

# THE CONARD WOW!POW!

PROVIDING HARD HITTING NEWS SINCE 1956

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## HELLO, DOLLY!

By: Leah Kelly

Stepping into the Conard auditorium during the month of March is like walking into a wild, thrilling, fantastical other world. Everyday, dedicated students and staff are working from the end-of-school bell into the evening to create the enchanting musical production Hello, Dolly! Actors bustle around, reciting lines and singing tunes, taking orders from the stage managers and practicing in front of the director, Mrs. Kravetz, until the scene they're working on is perfected. Then they move onto the next scene and the process begins again.

Behind the curtain, the stage crew is hard at work, building set pieces, decorating the stage, planning the layout, and touching up every last detail of the area that will serve as the setting for the classic musical. Back in the band room, the student-comprised pit orchestra, conducted by Mr. Porter, rehearses all afternoon, running through the musical score piece by piece, fixing wrong notes, correcting rhythms, and bringing together every instrument into one collective sound that is sure to wow the audience.

Hello, Dolly! is about matchmaker/meddler, Dolly Levi (Senior, Elizabeth Lavelle), who sets out to capture the heart of stern merchant Horace Vandergelder (Senior, Henley Solomon). Through mischief and adventure, Dolly, Vandergelder, and their friends Cornelius (Junior, Owen Painter), Barnaby (Sophomore, Eric Boccaccio), Irene Molloy (Junior, Katherine Pollicelli) and Minnie Fae (Freshman, Katie Kopp) find love in New York City at the turn of the 20th century.

Elizabeth Lavelle is excited to be leading the show this year, after previously having played the role of Dragon in last year's production of Shrek the Musical. Although the two shows (as well as her roles in both) are very different, she enjoys the timeless feel of Hello Dolly! "I love how fast-paced and fun this show is. It's nice to be revamping such a great classic."

Other actors are also pumped with enthusiasm about the show. "This musical is nothing like

I've ever done before," says Prescott Fields, Senior, who plays Ambrose, a young man seeking the heart of Vandergelder's niece, Ermengarde (Senior, Becky Palma). Mary Volpe, a Senior playing the part of Dolly's friend Mrs. Rose, says, "This musical is an everlasting experience; you make the best of friends...it's super accepting and an awesome time!"

Besides the extraordinarily talented leads, the cast of Hello, Dolly! has an incredible, hard-working, singing, dancing, and acting ensemble cast that is making the vision of this classic musical come true. It requires a lot of team effort to put together such an enormous production.

"It's great to work with people who are so dedicated and passionate," says ensemble member and Sophomore Mugdha Gurram, who was also part of last year's production of Shrek. "My favorite part about the musical is the sense of community. We all have a common goal: creating a great show, and the cast, pit, and crew are coming together to do that."

Srikeerti Pingle, another ensemble member and a Sophomore, agrees that one of the best aspects of making the show is the community that is built along the way. "I love the musical because it's a great way to make new friends and be more exposed to the Conard community. We're like a great big family."

The show wouldn't be possible without the stage crew and the pit orchestra, both large parts of this three-branch "family." The set this year is all built from scratch. A giant platform has been constructed to extend from the stage out towards the audience, giving the cast more room to move around and dance. A tall "bridge" has been built upstage, spanning curtain to curtain, also intended for the actors to use while performing.

Crewmember Caitlyn Krueger, Sophomore, says that building the set is a lot of work, but with great results. "Creating the set takes a lot of time and requires a lot of attention to detail, but it's going to look amazing when it's done. We spent several days making 300 paper flowers just to decorate the edges of the stage."

Elizabeth Sagers, Sophomore, another member of stage crew, enjoys seeing her hard work behind-the-scenes pay off on stage. "When I'm

## Editor's Note

Editors-In-Chief Molly Bugos & Emma Kutscher

It's officially spring, Conard! We've had this date circled on our calendar since Punxsutawney Phil determined we were going to suffer six more weeks of winter. The arrival of spring brings the promise of warmer days, flowers blooming, boys replacing their Timb's with Sperry's, and the fifth edition of the paper!

We have our own spring cleaning to do, starting with the introduction of our Editors-in-Chief for the 2015-2016 school year.

We couldn't be happier to announce that Sophie Appicelli and Julia Monyak will be taking over our position next year. Expect great things from them!

You may have noticed that we have temporarily changed our name. Though this isn't necessarily here to stay, this edition of the

paper is reflective of the Board of Ed's decision to remove all Native American imagery and associated nicknames from the Conard Chieftain tradition.

We have not previously changed our logo up until this point because the Board of Ed had not released a decision regarding the mascot, and no authority had directed us to make any changes. The newspaper is doing what it now is forced to do, so you can call us the Wow!Pow!

On that note, we wish you all a very happy Spring, and for the snow to melt in time for Prom!

