy of Google

The Echo

World Protests

By: Taylor Garrison

News of protest in different parts of the world is again in the headlines, displaying the problems countries still face in our modern world. Ferguson, Missouri, and Hong Kong have hosted the most publicized protests in recent months, and they have inspired countless others around the world to stand up for what they believe, such as India, London, and Brussels.

Michael Brown was killed on August 9, 2014 by police officer Darren Wilson in Ferguson, Missouri. Citizens of Ferguson took to the streets to protest the killing of Brown. The protest emphasized the racial tension and inequality still present in American society and police forces. As the protesting continued, mystery arose over what information was truthful. Acts of violence against peaceful protesters could be seen

through Vines and YouTube videos, displaying the key role social media plays in modern protests. The Ferguson protests, which are still active, seek justice for Michael Brown, pushing for the conviction of Darren Wilson for murder.

In Hong Kong, the protest called Occupy Central, or “Umbrella Revolution,” has made headlines. Occupy Central began in late September after a clash occurred between the government and students. The protest was originally scheduled to begin in October. The goal is to protest China’s ruling on who may stand as a candidate in elections for Hong Kong’s leader, due in 2017. The protesters, led by Benny Tai Yiu-ting, Dr. Chan Kin-man, and Yiu-ming, occupied the important roads in Hong Kong surrounding government headquarters. The number of protesters reached 50,000 after police

used tear gas against protesters which persuaded people to aid in the cause of Occupy Central. It has been called “Umbrella Revolution” because many protesters held umbrellas to protect themselves from pepper spray. The protest is still ongoing.

Protesters in Hong Kong and Ferguson reached out to each other through social media to show support for their causes. People in Hong Kong have been seen with their hands up, mirroring Ferguson’s “hands up, don’t shoot” slogan. The people of Ferguson tweeted signs with “stay strong Hong Kong” written on them.

Pictures courtesy of *Google*



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Winter Wonderland?

By: Michael Jablonski

This winter may prove to be just as harsh as last year. Indicators of this can be seen in Maine, where many towns have already received over a foot of snow.

The northern area of the vast land known as Eurasia has also seen quite an abundance of snow, hinting that the same results could occur in the Eastern United States. Another sign is in the fact that over the past couple of

months, temperatures have been cooler than normal on the East Coast.

Many meteorologists predict this winter to be very similar to the previous one, with freezing temperatures and a significant amount of snow on the way. While temperatures are likely to cool off considerably around Thanksgiving time, one can expect the most powerful storms to occur in January and February.

As for the rest of the United States, the western half will receive milder temperatures, due to the likelihood of the jet stream staying hooked over the Northeast. Meanwhile, in the Southeast, particularly Florida, storms are expected to rage this season.

Hopefully our lovely city will not have to deal with another winter, in which the snowfall total is above 60 inches.

Extra Sweet Trick or Treat

By: Joseph Espinal

The “Extra Sweet Trick Or Treat” took place on Friday, October 24th from 6-8 pm. Hosted by the Student Council of Wilson Area High School and conducted for the second year in a row, it has worked consistently and not only allows children to have fun while trick or treating, it also helps fund Student Council donations.

“The program serves as a safer alternative for the children of the Wilson Area community, rather than going out into the night and having to worry,” says Luke Mette, a member of the Student Council. He also says,

“There may be a possibility that the children have something to do that night, like a bonfire or a haunted house with their families, so this allow them to get their candy beforehand.”

This program also saw a variety of costumes! Superheroes, animals, and very creative homemade costumes were noticed throughout the night. The children got to show off their original costumes and get candy with their friends with no worries.

Wilson Area High School’s trick-or-treat opens up other opportunities for the Student

Council, the donations help to fund new ideas, new activities, and new suggestions for the community and the school. “With the money that we receive, we use that to help us if we want to open up a new recreational activity for our school or our community,” says Luke Mette, who hopes to get more people involved and more activities to increase school spirit.



