



## Homecoming 2015

By Scott Marceca

Every year, Wilson's homecoming football game and dance are events that many students look forward to attending. This year was no exception to this long-standing tradition. On Saturday, October 17th, at the homecoming football game, Wilson's football team played against Saucon Valley's football team. Unfortunately, Wilson suffered a tough loss to Saucon Valley, and the final score of the game was 0-55. Despite the game's disappointing outcome, it was evident throughout the entire game that Wilson's players tried their best. Also, the Tribe supported the team per usual with its encouraging chants.

During the special half-time ceremony, Wilson's Alumni Band had an outstanding performance. After the band's excellent performance, the 2015 Homecoming Court walked across the field. Determined by the faculty's votes, the court

was composed of Akaylah Mease escorted by Hunter Shatto, Alli Hicks escorted by Bryce Etter, Morgan Heneman escorted by Scott Marceca, Leah Kun escorted by Ryan Grelle, Chavi Sharma escorted by Joseph Espinal, Sydney Brannon escorted by Spencer Muff, Nicole Karslo escorted by Kevyn Mitchell, Haillee Flank escorted by Kyle Zingales, Emily Holder escorted by Luke Mette, and Alexia Claudio escorted by Michael Fabian. The ceremony ended with Chavi Sharma being crowned Wilson's 2015 Homecoming Queen.

Later that night, Student Council hosted the annual homecoming dance. The theme of this year's dance was "A Night in New York City." Accordingly, the cafeteria was decorated with a cardboard Statue of Liberty, tall buildings, and city-themed backdrops that were perfect for taking pictures. High school stu-

dents from every grade convened for an exhilarating night of dancing and socializing. This year, 335 students attended the dance, which is a record number for any homecoming dance at Wilson. At the conclusion of the dance, Joseph Espinal was crowned Homecoming King, and he and Chavi shared the traditional king and queen dance. Overall, Wilson's Homecoming was a great success that allowed Wilson's students to create invaluable memories.

- Taylor Garrison: Editor-in-Chief
- Michael Jablonski: Managing Editor
- Scott Marceca: Asst. Editor



Homecoming Court smiles for the camera.



# Edition 93, Issue 2

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## Spirit Week

By Jamie Sine

This year's spirit week lasted from November 2nd to November 6th, beginning with 'Merica Monday, where students wore an outfit consisting of red, white, and blue to show their support to their school and their country. Next was Twin Tuesday, and students and faculty wore an outfit to match their "twin," ranging from a similar shirt to an identical outfit. Wednesday was Warm Wednesday, where students dressed in comfortable sweats, pajamas, and even onesies. Students and staff had a second opportunity to wear their Halloween costumes on Thriller Thursday, where many dressed up as favorite characters and famous monsters. Pride Day Friday ended the week with students and staff wearing blue and gold to show their pride for the school and acknowledge the season's last football game.

To end spirit week, each of the school hallways were innovatively decorated by each grade, incorporating the Wilson vs. Notre Dame rivalry

into a theme of their choosing. The freshmen transformed the third floor hallway into a game of Pac-Man aptly named "fresh-man." Students wove their way through a video game maze to receive a score at the end of the hallway. The sophomores paid tribute to the beloved Monsters Inc. franchise, dividing the catwalk into popular scenes from the movies, such as Boo's room and the Scare Games. The juniors brought Marvel to life, where superheroes like the Hulk and Iron Man domi-

nated the second floor hallway. Each hero had their own color scheme with matching balloon decorations. The seniors referenced Spongebob in the first floor hallway. Entering the Krusty Krab, students dodged dangerous hooks, walked through Glove World, and exited through the mouth of the infamous Alaskan Bull Worm.

The juniors deservedly won this year's competition, but that does not diminish any of the hallways' imaginative displays.



An ap"peel"ing Spirit Week costume.

# The Echo

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## Back to the Future Day

By Annabelle Gaardsmoe

.After three decades, the day many have been waiting for has finally arrived. October 21st, 2015 was a day so rare it will only ever happen once; that is, unless you travel back in time and relive it. The very special day celebrated was Back to the Future Day. October 21st, 2015 was the day Marty Mcfly traveled to in "Back to the Future part II" to save his children (that hadn't even been born yet).

