

## MACDONALD NAMED PRINCIPAL FOR 2013-2014

By KELSEY HEBERT

This July, Mt. Greylock's current Coordinator of Curriculum Instruction, Mary MacDonald, will become the school's new principal. Current principal Dr. Jack Kurty's leave of absence and the resignation of current vice principal, Christopher Barnes at the end of this school year, began a search for two new administrators. MacDonald has already assumed some of the duties of a principal, having stepped up when asked by Superintendent Dr. Rose Ellis. The school is still looking for a vice principal.

MacDonald, in her current position, works with teachers and students to discover what can make learning in the classroom more effective, by changing curriculum, use of technology and types of learning. This year, she has focused mainly on the evaluation of the science program.

Although she has little formal experience as a principal, MacDonald believes that her 18 years of experience as a teacher and her current role of Curriculum Coordinator will help her in her new administrative position. She also believes that she has the support of the community and the teachers, as she is a resident of Williamstown, works with the two elementary schools, and she formerly taught at Mt. Greylock.

When Dr. Kurty took his leave of absence earlier this year, MacDonald, Barnes and Guidance Counselor PJ Pannesco divided up some of the principal's work in order to



Photo courtesy of Aaron Ziemer

Mary MacDonald will take over from acting principal Christopher Barnes in July.

compensate for his departure. Since MacDonald had already taken over such duties as MCAS administration and Wednesday faculty meetings (typically jobs of the principal), Dr. Ellis felt she would be a good fit for next year's principal. MacDonald also

already knows many of the teachers at Mt. Greylock, as she taught here eight years ago in the English department.

MacDonald says she looks forward to her new role as principal. Her main goal, she says, is to, "strengthen academics to meet the needs of all students. I want the kids who thrive on the football field to thrive in the classroom and maybe even get those who thrive in the classroom to go out to the fields or into other extra-curriculars. I think that once we strengthen these things, the discipline will also lessen." MacDonald knows, however, that this is not an antidote for misbehaving kids and that with a principal job comes disciplinary duties.

"I want to prepare kids for the world: for college, for the work force, for their future social interactions," said MacDonald, "and I look forward to getting to know the students and continuing the momentum we already have in bridging gaps between our school and other schools, especially the two elementary schools."

MacDonald also believes that there should be a balance between what students want and what teachers and faculty want. With this, MacDonald hopes to create a fluent atmosphere between the students and the administration and hopes to give students at Mt. Greylock new opportunities next year that they've never had before. ■■

## 1 in 650: An Interview with Ashley Jolin

By EMILY KAEGI



Photo courtesy of Aaron Ziemer

Senior Ashley Jolin leads a busy life outside of school. She teaches and practices karate and, most recently, she has become a firefighter. The Echo decided to sit down with Ashley in the final days of her high school career to learn about her impressive extracurricular achievements.

Echo: So for starters, I've heard you are a black belt in karate. How long have you been practicing karate?

Ashley: I've been doing karate since I was seven or eight, so for ten or eleven years.

Echo: When did you become a black belt?

Ashley: When I was twelve.

Echo: Wow! Do you still practice karate?

Ashley: Yeah. I'm an instructor so I teach the younger classes as well.

Echo: Moving on to firefighting, what did you just go through certification for?

Ashley: It was for the Fire Department and it was my certification for running aerial ladders. It's for the fire trucks that have ladders on them. We learned how to position them against a building and how to run them.

Echo: So are you an official firefighter now?

Ashley: Yeah. I've been a firefighter since December 1st.

Echo: How do you know when there is a fire?

Ashley: I carry around a pager.

Echo: What happens if your pager goes off in school?

Ashley: It depends on what it is. If it's just an activated alarm, the call usually doesn't last that long so I just don't go. But if it's something bigger, then I'll go.

Echo: Have you been inside a burning building?

Ashley: Not yet. I just got certified in the air-pack which allows you to go inside buildings.

Echo: What was your training like?

Ashley: So far, I've only taken two classes. The first one was for air-pack certification. That was a class where we learned how to

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## REGIONALIZATION WORK PROGRESSES

By ROSE SHUKER-HAINES

The road to regionalization has been a long one. In fact, the idea of combining Mt. Greylock and the Lanesborough and Williamstown Elementary schools into one district has been floating around for decades. Recently, though, increasingly concrete steps have been taken to make this idea a reality. The Regional District Amendment Committee, which is in charge of most of the regionalization process, has just finished a draft of a regional agreement between Williamstown and Lanesborough. At a May 14th meeting, the agreement was presented for feedback.

A thorough financial investigation has also been completed. This report investigates the costs of regionalization, and also the possible financial benefits. Carrie Greene, chairwoman of the RDAC, mentioned that at this point, the amount of money spent and gained will be about even. The main purpose of combining the schools, though, was never related to financial gain. The main benefits would hopefully be better educations for students and more connection between the Williamstown and Lanesborough communities.

A major concern has been that one of the elementary schools will close. Many members of the Lanesborough community have expressed concern that the hidden purpose, or perhaps an eventual side-effect, of regionalization is the closure of their elementary school. Greene and other members of the RDAC having been trying to squash that rumor. "I was shocked to hear this," Greene said. "[Closing the Lanesborough school] was never anything we had wanted to do." In fact, the committee is trying to

Continued on Page 2.

## SPRING TESTING UNDERWAY

BY JAKE FOEHL

The month of May is generally seen throughout the academic world as the metaphorical last hurdle of the school year. This is especially true for juniors and seniors, who take SATs, ACTs, and final exams. Some students are enrolled in Advanced Placement classes, commonly referred to with the acronym AP. With the first few weeks of May come the dreaded AP exams that are required to complete the course. Mt. Greylock offers a wide variety of AP classes including calculus, which had its AP exam on Wednesday May 8. Students at Mt. Greylock enjoy an advantage over other AP calculus test takers purely due to math teacher Robert Thistle, who makes sense of complicated math by relating it to sports. When asked about the experience, senior Alex White said, "Mr. Thistle nailed

the Xs and Os in preparing us for the AP test. By starting practice exams in December, we knew everything the exam had to throw at us."

Other AP courses offered include European History, United States History, English Language and Composition, English Literature, Physics, Biology, Chemistry and Spanish, with Physics and Chemistry rotating in every other year. In addition to this already diverse selection of classes, two more Advanced Placement classes will be added for the 2013-2014 school year. Joining the ranks will be Statistics and Latin. Greylock's selection of AP classes reflects its students' interests in taking them and also teachers ability to direct the courses.

Continued on Page 2.

## VIGIL GIVES TASTE OF DENVER'S MUSIC

By EMILY RUDD

From May 20 to 22, singer and songwriter Ted Vigil aided middle and high school choral and orchestra members in participating in the "John Denver: Arts and Environmental Awareness Project." It was a concert dedicated to the work of the late musician and environmentalist John Denver, as well as a means to bridge the arts and sciences together. Faculty coordinators included Kate Caton, Ouisa Fohrhaltz, Jane-Ellen DeSomma, Rebecca Green and Mary MacDonald. The Williams Community Fund supported the event.

The concert, performed on May 22 at Greylock, was the final piece of the middle school concert. It consisted of sections of Denver's songs which were compiled into a thirty-nine page piece (about four hun-

dred and one bars) titled "Legacy of Song." A few of Green's environmental science students wrote narratives about the beautiful aspects of the planet and the need to protect it, which were read aloud between each song. A slideshow of photographs displaying the environment were projected in the background.

Caton, the chorus teacher, came up with the idea for the event. She said that Superintendent Dr. Rose Ellis encouraged a "cross disciplinary" and "out of the box" experience that was not only engaging but also supported the music program. She then emailed Ted Vigil and by chance, he was in the area and agreed to help the students.

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## BLOCKBUSTER OR WANNABE?

Miranda Park and Nate Taskin review two hopefuls: Star Trek Into Darkness and Iron Man 3.

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## THE CLASS OF 2013

Evelyn Mahon reports on the character and legacy of this year's grautaing seniors.

See Page 4.

## REMEMBERING GREYLOCK

Emily Kaegi speaks with the student graduation speakers about their time at Mt. Greylock.

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## HAITI

Zach Leamon describes his experience volunteering in Haiti this winter.

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## REGIONALIZATION

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make it as difficult as possible to close one of the schools in the district. "To shut down the school, one would have to amend the regional agreement," Greene says. "There is simply no mechanism in place to try close a school."

The true purpose of regionalization, a purpose which many teachers are strongly in favor of, is to ensure that students know the same things by the time they get to Mt. Greylock. Already strides have been made in trying to coordinate the curriculums between the two elementary schools. That

task would be much easier if the schools were in the same district. Regionalization will also make it easier for students to switch schools if need be, though, Greene is careful to note, there will need to be a good reason for the student to transfer. Although regionalization seems now like it will be largely beneficial, the committee is cautious not to jump to conclusions. "The regionalization committee is not pro-regionalization," Greene says. "All we're trying to do is gather information and make an informed decision." ■■■



*Photo courtesy of Zavi Sheldon*

*Seniors gathered in the meeting room on May 28th to pick up and sign yearbooks.*

## SPRING TESTING

*Continued from page 1.*

For instance, Mt. Greylock would have no need for certain AP classes because not enough students would be interested and because Greylock does not have enough qualified teachers to cover all of the possible courses. Technically, however, most AP exams don't require taking the class in the first place, though it is recommended.

Arguably the most rigorous of all of these courses, the AP English Literature class requires its students to read. And read they do, consuming a broad base of types of books that begins with readings from the bible and Greek mythology and ranges to novels in the futuristic fiction genre. Even the most accomplished Greylock scholars have difficulty with this particular AP exam. Jonah Majumder, a current Greylock student who will be attending Yale University in the fall, called the AP English Literature exam a "Herculean task" saying that he "was lucky to make it out alive with all appendages intact." Luckily, AP Literature is taught by one of Greylock's finest, Blair Dils, to whom Majumder and the rest of his classmates give due credit for preparing them for the exam.

Although the exams themselves might

be difficult, it is not that hard to succeed as long as preparation for the test is sufficient. Scoring is percentile base on a scale from one to five which basically means that if one were to score in the top percentile they would get the highest score possible, a five. This whole process is completely worth it because after exams, most AP classes spend the rest of the year doing less rigorous work.

