



Harlem Wizards Game

By: Taylor Garrison

The Harlem Wizards visited Wilson Area High School on Saturday May 16th at 3pm; the doors opened at 2pm. Tickets were only ten dollars for students and fifteen dollars for general admission. The game was played in the Wilson Area High School Gymnasium.

The game featured some of Wilson's best athletes, teachers, and administrators playing as the "Wilson Warrior Super Stars." It was certainly entertaining to see the Wilson team play the Harlem Wizards! The Harlem Wizards were founded in 1962, and ever since have provided their entertaining basketball games as a fundraiser event.

Wilson Area High School's student council will receive some of the profits from the game, selling some awesome souvenirs. The Harlem Wizards game was a must-see event and a great way to support the high school's student council. It was surely a sight to see the "trick hoops and alley oops" of the Harlem Wizards and Wilson team!

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The Echo

NHS Book Drive and Induction

By: Allison Reiter

Wilson Area High School's chapter of the National Honor Society has just completed its second community service project for the 2014-2015 school year. President Emily Reiter wanted to do a book drive to benefit ProJeCt of Easton's *sizzle* summer literacy program.

Miss Reiter contacted the Community Relations Manager at ProJeCt and asked if such a collection would benefit the program. The organization was thrilled to have the students at Wilson organize a book drive for their program. The book drive ran for three weeks and collected over 700 books, half of which were for children. The remaining books which were adult fiction will be donated to the Adult Literacy Center of Easton.

Students were encouraged to clean out their bookcases and bring in new or slightly used books. The top

three individuals who brought in the most books would receive a prize. The students did an outstanding job supporting the event and helping others in need of books that we take for granted. Books should never be thrown away there is always someone somewhere that would want and use books of any kind.

NHS also recently held its induction ceremony for new members and a farewell to senior members. The ceremony was held on May 15, in the high school auditorium. President Emily Reiter made a power point presentation with photos and music of all the graduating and newly inducted members. New inductees include Jessica Buttner*, Onyee Clarke*, Maggie Jabeir*, Evelyn Jimenez*, Mackenzie Hartrum*, Morganne Ireland*, Kelsey Oberreiter*, David Shukla*, Katelyn Snyder*, Brahmleen Chag-

gar, Alexia Claudio, Annabelle Gaardsmoe, Skyler Heft, Tyler Heft, Abygale Repsher, Karen Skibicki, Erik Wallace, Kailey Booth, Alec Buttner, Morgan Casciole, Mike Glovas, Georgia Gonzalez, Grace Hurd, Chelsea Kun, Devyn Losco, Kailey Rodrigues, Ashali Salvi and Maddie Shriver. Current members that are graduating include: Ashley Emann, Karisa Glassmoyer, Hannah Patterson, Shelby Soliwoda, Ariana Caiati, Nick Labatch, Madi Pope, Treasurer Kirsten Kels, Secretary Deni Losco, Vice President Megan Webb and President Emily Reiter.

Seniors and officers received special cords for their graduation. The Honor Society is excited to welcome a large group of new inductees this year. (All names with a * are new inductees that are graduating).



Pictures courtesy of Google

Second Earthquake in Nepal

By: Mike Petrozzo

Just two weeks after a devastating 7.8-magnitude earthquake struck western Nepal and killed more than 8,000 people, a 7.4-magnitude earthquake struck eastern Nepal near Mount Everest, killing at least 75 people and injuring at least 1,980.

As the quake struck at 12:35 p.m. local time on May 12, people in Nepal's capital, Kathmandu, started to rush out of buildings, and despite appearing calm,

everyone was panicked. Rescue helicopters have been sent to the worst hit districts northeast of Kathmandu. The rescue and relief teams were also searching for a U.S. military helicopter that went missing in the area, while helping with relief efforts. According to a spokesman for Nepal's government, 31 of the country's 75 districts have been affected.

The quake could even be felt in northern India and Bangladesh and was centered east of

Kathmandu, near the Chinese border. While only one person was killed in China, 17 people were reported dead in India. The quake lasted about 25 seconds. By the time everyone was out on the street a 6.3-magnitude aftershock struck, just the first of six aftershocks of magnitude 5.0 or higher, leading to even more panic. Hundreds of aftershocks have already struck Nepal since April 25.



Pictures courtesy of Google

The Echo

Freshman Advice

By: Michael Jablonski

As a current high school freshman, I decided to gather some advice from current freshmen. Various 9th graders were asked if there was anything that next year's group of freshmen should know. The following is their responses.

