

STRIDENT (strīd'nt), *adj.* Conspicuously and offensively loud; being sharply insistent on being heard

LXX- No. 7

Amity Regional High School

Woodbridge, CT 06525

April 1, 2017

Difficulty in Printing Actually an EPA Plot Created to Save the Environment

By Kevin Zhao '18

After massive protests and picketing from the high school population regarding the difficulty in printing, the administration has revealed that institutions nationwide have been mandated by the EPA to save trees, reported by the agency to be living beings capable of thought while only being able to understand knock-knock jokes.

Initial concerns with printing originated with the Science Research class, which was reported to have printed off 10,000 sheets of paper within 57 minutes, equivalent to what would be destroying the entire Amazonian jungle in 10 hours.

While the EPA's mandate predicts to save 10 trees over the course of a thousand years, high schoolers face multiple issues with printing. Students, who were initially able to print documents within a couple minutes, must now register for a permit to print, make their own paper and ink, and

argue before a federal printing judge to justify the use of paper. B. Bertha Hagani '18 a student at the school, took her case before the Supreme Printing Court regarding printing sheet music for band class, only be shot down in a 9-0 ruling. Supreme Court Justice Inky Saver wrote the majority opinion, consisting of a single word, "No", etched onto a small shard of recycled scrap metal.

While creating considerable trouble printing, the EPA released an official statement justifying the tight restrictions, stating that "Paper was invented by the Egyptians as a means of making early American industry less competitive.

Cutting down on printing will allow a two dollar increase in military spending". Yet progress has been made in the recent weeks with federal printing regulations. As a result of the Tree Lives Matter movement and the Ink Tax Boycott, more paper has been supplied to schools, resulting in only a 29 minute waiting queue for printing.

"FollowMe" Displaces Hundreds as Students Are Left Baffled

By Chris Fraser '17

Recently, a mass exodus was reported outside of the Media Center. It is rumored that the major back-up was due to the sheer amount of students who "just don't get" the new-fangled FOLLOW ME printing system instituted school-wide.

The images taken in by bystanders were that of overpopulated-cattle farms, each student progressively becoming uncomfortably familiar with their comrades left, right, and center.

Unfortunately, the standard hinges of the media center doors were, understandably, not built to withstand such a rapidly increasing occupancy.

Soon after one o'clock Eastern daylight time, the hinges on each Media Center door gave way, buckling under the pressure of approximately 800 perspective printers who were pressed up against their metal handles.

"Like the bursting of a water main," began one

source.

"Each and every student once occupying the Media Center was eventually flung from the media center at the velocity of a speeding bullet."

"Those who were lucky enough to not get trampled," said another source, "escaped with only minor cuts and bruises."

The "tsunami of students," as one onlooker called it, left nothing in its path.

Everything from the center tables and the rows of

computers to the American flag and the shelves of books were utterly ruined.

If one was not aware of what had occurred, they may have even called it a war-zone.

On the bright side of all this, the many resource rooms sprinkled throughout the school building have stepped up and are granting asylum to any displaced students who wish to revert back to their old, comfortable, and supposedly antiquated method of printing.



New School Wide Assessment on Follow-Me Printer Instructions

By Julia Nadelmann '17

Mandatory school wide assignments are not unfamiliar to the Amity community. As a matter of fact, a large emphasis on this school year has been creating a school unity, where all students are exposed to the same concepts and ideas, allowing them to feel like a part of a kind, productive Amity community.

After the success of One Book One Amity this fall, on Tuesday, April 11th all Amity students will be taking another school wide assessment during their English Classes.

All students will now be required to memorize and recite the instructions for using the Follow-me printers. As Amity printer production specialist Inka Jet explained, "We here at Amity feel that the instructions to the follow me printers are as sacred as the food-ban rule and the student handbook that was in the front of the agendas.

We want every student to know them backwards and forwards, to ensure that they can operate the printers properly and at ease."

Students will first be assessed through a written assessment; however, any teacher now has the authority to call out students on the spot and have them recite it. Students who fail to be proficient reciting the instructions will be required to attend a mandatory seminar during homeroom in the library, where they can watch tutorials and go through practice demos of how the printer works.