Another variety of spring tests taken by Greylock students in grades 7, 8, and 10 are the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System math tests more commonly known as the MCAS. These tests are somewhat a waste of time for the middle schoolers but the for the sophomores a passing grade on the MCAS on both the math and the English Language Arts tests are required to graduate. However, sophomore year MCAS also marks a milestone in a student's standardized test taking career, with it being the last year of an eight year period during which the MCAS holds the student captive. Finally breaking free of the restrictive chains that binds any student in the "MCAS zone" is a cause for celebration. ■■■

## GREYLOCK GARDEN FLOURISHING

**By EDWARD GEBARA**

The school's vegetable garden, now in its third year, has grown significantly since its beginning. The garden was started in the Spring of 2010 by Patrick Madden and Katherine Keys as a way to have a fresh source of food. The garden has received a lot of support from the Garden Club and the Youth Environmental Squad (YES). Biology teacher Rebecca Green's environmental science classes will work in the garden next year. Families during the summer come and help whenever they can, and in return, they get to eat the fruits of their labor.

During the school year, the cafeteria workers use the herbs, veggies, squash and other vegetables in lunches. All of the produce is organic and GMO free. Not only does the garden bring students closer to their food, but it is also much better for the environment to have food that does not require transportation.

Some of the plans for the garden are to continue expanding it, adding some more berry bushes and possibly other vegetables. YES hopes that eventually the garden will be the primary source of food for the cafeteria, which would have positive benefits for the school.

But there is more to gardening than just planting seeds and watching them grow. Evi Mahon, co-president of YES said, "I've found it's a really rewarding experience. You see these little seedlings grow into monstrous squash vines and there's almost a sentimental attachment. Okay, that sounded a bit crazy, but you've got to be a little mixed up to garden."

Much of the fun of gardening is the fact that you can be outside and be productive, knowing that you are contributing to the school and your well-being. Remember that if you're looking for that farmer's tan, you can join YES or the Garden Club and

## BERKSHIRE MALL LOSING BUSINESS

**By KELSEY HEBERT**

Despite activities such as the recent Carnival and the Farmer's Market held every Wednesday and Saturday in the Berkshire Mall parking lot, the mall's economy seems to be dramatically slowing. Just recently, the popular store Aeropostale left the Berkshire Mall after 11 years there and the large store Sports Zone left a vacant store opening. In the last five years several stores such as Linens and Things, Gap, Zales, Old Navy, Lady Foot Locker, Taco Bell, and McDonalds all left the area. Further rumors have aroused that Best Buy and Sears, two of the largest stores at the mall, are thinking of leaving and relocating somewhere else in the area, possibly Pittsfield.

Some stores, especially those who are large corporations, have contracts that explicitly state that there must be a certain number of stores in the mall in order for them to stay. If this number is not met, these stores are forced to leave that area by the corporation, unless of course they are still making a large profit. A woman who wishes to remain anonymous believes that this is the reason behind Best Buy possibly relocating and New York & Company's thoughts of leaving the mall.

The movie theater hosted in the mall, Regal Cinemas, recently started up "\$5 Tuesdays" in order to compensate for area competition with the Beacon and North Adams Cinema. It too was rumored to leave earlier in the year before making improvements such as newer seats, offering 3D movies, and adding promotional deals.

So what does this mean for students? The mall used to be a Friday night hang-out spot for many area teenagers and high school students, but has since become a place only to go if something is needed. Allison Tremblay, a senior who works at American Eagle at the Berkshire Mall remarked that, "Only certain parts of the mall

seem busy. Most people don't even bother going past American Eagle, as there isn't much down there anymore." Although other stores have been hard hit with slow business, Tremblay says that American Eagle does very well for themselves and is at zero risk for leaving at this point in time. Surveying students throughout Mt. Greylock, the general consensus is that visits to the mall have become limited and that when they have the option, students are opting to go to Crossgates or Holyoke Mall over the declining Berkshire Mall. Sophomore Jackie Van Slycke remarked that the mall used to be exciting when she was a young kid and was often a special trip from Williamstown, but now she says it has become "a sad, sad, place" where she rarely wishes to go. Several students remarked that when they do go to the mall, they often spend most of their time and money in Target, as the options for teenage clothing besides the popular American Eagle, Pac Sun, and Hollister are limited.

Alex Delano, a Junior, said that, "The Berkshire Mall has been on the decline for a while now. It's finally starting to catch up with them as several stores are leaving at once. Over the years many stores have been in and out, but now there are several vacant slots open." Several students also said they opt for online shopping if they can't make it out to one of the large area malls.

Since it opened in 1988, the Berkshire Mall has been a hub for Lanesborough interactions. It is the home of the popular farmer's market every Wednesday and Saturday where local growers can sell their produce and homemade products to local residents. The Mall has also hosted a yearly carnival, a circus, car shows, and other local endeavors. The Berkshire Carousel planned to make the mall their home until recently deciding to change locations due to high pricing. ■■■

## VIGIL BRINGS DENVER'S MUSIC

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His job was to pass on his knowledge as a producer as well as give tips in performing the piece.

Vigil is a folk singer from Washington state who plays all over the country. He became involved in music at age ten and since then, he has been singing and playing the drums and guitar. This is his first time in the Berkshires.

He is also a John Denver tribute artist, meaning that he "keeps [Denver] alive and relives his memories." He even looks similar to Denver. Vigil adds, "I grew up on John's music and have similar beliefs" regarding the environment.

Similarly, John Denver was a folk sing-

er and songwriter who, in Caton's words, became "Mr. Environment." One of his achievements was creating the Windstar Foundation, to preserve land in Colorado and educate children about environmental awareness. He even worked with NASA to get teachers on board the Challenger, a space shuttle. Vigil says that, "Denver was ahead of his time" in regards to global awareness. He passed away in 1997.

Vigil says that he is grateful to be a part of the Greylock experience because, "Music is a powerful tool in inspiring generations to protect the environment and each other," and he hopes that this spreads worldwide. ■■■

*The Greylock Echo is the student newspaper of Mt. Greylock Regional High School in Williamstown, Mass. Published monthly during the academic year, each issue is developed and edited by a team of student writers, photographers, artists, and editors. Any Mt. Greylock High School student is welcome to join the Echo staff.*

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## LIBRARY MURAL

By KATELIN MARCHAND

Recently, art teacher Jane Ellen DeSomma was asked by Superintendent Dr. Rose Ellis to paint a mural in the library. It will be located in the main area above the computers and around the four stairwells that lead to the pit and the upper level.

“My original idea was to go in a more decorative direction, rather than a literal one,” said DeSomma. “We will be using design motifs from ancient civilizations around the world, such as the Romans, Mesopotamians, Greeks and Egyptians.”

While DeSomma was considering theme options, librarians Sarah Henry and Kathy Share asked if the United States could be represented in the mural. They decided that the lions in front of the New York Public Library should be depicted in the painting. From there the idea evolved further; now DeSomma, along with a group of students, will depict world cultures that valued and made great contributions to literature.

Students that were interested in working on the mural applied for a position. The students chosen by DeSomma to paint and plan the mural were: freshmen Elizabeth Bernardy, Sophie Gerry, Mollyann Haskins and Anya Sheldon and juniors Alex Delano and Rose Mele.

The planning process will start immediately and continue until June 17th, when painting will begin. DeSomma has scheduled the mural to be finished on July 14th, giving the artistic eight less than a month to complete the mural.

Haskins shares her thoughts about the project, “I’m looking forward to making a creative image in the library that everyone can enjoy.”

Bernardy shares similar sentiments saying, “It will be cool to see the finished product and to know you were a part of something that improved your own school.” ■■

On Tuesday, May 28, students, teachers and faculty gathered in the Mt. Greylock gymnasium to await the start of the second annual year-end Spring Carnival. This year, the PEP Club, led by Wellness teacher Lynn Jordan and English teacher Liza Barrett, decided to name the celebration “It’s a Great Day To Be a Mountie,” in order to reflect the spirit of the Greylock community and the achievements of the 2012-2013 school year.

The day kicked off with a schoolwide assembly led by Jordan. She started by saying how this day was meant to be a “celebration of everything wonderful that our community has done.” Jordan announced a wide range of accolades, recognizing both groups and individuals for academic, athletic, artistic and civic achievements.

While most agreed that the idea of the assembly was a great one, students and teachers alike had various views on the length and scope of it. Sophomore Jackie Van Slycke said, “It was interesting to see how many students participated in activities at Mt. Greylock,” but she thought it went on for a bit too long. Agreeing with Van Slycke, seventh grader Clara Kuttner said it was nice to see all of the activities, never realizing that “[she] was in so many [groups].”

Math teacher Luke Polidoro enjoyed witnessing the volume of the participants in sports and other student groups at Greylock, yet he expressed the concern that not everyone could be recognized due to absences. Also, he believed that faculty and staff achievements should have been noted. Sophomore Stacey Neveu added that she would like to see activities outside of Greylock, such as dancing, brought to the attention of the community as well.

During the outdoor portion of the Carnival, students had many options of recreation and games to suit various interests.

## SPRING CARNIVAL A SUCCESS

By MIRANDA DILS



Photo courtesy of Aaron Ziemer

*Students gathered in the gym before Carnival to recognize the achievements of their classmates.*

New this year was the addition of seven tournaments for both teams and individuals. These were ultimate frisbee, touch football, corn hole, horseshoes, four square, Kan Jam and croquet. Students could also play volleyball, basketball, kickball and softball. Karaoke in the cafeteria and Wii Just Dance in the gym rounded out the offerings. Behind the school, PEP club members organized and ran a Sno-Kone and popcorn stand and a concession stand, paid for by way of several PEP Club fundraisers earlier in the school year. Every student received a ticket to be exchanged for one Sno-Kone or bag of popcorn, which differed from last year’s rules; during the first carnival, students could have an unlimited amount of snacks as long as they had a ticket awarded to them for participation in the day’s festivities.

All participants seemed to enjoy the nice break from school while still building community. Polidoro said it is important to have fun and relax since the MCAS and Advanced Placement tests are over, and the end of the academic year is approaching. Kuttner said she enjoyed resting and “not having anything to worry about.” Sophomore Ben Burdick thought the day was useful in bringing everyone together; he was able to talk to some people he hadn’t throughout the year.