Here are some of the more relevant and helpful pieces of advice:

- Take honors classes.
- The english essays are not as easy as you would expect them to be.
- Do not stress too much.
- Be organized.
- Make sure you have time to study.
- Do your homework.
- Every time that you think that they cannot give you more work... they do.
- Pay attention.



Pictures courtesy of Google

- Do not copy homework, even if everyone else does.

- Do not be afraid of the honors classes.

- Be prepared.

- Participate in clubs and/or sports.

- Do not take any easy classes; actually challenge yourself.

- Do not give any attitude.

- Do not stand in the middle of the hallway. It causes a bit of a traffic jam.

- Always have a back-up pencil (and a back-up plan, too).

My favorites of the bunch:

- Follow your dreams.

- Everything you do will be remembered.

- Do the things that benefit your future the most.

- Success begins with self-control.

Now, I will give my own advice. High school is not going to be easy, but few things in life are.

There will be great moments in the year, like the joy of the Homecoming Dance or Superstars.

There will also be not-so-great moments, such as having to take multiple tests, each taking about

an hour to do. (We refer to this slightly tedious and challenging event as "midterms".) In my

mind, it is as simple as this: if you truly believe that you can do it, then you likely will. In any

case, the best piece of advice I can give you is this: changes are not permanent, but change is.

Edition 92, Issue 5

Gay Marriage USA

By: Mackenzie Hartrum

For the past forty years, serious debate has surrounded the freedom to marry in the United States. Throughout all of the ups and downs for the freedom to marry, the discussion has been rooted in the desire for same-sex couples to express their love and commitment to each other in the same way that different sex couples do, through marriage.

The fight for gay marriage is dated back to October 10, 1972. A couple from Minnesota tried to fight the fact that a clerk can refuse same-sex couples a marriage license. The case was taken to the Minnesota Supreme Court, where the couple lost again. In

January of 1972, Maryland became the first state to pass a statute banning same-sex marriage in their state. Numerous other states in the country passed similar restrictive statutes.

On September 21, 1996, President Bill Clinton signed the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) into law. DOMA mandates unequal treatment of legally married same-sex couples, selectively depriving them of the 1,138+ protections and responsibilities that marriage triggers at the federal level. There wasn't much of a change for same-sex couples until 2004. On May 17, 2004, Massachusetts became

the first state in the United States to allow same-sex couples to share in the freedom to marry.

Marriage opponents attempt to amend the constitution to strip away the freedom to marry, but the amendment is defeated on June 14, 2007, when over 75 percent of the state legislature votes to stand up for all families. Today, 37 states allow gay marriage, and only 13 states still have the ban against same-sex marriage. This June the Supreme Court will decide once and for all if gay marriage is a constitutional right to marry, or whether states have the right to ban the practice.



Pictures courtesy of *Google*

The Echo

A Harmonious Farewell

By: Annabelle Gaardsmoe

As the school year comes to a close and the last chorus concert approaches, the senior aren't the only ones preparing to say goodbye. Music teacher, Mrs. Hockin, will retire at the end of this school year after 28 years at Wilson and plans on making her last concert, her biggest.

Not only will the final concert of this year feature the Wilson concert choir and select ensemble groups, but additionally all Wilson chorus graduates are invited to come back for the alumni concert. The number of former students that plan on returning is an astounding 104! The alumni at the concert will outnumber the 71 students that are currently in chorus.

This year's program will feature songs like "O Jubilant Gloria," "The Voice," and "Shule Agrab," which will be taught to the girls by

senior Bridget McGinn, who wishes to follow in Mrs. Hockin's footsteps and become a music teacher as well. As usual, the concert will also feature the select ensemble groups, Women's Chorale, Wilsonaires, and Quartets; however, these groups will not feature any alumni. This concert will also feature senior solos performed by Bridget McGinn, Hannah Patterson and Toni Messman. While concert chorus rehearse daily in the chorus room during class with Mrs. Hockin, rehearsals for alumni are offered every Tuesday.

Mrs. Hockin also closed out the year by attending a chorale competition in Hershey, Pennsylvania on Saturday, May 9. The chorus received the Esprit de Corps award for their good comradeship both onstage and offstage.