This day caused many to stop and think about what predictions from the movie have come true and what we, as "the future," have really accomplished. Some of the technological advances the movie predicted were tab-

let computers, flat screen televisions and hover boards. While hover boards aren't something we use in our daily lives, both tablets and flat screen televisions are very commonplace. In my opinion, I would have to say that the movie's biggest miss was the fashion. Unfortunately, double ties are not a popular look and there are no self-lacing sneakers (yet).

When thinking about the future, many people picture holograms and shiny, metallic chrome everywhere, but considering how far we've come since "Back to the Future" came out, it makes one wonder, what's next? It's always hard to believe that there are still more ad-

vancements to be made, more things to be discovered, but the opportunities are endless and that is incredibly exciting. While the idea of celebrating a thirty year old movie franchise may seem ridiculous simply because they travel to what we consider the present, it is not ridiculous at all. People are often too focused on what's next and what's to come instead of stopping and taking a moment to reflect. So take a moment to sit down, and think about how grateful you are for Michael J. Fox and his DeLorean, because they remind just how important the past is for shaping our future.



Pictures courtesy of *Google*

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## Syrian Refugee Crisis

By Ashley-Rose Starry

It is common knowledge that living conditions in Syria are rapidly spiraling out of control. It is because of the civil war and disorder in Syria that the Obama administration wants to quickly admit more refugees into the United States. Opening new screening outposts in Iraq and Lebanon will help speed up the process. The U.S State Department has confirmed that a new refugee processing center in Erbil, Iraq will be completed by the end of 2015. Refugee processing in Lebanon is said to resume in early 2016.

Refugees became unable to go to the center in Lebanon be-

cause of security concerns. These concerns caused the center to close completely, leaving Syrian refugee advocates outraged because Lebanon holds the largest amount of refugees. This is partially due to the fact that many of them live in poverty because it is illegal to work. President Obama pledged in September to admit 10,000 Syrian refugees in 2016; however, the White House has not confirmed how many more refugees they will admit beyond that number. Senior administration officials claim they are looking for ways to admit more than 10,000 refugees.

There are currently nine screening centers across the globe where U.S Department of Homeland Security employees decide who will be admitted to the United States. Creating additional centers will double the number available to refugees in the Middle East. The vast majority of Syrians are screened at the centers located in Istanbul and Amman, Jordan. Lebanon is now refusing to accept refugees except in special cases. The U.S is urging other countries to help Syrian refugees and increase aid to Jordan, Lebanon, and Turkey as they take in many people trying to escape the war.

## 2016 Elections

By Sam Houser

A little under a year from now, on November 8th 2016, a new president will be chosen by the American people. But who will that new president be?

The only three candidates for the Democratic Party are Hillary Clinton, Martin O' Malley and Bernie Sanders. As for the Republican Party, there are fifteen candidates running, but the top five are Donald Trump, Ben Carson, Jeb Bush, Ted Cruz and Marco Rubio.

According to

[2016.republican-candidates.org](http://2016.republican-candidates.org), the top candidate for the 2016 election would be Donald Trump, followed by Ben Carson and Marco Rubio.

Of course, there are uncountable amounts of other candidates, but the ones listed above are the only ones that stand a decent chance. Major candidates in the Third Party include Bob Whitaker and Tom Bowie in the American Freedom Party. The Party of Socialism and Liberation contains Gloria LaRiva and

Eugene Puryear, the Prohibition Party includes Jim Hedges and Bill Bayes, and the Veterans Party of America contains Chris Keniston and Deacon Taylor.

Also, there's an Independent Candidate who calls himself "Vermin Supreme." According to his Facebook page, he is in favor of a "mandatory tooth brush law," is the only candidate pledging to fund time travel, and promises to grant every American a free pony.

# The Echo

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## Extra Sweet Trick-or-Treat

By Allison Reiter

Each year Student Council holds an extremely fun event for the children of Wilson. They have an indoor trick-or-treat in the school to let kids celebrate Halloween safely. This type of event gives more opportunity for kids to be able to do something they may have otherwise missed out on. This year the event took place on Friday, October 23 from 6 to 8 pm.