After watching the tutorials students will be asked to evaluate how the tutorial and new printer system makes them, and to write their feelings of frustration towards the new printer system down on a post it note to be hung pasted on a wall in the career center. If students still fail to meet proficient in their printer instructions, they will not be allowed into the Media

Center or any of the resource rooms for a minimum of two weeks. This is to ensure that every individual who has the ability to enter a student ID into the keypad of the printer/copier has complete knowledge and expertise in using the instrument. This will prevent the chance that a student who has not memorized the instructions does not cause commotion if they accidentally stand in the quick print line and cause a delay because they need to ask for assistance in completing their quick print.

All students who pass the three quick print tests (the written assessment, the oral assessment, and the demonstration) will be given a sticker to place on their student IDs or passports

(WARNING: STICKERS PLACED ON AGENDA PADS INSTEAD OF PASSPORTS OR IDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED).

Before students can enter into a space with a follow-me printer they must first

show their ID to the faculty member on duty.

During the two week period where students that failed the exams were prohibited from entering rooms with follow-me printers, students will have the ability to go to the career center during lunch for practice activities and demonstrations, and they will be given the ability to retake the exam. Additionally, students will be retested every quarter and if a student is asked to recite the instructions to a teacher and fails four consecutive times their printer pass will be taken away.

Although many students are excited about the efficiency of the new machines, students have had mixed reactions about the mandatory assessment and requirement to memorize the printer instructions. Sydney Berry '19 explained, "I personally love the follow-me machines. I get so excited when I see that teachers can just swipe their cards and any printer in

the school will release their files. I think that follow-me printers are magical, but I get a lot of anxiety about having to memorize and recite new rules. I practice saying the printer instructions twice every night, and sometimes if you look really closely at me as I walk through the Amity halls you can see me mumbling 'press alternate login'"

Other students, however, are far more enthusiastic.

Mananya Nachru '20 exclaimed, "I think that having all of us memorize the printer instructions is just doing so much to build community and find common ground!" Nachru elaborated, "After writing my own song/chant of the printer instructions to help me memorize them, I decided to teach my entire math class. Now we just walk down the hallway together singing 'enter your student ID for username and no password!' The new printer system is a total gem and a half."

Number of Students Losing Class Credit Reaches Record Highs

by Sarah Saxe '17

While a broken alarm clock, traffic filled streets, or an outrageously late night filled with last minute cramming are the typical culprits for a student's tardiness, a new delayer is sweeping the halls of Amity: the new printing system. Introduced a few months ago, no one at Amity could have predicted the chaos that would shortly ensue. Although the Media Center was littered with printed instructions as to how to print, students and staff alike simply could not decode the new system quickly enough. The result? Lengthy lines wrapped around the sparse number of student printers left around the school. Walks A. Lot, a junior, said, "It took me longer to get through the printing line than it did for me to walk to school from junior parking!"

The situation was aggravated as students struggled to recall their student ID codes that would give them the key to print their precious work. A freshman, Kan T. Remember shudders as he recounts the dark moment of his first encounter.

"I just couldn't do it... I

bring a home lunch every day! I didn't know my ID and the line just continued to grow and grow behind me as impatient cries escaped the mob!" The interview

yet another line. This time it was of students clamoring to talk to their guidance counselors about their loss of credit notifications. As all students should know (remember that form you all signed promising you had read and reviewed the entire student handbook at the beginning of the year?), loss of credit can occur after a substantial number of absences or tardies.

The Counseling Department reports that in a typical year,

	TIME	OUTIN	DESTINATION	TEACHER
11/7			Bathroom	[Signature]
11/7	10:50		Trident	[Signature]
11/10	8:40		Trident	[Signature]
11/11	10:50		Trident	[Signature]
11/19	10:50		Trident	[Signature]
11/16	8:40		Trident	[Signature]
11/17	11:00		Trident	[Signature]
11/18	10:45		Trident	[Signature]
11/28	10:45		Spanish	[Signature]
11/30	8:40		Trident	[Signature]

Completely filled student passports are no longer the anomaly.

was cut short as Remember grew hysterical.

The most prevalent problem, however, is the excess number of tardies caused by students forced to wait in the lengthy lines.

Senior Art L. Over said, "[She] got in line to print her Art History paper before school started, and before [she] knew it third period was over and [she'd] missed half the day!"

Her PowerSchool app promptly informed her of her new three unexcused absences and one tardy to her fourth period class. When she made her way over to guidance, she was stuck behind

fewer than 10 loss of credit notifications are dealt with. This year, however, guidance has already reported 257 processed notices.