Your Editors,

Molly & Emma

NEXT YEAR'S  
LOVELY  
EDITORS-  
IN-CHIEF:

JULIA MONYAK  
(L)

AND

SOPHIE  
APPICELLI (R)



## DAYS 'TILL

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# CHIEFTAIN FEATURES

## HELLO, DOLLY! (CONT.)

By: Leah Kelly

watching the show, I can see little bits of set on the stage that I created and I love knowing that it was my work that made that happen.”

The music of Hello, Dolly! will sound familiar even to those who haven't seen the show. Living up to the musical talent of names such as Carol Channing, Walter Matthau, Barbara Streisand and Louis Armstrong may sound like a challenge, but Conard is up for the task. Comprised of talented student instrumentalists, the pit orchestra brings these songs to life and gets the actors dancing perfectly in sync. The restored performances of classic tunes such as “Put On Your Sunday Clothes” and “Hello, Dolly” will be sure to bring audi-

ences to their feet. Just wait until the parade “passes by”!

So what are we getting at here? Oh yeah, that's right. Put on your Sunday clothes and come see Conard Drama's production of Hello, Dolly! Come see this exclusive event: March 27th, and 28th. Tickets can be purchased at [conardhighschoolmusical.com](http://conardhighschoolmusical.com) or at the door. Join us to experience a lot of fun, laughs, and talented performances that are sure to blow you away!

Not sure if this is the show for you? Mugdha Gurram is certain you'll be persuaded otherwise. She says, “[This show] is not something that everyone is familiar with, but everyone grows to love.”



Photo: Emily Lafreniere

ELLIE LABELLE (CENTER) REHEARSING AS DOLLY LEVI

## UNIFIED THEATER AT CONARD

By: Gianna Le, Lucy Walker & Mary Volpe

Join us this spring for our 13th production of Unified Theater at Conard. Unified Theater was started in 2002 at Conard High School, by sophomore, Micaela Connery. Unified Theater is all about putting the spotlight on inclusion and ability. We're looking forward to having you join us! In Unified Theater, students collaborate to make scenes around a designated theme.

During UT, you will meet a ton of new people and have a great time dancing and laughing with all of your friends. Senior Mary Volpe says, “I have met SO many friends from Unified Theater, and was fortunate enough to become a student director for the past two years. Something I will never get tired of seeing as a student leader is a stage full of over 200 kids smiling, laughing, singing, and collaborating together to make something truly wonderful. It warms my heart!”

Unified Theater is one of the largest clubs that Conard has to offer. Over 200 Conard and Hall students come together to create a unique and unforgettable performance. It is a fun and exciting way to create new friendships, and something you don't want to miss out on. If you weren't able to join, don't stress! You can still support Unified Theater by seeing the spectacular show that's scheduled on Thursday, June 4th and Friday, June 5th.

Both performances are free to the public so bring all your friends and family, we love seeing new people at our shows. Our theme right now is a secret, so stay on your feet for when we reveal it!

### Common Myths about UT:

“You need to have experience on stage.”

-You need NO stage experience to participate in this show and make it something wonderful.

“I have two left feet!! I can't dance!”

-One awesome thing about Unified Theater is it doesn't matter how well you can do a jazz square, it's all about having a good time and having fun with your friends!

“You can't do it if you play a spring sport.”

-Many spring athletes find it easy to juggle Unified Theater and their sport. If you have a game the day of a rehearsal, you will be excused for the rehearsal.... But no skipping for Pasta Parties!!!!

“It's just another activity where teachers and adults make the choices.”

-Unified Theater is ENTIRELY student run and your peers are ready to have some fun, so are YOU ready to put the spotlight on ability?

We can promise you will have so much fun creating scenes with new friends, acting them out, and dancing along with every-

one else in Unified Theater. We want the actors to have all the power, and that's why we don't have a script. You have all the creativity to brainstorm cool ideas and share them with the members in your scene. Even if the stage isn't a comfort zone for you, we have an excellent crew who make all the

LOVE  
INCLUSION

props and paint the set for a wonderful show! Come to the show and see what all the hype is about!