President Chavi Sharma and Vice President Luke Mette organized the event along with Student Council's advisor Mrs.

Dorsey. The event was a huge success. Over 200 kids came to the event, with some kids making multiple trips around the floors.

At the event all the Student Council members dressed up to pass out candy to the kids. Some of the costumes that members dressed in were minions from Despicable Me, Pocahontas, an ice cream cone, Mal and Evie from the Descendants, along with many others. Along with dressing up, the students decorate their doors to corre-

spond with their theme. This makes the whole event more exciting for the kids. The children loved seeing their favorite characters or just some of the fun and funny costumes that members were dressed in.

Also included in the festivities was a bake sale, which helps fund upcoming events that are similar to this one. The Student Council hopes to keep this tradition of Extra Sweet Trick-or-Treat going for many years because it is an event great for all ages of children.

## International Club Update

By Makayla Mckinney

Wilson's International Club held a hair drive for the first time this October. The drive was held to help children who suffer from serious illnesses that ended up resulting in hair loss.

The club asked any student or teacher to cut off at least eight inches of hair to donate to an organization called Children with Hair Loss. This organization allows wigs to be made for children with cancer, alopecia, or who suffered a traumatic event causing them to lose hair. If participating, the hair

must be at least eight inches long, and it was able to be colored.

The club advisor, Miss Saylor, knew that not every student or faculty member would be able to donate hair, but for those who did participate, the club provided an interesting incentive. Teachers or family members were asked to donate a small amount of money to each student depending on how much hair was cut off. Some students got sponsored a dollar per inch of hair. Over two hundred dollars was raised in

all, along with much hair to be donated to this foundation.

Miss Saylor would like to thank Yancelly Give-ria, AJ Johnson, Alivia Lutz, former graduate Toni Messmen, and any faculty member that sponsored any students for donating their hair. The club will hold another drive next year in hopes that more people will be able to donate and raise money. Start growing your hair out now for a chance to participate in a great cause!

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## Cheering

By Alexis Vitko

Wilson takes great pride in all of its sports, especially the cheering team that is currently ranked number one in the district.

The seniors of the squad are currently Melissa Townsend, Hailee Flank, Breanna Young, Kylee Kalnas, and Yvonne Marsh. On average, they place first in competition and they “win more often than they lose” according to Jessica Oduro.

Last year’s season ended with them being 11th in the nation at UCA Nationals. A junior on the varsity squad, Jessica Oduro said, “We did a little better last year than this year because last year the team wasn’t brand new...” She also stated, “We’re slowly trying to rebuild the team back to [how it used to be]. The team is doing amazing and despite so many new girls, we are trying our best.”

The weakness of the team is that so many newcomers are experiencing this for the first time, but the strengths are the bond they have and the hard work they share.

They placed first in Colonial League for the third year in a row and plan to maintain their first place title in districts. We should expect great things for our Wilson Area High School cheering team.



Pictures courtesy of *Google*

## Our Senior Girls Strive Towards the “Goal” Ahead

By Brenna Blanke

The Wilson Area field hockey team’s season has come to an end, but the spirit that the girls carry with them has not. Although the team only tied one game this season, they’ve won compared to last season. According to some of the players on the team, they have come a long way since the 2014 fall season.

Rachel Torres, a senior who is torn be-

tween committing to Arcadia University’s field hockey team and the Indiana University of Pennsylvania’s, says that this year’s new coach was one of the many reasons for improvement. Torres notes, “She kept pushing us hard and she made us believe that we would be good, but we had to take it one step at a time.” She also talks about the change in positions as

she claims, “We finally figured out which positions worked for everyone, which means games flow better, and allowed us to score more goals than what we did last year.”

The Field Hockey team hopes to continue making improvements in the years to come and prepares to send the seniors off to college in the near future.



Pictures courtesy of *Google*

# The Echo

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## Cross Country

By Vanessa Fonseca-Garcia

The cross country season was phenomenal. According to Mr. Browne, the season was “going well because the group of kids I coach all care about each other, and the team is always fun to coach.” Both the boys’ and the girls’ teams finished up with an identical record of 19-5. Although their records are the same, the girls finished second in the league, while the boys finished fifth.