The date of the alumni concert will be

May 30th at 4:00 pm in the high school auditorium and will end at 6:00. Admission to the concert will be free. The students are sad to see Mrs. Hockin leave since many of them have been in chorus since their freshman year, but students remain optimistic and curious about what next year will bring and who the new chorus director will be. Mrs. Hockin hopes the new music teacher will be able to sing and play guitar and piano and also hopes for a slightly stricter teacher next year to keep the kids in line! She also wants someone slightly younger, but still experienced with teaching music. But whoever does come to replace Hockin, her students will know that they have big shoes to fill!



Pictures courtesy of Google

Edition 92, Issue 5

Prom 2015

By: Scott Marceca

This year's prom exceeded all expectations. On May 8th, juniors and seniors convened for an exhilarating night at The Meadows in Hellertown.

Sharply dressed in formal attire, the prom's attendees spent their time dancing, eating, and snapping pictures. The Meadows was an excellent choice of venue because the prom

was indoors and outdoors. Students were able to take pictures outside in cozy gazebos. The grounds were lined with beautiful landscaping, which included pretty flowers and bushes.

Later in the evening, dinner was held in a spacious room. Elegantly decorated tables were scattered around the room. The lofty room

also hosted the dance floor, which was packed most of the night.

Students waited with anticipation to find out that Deni Losco and Austin Leshner were crowned Prom Queen and Prom King, respectively. Overall, this year's prom was fabulous and allowed for students to form invaluable memories.



Pictures courtesy of *Google*

The Echo

Special Olympics

By: Rachel Torres

On April 28th WAHS students, including myself, took on Special Olympics at Frank Banko field in Bethlehem. Some would say that our experiences were not only challenging but very life changing. While volunteering at Special Olympics, we helped individuals with disabilities overcome many obstacles of their everyday lives. To accomplish this, we were partnered up with girls and boys of all ages with many different disabilities.

Special Olympics is a non-profit organization that has been around for about 45 years, and their sole purpose is to provide year-round training and competition for children and adults with intellectual disabilities. They are given the opportunities to develop physical

fitness, gain courage and participate in sharing of skills and gifts. There are about 4.4 million participants in over 170 countries worldwide.

The first events took place at about 10:00, and with over 650 special needs participants and more than 700 students, we were able to make it a day to remember. We helped others compete in events such as shot put, javelin, 100m races, and much more. Many of us were surprised to talk to our buddies and find out how much they look forward to seeing volunteers every year. It's not only something touching for us, but it's that way for the participants and their families.

Throughout the course of the day we were able to build relationships with the partici-

pants and their families as we helped the disabled become able to overcome anything they put their mind to. It was upsetting to see some of the kids sad about not winning first place in their events, but in reality on that day they were all winners.

While volunteering at Special Olympics, we focus on what the athletes can do, and not on what they can't. We allow their disabilities to fade as we focus on their talents and abilities which we applaud them for time after time.

It's truly an honor to be selected as a Special Olympics volunteer. It's life changing because on that day you realize that the participants aren't much different from you at all. They want to do the same things as you, just as well as you do them.



Special Olympics

Pictures courtesy of *Google*

Edition 92, Issue 5

Sports

By:

Boys Tennis-

The boy's tennis team has had a phenomenal season. Scott Marceca, Brian Kuntz, and Justin Hollshwander play second and third singles. The team includes two doubles teams which consist of freshmen John Boerchers, Erik Stiansen, Anthony DeArmas, and Joey Jabeir. The two doubles teams won a total of four matches. The team faced an unexpected turn when one of team's star players Justin Hollshwander was injured, but the team took over. Boys Tennis has done exceedingly well and is sure to have another great season next spring.

Girls Softball-

The girls softball team includes Christine Fitzgerald as starting pitcher and Devyn Losco as catcher. At second base is Alli Hicks and Hannah Calantoni at third base. Kendra Showalter plays center field and Deni Losco at right field. Elise Buck, a sophomore on

the team, was recently injured and finished for the season. Freshman softball players include Hannah Fabian, Jenna Galvin, Yancelly Paredes-Gaviria, Tori Loeb-sack, and Paige Kressman. With the help of coaches Mrs. Ulrich and Ms. Arnold, the team's strong girls led to an amazing season.

Boys Baseball-

The boys baseball team set high standards for this season since qualifying for finals last year. Senior Phil Pierfy played pitcher and outfield, and senior Jon Cintron played infield. Other team players Logan Murray, Brandon Miller, Skyler Heft, Tyler Heft, Gabe Karslo, Brandon Smith, and Bryce Bergstresser played spots in the infield. Erik Wallace played as well as an outfielder. With Coach Hinkle by their side, the team has done exceptionally well.