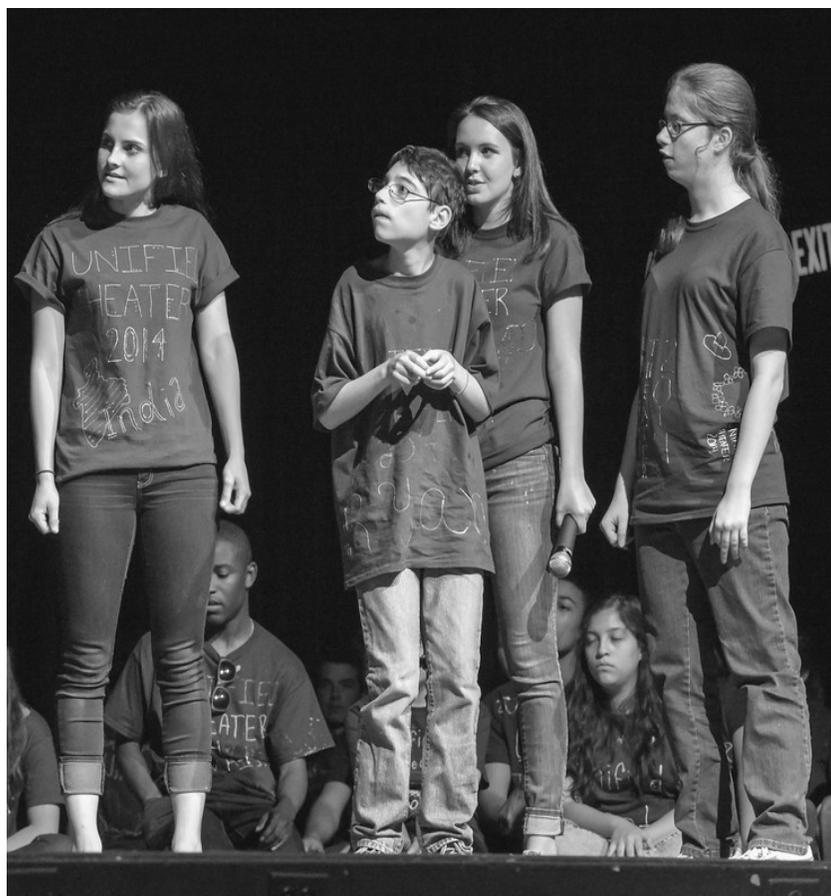


Photo: Andrew Stabnick, LowTide Photography

IN PHOTO (FROM LEFT): LIZZY CHRISTENSEN, RYAN LEOPOLD, MOLLY BRANDNER, AND CLAIRE MORAN

# CHIEFTAIN FEATURES

## CONARD ATHLETE PROFILES

By: Sophie Appiceli and Julia Monyak

As we near the beginning of the last sports season of the 2014-2015 school year, an increasing number of athletes are proving themselves worthy of some recognition. Granted, everyone who puts in the time and effort to contribute to an athletic team deserves their own recognition, but we selected four especially accomplished individuals to interview about their athletic experiences at Conard.

### Lindsey Chen, '17 Track & Field

**Q: How long have you been competitively running?**

**A:** I've been running competitively since last indoor track season.

**Q: What event do you run?**

**A:** I run the two mile.



Photo: Courtesy of Lindsey

**Q: What is your personal record in this event?**

**A:** My PR is 11 minutes and 39 seconds.

**Q: So you made it to State Opens this year, how did you do?**

**A:** I got 15th overall this year. I didn't run my best time but it was a really great experience to be running against the tops girls in the state.

**Q: How do you train during the season?**

**A:** We usually do 1-2 workouts a week on the track which are planned by our coaches. They tell us how far and how fast to run. On an eas-

ier day we run around 4 miles at an easy pace and the other days will be regular runs which are about 5-6 miles. On Sundays I do a long run which is typically 7-10 miles. Then on the days before meets we will jog about 3 miles to make sure our legs are warmed up, but not tired for the meet.

**Q: Are there certain diet restrictions you follow?**

**A:** We try to eat iron rich foods, because its common for runners to have iron deficiencies, and we stay away from dairy the days of meets and workouts. We also drink a lot of water everyday to stay hydrated. Before State Opens our coaches gave us a diet to try which was mostly healthy carbs such as oatmeal, rice cakes, and pasta.

**Q: Do you hope to run in college? And if so have you already started to look at schools?**

**A:** I'm not sure yet if I want to run in college. I have talked to some graduated students who ran in college, and I've looked at some schools just to see what times I should be getting and what it would be like if I wanted to go Division 1.

**Q: Running is boring to a lot of people, what makes it interesting and exciting for you?**

**A:** I think running is interesting to me because going out for a run is a great stress reliever. It's nice to get away from everything for a while. Also it's such a good feeling when you get your best time and see all of the hard work you put in, finally pay off.

### Paul Wilson, '18 Hockey

**Q: How long have you been playing hockey for?**

**A:** This is my eighth year playing hockey.

**Q: What position do you play and have you always played this position?**

**A:** I play left and right wing for Conard but I used to play center for my previous teams.



Photo: Dylan Carneiro

Photo: Andrew Stabnick, LowTide Photography



### Bryan Baker, '15 Lacrosse

**Q: How does it feel to be a freshman playing on Varsity?**

**A:** I feel honored to be on and get regular playing time on a Varsity team as a freshman.

**Q: Were you nervous at first to play with a lot of upperclassmen? Is there any hazing that goes on?**

**A:** I wasn't too nervous playing with upperclassmen because they're just my teammates.

**There's not any hazing that goes on, all we have to do is clean the locker room once in a while.**

**Q: Since you're already on Varsity, how do you plan on improving?**

**A:** I plan on improving on all aspects of my play. Just because I play Varsity doesn't mean I can't get better. There's always room for improvement.

**Q: Do you have any pregame rituals?**

**A:** I don't have many pregame rituals but I usually just warm up, run, and stretch outside the locker room before getting dressed.