Pictures courtesy of Emily Reiter

The Echo

Bonfire and Pep Rally

By: Mike Petrozzo



Pictures courtesy of *Google*

On October 31, another exciting pep rally and bonfire occurred at Wilson Area High School. It started off with the cheerleaders lined up for the chop. The tribe walked through and joined everyone at the end, where the cheerleaders performed their routine and put on a little skit for the football players.

Then came the best part, which was the bonfire. The band, football players, and

cheerleaders all lined up for the march, with the rest of the community behind. It was the most exciting part because people came out of their houses and cheered. In addition, people stopped their cars, shining their lights to give everyone their own little spotlight. During the bonfire itself, the football captains lit the fire while the band played and the cheerleaders danced.

Senior Mackenzie Hartrum, a cheerleader, feels that this

was definitely a memorable event. However, as a cheerleader, she could say that it was a little stressful as well. To someone who has never been to the event, he or she would find the entire thing enjoyable. It is not only a great way to support the football team who have been working hard all year, but an overall great way to get together with the community.

Warrior Marching Band

By: Allison Reiter

The Wilson Area High School Marching Band, under the direction of Mr. Jonathan Freidhoff, had an outstanding season this year. Drum Major Hannah Patterson was also instrumental in guiding the marching band to success.

The marching band participated in four competitions this season. At the first competition in Exeter, the band received an outstanding rating. At Bangor, they received an excellent rating. At Tamaqua, they received superior, and at their last competition in



Phillipsburg they received an excellent rating once again. These competitions are highly competitive and include many schools from our region. The scores our marching band received indicate just how well their performances were received by the judges.

The marching band has been playing selections by Earth, Wind, and Fire at their competitions and all football games. The songs they have been playing are September, After the Love is Gone and In the Stone. The marching band entertained the fans at our football games and helped boost the morale of the team.

Drum Major and senior Hannah Patterson, who was a five year participant in the marching band program, says, "This has been the best experience of my life, band is my family." She credits marching band with teaching her leadership skills and providing her with lasting friendships and memories. She would like to encourage more people to come out for marching band and make a memorable high school experience. Ms. Patterson along with Jr. Drum Major Tim Horan and band front captain Jessica Buttner have provided our marching band with terrific leadership.

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Editorial on Wilson's New Cell Phone Policy

By: Emily Reiter

Much of today's society is dominated by electronics. People would be hard pressed to find a teenager who is not consumed with social media, or cell phones. Although the growing distraction of technology is increasing, it can be very useful.

This year Wilson has implemented a new cell phone policy. Students are allowed to carry their phones on them throughout the school day and use their phones in class, if approved by a teacher. In addition, students can use their phones during lunch.

The new policy is

perhaps the most favorable amendment to the student handbook. Announced during lunches at the start of the school year, students were ecstatic! They immediately began taking out their phones, snapping "selfies," and posting tweets. Although students were happy, some teachers felt this new policy would disrupt classrooms. However, the past few months have shown a respectful use of cell phones, with no more disruptions than usual.

Most teachers embraced the approved use of cell phones. Students are often encouraged to use

their phones to search the correct way to solve a problem. This is a quick and easy way for students to help themselves understand what they are learning. In addition, many teachers have started using an app called, "Kahoot." Students can link together and compete to solve problems on a plethora of topics. It is extremely fun and promotes interactive learning.

Overall, the school cell phone policy appears to be a success. Thank you to the faculty and administration for this new policy!

Veteran's Day

By: Chavi Sharma

This year, The History Club was responsible for the 2014 Veteran's Day Assembly. Most Americans do not realize the importance of Veteran's Day. History club members Chavi Sharma, Morgan Heneman, and Rachel Torres reiterated the significance of the holiday in their speeches during the assembly. Morgan presented a poem on why she is proud to be an American, and Rachel concluded with the History of Vet-

eran's Day.