"With the state increasing the number of credits students need to graduate, this is turning into a serious problem. We are truly concerned for the class of 2020. We may have the smallest graduating class in history by the time they come around!" exclaims a counselor, I. M. Worried.

Indeed, if the students cannot figure out how to expedite this printing problem soon, Worried's prediction could soon become reality.

Three Dimensions of (Professional Development Days) Printing

by Sophie Baum '18

It's always been a common assumption at Amity that the monthly Professional Development days are dreaded by faculty but much anticipated by students, who can indulge in extra sleep

leniency toward the food policy was the crowd of faculty surrounding the new printer. Bursts of cheers interested the two students observing who soon realized that paper was not the output of the printer. Instead, the staff held black and gold 3D-printed objects, examining and photographing each other's



A small sample of objects printed by teachers on the new 3D Printers.

and relaxation. And yes, no teacher expressed excitement for these days. At least until the FollowMe printer system invaded the school, changing the image of the high school and the dreaded development days for years to follow.

Friday, March 17 was one such development day. Only two ignorant students, Coyota E. Wile and Sam Yosemite, set their alarm clocks for the normal time. The infamous duo was known for sporadically accumulating tardies and absences, as well as their signature fluorescent-green hair.

Not surprisingly, they were unaware of the day off and nowhere entered the building on Friday. Yet upon realizing their mistake, Wile and Yosemite decided to explore.

Shrills of excitement drifted down the main corridors, leading Wile and Yosemite to the Media Center, where the students were bewildered by the three-course meal being enjoyed by the faculty as they entered the facility. But more alarming than this sudden

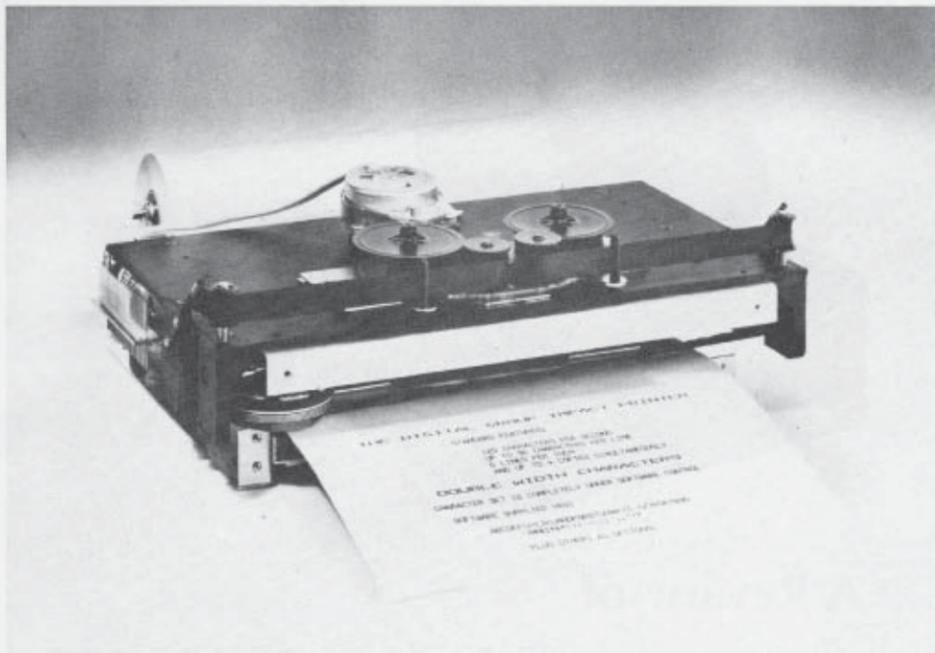
creations. Parallel scenarios were occurring in the STEM room, humanities resource room, copy room, and the Trident office.

As a result of the students' confusion, the Town of Woodbridge conducted an investigation, finding that several teachers had altered the printer's functions to transform it into a 3D printer. The reason for this alteration still remains unknown.

Cries of change now have prompted a crucial agenda to reform Professional Development days.

While many parents have forcefully opposed the disruption of the educational experience in the past, the focus of these parents' outcries has shifted to begging administrators to permit attendance of parents and students at these monthly meetings.