**Q: Do you play any other sports?**

**A:** Other sports I play include lacrosse and football.

**Q: How long have you been playing lacrosse?**

**A:** I've been playing lacrosse since I was a freshman

**Q: For a while you were the only captain for lacrosse, was it difficult managing all that responsibility on your own? What did that job entail?**

**A:** It wasn't too difficult to manage because I was only a single captain for a little while and if I needed help with anything I could rely on Coach Condon or my teammates. All it really entailed was making sure that people were doing what they were supposed to do.

**Q: Do you have any goals as a captain this year?**

**A:** My goal as a captain is for the team to have a fun and successful season.

**Q: When you do you start preparing for the season and how do you prepare?**

**A:** For the kids who don't play a fall sport start conditioning in the fall and for the those who do play a fall sport, they start conditioning when their season ends. We prepare by lifting, conditioning and trying to become better athletes.

**Q: Do you play any lacrosse in the off-season?**

**A:** I play lacrosse in the summer and winter.

**Q: Are you planning on playing in college?**

**A:** I'm going to play club lacrosse in college.

**Q: Do you play any other sports? If so, which one is your favorite?**

**A:** I also play soccer, however, lacrosse probably has a slight edge over soccer.

# CHIEFTAIN FEATURES

## CONARD ATHLETE PROFILES (CONT.)

### Emily Ledwith, '16 Golf

Q: How long have you been playing golf?

A: The first time I played 9 holes was in 7th grade but I had done camps and learned how to play before that.

Q: How did you decide to start playing golf? Did someone encourage you to pick it up?

A: My parents both play golf and encouraged me to start playing with them.

Q: What number did you tee off last season and how is the order decided?

A: Last year I teed off 4th. The order is usually decided by scores and consistency where the top scorer

will tee off first and it goes down from there. Usually 6 players get to

play and the top four scores get counted and are used to determine the winner of the match.

Q: What is the best score you've ever gotten?

A: The best score I ever got to was a 47 in a match last year.

Q: How often do you play in the off-season?

A: I try to play as much as I can in the summer.

Q: Do you play any other sports?

A: Yes, I also play field hockey.



Photo: CT Premier Portraits

## HOT TOPICS WITH GRACE & MIKE

### Cuba Shunned No More

By: Grace O'Connell Bach & Michael Sisti

we move on. Progress, however, will be slow. As of now, some anti-travel sanctions are still in place, making travel possible but difficult. Money now can be sent from America to Cuban families, but with a cap of \$8,000. There are restrictions on certain trade items. President Obama can make some degree of change by himself, but he needs the support of Congress to remove the embargo entirely. For the benefit of both Americans and Cubans, we can only hope that the strong bipartisan nature of our current government does not damage the potential for reparations.

#### Mike's Take:

While the dialogue between America and Cuba is promising, it is important to explore the grassroots political and financial forces behind these notable changes. A large reason for this shift in rhetoric is due to the price of oil, which plummeted by 50% in late 2014. This left Venezuela, a strong financial supporter of Cuba and a country that relies on oil for a substantial amount of its revenue, to go into economic and political turmoil. Venezuela is arguably Cuba's closest ally, regular supply of oil to as a critical form of financial aid. This dynamic has been able to sustain Cuba for years, but falling oil prices are causing this aid to quickly lose value. In response, Cuba seems to be pivoting toward American tourism as new source of income, as diplomatic dialogue has resulted in eased travel restrictions for the Caribbean island.

Traffic to the island has risen dramatically, and continued talks promise to further alleviate travel bans and create a flourishing tourism industry in Cuba.

Furthermore, it seems the United States has joined these discussions in part to send a message to Russia. Relations between Cuba and Russia have always been close, with Vladimir Putin visiting the island in July 2014 and announcing forgiveness of 90 percent of the island's \$35 billion debt to Moscow. He also announced deals to invest in Cuba's offshore oil industry (Associated Press), but with the collapse in oil prices, which account for over 2/3 of Russia's exports (Bloomberg), Russian financial and political support has trickled down as it deals with a crashing currency and economic recession at home.

In response to Russia's military encroachment in Ukraine, the United States is displaying its ability to break Cuba's loyalty to the Russians with the promise of reduced sanctions and a lucrative tourism industry. The United States could have an embassy in Cuba as early as April, effectively putting their foot in the door and preventing the former soviet-satellite from resuming the close relations with Russia it has upheld for the last half century.

No matter the result of these changing political relations, it is clear this movement is a direct result of crashing oil prices, and the US sending a retaliatory message to Russia over their military involvement in Ukraine.



Photo: nationofchange.org

On December 17th, President Obama announced the re-establishment of diplomatic relations with Cuba, a historic shift in American-Cuban policy. The talks to follow could hold the key to ending an over 50 year period of sanctions and isolation between the two countries. In the following weeks political prisoners were exchanged, most notably Cuba's release of American civilian Alan Gross and America's release of three Cuban spies. There are celebrations calling this a diplomatic victory, noting the possibility of amicable relations. While some speculate this deal is all talk and little action, citing that Cuba is still considered a state sponsor of terrorism by the US.

spurred by the Cuban military's attack on American planes that had been dropping anti-communist fliers.