While many participants expressed slight reforms that could be made to the carnival for next year, such as signs for the activities and clarification about purchasing lunch, the day proved to be a success. Members of the Greylock community can look back fondly on this day of recognition, relaxation and camaraderie. ■■

## GREAT DAY OF SERVICE COMES TO GREYLOCK

By EMILY RUDD

On April 27th, Greylock and Williams students alike participated in the Great Day of Service, a day dedicated to aiding the Berkshire County community. Specifically at Greylock, about fifteen students, along with the help of some Williams students, took jobs that centered around the front, Japanese, and vegetable gardens, also including garbage clean-up around the perimeter of the school. The Greylock service event was sponsored by the Williams Center.

Kaatje White, a Williams coordinator, came up with the idea as, “a perfect way for Williams students to work in partnership with Greylock students in the service of Mt. Greylock.”

This, however, was not the only event going on; according to Kairav Sinha, a Williams College student, “almost 150 Williams students worked at nearly 15 different projects all around the Berkshires,” including Mount Greylock’s “spring cleaning.” Other events included volunteering at places like the Berkshire Humane Society in Pittsfield, Brayton Elementary School in North Adams, Berkshire Farm Center in Canaan, NY, St. John’s Episcopal Church in Williamstown, Manice Education Center in Florida, MA and the Spruces in Williamstown. These events were sponsored by the Lehman Council, a student run organization that is a benefactor of community service projects.

Williams College students have orga-

nized events similar to this in previous years but this was the first time that Greylock students were incorporated.

White thought this as a, “springboard for Greylock to develop it’s own Great Day of Service both at Mt. Greylock and in the

community.”

Sinha adds, “We’d like to get even more people participating if we can. It’s such a great experience for everyone involved, and we hope we were able to provide many valuable services to the community.” ■■



Photo courtesy of Kaatje White

*Mt. Greylock students pose with Williams Students in front of the school at the Great Day of Service.*

## LATIN SHOWCASE

By SOPHIE LEAMON

The Latin Showcase, which happened at Mt. Greylock on May 30th, was a chance to see what students taking Latin 4 or 5 this year had been working on. Since December, Latin students have been working on Roman history and culture projects, and the showcase was intended to bring to life the Latin program at Mt. Greylock.

The projects ranged from hand-painted Roman scenes to “The Desperate Housewives of Roma” and the stop motion story of Romulus and Remus. They were intended not only to give the community a better sense of the program, but also to give Latin students a look into marketing.

Marjorie Keeley, the Latin teacher and Junior Classical League coordinator, wanted this project to be cost effective. She hoped that by marketing the projects, the students would earn back the money that was spent on materials, and hopefully make a profit.

Junior Heather Tomkowicz planned on selling movie souvenirs and popcorn at the screening of her stop motion film, and Senior Jonah Majumder is contacting the publishers of the textbook to get his passages published.

Whether to expand your knowledge, support a friend or just have fun, you should come to Latin Showcase at 7pm, Thursday night in the Cafeteria. ■■



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# GRADUATION

## Congratulations, Class of 2013



Photos courtesy of iberkshires.com

Left: The senior class pictured as they danced into the gym during PEP Rally last Fall.  
Right: Members of the senior class cheered on members of their grade during the school-wide competitions.

### A United Class Looks to the Future

By EVELYN MAHON

As the class of 2013 waves goodbye to Mt. Greylock, they remember what their years here have been like. They've seized every opportunity to mature and have grown into the unique individuals graduating this year. They've come together, and as graduating senior and class vice-president Kat Chenail says, "the biggest change has been how our class has come together and shaken the reputation of being the worst class Greylock had ever seen."

It's not only the students who have changed, but the entire school as well. Senior Alex White noticed "the school itself has improved a ton, especially in terms of what the school asks of its students and the increased call for accountability from both students and teachers."

Although Greylock is still on track for more changes, the class of 2013 is sure to leave a mark. Many have done this by way of extracurriculars. Chenail, a top runner on the cross country and track teams believes

the class of 2013 "has been the backbone of some really good teams." Senior Rohan Shastri, a tennis prodigy, says "the best moment for me would be the athletic success of all our sports over the years."

This supportive attitude does not only apply to athletic teams. The class of 2013 makes sure to support each other by attending concerts, recitals, games, matches and performances alike. White believes the "best part about Mt. Greylock is the extra-curriculars." He says that they "give the middle schoolers upperclassmen to look up to and emulate."

Most members of the class of 2013 have experienced this role model responsibility, whether on the court, field, stage or in the classroom, and will continue to do so in the years to come.

But before they move on completely, here are:

### Six Things To Do This Summer

Well, seniors, congratulations. You've officially graduated from high school, an honor only the most prestigious scholars have bestowed upon them. I'm sure you're all off to fabulous institutions of higher education in the fall (or you're going to Nepal to learn the art of yak taming for your gap year), but how are you going to fill those desolate three months we all know as summer vacation?

Here are a few ideas for the less creative graduate:

1. Hike the Appalachian trail.  
Except don't just do it for the sake of adventuring. Make sure everyone knows you're hiking. Spend hundreds of dollars on useless camping equipment. Post tons of artsy pictures of yourself looking at sunrises from the top of mountains. #nofilter #hiking #love #nature
2. Learn a new language.  
We're looking at you, Rosetta Stone. I mean, you could learn something useful like Spanish or German, but if you really want to be cool, learn a completely random and practically useless language. Try Gaelic or Tagalog. That way, you can say really stupid stuff and impress people at parties. Bring a Guitar and sing in Mongolian for best results.
3. Volunteer.  
Just don't do those classic, cliché volunteer gigs. No one will be impressed by your work with the elderly. If necessary, start your own charity. Imagine orientation next Fall: "Yeah, I did a lot of work with

etiquette for the homeless." "What?" "Etiquette for the homeless. We help homeless people with their etiquette." "Do you give them food or anything?" "No, but we make sure that when they do encounter food, they'll be better prepared. It's a little thing, but you know, we do what we can. It's just great knowing we saved them from a dining faux pas at the soup kitchen."

4. Build your own Water Park  
Sure, you'll break a few building codes, but nothing beats the heat like a multi-story slide made from plywood and tarps going directly into a pool filled with freezing water. For extra fun, add freeze pops to the mix. Cold. As. Ice.
5. Read the Classics.  
Sure, you could try to get through The Complete Works of William Shakespeare, but why would you? Instead, just read the graphic novel adaptations. They completely miss the point and the subtlety of the language, but that's what will happen if you try to read the original, so just cut out the middle man and read the watered down, third-grade version from the start.
6. Or, spend time with your classmates.  
For most of you, this is your last moment as a whole with your class. After your first year at college, you'll have new friends and, well, a new life. High School won't really matter as much. So enjoy this summer. Go to parties. Cherish your last few months as an adolescent, and don't let the sobriety of the "real world" hit you too soon. Congrats, guys. ■

### Post-Graduation Plans

Editors' Note: Only the names of graduates who gave the Echo permission to print their plans appear below.

Stephanie Adamczyk.....	Husson University
Alexa Adams.....	Bates College
Ben Alley.....	Saint Michael's College
Carlos Ames.....	Bates College
Chloe Anderson.....	Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
Hank Barrett.....	Wesleyan University
Arianna Bashara.....	Hobart and William Smith Colleges
Margot Besnard.....	The George Washington University
Courtney Bossana.....	Berkshire Community College
Kat Chenail.....	Colby College
Eve Cleghorn.....	Ithaca College
Ripley Cleghorn.....	Simmons College
Benjamin Coleman.....	Saint Joseph's College of Maine
Morgan Condon.....	Berkshire Community College
Sophia Dastoli.....	St. Lawrence University
Michala Dean.....	West Virginia University Institute of Technology
Alexandra De Veaux.....	Wesleyan University
Kim Dilego.....	Russell Sage
Alina Fein.....	Connecticut College
Katie Fisk.....	Berkshire Community College
Molly Graether.....	Union College
Emily Greb.....	Berkshire Community College
Brittany Guyette.....	Berkshire Community College
Sean Houston.....	St. Lawrence University
Ashley Jolin.....	Elmira College
Brianna Jones.....	St. Michael's College
Schuyler Jones.....	Lewis & Clark College
Cady Ketcham.....	Berkshire Community College
Benjamin Krant.....	Middlebury College
Alex Krell.....	Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts
Heidi Kurpaska.....	University of Louisville
Iain Kuttner.....	Skidmore College
Andrew Leitch.....	Keene State College
Eric Leitch.....	Plymouth State University
Andrea Lewis.....	Berkshire Community College
Keath Machado.....	Berkshire Community College
Jonah Majumder.....	Yale University
Nathan Majumder.....	Tufts University
Brett McCormack.....	St. Lawrence University
Alex Majetich.....	University of Massachusetts at Lowell
Helen Overstreet.....	College of Wooster
Miranda Park.....	Skidmore College
Tyler Picard.....	Hudson Valley Community College
Jackie Pilot.....	Suffolk University
Ebony Reed.....	Berkshire Community College
Cody Richardson.....	Berkshire Community College
Frank Rickus.....	Berkshire Community College
Angela Roughley.....	Berkshire Community College
Ethan Ryan.....	Keene State College
Laxy Shah.....	Rutgers University
Rohan Shastri.....	Williams College
Blake Sherman.....	Roger Williams University
Ryan Terry.....	Southern Vermont College
Allison Tremblay.....	Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts
Celeste Venolia.....	Smith College
Alex White.....	Williams College
Lindsey Wick.....	Westfield State University
Sarah Wong.....	Curry College



# GRADUATION

## Remembering Mt. Greylock: Interviews with Hank Barrett and Celeste Venolia

By EMILY KAEGI

*Hank Barrett was a captain and the starting quarterback for the football team, until a broken collarbone ended his season. He was also a captain of both the lacrosse and basketball teams, and helped the basketball team regain its former glory. In addition to his achievements in athletics, Hank is vice-president of the National Honor Society and press-secretary of the Student Council. The Echo asked Hank, the student-elected graduation speaker, to reflect upon his time at Mt. Greylock.*



Photo courtesy of Aaron Ziemer

Student-Elected Speaker Hank Barrett

Echo: How has your class changed since your first year at Mt. Greylock?

Hank: We've definitely gotten closer. We've gotten tighter. Part of that is because we've lost a few kids over the years so we are definitely a little smaller in size. But we also have gained a few and we've really come together. We've rallied around success in a lot of aspects of life and I think coming together has been the biggest thing that we've done.