Questions about the printing systems have arose. But for now, one thing is certain: the FollowMe three-dimensional printer system surely has brought more than just confusion and turmoil to the Amity community.



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THE AMITY TRIDENT

LXXII-No.7

Amity Regional High School

Woodbridge, CT 06525

March 31 2017

“FIDDLER” OPENS TONIGHT



Eric Greenbaum '17, who plays Tevye in the musical, prepares for tonight's performance. Photo by Howard Ding '18. Story on pages 8 and 9.

Recent Vandalism Closes the Senior Lounge

By Kate Yuan '19

Over the past month, the senior lounge has experienced various occurrences of vandalism and was recently closed in order to make the proper repairs. The senior lounge is a fairly new facility open for student use, as this is the first year that it has been open for this specific purpose. In previous years, it was the school store, but after a period of inactivity, the class of 2016 decided to do something with the space.

The 2015-2016 senior class council held countless fundraisers and used the money raised to completely revamp the area by putting in couches, tables and chairs to make it more comfortable and inviting. They received additional help from the PTSO and Student Government.

It was not ready for use until this year, so essentially, the lounge was a gift from the class of 2016. Though that class never got the opportunity to use it, they left behind them the senior lounge as their legacy. It is exclusively open to seniors who are welcome to go during

study halls/free periods.

The lounge was received extremely well. It is rare to walk past the windows and not see people inside. Many seniors have really enjoyed the facility because it is a special privilege open exclusively to them.

Senior Alec Smith said, "It is important because the seniors can get together and have an area just for seniors to study and hang out."

It is not hard to see why the seniors have enjoyed the lounge so much as the cafeteria and study hall classrooms can often get loud and distracting when trying to do work.

It has been expressed that the senior lounge is a privilege, not a right. As a result, the recent actions have resulted in consequences. In the recent months, little things have been happening, that have gradually escalated. Among these things have been a torn cable, broken lock, and the security camera being taped over to block the visual feed. Due to these events, administration has decided to close the senior lounge in order to repair the damaged items. Principal Anna Mahon has

Amity a Success at CSEF and JSHS

By Harris Andersen '18

Two prestigious, state-wide science fairs were recently held, attracting talented students all over Connecticut.

The 69th annual Connecticut Science and Engineering Fair (CSEF) took place from March 14-18 at Quinnipiac University. This fair is open to students from 7th through 12th grade enrolled in Connecticut schools and Fishers Island with an objective "to attract young people to careers in science and engineering while developing skills essential to critical thinking."

Students enrolled in the Science Research Program can take part in this distinguished event in two ways: program head Deborah Day can choose 30 projects anticipating successful results or students can participate who qualified at the CT STEM science fair in February. Out of the 30 students from Amity Regional

High School who researched and created posters, six were called back as finalists to the fair and presented their months of dedication. Congratulations to Jimmy Bi, Quinn Burke, Himay Dharani, Ani Dixit, Jethin Gowda, and Kelsey McCormack for their tremendous work!

The Connecticut Junior Sciences and Humanities Symposium (JSHS) is another

leaders, and esteemed guests.

At JSHS students have the opportunity to not only present their research, but to also listen to other students' research, and to esteemed scientists such as Julia Oh from the Jackson Laboratories, the keynote speaker.

An oral presenter from Amity, Haya Jarad '17, explained, "It was a great evening! I learned a lot!"

In total, nine ARHS students were selected to attend the symposium at UConn. With much success, Hannah Rappaport placed 3rd in the posters presentation category, Haya Jarad placed 3rd in the oral presentation category, and Julia Nadelmann placed 1st in posters. Haya and Julia have advanced to the National JSHS, where they will present posters of their research in San Diego in April.

The Science Research students performed well and enjoyed sharing their work at the science fairs.



reputable science fair in which students can partake. Hosted at the University of Connecticut on March 11, 2017, students presented their science and engineering research to fellow peers, teachers, industry

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Amity JSA Hosts a Mini Convention

by Vince Li '18

Amity's chapter of the Junior State of America (JSA) held a mini-convention on March 12th. JSA describes itself as an organization for "students who are interested in politics and government, foreign affairs, the law and education."

JSA is a national organization but is divided into ten regions, known as states. Each year, these ten states meet three times at large overnight conventions: Fall State, Winter Congress, and Spring State.

Chapter president Hi-

may Dharani describes these events as "a fantastic way to mix school field trips with political activism and debate".