After so many years of alienation, it's important that our two countries put aside political differences and make amends for both benefit of the Americans and Cubans. It's indisputable that our two nations have a troubled history, but the travel bans and embargo in recent years have done more harm than good. Family's have been separated, and Cuba's economy could undoubtedly use the boost of trading with the US. Politics is no excuse to keep families apart, and to prevent what could be a flourishing trade system between the two countries.

Aside from aiding the individuals of both countries, the United States Chamber of Commerce estimates that America has been missing out on nearly \$1.2 billion yearly by not trading with Cuba. In Cuba's case, the figure is \$685 million. It cannot be denied that the Cuban Missile Crisis could potentially started international nuclear war, the situation has been resolved and fifty years have passed. It's about time

#### Grace's Take:

The US has taken anti-Cuba measures since Fidel Castro seized power in Cuba in 1959. All diplomatic relationships between the were lost in 1961, and President Kennedy made the embargo official in 1962 in response to the Cuban Missile Crisis. More sanctions were taken in 1996 with the Helms-Burton Act,

# SPORTS NEWS

## SPORTS TEAMS CUTTING ATHLETES

Examining the Pros and Cons of Team Cuts

By: Emma Dowd

Photos: Andrew Stabnick, LowTide Photography

You would be surprised to know that as a Sophomore in high school, Michael Jordan was cut from the Varsity basketball team. Instead of playing on the Varsity team, Jordan played JV and became a more confident player, dominating many of the JV games. He played Varsity as an upperclassman and excelled before moving on to the University of North Carolina.

Cuts in high school sports can be difficult for many students, even for someone as talented as Michael Jordan. Now that winter sports have ended and the spring season has begun, it's worthwhile to consider the pros and cons of making cuts in high school sports.

### No Cut Policy:

**Pros:** Anyone can participate without having to go through tryouts. It would ensure that athletes with different skill levels would have an equal opportunity to improve. On large sports teams like cross-country or track and field, athletes are offered the chance to get to know many other students. "Although a player might not meet the standards of the team they are trying out for, they should still have the opportunity to play. It can help them stay active and shows

their school involvement," says Conard Senior, Prescott Fields.

**Cons:** By not cutting anyone, teams can get large. This means higher cost for transportation to and from games and meets. Many athletes may see less playing time in games because of large team sizes.

### Cut Policy:

**Pros:** It helps maintain smaller team sizes. Athletes get more playing time in games and meets. Sophomore Liz Sagers says, "One advantage of team cuts is it creates an elite team of many committed players. Team cuts create a devoted team that can work seamlessly together due to its smaller size, forming many strong bonds between players."

**Cons:** it can lead to lower participation in the sport. Since tryouts are not always a good indicator of the athletes capabilities, making cuts based on the performance during tryouts can limit the pool of possible athletes. "To cut people would be completely pointless because you will might not get to see the athlete's full potential," says Sophomore, Michael Fernandez. Cutting can also create tension between those who made the team and those who didn't.



BOYS HOCKEY (MAKES CUTS)



GIRLS LACROSSE (NO CUTS)

## FRIENDLY RIVALRY TURNS FOUL

By: Kaye Paddyfote

On February 24, 2015, the Hall vs Conard basketball game was jam-packed, bleachers full of energetic, hungry fans. Both teams were not advancing to a states or CCC game, so this was the two teams' last game. The last quarter was when things started to get ugly. With less than thirty seconds on the clock, Hall scored a basket which had the score at Hall-43 and Conard-42. Hartford Courant reporter, Suzanne Carlson, wrote an article on the game in which Conard Varsity coach, Jared Leghorn, said, "We were up one and time was winding down and they missed a shot, got an offensive rebound, and scored with about 3 seconds left. That's when I called time out immediately to stop the clock and the ref recognized it but it just didn't connect. Although the referee had called time, the buzzer went off and Hall students, energized because it was their team's senior night and the last game of the season, rushed the court

to celebrate their 43-42 win."

As soon as Hall fans emerged from the seats, as seen in multiple video recordings of the fight, punches were thrown from both sides and kids started acting out of hand. I'm not saying this fight could have been prevented, but had there been tighter security, I don't think this fight would have happened the way it did. What some people fail to realize is that this fight, or the incident at the Hall vs. Conard soccer game in late October, does not define who we are at Conard. We are ranked #5 for best high schools in Connecticut and I don't believe this one fight tarnishes our reputation. I think both Conard and Hall students got a little too excited and let their emotions get the better of them.

History teacher Dr. Wilson said, "I'm upset about [the fight], and I think that fans sometimes think the game is about them not the athletes. I feel really bad for the kids who are

seniors on their team, those who were and weren't fighting because that was their last memory of their last game. Sports are supposed to build communities and in this case it sort of tore it apart. I don't ever think that fighting or violence is the answer to any problem. Problems can be solved without fighting." A Sophomore on the JV basketball team, Eman Adelani, said, "Concerning the fight, I think that it was very, very embarrassing as a Chieftain. Do I think that Conard showed pride and that this was a great intense game? I really think so but, I believe that it was a great game and that we are going to learn from this and move on."