Echo: When did you feel that the class first started to come together?

Hank: I might be biased because I was a part of the basketball team last year, but I felt that the whole school really rallied behind that team and in doing so our class came together. I think that junior year you start to realize, "Oh this is going to be us next year," and you see the seniors leaving and you think it's us. You always look forward to your senior year. I think by now we are definitely very close and it started junior year.

Echo: Throughout your whole Greylock experience, when have you been most proud of your grade or school?

Hank: I'm going to go a little off the question. I don't think it's a specific day or thing but I remember by the end of middle school we were considered the "bad class" and now as I go around and talk to teachers, talk to administrators, no one really has anything bad to say about our class. Just the fact that not only have we grown together, but that we've matured as students and as leaders of the school and have been role models that people look up to, I think that development has made me proud of our grade.

Echo: As you and your class leave Mt. Greylock, what piece of advice do you pass on to next year's seniors?

Hank: I would honestly say take a lot of pictures and videos, which is kind of weird. A lot of people seem to have iPhones now and I have been scrolling through mine, going back and looking at all these pictures and videos from football season, basketball season, times hanging out in the library, all

these different places and just looking back and watching those videos and looking at those pictures and just laughing. It preserves a lot of those things that you do want to remember and I think looking back next year and in the future and still having all those memories will be great.

Echo: What has been your personal favorite or most memorable experience from your time at Mt. Greylock?

Hank: I'm going to go with most memorable. It's not quite my favorite, because we lost. This year, before the last game of my basketball career, I remember walking out of the locker room and just being absolutely in awe at the gymnasium. There must have been I don't know how many people, but the entire student section was filled with people in white t-shirts that said Believe and everyone was going absolutely nuts. They all had Echos in front of their faces when the other team's starting lineup was announced. Everyone was just so excited, so proud of the basketball team for having come so far in such little time. They really rallied around us, and even though we lost, everyone had everything positive to say and was reassuring us of what we were able to accomplish even though we didn't go all the way to win Western Mass. We still came so far and had this school right behind us the whole way.

Echo: Final question: if you were creating the Mt. Greylock Bucket List, what would



Photo courtesy of Aaron Ziemer

Faculty-Chosen Speaker Celeste Venolia

you put as the number one thing all Mounties should do before they graduate?

Hank: Go up to the Mathias Bartels memorial bench with a couple of friends and talk about life while taking a second to recognize the actual beauty of your surroundings.

*Celeste Venolia is one of Mt. Greylock's top scholars as a member of National Honor Society. She is known for working very hard and achieving greatness. Outside the classroom, she has been a dancer at Berkshire Dance Theatre for thirteen years. She is also one of the editors for the literary magazine, Iris. The Echo asked Celeste, the faculty chosen speaker, to think back on her Mt. Greylock experience.*

Echo: How has your class changed since your first year at Mt. Greylock?

Celeste: I don't think there is any one way you can pinpoint how we've changed; it's more the little things that add up. I'm not even sure if we've so much come together yet, that is still in the process. We've all grown in our own individual ways, but as a class as a whole there is no way we've all changed.

Echo: When did you feel that the class first started to come together?

Celeste: Probably PEP Rally. That was re-

ally fun to all get up and be silly and dance together. And the senior prank a little bit, but not so much because it was still more separate then I was hoping it would be. We didn't really come together and do things as a class, besides building tents together which was our one, unifying activity. I think there is more to come though. I think we need to go through prom and senior trip and we will probably be more unified by then.

Echo: Throughout your whole Greylock experience, when have you been most proud of your grade or school?

Celeste: I think I'm proud of us whenever we do one of those charity things, like the can drive. Any of those service kind of things: when we go help middle schoolers with certain things in National Honor Society, or we talk to the juniors. When we help make the school community better as a whole, I'm proud of us.

Echo: As you and your class leave Mt. Greylock, what piece of advice do you pass on to next year's seniors?

Celeste: Balance your work with your having fun. Enjoy the fact that it's your last year with these friends that you've been with for a while. So try to really find the balance of making a really well rounded senior year and have the best experience.

Echo: What has been your personal favorite or most memorable experience from your time at Mt. Greylock?

Celeste: Again, I think it's the little things. The days where you have a very good day because some teacher said something that made you think more than you would normally or maybe you have a fun time just hanging out with your friends in gym class. The big activities like Spring Carnival can be fun, but at the end of the day it's more the little times that you share with people that end up being the best.

Echo: Doesn't any little thing stick out?

Celeste: It was pretty fun the day we bought Mr. Bell a cat clock to go along with his bird clock. I think he has a dog clock too, so it's fun because he has all his clocks in his room. We had a lot of fun experiences in his class in general.

Echo: Final question: if you were creating the Mt. Greylock Bucket List, what would you put as the number one thing all Mounties should do before they graduate?

Celeste: I would say go to at least one sports game, go to at least one theatre production. Just get out there in general. Interact with different groups of people. There is no one thing that you have to do at Mt. Greylock; you have to do a little bit of everything. ■■■

## 1 in 650: Ashley Jolin

Continued from Page 1.



Photo courtesy of David Jolin

Ashley is a black belt in karate and an instructor.

use the breathing mask for oxygen so we can go into buildings with that on.

Echo: Has being a firefighter changed your point of view on safety?

Ashley: Yeah. It's given me a different view on careers that are out there and it's awesome to know that I can help somebody. It gives you a whole different view onto the emergency personnel world as well. It's great.

Echo: Are there ever moments when you get really scared at a scene?

Ashley: Yeah every time something comes up I'm always nervous. But there's some excitement into it too.

Echo: What has it been like working for the fire department?

Ashley: It's been really fun. I love it. There's a lot of great people there. I haven't had too much excitement but we've had some car accidents.

Echo: What are your plans for next year?

Ashley: Next year I'm going to be going to Elmira College and probably be majoring in biology.

Echo: Will you keep firefighting there?

Ashley: That might be put on hold for a little while or I might see if there are some fire departments near by where I could volunteer.

Interview has been edited and condensed.

To nominate a student for 1 in 650, contact the editors at mountgreylockecho@gmail.com. ■■■

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*Editor's Note: The views expressed in opinion pieces do not reflect the collective views of this newspaper, but of the individual authors.*

## Wild Oats Market

By HANNAH FEIN AND ANYA SHELDON

Although many of us are familiar with Wild Oats on Main Street in Williamstown, we may not consider this local, all-natural supermarket as a popular lunch destination. Hidden among produce displays and aisles of wholesome goods, the small daily buffet area can easily be missed. For our latest restaurant review, however, we decided to explore this dining option offered by the market and determine if Wild Oats could really qualify as a good place for lunch.

We stepped into Wild Oats and, as always, were greeted with the colorful sights, cheerful babble and lively energy of the market. To the right, assorted fruits and vegetables were located beneath a rustic mural. Well-stocked shelves rose to the ceiling, displaying an abundance of organic snacks, frozen items, bulk food and even calendars, knick knacks and cosmetic products.

As we approached the small corner of the store where Wild Oats offers a daily selection of lunch dishes, we were surprised to see the buffet was bustling with people, contradicting our previous expectations that it would not be well-known. The variety of options included a colorfully diverse salad bar, four dishes, and two hot, steaming soups. We helped ourselves to a serving of chicken, edamame, rice, corn, vegetables and a medium sized cup of curried vegetable soup. Afterwards, we wandered throughout the store until we emerged several minutes and about \$15.00 later with our main dishes, as well as an enticing bag of Gringo Jack's chips and a bottle of Green Machine Naked Juice, a delicious alternative to less healthy beverages offered elsewhere. Although there was a secluded, charming, section of the store with designated indoor seating and large, bright windows, we chose the sit outside in the warm May sunshine. There were about a half dozen tables placed in the front of the store, clustered near a blossoming garden with



Photo courtesy of Anya Sheldon

Wild Oats in Williamstown.

a view of the parking lot and surrounding area.

The dishes, although not outstanding, proved to be satisfying and savory. Packed with organic delicacies such as tomato, couscous, spinach, carrot and zucchini, the curried vegetable soup was any vegan or veggie-lover's dream. One imperfection noticed in the otherwise richly satisfying dish was a lack of salt. When we sought out a salt packet indoors near the silverware and other condiments, none were found. Aside from this disappointment, as well as the uncomfortable choice of hot, steaming soup on a balmy May afternoon, the soup was very tasty. There are always two soup options offered at Wild Oats, and one is usually vegan.

The other dishes received positive reviews as well. The medium-sized piece of chili lime chicken on the bone, which is prepared every Sunday, was bursting

with the rich flavors of citrus, vinegar and spices. The next component of the meal, the organic cumin brown rice, proved to be very delicious, while the edamame beans, mixed with bay carrot and onion, were tasty but could have benefitted from a dusting of salt. The chipotle corn had a savory flavor similar to the rice and contained tomato, black beans, onion, peppers and other tasty ingredients.

Our experience with the hot bar, salad bar, and soup options at Wild Oats were positive overall. Although we were not thoroughly impressed, we enjoyed the chance to sit outside on a warm spring day and dine on inexpensive, healthy and well-prepared food. Despite the fact that this Williamstown favorite is known primarily as a small, organic grocery, we discovered that it has much more to offer, considering its convenient and high-quality lunch options. ■■

## Star Trek

By MIRANDA PARK AND  
NATE TASKIN

Imagine you order the slimiest, most unhealthy burger on the menu. Biting into it, you are aware that it's not good for you; you're chewing on heart attack and cholesterol in physical form, but you enjoy yourself regardless. *Star Trek Into Darkness* feels like eating grease-ball fast food. It feels alright while you're eating it, but indigestion lasts for days. This is not to say that *Into Darkness* is bad. There's never a dull spot, in fact. It fulfills the expectations necessary for a summer blockbuster, but fails to reach beyond that. It manages to be "fun," but that is not precisely the same as being "good."

One of *Star Trek's* greatest strengths is its cast of diverse and likeable characters; human and non-human alike. Virtually all actors return from JJ Abrams' previous endeavour four years ago, and they continue to mesh wonderfully together. Each member of the *Enterprise*, from *Bones* to *Sulu*, has their moment in the sun. The eternally witty Simon Pegg as Scotty is a particularly welcome sight. It's never a punishment to have more Pegg on screen.