For the first time in three years, the Amity chapter hosted their own mini-convention. Students from around the state came, including Shelton, Chesire, and Staples in Westport, as well as multiple schools from New York.

JSA member Patrick Burland describes the day's activities: "We had many members of JSA come from all over and participate in several debates ranging in topic from 'Should we invade North Korea?' to 'Irish discrimination for St. Patrick's day'. We also had a candidate's

forum where students running for elected office in JSA got to answer questions and reach out to voters." Burland himself is a candidate, and viewed the experience as "a spectacular way to meet people and get to win over some voters."

The Amity chapter of JSA meets weekly on Wednesday in the lecture hall and holds open discussions and formal debates. In addition, they write mock bills and debate them. All students interested in the political process, regardless of their placement on the political spectrum are encouraged to attend, participate, and enjoy a place to argue for their political beliefs.

Amity Debate Hosts State Championships

by Neha Sudhir '19

The Amity Debate Team hosted the Connecticut Debate Association's State Final Championship Tournament on Saturday, March 18th, 2017. After months of preparation, the team was excited for the tournament to begin, even decorating the school to proudly welcome their friends from the other competing teams.

At Amity, the debate team meets every Thursday to practice their skills and participates in several competitions throughout the year to qualify for the championship tournament.

The Connecticut Debate Association uses an extemporaneous modified policy debate format for their tournaments. At the beginning of every competition debaters receive a resolution, usually related to a current events issue, and a 10 page packet with articles on the topic. After preparing cases for the affirmative and negative of both cases, students debate three hour long rounds against other schools.

This tournament was the State Debate Championships, meaning that all individuals competing had previously gone undefeated in two previous tournaments, or won a team or speaker award at a previous monthly tournament. Debaters have the opportunity to debate as varsity or novice, with novice debaters including freshman and

some sophomores, and varsity including more experienced older debaters. Both novice and varsity members can qualify for and compete at states.

In light of recent political events and the all-around charged political environment throughout the country, the debate topic addressed an issue surrounded by controversy, much like several of the other tournaments this year. The question was, "Should executive orders require congressional review?"

Given recent developments in the nation, the issue is understandably intense, but as Ananya Kachru, a junior and

out the state came to Amity to compete. Amity had the honor of qualifying the second most debaters in the state, qualifying 15 debaters for states this season, only 3 debaters behind the 18 debaters qualified by Joel Barlow in Redding.

Although Amity debaters failed to break the final into the top teams for the varsity or novice division, overall they enjoyed their experience. Kachru described her own experience debating with her partner, a captain of the debate team, senior Julia Nadelmann, highlighting the intensity of the competition: "[Julia] and I had some really tight rounds, and we ended up having the top team score with a 2-1 record." While she and Nadelmann had hoped to qualify for the finals, which would have required a 3-0 record, it was still a "nice end to [the] regular season." Kachru also said that the novice debaters did "really well" and that it was a fun day.

Sophomore Rosie Du described the day as a "really

great experience," stating that she and her partner, Payton Grande, got the chance to debate with and compete against "some really amazing teams" and "definitely learned a lot from the tournament!"

Faced with a very real topic, Amity did an exceptional job at the conclusion of their regular debate season this year.



Amity Debaters at a tournament earlier this season

an experienced member of the Amity debate team recalled, "There were a lot of great debates all day."

Amity students went up against numerous high schools throughout the state including Glastonbury, Daniel Hand, Ridgefield, and Joel Barlow. In total, 200 debaters and 30 different schools from through-

Class of 2018 Set to Take the SAT

by Owen Dodd '17

On Wednesday, April 5th, 2017, the Amity junior class will be taking the SAT during sessions one through four while all other students in the building will have a regular schedule.

Prior to the test, juniors have been provided with various study materials and tips on how to deal with test-taking stress.

"By hosting the test," said junior Ali Hagani, "the school is increasing our likelihood of success by providing a platform for us to put our best foot forward."

Many, like Hagani, believe that the SAT is unfairly biased towards those who have money

or other resources such as older siblings.

"Personally, I have some old SAT prep books from when my siblings went through this process," she said.

"If I did not have these resources, I would be blind to some of the fundamental concepts highlighted in the SAT, or test-taking strategies for it."

Ultimately, the SAT is the first step in the college process.