The Veteran's Day award was presented to Cody Holder, a 2012 graduate of Wilson Area High School. Following his mother's speech on his behalf, a speaker, Bob Totten, came to show the students insight on the Vietnam War. Bob Totten was born in Carmel, California. After following into his father's footsteps, he received his Bachelors from WestPoint Military Academy. He has lived in five countries and twelve differ-

countries and twelve different states. Totten also graduated from the Army in 1987 and worked for a government contractor at Fort Monmouth NJ. Overall, Totten was a very informative and entertaining presenter.

Last but not least, the assembly ended with a Jeopardy Battle of the classes and unsurprisingly, the teachers won. The History Club did an amazing job with bringing the school together to support Veteran's Day!



Pictures courtesy of Google

The Echo

New Spanish Teachers!

By: Chelsea Kun

Wilson Area High School is very happy to welcome two new Spanish teachers: Miss Saylor and Miss Hedlund.

Miss Saylor studied at Albright College. "It was a very nice school. It was relatively small," Miss Saylor said. At first, Miss Saylor didn't want to be a Spanish teacher. When she went to college, she first wanted to major in psychology. "I got my first degree in psychology.

Then, I realized how useful Spanish was, so I got another degree in Spanish," Miss Saylor stated. She applied at Reading as a mental health worker, but they had a Spanish teacher position open, so they gave that to her.

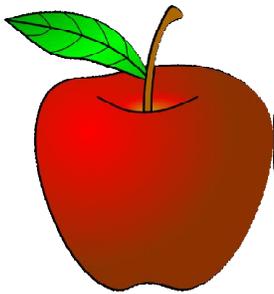
Miss Saylor loves Spanish, and she loves Wilson. She saw a huge change in schools when she went from Reading to Wilson. "I like the kids at both schools, but Wilson kids

are very different," Miss Saylor says, "Wilson kids are very motivated. They do their work and they are very respectful. Wilson is also much smaller than Reading." Miss Saylor seems to like her journey at Wilson so far. She likes how welcoming the staff is, and that Wilson feels more like a family. It is still challenging to teach honors and AP classes because now she must challenge the students more than she used to.

Miss Hedlund is also a big fan of Wilson. "It's a lot like my high school, and I loved high school. So teaching at Wilson is a lot like being back in high school," Miss Hedlund says. She attended Belleville High School in New Jersey. She was very involved in sports, including soccer. She went to Kutztown University, and was very involved in the school, having many leadership skills. She was also in a

sorority. Like Miss Saylor, Miss Hedlund did not want to teach Spanish at first. "I wanted to be a history teacher. I always loved culture and the differences in all the cultures," Miss Hedlund says, "but Spanish always came so easy to me, and I love the Spanish culture, so I decided to become a Spanish teacher."

This is her first year teaching, and she loves Wilson. "I've heard a lot of horror stories about people's first year of teaching, but it is not a horror story." Miss Hedlund says. She thinks the students are very respectful, and she is growing a friendship with them.



Pictures courtesy of Google



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Senior Spotlight

By: Amiie Bullard

We have all heard of Ivy League Colleges since we were in middle school, and we've all dreamed of one day attending one. "Ivy League" describes a college of academic excellence, selectivity in admissions, and social elitism. They are large schools that are among the most prestigious in the world. For some students, living and studying at an Ivy League college could become their new reality. I decided to sit down and talk to Ariana Caiati, a senior who is pursuing Ivy League schools.

Me: Why would you like to go to an Ivy League school, instead of another college?

Ariana: The Ivy League schools have the best science programs in the country, and for what I want to do, I want the best education possible.

M: How much more difficult would you say it is to apply to an Ivy League college?

A: It's more difficult due to their [high] standards to even be considered as an applicant, but you also have to take SAT Subject

Tests, which usually most schools don't ask for.

M: If you could choose any of the Ivy Leagues to attend, which would it be?

A: Probably Princeton; the campus is beautiful, it's close to home, and it has the best physics and chemistry programs.

To be accepted into an Ivy League school is a tremendous honor and a difficult task to accomplish. I wish Ariana the best of luck, along with any other student who applies to any of the eight Ivy League colleges.



There's No Argument to the Debate Team's Success!