Hall and Conard's history of rivalry has gone on for a long time, and it was really prevalent at the game. Just before this fight both schools were debating on whether or not to keep their mascot and logo, and now it seems the fight might influence these decisions. I, however, believe

that the mascot and the fight should be kept separate, and have nothing to do with each other. A bunch of kids acted stupid and got out of hand but the administration should not let this interfere with the kids who took time and researched information to keep the mascot and logo. Overall, the fight happened and we cannot do anything about it. The only thing we can do is Eman said, "Learn from it."

**"WHAT SOME PEOPLE FAIL TO REALIZE IS THAT THIS FIGHT, OR THE INCIDENT AT THE HALL VS. CONARD SOCCER GAME IN LATE OCTOBER, DOES NOT DEFINE WHO WE ARE AT CONARD."**

# CHIEFTAIN FEATURES

## THROWBACK TO 2005

What was Hot 10 Years Ago?

By: Lizzie Quinn and Connie Liu

It's hard to believe that 2005 was 10 years ago. Let's look back at the many technological advances, releases of many popular songs, and great movies that we all watched as children.

Everyone and their grandma uses Youtube regularly these days, but ten years ago Youtube was barely even a thing. In February of 2005, Youtube's domain was officially registered, however it didn't launch until December. In the first month alone, the site had over 3 million visitors. After one year it had over 38 million visitors. This may seem like a lot, but in 2011 the site had over 1 trillion views per year. Another great technological advancement from 2005 was the replacement of the floppy disc with the USB. Which proved to be more compact and functional than the floppy disc. Now, we have Google Docs and we're thankful for it. (#blessed)

Nowadays, we only listen to Mariah Carey during Christmas

time, but ten years ago she was the rage all year round. In 2005, "We Belong Together" by Mariah Carey was the number one song of the year. She also had a hit called "Shake it Off", but we prefer the Taylor Swift version. It was also a big year musically for Kelly Clarkson, with hits like "Since U Been Gone" and "Behind Those Hazel Eyes." Some other popular songs in 2005 were "She Will Be Loved" by Maroon 5, and "Beautiful Soul" by Jesse McCartney, which are still classics.

As hit singles soared to the top of the charts, hit movies were gathering crowds to the cinemas. 2005 was filled with successful kids movies such as, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, Cheaper by the Dozen 2, Sky High, and Nanny McPhee. Other classics include, The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe, Madagascar, and everyone's favorite: Sharkboy and Lavagirl featuring Taylor Lautner.

We all rooted for the New England Patriots at the 39th SuperBowl, people also cheered for the Patriot's victory ten years ago. The 39th Super Bowl in 2005 was between the New England Patriots and the Philadelphia Eagles. It was a close score of 24-21. It was a close game until the 4th Quarter when the Patriots scored ten points thanks to Corey Dillon and Adam Vinatieri.

We will never forget this years halftime show, consisting of Katy Perry on a giant gold lion and the infamously wonderful dancing sharks. In 2005, people wished they could forget the halftime show from the previous year with Janet Jackson. The 2005 halftime show was tamer, with Paul McCartney performing.

On August 29th 2005, Hurricane Katrina hit New Orleans, causing catastrophic damage. On record, Hurricane Katrina was not only one of the costliest natural disasters, but also one of the five deadliest in the history of the United States. It had

already been raining heavily that morning and soon, eighty percent of the city was flooded. Homes and business were destroyed, leaving people stranded without access to food and water. The Coast Guard was able to successfully rescue 34,000 people in New Orleans alone, but the government was unprepared for all the damage in the city. Hurricane Katrina affected about 90,000 square miles of the United States and has a confirmed death toll of nearly 2,000. This left hundreds of thousands of people were scattered in search of shelter, food, and water. The damage done was insurmountable and has since taken years of recovery and rebuilding.

With the fast paced inventions to come in 2015, it's good to take the time to remind ourselves to look back and see how far we've come.

## 'TIS THE (PROM) SEASON!

What's More Stressful Than SATs...? Prom.

By: Annie Kirklin & Bella Gradante

**Straps v. Strapless?**

Winner is...straps, 63%.

**Hair up v. Hair down?**

Majority wins...hair down, 71%.

**Simple or Extravagant Promposal?**

Close call...extravagant promposal, 54%.

**Group or Date?**

First place goes to...date, 77%.

**Pattern v. Solid dress?**

No contest here...solid, 82%.

**Hair and Makeup done or DIY?**

Book an appointment...hair & makeup done, 75%.

**Spray tan or Natural?**

Au naturel...no spray tan, 68%

**Heels or Flats?**

It's a TIE!