While it can be a challenging or controversial topic for some, the school is doing what it

can by holding the test during regular school hours. This way, the students do not need to go out of their way to get the ball rolling on the college admissions process.

As an added bonus, the administration allows students to bring a note into the main office prior to the test being proctored. The note would grant them to privilege of leaving school early with a parent's permission.



Move to Matter Holds Drive for Hurricane Victims

by Kevin Yanagisawa '18

Over the course of two weeks, from February 27th to March 11th, the Move to Matter club organized a backpack drive, where new and lightly used backpacks were collected and donated to Haitian children and families affected by Hurricane Matthew, a category 4 hurricane that destroyed 200,000 homes and caused \$1.89 billion dollars in damages last October.

The Move to Matter club was brought to Amity Regional High School to spread awareness, help, and fundraising for different programs worldwide.

The whole club is a branch off of the actual organization, Move to Matter. This organization aspires to empower children by supplying them with tools to help and support other children around the world. Their objectives are to help children

identify opportunities for positive change around the world, create a method for children to contribute to other children in need, and teach children how to set a goal, so they can directly better the lives of other children worldwide.

The Move to Matter club had no clear cut goal for backpacks collected in mind, besides the idea that there are people out there who are less fortunate and need help. The backpack fundraiser is their first fundraiser as a newly established club at Amity High School, and they were able to collect from 35-40 backpacks to give to the needing families in Haiti.

Mounisha Anumolu '19, a member of the Move to Matter club, thought that for their first significant action, the club was able to perform well.

She said that the number of backpacks collected was something "we were really happy about!"



Recent Vandalism of Senior Lounge cont.

said "The senior lounge is a space intended to offer seniors an alternative space from the cafeteria during study halls with the expectation that the space is treated respectfully and appropriately."

"Once it is reopened, we have every reason to believe it will be well maintained by

members of the senior class," she added.

It is unfortunate that something like this has happened. Hopefully the proper precautions will be taken in the future so that future students will be able to enjoy this privilege as well, thanks to the class of 2016, Student Government, and PTSO.

Adult Ed. Hosts Yoga Class: An Afternoon of Stretches and Meditation

by Jamie Unger '17

On March 22, 2017, the Adult Ed. program at Amity held one of its weekly Wednesday night yoga classes. These classes aim to improve flexibility and ease the mind.

Jim Percival, the instructor, provided the students with blankets, pieces of music which consisted of soft piano, and invited them to focus deeply on their breathing..

The class was composed of people of all ages. The session lasted for an hour, from 6PM until 7PM, and was located in the middle of the media center. The open area allowed the students room to breathe.

The poses that were practiced included sitting twists,

standing stretches, kneeling, and Warrior II, a pose which involves the extension of one's arms outward with their feet in-line with their shoulders.

As Percival explained, "the class is slow-paced and suitable for beginners".

Percival handed each of the students a blanket before they went into table-top position, with their hands and knees planted on the floor and their back elevated. While stretching in certain poses, he would help correct his students' positions, and help just enough so his students were reaching the effect of the stretch, allowing them to be the most comfortable.

Overall, the class provided participants with an opportunity to refresh and relax, with many students expressing their interest in returning again.



Percival demonstrates a side stretch.

Reflecting on Today's Society

by Ali Hagani '18

During this period of political strife, I have been cautious of sharing my opinions about the nation around us, as it is inevitably bound to insult a few.

However, in hearing the conversations with my peers throughout the school, and even tuning into social media platforms, it's impossible to not raise an opinion, and even harder for me not to share it.

That said, I don't write about the new president or his appointments. I don't write about the executive orders he has signed or the controversial promises he has made.

Instead, I write about the ignorance that is sweeping over our nation. We have become subject to a negative mindset. This has been long lasting, but it wasn't until recently that I have become completely aware of it and its detrimental effects.

I don't consider myself a minority, despite how I belong in minority groups. I am a woman. I am Jewish. I am part Iranian. But I don't obtain the whole heart of being a minority, because

I never received the undeniable backlash that many minorities unfortunately face day-to-day.

I can't paint myself as a victim to the current political strife, as I am not affected by it as strongly. I don't embody the fears of a terrified gay man who worries about how he and his husband will fend in such a harsh society. Nor can I fathom the worries of a young Mexican girl who fears her mother will be deported.