By: Annabelle Gaardsmoe

After last year's victory in semifinals, the debate team is starting the year off strong, finishing second in the league with a current record of 5-3. During the first debate of the year, both A and B teams managed to win the first round of debates, while one A team and one B team also conquered in the second round.

Last year's A team managed to win the debate semifinals. They also came in second at finals, finishing behind Penn Ridge,

who is currently tied with Salisbury for first in the league.

The topic for the first two debates is whether or not the commonwealth of Pennsylvania should ban the death penalty, while the topic for the last two debates will be about affirmative action in college admissions.

In every Debate team, there are two A teams and two B teams, and one team from both A and B will either argue on the affirmative side, or the negative side. Each team

and B will either argue on the affirmative side, or the negative side. Each team consists of two speakers, a questioner, and a rebuttalist. The speakers have to prepare a five minute speech to deliver, supporting their side of the argument, after which the questioner from the other team cross examines, trying to point out flaws in their argument. Finally, the rebuttalist must also prepare a five minute speech during the debate, summarizing everything that happened and why the other team's argument is invalid.



Pictures courtesy of Google

The Echo

Big Brothers Big Sisters Program

By: Shelby Soliwoda

Unbeknownst to many of us, there are an incredible number of volunteer opportunities in and around our community. One of these opportunities bases itself at the LINCS Center by Wilson Area Intermediate School. The name of this program is "Big Brothers Big Sisters," a national organization concerned with helping children realize their potential and build promising futures. Having been fortunate enough to be part of this organization for several years now, I can say with absolute certainty that every member and advisor truly cares about the children they guide and educate.

One major goal of the program is to create strong friendships built upon trust between each Big and Little, and I definitely feel I have that bond. My first introduction to the program

was early in my sophomore year. I became extremely interested in community service opportunities and wanted to give back to the people of Wilson. Coincidentally, a Big Brothers Big Sisters representative came to visit our school at that time, so I immediately signed up.

The application process is quick and easy. The small interview they require is very relaxed. The advisors simply want to know how passionate you are about helping people and the type of person you are in general. They use this information to match you up with a corresponding child to mentor.

I've had a grand total of two "Little Sisters" throughout my time as a Big Sister and each one has been an incredibly fun opportunity. Typically, each Big and Little set up a

meeting day during the week that is convenient for the both of them. They then meet once a week at that time. Usually, the meeting takes place from 3-4pm.

The LINCS Center offers a variety of activities to keep both members entertained as well. My Little Sister and I do homework, workout, and make crafts. Like I previously mentioned, our local Big Brothers Big Sisters chapter usually visits our cafeteria every few months to recruit new Bigs, so keep an eye out for that announcement. Who knows, you may just be able to impact someone's life for the better!



Big Brothers Big Sisters

Pictures courtesy of *Google*

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Cross Country

By: Ryfare Rivera

The Cross Country season came to an end, with the girls Varsity Team finishing ninth in the state. Gaby Vega, Sydney Brannon, and Abby Rustay all received Tri-MVP awards for the season. Also, Abby Rustay, Gaby Vega, and Sydney Brannon all placed in the Colonial League Championships, making the first and second team. Devyn Losco was awarded Hon-

orable Mention. It was a great season for the female varsity team, with a record of 16-2!

While the boys Cross Country team did not make states, they began with a great season, winning multiple races back to back and dominating other teams. Unfortunately, towards the end of the season the boys varsity team faced some challenges, which prevented the up and com-

ing team from going to states. The boys varsity team achieved a record of 16-3. It was a bittersweet season; however, Joe Espinal was on the first team in the Colonial League, breaking four course records! Kyle Zingales earned an honorable mention by the Colonial League. Congratulations to both the girls and boys cross country teams on their great season!



Powderpuff Game

By: Rachel Torres

On October 12th, 2014 at the Williams Township Municipal park, the club SADD hosted a powder puff game that left the freshmen, sophomore, and senior class truly sad.

A powder puff game is a flag football game where females play football and the males cheer. Many students came out to cheer, support, and put on a great show! Cheerleaders consisted of Erik Wallace, Joe Espinal, Spencer Muff, and Kairon Winn coached by Haillee Flank and others.