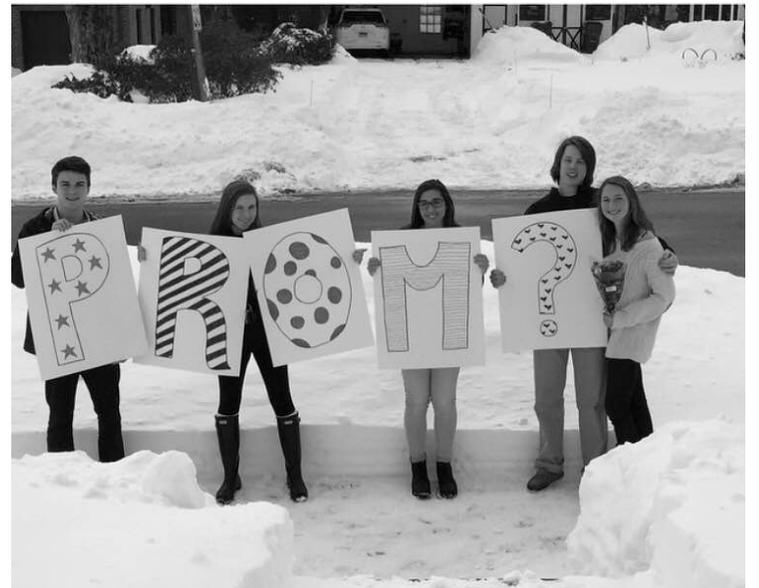
**Party bus or Limo?**

Raise the roof...party bus, 71%

Photos: Instagram

BELOW: BRIDGET WILLIAMS AND TORRIE GREEN

RIGHT (L TO R): JACK GERUNDO, ISABELLE COHN, CHARLOTTE LEYLAND, JOHN CANNON AND SOPHIE APPICELLI



### INSIDE THE MIND OF A JUNIOR: PROM EDITION

- "Who is going to ask me to prom?"
- "What filter should I put on this promposal?"
- "How should I ask my date to prom?"
- "Why are prom dresses so expensive?"
- "How necessary is it that I match my tie to my date's dress?"
- "I don't even know how to slow dance"
- "How could prom tickets possibly be so expensive?"

# CHIEFTAIN FEATURES

## HOROSCOPES

What's in Store for You This Spring?

Featuring Conard's Triple Threat of Diver, Gymnast, and Psychic; Jackie Palermo

### Aquarius (Jan 20th-Feb 18th)

April showers will bring May showers because you will be crying over your AP exams.

### Pisces (Feb 19th-Mar 20th)

You will be bombarded in the prom Facebook group by girls who "are definitely wearing this one," but also have 3 other dresses that they will post that a week.

### Aries (Mar 21st-Apr 19th)

It's time for spring cleaning! Dust the cobwebs off the repressed memories of homecoming your freshman year.

### Taurus (Apr 20th-May 20th)

April Fools Day is going to be the day you get asked to prom...

### Gemini (May 21st-June 20th)

You will receive the 14 boxes of Girl Scout cookies you ordered within the next week. But you aren't fooling anyone when you say you're sending half to your "older brother away at college..."

### Cancer (June 21st-July 22nd)

You will receive very good advice. About those pastel pants you love to wear. I would listen.

### Leo (July 23rd-Aug 22nd)

You will find an Easter egg with \$100 inside. Spend it wisely.

### Virgo (Aug 23rd-Sept 22nd)

Spring is your best time to try new things. Like homework.

### Libra (Sept 23rd-Oct 22nd)

You will befriend a young rabbit this spring. And gain custody of her 25 children.

### Scorpio (Oct 23rd-Nov 21st)

The tulips may be budding, but I can't say the same about a relationship in your future.

### Sagittarius (Nov 23rd-Dec 21st)

Don't worry, the spring will melt all the ice and snow. And thaw your cold, dead heart.

### Capricorn (Dec 22nd-Jan 19th)

Your best friend will celebrate a birthday this spring, but if it weren't for Facebook you wouldn't remember.



## JOE'S LAMENT

To Kiss or Not to Kiss?

By: Joe Duva

Kissing in the hallway. 60% of the time, it grosses people out all the time. Best said by the English department's own Ms. Genser, "Kissing in the hallway is wiiicked gross!" In a poll taken here at Conard regarding kissing in the hallway; 6% polled "I'm into it," 10% polled "Gross," 14% polled "Yeah it's pretty gross but I can think of grosser things like two teachers kissing...now that would be gross, picture that", 20% polled, "What is this poll about?" and a whopping 50% of students polled "Wiiicked gross!!"

What sobering results. I thought students and teachers alike would be head over heels to see young love blossom physically in our hallways and staircases, especially when it's visible for passerbyers. We all know you two like each other, but lets explore the other ways you two can express your affection.

*Suggestion 1:* Wink at each other, but use both eyes to show you mean it double.

*Suggestion 2:* Drop the classic Napoleon Dynamite, "I see you're drinking 1%. Is that 'cause you think you're fat? 'Cause you're not. You could be drinking whole if you wanted to", that line will really get your heart racing.