One of the film's most noticeable additions is its antagonist. Benedict Cumberbatch's superhuman terrorist John Harrison is a great leap forward from Eric Bana's whiny Romulan from the last movie. Cumberbatch oozes charisma, intensity and menace. During his confrontation with Kirk (Chris Pine), Cumberbatch's hissing threats dominate the screen, so much so that it looks like Pine is about to be sucked up by his pure malevolence. Now no spoilers here, but for shame if you think the writers would give the main villain a name as lame and unimposing as "John Harrison" and stick with it.

Unfortunately, a great cast alone cannot carry a film. Writing is equally as important. The plot of *Into Darkness* goes here and there and everywhere. For example, a major source of conflict involves putting frozen people in torpedoes... Yes, it's as stupid as it sounds. Not even *Star Trek's* trademark technobabble can sate questions and one is left in a perpetual head tilt. The story itself seems like an inconvenience to Abrams that stands in the way of good action scenes and brand recognition. There's a fight sequence with Klingons that goes nowhere (except probably in the sequel). There's a Leonard Nimoy cameo for the sake of having a Leonard Nimoy cameo. We may as well have gotten George Takei riding a sparkly rainbow playing the harp. Like his initial reboot, JJ Abrams wants to cram in as many "Star Trekky" aspects as possible without leaving room for real substance.

But the most glaring flaw is the final twenty-five minutes, particularly manifesting in one scene. Trekkies have since referred to it as "THAT scene." Without giving too much away, the scene references one of the most iconic moments in not just *Star Trek*, but the entire science fiction genre. This area is not something to be dabbled with lightly. A film should be judged on its own merit and not how it lives in the shadow of another. Furthermore, the execution is poor. If such a drastic move is going to be undertaken, the film needs to go all the way with it. It doesn't. This is especially shameful as it not only cheapens the consequences, but turns it into a gimmick. For a franchise nearly killed for over reliance on past glory, one can only hope that this mistake isn't repeated.

*Star Trek Into Darkness* serves as an extension of its predecessor. It's bigger, but that's its most major change. Those who disliked the first need not apply, but those who enjoyed the sleek shininess of JJ Abrams' reboot will get their money's worth, despite the fact that the movie never really boldly goes where no *Star Trek* movie has gone before.

Oh, and quit whining about the lens flares!

Final Judgement: 3 Vulcan Bowlcuts out of 4. ■■

## Iron Man 3

By MIRANDA PARK AND NATE TASKIN

For better or worse, the latest installment in the *Iron Man* franchise is a movie for everyone. On one side, it contains high-octane action scenes and witty dialogue for the average popcorn-chewing theatergoer. On the other side, it is abundant with plot holes and headscratchers, ready to be picked apart by joyless sad sacks who have nothing better to do... like us!

While not the best of the *Iron Man* movies, *Iron Man 3* easily benefits from the best dialogue. Shane Black's witty banter quickly steers the film away from *Iron Man 2's* dry tasteless forgetability.

Trust the creative director/screenwriter of *Kiss Kiss Bang Bang* to keep consistent with the other entries, whilst making it very much his own.

Robert Downey Jr returns to do what he does best, which is being Robert Downey Jr. What works in the movie's favor is that it is more focused on Tony Stark than *Iron Man*, allowing for a more personalized story. The line between Downey and his character is at times indistinguishable. He fully assumes the role as both the privileged playboy and the metal-clad superhero.

That said, Stark is also one of this

movie's biggest flaws. In every *Iron Man* movie thus far, the audience is subjected to the exact same character arc. Stark is negligent and immature, something bad happens, he learns his lesson, only for him to forget it by the next movie. However, in this film the issue goes from a minor annoyance to a full blown travesty. For instance, after a string of bombings by a terrorist organization led by the enigmatic Mandarin (Ben Kingsley), Stark goes on international TV, threatens the terrorists, and gives them his home address. What do the terrorists do in response to this clever idea? They bomb the ever-loving snuff out of his mansion. Now who could have guessed that this would happen? His girlfriend, by the way, happens to be in the living room when they blow his home to kingdom come. Our hero, everybody! This move by Stark is easily one of the dumbest decisions ever made by a superhero. It elevates Tony Stark from an irresponsible schmuck to a downright imbecile.

Perhaps the easiest way to discuss the climax without spoilers is through an analogy. Let's say you are immersed in a hockey game. The ref might make some bad calls, but you're willing to overlook them. Suddenly, a strange man jumps in front of you, flailing his arms. He promises to show you one of the most epic figure skating tournaments ever performed. Now, this isn't what you came for, but you're willing to give it a chance. You sit back in anticipation, but what you receive is "Disney on Ice." Lame. Banal. Juvenile. Insulting. You walk out with such a bad aftertaste that it expunges the excellence you observed before. The problem with *Iron Man 3's* conclusion isn't in the pitch, it's its delivery.

Final Judgement: 2 Disgruntled Don Cheadles out of 4. ■■

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Greylock Echo



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## A Week in Haiti

By ZACH LEAMON



*Photo courtesy of Harrison Dilthey*

*Author Zach Leamon visited Haiti during a school break to do volunteer work at a clinic, where he saw firsthand the poverty of the country.*

The first thing I saw when I stepped out of the Port-Au-Prince International Airport was a doorless van filled with assault rifle toting police. Haiti is filled with militarized police such as this, with 15,106 officers in total. On the drive from the airport to our final destination, high in the mountains in Dasab, we encountered maybe six police checkpoints. The beaten up white truck I rode in pulled up to ten or so heavily armed officers who came up to the van, exchanged a few words of Creole with the driver and waved us on.

The completely unnecessary show of militarism was appalling. The police officers, according to the leader of my trip, were "great at stopping cars, and not much else." They served only to drain money from where it was needed most-- the people. Indeed, when confronted with the astounding poverty of many Haitians, the 1.33 billion USD spends on police seems almost criminal, especially since the GDP of Haiti is only \$13 billion (compared to the United States' GDP of 15 trillion).

The extreme poverty was evident all over Haiti. Rubble was strewn on the sides of the road, cars that had be totaled were left on the side of the road to rust. In short, Haiti three years after the earthquake still looked like a war zone. As we travelled into the mountains, the conditions began looking more derelict. The inhabitants began looking progressively less healthy. The medical staff on the trip took note of this as well.

"Look for blond or reddish hair," Dr. Susan Yates told me one day. "Its an indication of malnutrition or a lack a vitamins," she said. As I looked, I began to notice many of the children with patches of discolored hair. One tiny boy's hairline was almost completely blond. I asked him how old he was. "Six" he answered. He looked closer to an American three year old, and he weighed about as much. This scene was repeated for all the children; my sense of age, built around well nourished children, barely applied to the malnourished mountain children of Haiti. Many of the first-borns were well nourished and fed, but as the number of children per family grew, nutrition worsened. When I backpacked deep into the mountains, deeper than any car had driven, the poverty worsened. Our hospital was a tent and our pharmacy was a rickety wooden table that the villager had taken communion from. That night Ruth Harrison, a nurse with a masters degree in public health, told of an 18 month old baby who weighed just ten pounds (to put this in perspective, ten pounds is the upper end of normal for a newborn in the United States).

In my one day in the mountains, the doctors saw a treated nearly 300 people in a six hour shift, nearly all of of whom were dehydrated. Many adults and most of

the children showed signs of malnutrition, blond hair, distended bellies and rashes.

The thing is, many of their problems are very preventable. Better nutrition and access to clean, fresh water would clear up most complaints. According to Harrison, access to clean water is of the highest importance for any developing country. Haiti has the worst water supplies in the hemisphere.



*Photo courtesy of Harrison Dilthey*

*Author Zach Leamon with some of the children he met on his trip to Haiti*

Hope is in sight however. NGOs in Haiti have done a huge amount of good in getting aid to people. On the way to Desab, there were several water filter stations. But there is more that could be done. Finding a way for Haitians to collect rain water could be a huge step in getting them better water. A good water supply in the mountains could be instrumental in better nutrition as well. One village had an hour long walk to the closest water supply, even though the water was little better than mud. Closer water would help with agriculture, especially since Haiti is bone dry for half the year.

Haiti still needs help, but the people have begun to help themselves. They care about education. The parents care about their children and truly want the best for them. Haiti show the signs of a country that will improve dramatically in coming years, but it will be an uphill battle against the traditional enemies of developing countries: thirst, hunger and lack of healthcare. ■■

## A Lifetime at War

By AARON ZIEMER

Ten years ago this March, at 5:33 AM local time in Baghdad, citizens heard a series of massive explosions as CIA agents called in precision air strikes on military targets across Iraq. Forty five minutes later, United States President George W. Bush announced "an attack of opportunity." Coalition troops from the United States, Britain, Australia and Poland surged across the border to begin the "Shock and Awe" destruction of Iraqi strongman Saddam Hussein's army. Forty two days later, President Bush landed on the USS Abraham Lincoln and declared the end of "major combat operations" in Iraq.

At this point, the United States had already been at war in Afghanistan for two years, since the massive bombing raids on Taliban training camps and leaders on October 7th, 2001. Together these two conflicts make up much of America's recent involvement in the Middle East and they mean that a generation of Greylock students have spent most of their lives in a country at war.

Many Greylock students remember the war from a very early point in their lives. Junior Heather Tomkowitz recalls her parents telling her about the war at the dinner table only a little while after the attacks on 9/11. When asked about how an end in the war would change her everyday life she replied, "I really don't know because I can't remember a time when we weren't at war." In response to this Miranda Bucky, another junior, wondered out loud if the United States had ever not been at war.

Even though students remember the war from a young age, they don't feel that it has much of an effect on their everyday lives. Almost universally students without a direct connection to the military said that the war didn't affect their daily lives. One of the most common reasons for this was that being at war was, as junior Gef Fisher said "just the way things have been." Another junior, Amalia Leamon, felt that the much of the US population was "disconnected" from the war because of the lack of coverage in the news.

Many other interviewees agreed with this perspective and junior Emily Rudd added that because the wars are never covered in class and have such a compli-

cated background she feels like she simply doesn't understand them

Rudd also said that she is uncomfortable knowing so little about the wars, and this opinion is held nearly universally amongst those interviewed. Almost every person who said that they did not feel connected to the wars immediately qualified it by stating that they wish they knew more. Although some felt that this was their fault, because they didn't monitor the news closely, other felt that both their education and the media itself should take a piece of the blame.