I am not a diabetic teenager who worries about her life without health care or a Muslim in a Middle Eastern country whose hope of seeking refuge is seemingly fictitious. I refuse to obtain the right to selfishly complain about the current news, merely because I don't have the right to complain.

Others do, but I do not. I am sheltered and I am safe.

Everyday I listen to many of my peers, consumed in their high school lives, complain about the travesties that engulf them. I too will admit to being a perpetrator of these actions now and again.

However, when I hear such talk that emphasizes "the hardness of our Ameri-

can, Amity lives," I feel pitiful of this secluded mindset and, furthermore, guilty that we obtain it. I feel as if we need to open our eyes to the bigger picture.

I had read about Abdel-Hamid, a 7 year old Syrian boy who sought refuge at a tent settlement in Lebanon. Unable to further receive an education, he now lives in a small tent with his family in fear. I read about a young uneducated Syrian girl whose only refuge was through an arranged marriage. Or that girl in Liberia who had to give up her education in order to take care of her family. As guilty as it may make us feel, they would give anything to be in our shoes. That needs to be acknowledged.

It is easy to believe ourselves to be the victims whenever life throws an obstacle our way. But, we are not. We are so lucky to live the life we lead.

If we all seek to obtain a mindset that rejoices in the life we live while recognizing the circumstances of others, we will lead even happier lives with a perspective and spark that will invoke positive change in our communities.

THE TRIDENT

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CORRECTIONS

In the March 2017 issue, Bianca Gibbons-Morales was the artist of the month. Additionally, the author of that article was Emily Criscuolo '17, not '18, as listed.

For any corrections or tips, please email amitytridentnewspaper@gmail.com

To sign up to write or take photographs for The Trident contact the Editors-in-Chief, Mrs. Clark, or email amitytridentnewspaper@gmail.com.

To view the newspaper online, go to <http://ourschoolnewspaper.com/Trident/>



Does National Honor Society Criteria Truly Encourage Academic Challenges?

by Ben Sauberman '18

I was dismayed this spring to find out that I had not been extended an invitation to apply to the National Honor Society at Amity. After hearing all of my friends receive the news, I was confused that I had not too found a letter in my mailbox. I have enrolled in challenging classes while maintaining strong grades throughout my high school career.

Thinking there had to be some sort of mistake, I actually attended the informational meeting for students who had received an invitation to apply. As the only person sitting in the lecture hall who did not belong, I soon learned why I had not been invited.

NHS adviser Mr. Davis revealed that to be invited, you need to have at least a 3.5 unweighted GPA. I knew immediately I just barely fell short of that standard.

Ever since leaving the meeting, I have been irked by this minimum GPA criteria. It does not make any sense to me that the National Honor Society would use an unweighted GPA to select its new appli-

cants. Amity's weighted GPA system, out of 5.6, is designed to better reflect academic rigor.

If the National Honor Society strives to include only elite students, why does it not take into account course difficulty? Had I taken an easier Precalculus course, a class I am not excelling in, I may have earned a higher mark, thus jacking up my unweighted GPA.

It is nonsensical to me that I am being excluded from an organization that prides itself specifically in scholastic excellence because I am exerting myself academically.

So why does the NHS use an unweighted GPA? They want to include students who are achieving success in the context of their specific schedule. While this sounds logical, they should not emphasize inclusion of one group of high achieving students over another.

Instead, they should include all students who meet a minimum 3.5 unweighted requirement and/or the equivalent of a 3.5 unweighted on the 5.6 weighted scale. This way, they offer other deserving students the opportunity to take part in the NHS.

Happy Spring!



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Stressed? See a Movie Alone

by Sarah Saxe '17

We joke and talk about it all the time. Since freshman year people have exclaimed, "I can't wait for senior year, I'm going to have such bad senior slide". "Senioritis" or "senior slide", both refer to the idea that second semester senior year, after students have been admitted into college their grades, energy, and overall motivation to be engaged in their high school lives drastically decreases. To all underclassman wondering, if "senioritis" is real, simply stated yes, but not necessarily in the sense that you may think.

Throughout high school, there is emphasis and pressure placed on being meticulous, checking over your work, and going through assignments to make sure you get the maximum point value and the highest possible grade. Students may along assignments to drag on for hours longer than even necessary.

The notion exists that the more time I spend on something, the more successful I will be. What my experience as a second semester senior has taught me is productivity.