*Suggestion 3:* Hold both of each other's hands instead of just one while walking in the hallway. One person walking backward and one forward (to again show your affection double)

*Suggestion 4:* Picture an open field in full blossom on a spring day. Two people stand at either ends, eye contact is made. Lust takes over. They start running. Faster and faster they run, they haven't seen each other in years. Finally, they embrace. A single tear rolls down their faces. (Replicate this in the halls in slow motion so no one gets hurt).

Wow! Now that so many doors have been opened for the couples of Conard, now the students of Conard comment on kissing in the hallways:

"I'm not one to play tonsil hockey in the hallway."

-Andrew Olmstead, Junior

"On my way to Latin everyday I see the same couple making out. Couldn't think of a more uncomfortable way to start my day."

-Luke Flege, Junior

"I get that you're dating. I don't need to see it."

-Emily Burnett, Sophomore

"INAPPROPRIATE!! Stop it!! Cover your eyes!!"

-Shannon Racz, Junior

"When I see kids kiss in the hallway I get super duper jealous."

-Mitchell Hamilton, Junior

"At least it's only kissing."

-Sean Cavanaugh, Junior

"People have cooties, stay away."

-Maggie Murray, Sophomore

"More than anything it's annoying."

-Liv Starr, Sophomore

"I have no problem with you being in love but the whole school doesn't need to know it."

-Katie Kopp, Freshman



JOE DUVA (CENTER) RESTRAINING LOVEBIRDS (OWEN PAINTER AND BECKY PALMA)

# CHIEFTAIN FEATURES

## LET'S GET REAL: VIRTUAL VS. AUGMENTED REALITY

By: Katie Riedling

Have you wondered what it'd be like to feel like you're in a video game? Or what it would be like to play with your environment? Though it will take several years, virtual environment (VE) and augmented reality platforms will transform gaming and design standards and will likely make their way into your hands.

### Virtual Environment (aka Virtual Reality, VR)

The defining feature of VR is a phenomenon known as telepresence, in which someone feels both a sense of immersion in this new virtual environment and a sense of interactivity with it. Immersion should feel natural, though this can be inhibited by latency, the lag between actual movement and the change in what you see. People can detect latency of about fifty milliseconds upwards. Dr. Frederick Brooks, a VR pioneer, recommends about 20-30 fps (frames

per second) to feel natural. To put things in perspective, cartoons have about 24 fps. Most VR systems focus on what we can see and hear, but another area that is in development is haptic systems, which are mechanisms that simulate touch. There are various ways in which virtual reality is simulated, such as headsets that use two monitors (one per eye) to display images, datagloves (for user control) and treadmills. For interactive gaming, there are also biosensors to track muscle movement and set the orientation of the player. Applications include flight simulations, architectural modeling and tours, industrial prototypes and surgeries (though latency may make sensitive surgery difficult).

Examples:

#### -Oculus Rift

One of the more advanced VR platforms, headset-based with low latency.

#### -Virtuix Omni

Treadmill that simulates user motion and is accompanied by headset.

#### -Immersis

Projects full environments onto outer world using 3D mapping.

### Augmented Reality (AR)

What distinguishes AR from VR is that information is "superimposed." In augmented reality, the user sees images that are projected onto a lens or environment and allows people to use reality as an interface for operating their computers or gaming device. For example, a keyboard may be projected onto a table and is operated by someone tapping different areas of the table where the "keys" are. Other applications outside of gaming include military operations, GPS and face and landmark recognition.

Examples:

#### - Microsoft HoloLens

Projects holograms onto the lens that controlled by user.

#### - Google Glass

Pair of glasses for everyday use that projects onto the lens has voice-operated features.

#### - Nintendo 3DS (AR Cards)

Prompts camera feature to focus on and photograph real cards that activate 3-D characters, games and objects.

**COMIC'S CORNER**  
ARTIST: JUSTIN PICARD



SCAN THIS QR CODE FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OCULUS RIFT!



## CONGRATULATIONS CONARD SCIENCE TEAM!

## HEAD HONCHOS

On March 7th, Conard's very own Science Team for placing 5th out of more than 40 schools at the Northeast Regional Science Bowl, at the University of Connecticut's School of Engineering. This year was the team's second time at the competition, last year they placed 30th.

The team members are: Ajay Jagjivan, Pavlo Lyalalutskyy, Yash Nair, Anis Ehsani, Karman Singh, and Vinh-kha Le.

The team's advisor, Dr. Perez, described the event in a school-wide email as, "an all-day long, Jeopardy-style elimination tournament, hosted by UCONN in 2 of their state-of-the-art classroom buildings. Success requires enormous amounts of determination, knowledge, preparation, composure, cooperation, strategy, resourcefulness, speed and stamina. The team trained hundreds of hours both in and out of school."

Congratulations to the science team on their impressive success.

Editor-in-Chief: Molly Bugos, Emma Kutscher  
Editors-in-Training: Sophie Appicelli, Julia Monyak  
STEM Correspondent: Katherine Reidling  
News & Politics Correspondents: Michael Sisti, Grace O'Connell- Bach

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