Elaborating on her confusion about the causes of the wars Rudd said "I want to learn, but I just don't know where to start." She felt that a classroom education on the subject would allow her to understand it better, which in turn would bring her closer to it. Many other students agreed with this, and universally agreed that current events were underrepresented in the curriculum.

The other entity that those interviewed thought could improve it's coverage of America's foreign wars was the media and news in general. As Sophomore Andrew Whitaker put it "The war's being pushed into the background. It's become more and more of a background issue." They felt that as men and women are risking their lives on a daily basis the population should, at least, be consistently aware of the conflicts.

Never having experienced peace and feeling ignorant about the conflicts made those interviewed worry that the war carried too little gravity for them. Junior Katelin Marchand added to this by stating that we have become "used to war." She believes this is dangerous because our only experience with wars are Iraq and Afghanistan, which although deeply awful in their own right, are not destructive on the scale of many previous wars. (Combined around six thousand US soldiers have been killed in Iraq and Afghanistan, whereas around sixty thousand were killed in the Vietnam conflict). Marchand worries that if we get used to war in its current state, we could accidentally fall into a far larger and more destructive conflict. ■■

## BASEBALL

By ERIC HIRSCH

It's June which means that it's tournament time! The baseball team finished off a spectacular 16-3 regular season campaign with a 16-1 win over the Lee Wildcats. The seeding committee handed the Mounties a number two seed instead of the expected number one seed. The players are not too worried, however, about that number because they are just looking to capture a Western Massachusetts championship.

The Mounties have a sensational senior class that has led them all year. Andrew Leitch, Sean Houston, Derek Romejko, Ben Alley, Eddie Dufur and Ben Coleman have all provided major contributions on the diamond this Spring. Greylock also possesses the county MVP, senior short-stop Eric Leitch. Juniors Jack Thistle, Rob Buffis and Nick Disanti, and sophomore Ian Brink have proved themselves as trustworthy underclassmen.

The experience of the Mounties can only help when trying to advance in a single elimination tournament. The key in playoff games will no doubt be remaining focused. Buffis said, "We're very strong this year." Echoing his teammate's statement, Thistle said, "We're confident in our chances in the tournament, but at the same time, we are not looking ahead. We are going to take it one game at a time."

Greylock received a bye in the first round, and faced Drury on Saturday at Mt. Greylock. Buffis pitched a stellar game,

throwing six innings while allowing only one run. The Mounties backed up Buffis with a sizzling performance at the plate. The Mounties scored 15 runs, and put the the Blue Devils away early. Third baseman Andrew Leitch smashed two RBI doubles, while Ian Brink also had three hits, including an RBI double. Greylock will now have to put the win behind them and look ahead to their upcoming game against the winner of Palmer and Athol on Wednesday at 4 p.m.

A key to tournament success is depth in the pitching staff. Luckily for the Mounties, they have exactly that. Brink, Buffis and Andrew Leitch have all enjoyed success this season on the mound. Greylock's secret weapon however, may be southpaw Coleman. Buffis stated that on the mound, "I have tremendous faith in my fielders. This team has so much range, and will always make plays. All I have to do is throw strikes." All the Mounties have to do is win, one game at a time. ■■





## GIRLS TENNIS

By GRAY KAEGI

Despite a completely different roster from last year, the girls' tennis team has been quite successful this season. The team went 6-4 in the regular season and qualified for Western Mass.

The team is made up of young players thanks to the numerous middle-school students who went out for the team this year. These new players, however, have been earning wins for the Mounties. As senior captain, Margot Besnard puts it, "I never thought we would be this strong of a team, considering that [junior] Tyra Nurmi and I are the only players who were on varsity last year. As a young team, we've been improving every day." Having young players gives the team great depth for the years to come.

One newcomer who has been a key contributor in the Mounties' success is freshman Tara Shastri. This has been Tara's first year on the team, after transferring to Mt. Greylock from Pine Cobble. Shastri said, "It has been great to be on a team this year, especially since it's my first year at Greylock. In the past I have never really played competitive tennis, but I really enjoy playing competitively now. Before I

only played tennis in the summer and now I play every day. This has helped me to improve my game a lot." Shastri is only a freshman, so she will continue to be an important player in the future.

Like any team, the girls' tennis team has many memorable moments. "One of the most memorable moment for me was when Charlotte Rand and Mariza Sfaki-anka won at second doubles in a match against Lenox. The match was tied at 2-2 so their win gave the team a victory," said Besnard. Shastri's favorite memories are interactions with her teammates. "I really love when my teammates cheer me on when I'm playing. It really pushes me to play my best. I also love the bus rides to away matches. It's really fun to bond with the team," she said.

This young Greylock team has really proven themselves this year. They have won matches against difficult opponents and made it into the postseason. They played their first round of Western Mass at home and demolished Belchertown with a 5-0 sweep. With this impressive start to the post season, everyone is looking ahead. ■■



Photo courtesy of Ian Culnane

Freshman goalie Cal Filson has played an important role in the success of his team.

## BOYS LAX

By ERIC HIRSCH



Photo courtesy of Ian Culnane

The boys lacrosse team has dominated all Berkshire County competition this season.

The boys lacrosse team has maneuvered their way through an interesting schedule en route to a 18-2 record and a number three Western Mass seed. The Mounties have extinguished the distant memories of last year's loss to Cathedral. The senior-laden team is poised to make a run in this year's tournament, and maybe even capture the school's first ever Western Massachusetts lacrosse title.

The captains of this year's squad are seniors Hank Barrett, Brett McCormack and Ethan Ryan. All three captains have enjoyed tournament success in other sports. Their experience will be key if the Mounties are to advance in this year's bracket.

The Mounties coasted their way through Berkshire County competition, demolishing opponents by twenty or more goals on multiple occasions. However, when the Mounties faced tougher out of county competition, their success level varied, with two wins and two losses. Sophomores Michael McCormack and Cole Hughes present huge problems for opposing defensesmen, while juniors Daivon Clement and Matt Malloy, and freshman goalie Cal Filson have all also played big roles in the Mounties' success. ■■

Head Coach Jeff Stripp helped to make lacrosse a varsity sport at Greylock. Now he leads a number three seed into the tournament that crowns the best lacrosse team in Western Massachusetts. Following a first round bye, the Mounties faced defending Western Mass champion Minnechaug in a hard fought game at John T Allen field. Although Greylock netted two goals in the first two minutes, the game would go back and forth the entire time. The momentum turned, however, when Barrett lofted a deep pass to Hughes, who netted a fabulous goal right as the halftime buzzer sounded. Ryan found the back of the net with 36.2 seconds left in the game to break the 12-12 tie. The Mounties were able to hold on for the final seconds, and the field would soon turn into a frenzy.

The win moves Greylock into the final four, where they will play South Hadley at Chicopee Comp. For the time being, Greylock will enjoy the exciting win. After the game, Hughes said, "I'm so happy that we got the win. That game was a battle." If the Mounties hope to capture the school's first ever Western Mass championship, they will have to keep battling, and they don't plan on stopping anytime soon. ■■

## Junior Varsity: The Next Generation

By EMILY KAEGI

Mt. Greylock prides itself as being a top athletic competitor in Berkshire County. This year alone, our teams earned 10 Berkshire County Championship titles, 20 teams participated in Western Mass, two (and counting) of which came away with Western Mass titles and the boys' nordic team won a state title. Our school's athletic talent comes from intense training and commitment. Stars like Kat Chenail or Hank Barrett aren't born overnight.

The talent of Greylock is much deeper than most think. Behind star-studded varsity teams stand the often-overlooked Junior Varsity (JV) squads. These teams foster the younger athletes who grow into the stars you will one day read about in the newspaper.

Each sport at Mt. Greylock runs their JV program differently. The boys' soccer and lacrosse teams, which have huge rosters, use practice squads and swing players. Instead of being cut from the program, practice squad players are allowed to practice with JV, but do not usually play in games. "Swingers" practice with varsity, but play in JV games. Boys' lacrosse has a number of swing players that are put in at the end of games when the team is leading by over ten points (a common occurrence this season). This allows players who would not normally get varsity experience to play with the varsity team.

"The hardest coaching job is the JV coach because you are dealing with so many different levels of players," said boys' soccer coach Blair Dils. "What I'm asking as a varsity coach, to play guys that haven't practiced with the team, is challenging," he continued. Seth Rogers trains the JV boy soccer players and prepares them for a future on the varsity team. His team this year had a record of 7-6-4,

with freshman John Pfister their leading goal scorer. Cal Filson, a freshman, has been training to take over for graduating goalkeeper Sean Houston. Similarly, the girls' JV lacrosse coach, Tom Osteimer, is training Tennley Smith to take over as goalie for varsity in the next few years.

The scores of JV games do not need to be reported to the MIAA, and because of this, most teams do not keep official records. They want to win games, of course, but the programs focus more on fine-tuning skills and teaching the game in a less competitive atmosphere. "I think this past year was more about focusing on developing our skills than winning games, but we still had a great time and it was a great way to start my Mountie soccer career," said seventh grader Leah Majumder.

In some sports, the JV team is used to help the varsity team get better. In football, the JV players comprise a "practice squad," against which varsity practices plays. This year is a perfect example of why training varsity and JV together can be crucial. When senior quarterback Hank Barrett's season was ended prematurely by an injury, freshman Brodie Altaire was ready to step in. Because he had been practicing with the varsity team, he had seen the players in action and knew what to do. "You get to know the guys and build some team chemistry, so when I had to take it over it wasn't entirely new, but still difficult" said Altaire.

Cross-country running, golf, Nordic skiing, tennis, and track and field all train their JV and varsity players together. In this situation, older athletes have a huge impact on middle schoolers. "I have learned so much from [senior captains] Will Kirby and Blake Sherman. When I graduate from Mount Greylock and think

back to my first year, those two gentlemen will have been my role models from my first race till my last," said seventh grade cross-country runner Sam Edge.

In these sports, often only the top ten or so athletes compete for points and influence the outcome of the competition. However, in cross-country running, nordic skiing and track and field, all athletes get to compete anyway. This allows all participants to try to beat the times of top athletes and work themselves into scoring positions. Emma Polumobo, a seventh grader, started in the middle pack of the cross country team this fall, but by the end of the season was the team's tenth runner. In track, if a runner beats the time of a teammate in the scoring heat, she will be in the scoring heat in the next meet.