Track and Field-

Track and Field coaches Mr. Meckley, Mr. DeRe-

inzi, Mr. Browne, Mrs. Fisher, and Ms. Fisher prepared a fantastic team meet after meet. The team was the most popular in numbers amongst Wilson students. While the season is still going on, the portion that made it to leagues are well on their way to districts. Star players Drew Hess and Joe Espinal, broke school records this season. The team is aiming to make it to states resembling last season.

Girls Lacrosse Club-

Back for the second time, the girls enjoyed a great season of playing lacrosse. After, challenging workouts indoors, the team was finally able to play outside when the weather cleared up. Captains of the club are Ashali Salvi, Morgan Heneman, and Karissa Glassmoyer. The club hosted a spaghetti dinner fundraiser to raise money for equipment. Although lacrosse is only a club, the girls are in hopes of forming a team.

Pictures courtesy of *Google*

The Echo

How to Spend Your Summer

By: Ashley-Rose Starry

With summer break just around the corner, it's a good idea to start thinking of ways to spend your free time over the next few months.

Summer is a great time to go to the beach. The beaches in Wildwood and Atlantic City are excellent choices for families due to their expansive boardwalks and numerous restaurants within the area. Long Beach Island is another family-friendly beach with an amazing dining scene. All three of these beaches can be driven to within three hours, making them per-

fect weekend destinations, or even just day trips.

Not everyone has time to take a long vacation, but day trips can be fun too! If you have young kids in your family, taking a trip to an amusement park or zoo might be the perfect way to spend the day. Other fun places to visit in a day include museums, art galleries, and baseball games.

Volunteering somewhere is another way you can spend your free time in the summer. There are several places that are always accepting new volunteers, such as

soup kitchens, hospitals, animal shelters, homeless shelters, and nursing homes. Volunteering is a great experience because you get to meet and help new people.

Reading is another enjoyable thing you can do in your free time. There are a lot of good books to read at libraries, and some even advertise volunteer opportunities as well. *The Book Thief*, *The Divergent Series*, and *The Maze Runner* series are all good books to check out. There are countless ways to have fun this summer! Stay safe and enjoy your break!



Pictures courtesy of Google

Edition 92, Issue 5

Superstars 2015

By: Shelby Soliwoda

On Thursday, April 30, the Wilson Area High School's student council hosted their annual Superstars contest. Involving each grade level and members of the faculty, this competition tests the strength and agility of the school's finest.

Announcing the festivities were Mr. Somerville and Luke Mette, with Ms. Kauffman tallying up the scores. To heighten the

energy of the crowd, members of student council periodically threw t-shirts and other prizes into the air.

As expected, the freshman initially provided a subpar showing, moving quickly to last place after the first few events. Surprisingly, however, the sophomore class held their own by winning events such as dodgeball.

Nearing the end of the competition, the

seniors were nearly tied with the faculty by having won tug-of-war and the obstacle course. Although the seniors fought valiantly, the faculty eventually brought home the win with a 30 point lead.

Highlights of the day included Bryce Etter's intense match of ping pong against Mr. Kruk, and the seriously competitive game of musical chairs.



Pictures courtesy of *Google*

The Echo

Weather Preparation

By: Michael Jablonski

There are many times in life when people think, "I wish I had been ready for that." This is especially true when it comes to events such as tornadoes, hurricanes, blizzards, and other natural disasters. Well, it is better to be safe than to be sorry, so here are some ways that you can be ready for one of these natural disasters.

- Always have spare food ready. A few days' worth of food can be essential to have when you cannot leave your house, especially during some-

thing like a blizzard.

During a power outage, food in the refrigerator lasts only a couple of hours before spoiling, so make sure that you stock up on nonperishable items.

- Make sure that you have plenty of spare water as well. The recommended formula is one gallon per person per day. It is recommended to have a few days' worth set aside.

- Never forget about the First Aid kit. When an emergency arises, one of these can save a life.

- You never know when you will need to spend some money in an emergency. That is why it is always a good idea to have some spare cash on hand just in case. It is better to have smaller bills, in case someone cannot make change for a larger one.

By keeping in mind tips such as these, your family will be ready for any weather phenomenon that comes their way.

After all, it is better to have it and not need it than to need it and not have it.



Pictures courtesy of *Google*