The good news is that Kyle Zingales, Sydney

Brannon, Gaby Vega, Abby Rustay, and Joseph Espinal (who became the first district champion in Wilson history) made it into the state championships. Going into states had to be nerve wracking. Joseph Espinal, one of the individuals who went to states, said, “I was a little nervous but nothing serious. I ran 3.1 miles at the Hershey Parkview course and ran 17:37.”

The cross country season has come to an end, which

means that some runner will be leaving. Everyone is sad, especially Mr. Browne, who said, “It is impossible to replace my varsity seniors, but I have high hopes that the underclassman will get stronger and faster, and with the help of the upcoming freshman, I expect our team to be as competitive next year and for years to come.” Their team did great this year at district, and maybe next year we will win a state championship.



Joe Espinal races to the finish.



Abby Rustay leads the way.

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## Moving Towards a (Soccer) Goal

By Rachel Torres

Our Wilson Warrior boys' soccer team will be facing large challenges next year as they lose their lucky seven seniors. The student body hopes it won't impact the team too much as our boys move on to pursue their futures.

The 2015-2016 Warrior Soccer Seniors consist of captains Ryan Grelle #11, Erik Wallace #7, and Michael Whildin #25. The other seniors include Romaudio Lindsay #14, Kevyn Mitchell #10, Jimmy Fritz #15, and Ben Purcell #1.

Out of the seven

seniors, two of them are planning to continue their soccer journeys past high school. Michael Whildin plans to attend either East Stroudsburg University or possibly West Chester University to continue his soccer and track career, along with Ryan Grelle who is planning to attend either Annapolis College or West Point Academy. Erik Wallace is planning to attend Penn State University but not to continue his soccer career. The rest of the team is planning to attend four-year schools and focus solely on academ-

ics.

I asked Captain Ryan Grelle his overview and last remarks on his very last season here at Wilson, and he said, "We set the oven to 375°, we sauced them up, we served them medium-well, with a nice side of salad with balsamic dressing!" Ryan is sure that his team would agree with him. Congratulations to our seniors on a very flavorful ending to their last season; we are all wishing you the best as you continue your lives!



Ryan Grelle shows off his footwork.

## Marching Band

By Kaylynn Betts

The Wilson Area High School marching band has been performing for over 50 years. Although times have changed and numbers have shrunk, the Warrior band still rocks the house. In fact, this year's band show is called "The Wilson House of Funk," featuring the songs "We're an American Band," "Superstition," and "Uptown Funk."

The band competes in several band competitions, located at Bangor, Tamaqua, Phillipsburg, and Nazareth. Throughout the

competitions, the band received varying ratings from Excellent to Superior, the highest rating possible.

The band's drum majors for the 2015 season are senior Tim Horan and junior Madisen Shriver. The band front captain is Taylor Williams. Although marching band doesn't get as much recognition as other sports and activities, it still has a very large support system. All the participants in the program do so much behind the scenes to make everything possible. From

the band's section leaders to the officers, the staff, band boosters, and our school, band works very hard.

The band's director, Mr. Friedhoff, said, "...would like to thank the band boosters as well as the staff and administrators of Wilson Area School District for continually supporting the art and music programs at Wilson Area High School." The 2015 marching band season has come to an end and all the hard work has paid off.

# The Echo

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## Finding Yourself In High School

By Taylor Garrison

During the first marking period, the guidance office is filled with freshmen having their first interviews with the counselors. While waiting in the guidance office recently, I overheard an interview, and the interviewee was very unsure of what clubs and activities they wanted to partake in and had not even pondered college at all. As a freshman, it can appear daunting to find out what interests you, but it is certainly not impossible! High school is a perfect place to experiment with what interests you.

Clubs are perhaps the easiest way to discover interests. Wil-

son has a large variety of clubs from history club to drama club; there is a club for everyone! Try out a club for a year, and then you can decide if you would like to pursue it further. You may be surprised with the results! A common phrase among upperclassmen in clubs like drama and debate is “I wish I had joined sooner!” Even as an upperclassman, you can still try out clubs. It may not be too late in the year, so ask a club advisor or president if you can still join this school year.