At golf and tennis matches, not all athletes compete. To get in playing time, some practices are devoted to challenge matches. During these practices, all athletes get valuable playing time in a simulated match and have a chance to move up their position on the team. Golf coach Luke Polidoro even changes up his lineup every week to give players a chance to get experience on different courses. This is also the case in wrestling. When varsity has a meet, Coach Ray Miro sets up matches with the other teams' JV athletes so all his wrestlers participate.

The Nordic ski team provides one of the best examples of the mentoring capabilities of a varsity team for JV athletes. During practices, an older, more experienced skier is paired with a younger JV athlete to teach technique. Athletes learn from some of the best with one-on-one experience, but they can form a tight bond with older students. "It's really great to be on a team with these older girls," said fresh-

man Holly Fisher. "They're all so supportive and give me a goal to reach for of what I want to be like when I'm older."

Because of separate ski races for JV and varsity, JV athletes receive recognition when they win their race. Ski coach Hilary Greene said, "The JV races become very competitive as often the fastest skiers are trying to beat the times of some of the varsity races, so that they can move up to varsity in future races." The JV athletes also have a chance to compete against skiers from around New England. Greylock sent seven boys and six girls to the J2 Massachusetts team. Similarly, cross-country running athletes go to invitationals where younger runners compete in races with just their age group. The middle school girls took second place against some of the best teams in New York State at the Burnt Hills Invitational this fall.

With so many stellar athletes at Mt. Greylock, JV teams often are full of varsity level players. The boys varsity basketball and baseball teams are loaded with talented upperclassmen, and because of this, the JV teams are very good. To deal with that, the baseball team created a 7-9th grade team that has an easier, less competitive schedule. These athletes, who would not be able to play on JV, get game experience instead of sitting on the bench. As the basketball team graduates important players, key sophomores will move up from JV to continue on the legacy.

As the 2012-2013 school year comes to a close, many athletes worry their teams will suffer with the graduating of so many athletes. However, they have nothing to fear. As long as JV programs stay strong, there will be many athletes ready to take the reins and continue Greylock's athletic dominance. ■■



## BOYS TRACK AND FIELD

By WILL WALTER



Photo courtesy of Amalia Leamon

*Junior Archer Greenhalgh was an integral mid-distance runner this year.*

The Mt. Greylock boys' track and field team had a successful season this year. Although the Mounties went 2-5, most meets were relatively close, and they continued to improve, building a solid foundation for the future of Greylock track and field. Senior captains Blake Sherman and Will

Kirby helmed a stable line of top runners, while getting consistent help from younger runners such as juniors Archer Greenhalgh and Richard Astle, and sophomores Carter Stripp and Ryan Benoit.

Although the team didn't have the season they had imagined, there were plenty of pleasant surprises, foreshadowing what could be the start of an era of Greylock track domination. Carter Stripp, although mistaken for a veteran by most, was in fact in his first year on the track team, and turned out to be one of the top point getters for the team. Another new asset for the team turned out to be sophomores Sam and Jake Kobrin. Although the duo had run cross country before, they had never been on the track team. They proved to be dynamic, picking up point after point for Greylock.

Another new runner who impressed many was junior Dustin Chang, not just because of his skills as a runner, but because of his work ethic. It drew the praise of senior captain, Blake Sherman. "[Dustin] always came to practice and he never really complained about the workouts," said Sherman. "He did do track in middle school, but it was great to have him back after a couple of years." If everyone displays that kind of effort at practice, it improves the whole team, and they will just keep getting better and better by the day. Sherman summed up the season saying, "We went in this year just trying to do our best. I think the team is just going to keep getting better." ■■

## GIRLS TRACK AND FIELD

By WILL WALTER



Photo courtesy of Alex Majetich

*Senior sprinter Alex Majetich won the 100 meter dash at Western Mass and finished in third place at the state meet.*

The Mt. Greylock girls track team had yet another successful season this year, and remained the powerhouse of Berkshire County. Although they suffered their first dual meet loss in over seven years, barely being outfought by Wahconah, they only lost once. Anchored by senior captains Kat Chenail, Stephanie Adamczyk, Alex Majetich and Sophia Dastoli, the Mounties rolled to a 6-1 record. They were the tri-champions of Berkshire County, beating out Pittsfield in an epic battle during their final meet.

Part of the reason for that was the performance of the four captains under pressure from their county competitors, who wished to dethrone the consistently strong Greylock team. The other reason Greylock had another incredible year was the depth of the team. Juniors Emily Kaegi and Jenna Phelps continued to be key runners, with Kaegi qualifying for the state meet in the mile run.

Running has always been the strong suit for the Greylock team, so they were mainly looking for help in the field events.

That came from rookie senior Michala Dean, who racked up points in shotput before suffering a knee injury, and from freshman Elizabeth Bernardy, who contributed points in discus.

Majetich also had another incredible year, winning the 100 meter dash title at Western Mass and setting a new school record for the triple jump. The team is graduating four seniors, all of whom played enormous roles in carrying the team on the track, so they needed to find a way to prepare the younger runners for the challenge coming up next season. According to Majetich, the team found a successful way to do just that. "Since we are graduating two of our best distance runners, we are trying to convert a lot of girls up to higher distances", said Majetich. "We have been figuring out that they are actually very successful in those areas, too."

If the plan works out to its potential, Greylock will benefit immensely. As for the other teams in Berkshire County, not so much. ■■

## STAR ATHLETES REWRITE GREYLOCK RECORD BOOKS

By DAN FINNEGAN

Quite often when a person opens their copy of The Berkshire Eagle, The North Adams Transcript, or The Greylock Echo, there is news about a Greylock athlete or team. Mt Greylock has made a name for itself in every sport, with many talented teams and players. There are many athletes this year that have helped teams accomplish amazing feats, and in the process, broke records or came excruciatingly close to it. Among these athletes are seniors Alexandra Majetich, Nathan Majumder and Tyler Picard, junior Emily Kaegi and sophomore Carter Stripp.

Alex Majetich set the school record in both the 100-meter dash and triple jump and tied the 200 meter dash record this year in track. Alex ran a 12.22 fat in the 100-meter to beat Candi Hinkley's record from 1991, and in the 200-meter dash ran a 25.9 fat to tie Hinkley's record from 1990. Majetich did well in the triple, jumping 37 feet total, beating the previous record set by Colleen Farley by two feet. Besides the fact that Alex is naturally athletic, she works extremely hard in the off-season. Alex commented about her training, "I broke the records by just running against myself and pushing myself harder every week. I put a ton of work in every week. I lift at least twice or three times a week and do a lot of technique work at the track with Coach Gill. It is huge to break all these records and I'm so excited to leave my mark on my school and on the Mount Greylock track program."

However, Alex Majetich is not been the

only track star this season. Emily Kaegi set her mark in the mile run, earning the fourth fastest time in Greylock history. For those who do not know, Greylock has had prestigious long distance runners in the past so it was huge when Emily ran the mile in 5:14.71 seconds on May 27. Emily previously had the seventh best time at 5:21 so it was a big jump when she ran the mile in 5:14. Emily commented on her record saying, "I've been training all season for a 5:20 mile by doing intervals at that pace so I knew it really well. I did a lot of cross-training this winter and when I had to be in a boot for the first two weeks of my season because of tendonitis, I kept training by aqua-jogging in the pool. It means a lot to the team and for me. Jackie Lemme, who had the fastest time before me, was my idol when I was in seventh grade. I looked up to her so much and it still has not hit me that I have a faster mile time than her now. Coach Gil and Kent Lemme were super excited and none of us really saw that time coming."

Back in cross-country season, Carter Stripp almost broke the course record at the last home meet of the year on the 4k course with a 13:52 . In soccer season Nathan Majumder broke the school record by scoring 31 goals. Also, in basketball season Tyler Picard almost reached 1000 points until the team lost in the Western-Mass semi-finals. Greylock has amazing athletes who work extremely hard and are dedicated to their sports. ■■

## BOYS TENNIS

By EMILY KAEGI

The Mounties boys' tennis team did not disappoint this year. The boys' went undefeated (10-0) and were the Berkshire County Champions. The team has been transformed in the last couple years and just keeps getting better and better.

The addition of nationally ranked senior Rohan Shastri to the team has helped immensely. He won Western Mass Individuals, but he attributes the success of the season to the team as a whole, saying "I couldn't have asked for a more fun, hard-working team than what we have now." In tennis you have to win 3 out of 5 matches to win the match as a team. With a stellar starting line up of Shastri and senior Jonah Majumder at first and second singles, respectively, and the dynamic duo of seniors Alex White and Nathan Majumder at first doubles, the Mountie boys consistently took four or even five matches.

Throughout the season there were many changes to the lineup. Sophomores Nyein Soe, Jake Foehl and Will Nolan were consistent contributors to the lineup and junior Alex Chueng and freshman Gray Kaegi also had key wins throughout the

season. The team's depth has been a major factor to success this year, giving individuals challenging matches in practice to push each other to be at their bests.

Going into Western Mass, the team is seeded 3rd because they only played Berkshire County teams. They topped Greenfield in their first match, 5-0 and prove to be a dominate force in Western Mass and even have a shot at States. The boys, however, focus on one match at a time. "I think our team is doing a great job focussing on one match at a time because if we look too far ahead we can definitely lose. We just need to focus and do our individual jobs." said Shastri.

Moutie tennis has had an amazing season and playoff victories look promising. The boys however never forget to put things into perspective and are always having fun at practice. They have a solid plan as they head farther into the tournament and show how far they've come. As Jonah Majumder said, "We are planning to approach every match with intensity and just see how far our talent and hard work can take us." ■■

## SOFTBALL

By IAN CULNANE

Finishing the regular season with a record of 10-9, the Mountie softball team capped off a relatively successful building year. Sole senior captain Anna Penna was an offensive and defensive threat, playing second base and batting first in the lineup, with a tendency to hit the ball into the outfield gaps. The Mounties look very strong for years to come, with many upcoming seniors and hopefully a Western Mass title in the future. When asked, Penna agreed that the Mounties have a very bright future and will have a very cohesive team for years to come. Because "It's an incredible atmosphere" said Penna, "it makes it easier to work together, which is a big piece of it." With players like juniors Meredith Dezieck, Markell Shea, Celeste Gravel, Kendall Frye, Sam Joy and Heather Tomkowicz, and underclassmen Miranda Voller and Cheyanne

Alcombright, the Mounties will be a force to be reckoned with for years to come.