Players and cheerleaders showed up to the park an hour before the first game to practice before game

time. The first game started promptly at 2:00, Freshmen vs. Sophomores. Towards the end of the third quarter, Aimee Badman scored a touchdown leaving a final score of 12-0.

The second game kicked off Juniors vs. Seniors. The first touchdown of the game was scored by Rachel Torres, following the two point conversion by Sydney Brannon. Then, Shelby Soliwoda scored a touchdown for the Seniors. However, that didn't keep the Junior class from winning with a final score of 12-6.

The championship match pitted Sophomores vs. Jun-

iors. Two touchdowns by Akayla Mease, a touchdown by Morgan Hene-man, and two point conversions by Sydney Brannon ended the game with a final score of 22-0. Juniors took home the win!



Pictures courtesy of Google

The Echo

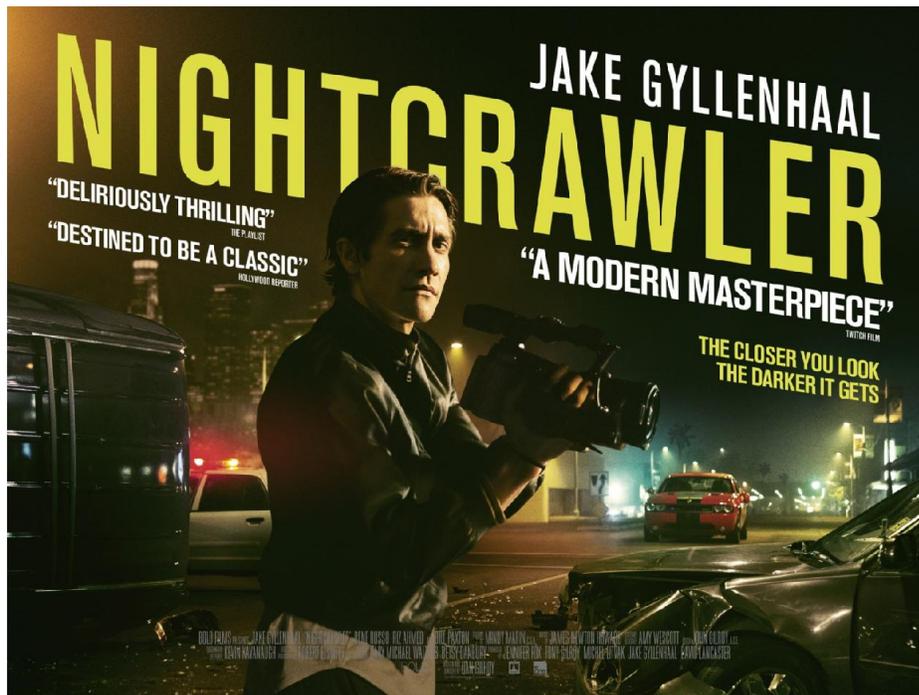
Nightcrawler Review

By: Ryan O'Brien

Nightcrawler stars Jake Gyllenhaal and Rene Russo. It is directed by the husband of Rene Russo, Dan Gilroy, who is also the writer of the film. The film tells the tale of Louis Bloom, a determined man who moves to Los Angeles in pursuit of work. When he comes upon a crime scene being filmed for the local news stations, he muscles his way into the world of underground crime journalism.

The movie was filmed very well and had a dark undertone to it, which fit the tone of the film perfectly. I believe the film could have been directed better if it had been directed by, for instance, David Fincher. Gyllenhaal gives, in my opinion, the best performance of his career. His film choices as of late have been absolutely brilliant: Prisoners, Enemy, and now Nightcrawler.

The film was very well made and the last 20 minutes of it were some of the most intense moments I've ever experienced in a movie theatre. The acting in the movie was superb and I believe Gyllenhaal will be nominated for an Oscar. If he does not get nominated, I will be extremely surprised. I'd give the film an 8.5/10.



Pictures courtesy of Google