Classes are another way of finding yourself in high school. Wilson offers a myriad

of class options, such as art, marketing, and animal diversity. When creating your schedule next year, consider taking a wide variety of classes. Half year courses, like intro to theatre, are great ways to discover what interests you.

There are countless other ways to discovering yourself outside of the classroom. Volunteering is a great way to figure out what you want to study in college. Even simply talking to friends and family about what they enjoy may spark a new interest. New interests are waiting just around the corner; all you have to do is look!



Pictures courtesy of *Google*

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## Book Review: Nice Dragons Finish Last by Rachel Aaron

By Alyson Ellison

Many people struggle to meet the expectations of their family. For Julius, a twenty-four year old dragon with dozens of siblings, this means allowing his cruel, cold-hearted relatives to control his actions. He is told constantly that dragons are the superior species and should act as such, regardless of how they harm others. In fact, causing destruction is encouraged, and showing

mercy is considered inexcusable weakness.

However, Julius is unlike all of the dragons he's met; he feels no urge to take over the world or prove his dominance over lesser beings. Unfortunately for him, his kind nature makes him a target for contempt and alienates him from the rest of his kind. After spending his entire life under the radar, he is finally given an ultimatum,

and being who he is may cost him his life.

This novel is recommended for those who enjoy enchanting fantasy stories full of humor and magic. The characters add to the alluring quality of the novel; Julius and his internal conflict, his newfound human friend Marci, and the various personalities of his endless siblings are what make the story such a wonderful success.



Pictures courtesy of Google

## A Guide to Clouds

By Michael Jablonski

Every day, dozens of random white shapes pass through the sky. Many people do not realize that these shapes, or clouds, each have a specific significance. Here are some tips on recognizing the common clouds and the weather that goes along with them.

- Cirrus: These clouds give a thin, wispy appearance. Cirrus clouds are usually a sign of pleasant weather.

- "Alto" clouds: These clouds tend to have

a blanket formation.

"Alto" clouds are usually the heralds for incoming bad weather.

- Cumulus: These clouds are the most common, given their puffy look that is well-known among society. These clouds mean that the weather is great.

- Stratus: These wide, gray clouds form low in the sky. Stratus clouds bring rain, or snow if the temperatures are low enough. The darker they are, the more severe

the precipitation will be that comes with them.

- Cumulonimbus: These clouds are tall, towering clouds, usually identifiable as an anvil shape. They bring the worst forms of weather, from hail to lightning to tornadoes.

Knowing about these different types of clouds can help one know how the weather will be, and that can make a difference in a person's day-to-day routine.

# The Echo

## WILSON ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NOVEMBER, 2015

By John Breidinger

Greetings, Alumni! 2015 has been a great year! The response to our mailing was overwhelming! Yes, literally, overwhelming, in that we ran out of mementos as well as time to respond and even list our new and renewed members! Be assured that we are working on it and will have something for you by year end.

I was able to visit with the 50 year Class of 1965 as they came home for both graduation and the Saucon Valley football game. Two of my all-time favorites are in this class. They include my cousin Bob Plotts and Gary Trigiani. Great

alumni supporters John and Marilyn Eisenhard and the one and only Jay Rutan were also in attendance. At the same game the Wilson Alumni Band joined the current band for half time. It was magnificent!

Also the girls of 1973 and 1974 get together on a regular basis. I crashed at least one of these gatherings and got to see more of my dear friends, like Vicki Briggs, Karen Pfister, Jan Krieger, Bette and Barb Werkheiser, and others. I use maiden names because that is who they always will be to me!!

Finally, I visited with President Ed Engle Sr and his Class of 1948

committee on November 3. What a delightful and energetic bunch! We discussed the Association and the Foundation, as well as ways the Class of 1948 might contribute to the school district.

Thing to look for include Wilson sporting events, concert, and plays. There will also be a Showcase of Wilson Areas School District Arts at the State Theater in February of next year. It will be great. Please share anything you would like to get into the Echo with me at [jbraid@rcn.com](mailto:jbraid@rcn.com).

Go Warriors! John Breidinger, Chairman, Wilson Alumni Associa-