This season, the Mounties had some spectacular wins, one of which was their first game against Hoosac. This proved to them that even after losing three amazing seniors to graduation in 2012, they still were competitors. That game started the season with a spark. One of their proudest moments was beating St. Joe to qualify for the Western Mass tournament.

In their first game of the tournament, after six innings of a scoreless ball game, the Mounties gave up a run and Southwick came out on top, knocking the Mounties out of the tournament. However, the Mounties played with a dedication of which they could all be proud. With a strong leading class of seniors next year, they have a great future ahead. ■■



## An Interview with Alexa Adams

By IAN CULNANE



Photo courtesy of Aaron Ziemer

Alexa Adams is a senior at Mount Greylock and a new recruit on the lacrosse team. Alexa decided to play lacrosse over being a track captain defending an undefeated track record since her 7th grade year. We sat down with Alexa to get insight on what it's like as the newest recruit on the team and why she made the decision to begin lacrosse in her senior year.

Echo: When did you begin lacrosse? What made you interested?  
Alexa: I played a year of youth lacrosse, through the Youth Center, when I was in 4th grade. I have been wanting to play since 10th grade. I had always thought it was a really cool sport. My best friend

Haley (Mahar) has played at Greylock, Holderness, and now, Williams. It always seemed really cool. I really like soccer and lacrosse had the same team sport aspect.  
Echo: Why had you continued track up until 11th grade?  
Alexa: Track has been the one thing at Greylock I have been attached to since 7th grade. I really enjoyed it, but I was getting slower. I had peaked in 9th grade and a lot of my friends on track had graduated.  
Echo: Hows your season been going, as a whole and personally in lacrosse?  
Alexa: The girls who play lacrosse make up a team like no other at Greylock, that I have been on. Mostly because its a really really different group of girls. I think it pulls in girls from different sports too. Lacrosse brings in a diverse group of athletes from the school. We have been doing very well. Personally I have definitely improved since the beginning, I've been learning a lot and its a lot of fun.  
Echo: Do you have any personal goals for the season?  
Alexa: Personal goals would definitely be do my part and help the girls to Western Mass, and getting that 500 record. Also I need to work on fouling less, because I do that a lot.  
Echo: How do you think other sports you do, allow you compete as a first year on the field and start?  
Alexa: Similar to soccer, where I play a defensive sweeper, I found the movements and positioning is very similar. I think my soccer background, as an attack and defensive player, has helped adjust into positions in lacrosse. I attribute most of my success in lacrosse, to soccer.

Echo: How did you feel switching? Looking back on the decision, do you agree with it? Any regrets?  
Alexa: I definitely don't have any regrets. I think if I had not tried lacrosse this year, I would be regretting that. Looking back on the decision, I know I made the right one, but sometimes its a little sad to see the track team. I know that they had their first loss since before I was in 7th grade. That really hit home with me because I had been part of the team for so long. But I know that it was the right decision.  
Echo: Was there anyone who pushed you to play lacrosse, or stick with track? Any hard feelings?  
Alexa: I was talking to my friends on the soccer team, like Sarah Stripp, and she really wanted me to play and said that she thought I would be really good at it. I also talked to her dad, Jeff Stripp, who's the boys lacrosse coach, who also encouraged me to play. Making my final decision, I talked to both Coach Gill and Coach Von Holtz, and Coach Von Holtz was very supportive. She gave my the run down on the sport and team dynamics and said she would love to have me because she knew me as an athlete and a soccer player. However, she also knew it was going to be a tough decision for me. Going to talk to Coach Gill was a little scary, because over the years we had become really really close. He was actually surprisingly so supportive of my decision. He said he thought I would be great at lacrosse and he was very understanding. And I can't thank him enough for that. ■■

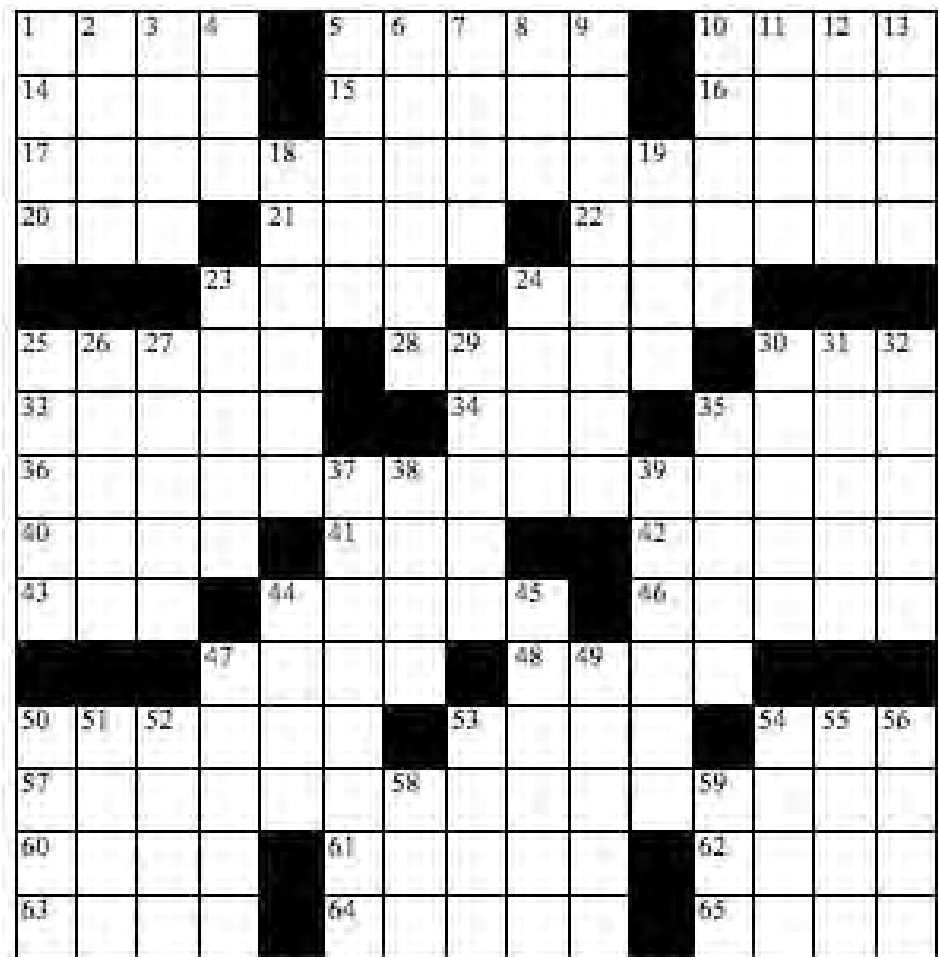
## GIRLS' LACROSSE

By GRAY KAEGI

What started off as a building year for the Mount Greylock girls' lacrosse team has turned into a triumphant season. The team went 11-5 and qualified for the Western Mass tournament. Key players like junior Alana Chesney, sophomore Lucy Barrett and eighth-grader Sarah Stripp have worked to prove the team to be a dominant force in the league.  
Having a great group of older players helped the team throughout their season. The younger players on the team, however, also added spirit and dedication to the team. One player who has enjoyed being on a team with the younger players is senior captain Chloe Anderson. "I love playing with the younger girls. They have so much energy and they are willing to work hard to demonstrate how committed they are to the sport," said Anderson. Having a young team will give the Mounties' a strong team for the years to come.  
It has been a very memorable season for the team. For Maggie Rorke, some of the team's wins have been unforgettable. "I think the most memorable part of the season so far has been when we beat Lee. No one had beaten them in our league for a very long time. We finally had the chance to prove ourselves and show that we had the skills and the determination to beat them. Our hard work paid off!" said Rorke.  
As the postseason for the team began, excitement among the players emerged. The Mounties were knocked out of the tournament in their first game against North Hampton, but did not go down without a fight. The team had a very successful season and has high hopes for next year. ■■

## CROSSWORD: DOG DAYS AHEAD

By BLAIR DILS



### Across

- Google \_\_\_\_\_
- "That's my \_\_\_\_\_ leave"
- Famous name in children's rhymes
- Lateral start
- Remove (clothing), to Juliet

- Song end, often
- Part one of seasonal Russell Banks quotation, after "Ah"
- PawSox level
- Gen-\_\_\_\_\_
- Restaurant before That's a Wrap on Spring Street, to locals
- "Fuzzy Wuzzy \_\_\_\_\_ bear..."

- Go over lines, with "through"
- Kind of playing cards
- March office prognostication contests
- A&W rival
- Make \_\_\_\_\_ request
- Carrie Underwood honor, for short
- 70s hair style
- Part two of quotation
- Sole
- Cream or pale, for example
- SEE Fund money, for example
- Habitant, for short
- "Men in Black" star
- Main artery
- \_\_\_\_\_ up (raises the intensity)
- NRA part
- A project's incipience, often
- Valuable deposits
- Driver's accessory, for short
- Part three of quotation
- Jai \_\_\_\_\_
- Microsoft Office program
- Salad cheese
- Like some cherries
- Tiresias and others
- Obama policy chief

### Down

- Badlands landform
- Shade at a swimming pool?
- Adidas rival
- Let the computer play a game, for short
- Heals
- Access a dog at the park?
- Williamstown athletes
- Madre's hermana

- Like a fugitive
- Chastise
- Hockey legend who played professionally in six decades
- Blissful locale
- Metallica drummer Ulrich
- Saratoga wager
- Vegetables under mattresses
- \_\_\_\_\_ -washy
- He's behind the center, in Dallas
- City chief
- Isolated
- Old French folks
- Eight-line stanza
- "It distresses me to say..."
- Full force
- \_\_\_\_\_ Rica
- "The \_\_\_\_\_ Hammer", LeBron nickname
- Myers' characters
- Yale students
- Admitter of wearing a hairpiece in his 2009 tell-all "Open"
- Hook's henchman
- Tuesday's crossword to Monday's, say
- \_\_\_\_\_ as a fiddle
- Pedals
- Jr. test
- Kind of dance
- Away
- 2007 movie with singer Glen Hansard and Marketa Irglova
- "Man!"
- Chip type
- A-lister
- Product with ads featuring Chocolate Man
- Most popular fast food restaurant in China