As someone who at one point would identify as a "perfectionist", simply stated I have adopted the motto "done is better than perfect". Now I know that the idea of finishing something without making sure that it is perfect may seem lazy, or negligent to a lot of my peers, but it is actually a mentality that is dictating the development of a large portion of the products we purchase and content we consume.

I would be completely lying if I said that I came up with such an aphorism. Most notably, I stole it from Mark Zuckerberg, who has the phrase painted on the walls of the facebook headquarters. The idea is that with 20% of the effort put in, you can get 80% of the value out of your work. The other 20% of the total

value of your work, often the small details and finishing touches, comes from an extra 80% of the time, often spent unproductively and frustratingly.

In the second semester of my senior year, I have finally learned that it is important to be able to get the most value out of an assignment, but it is also important to do it in a time effective manner. But truthfully, there was no reason that I needed to wait until I was a senior to realize that my focus should be on maximizing my understanding of a concept or idea, rather than getting lost in the nuances that ultimately add very little value to my actual educational experience.

For underclassman, while I have been content with my high school career academically, I know that I likely could have gotten the same value out of my education by just focusing on mastering what was most important rather than finding myself stressed in meaningless details.

Senior Slide

by Suvasini Balaji '17

We joke about it all the time. Since freshman year, people have exclaimed, "I can't wait for senior year. I'm going to have such bad senior slide." "Senioritis" or "senior slide" refer to the idea that second semester senior year, after students have been admitted into college when their grades, energy, and overall motivation to be engaged in high school drastically decreases. To all underclassman wondering, if "senioritis" is real, simply stated yes, but not necessarily in the sense that you may think.

Throughout high school, there is emphasis and pressure placed on being meticulous, checking over your work, and going through assignments to make sure you get the maximum point value and the highest possible grade. Students may allow assignments to drag on for hours longer than even necessary. So often we are inefficient. The notion exists that the more time I spend on something, the more successful I will be. What my experience as a second semester senior has taught me is productivity.

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The idea is that with 20% of the effort put in, you can get 80% of the value out of your work. The other 20% of the total value of your work, often the small details and finishing touches, comes from an extra 80% of the time, often spent unproductively and frustratingly.

In the second semester of my senior year, I have finally learned that it is important to be able to get the most value out of an assignment, but it is also important to do it in a time effective manner. Truthfully, there was no reason that I needed to wait until I was a senior to realize that my focus should be on maximizing my understanding of a concept or idea, rather than getting lost in the nuances that ultimately add very little value to my actual educational experience. For underclassman, while I have been content with my high school career academically, I know that I likely could have gotten the same value out of my education by just focusing on mastering what was most important rather than finding myself stressed in meaningless details.

No More Stalling! (with the stalls)

by Lillian Zhang '17

Have you been to the school bathrooms recently? If you haven't noticed, thanks to the new locks, bathroom capacity numbers now hold true!

No longer will half the stalls lack the desired privacy. In addition, broken sinks have been repaired. It's a relief to have privacy restored. No more long waiting lines or rushing to class!

What does that mean? Restoring student productivity in classrooms and resuming worry-free attitudes. And a pleasant, maybe enticing trip to the bathroom, of course.

But why did it take so long for the locks to be replaced? In the math wing, three stalls in the women's bathroom were out of order due to missing locks and a broken toilet. Missing or broken locks have been an issue since 2015, but despite complaints over the years, it was never made a priority.

Similarly, broken sinks have been a year-old problem. Administration was occupied with issues such as installing water bottle filling stations or fixing the sewer burst in the bathrooms. Thus sure enough, most of us began to grow accustomed to the ordeal and have not been vocal on the issue.

Waiting 30 seconds isn't a big deal. After all, it forces

us to practice our patience and become more aware of the time passing. Yet, some bathrooms are more popular than others at certain times in the day, and heavy traffic can increase wait time to as long as 5 minutes, equivalent of passing period. Unclaimed broken stalls coupled with one or two available sinks limited the threshold of efficiency.

Perhaps the fixed locks only apply to the women's bathrooms; I don't know if the men's rooms have any issues that have yet to be resolved, but I'm glad the administration fixed a minor annoyance and reestablished efficiency in school bathroom use.

Addressing concerns, even small ones like the bathrooms, breed trust among the Amity students, Student Government, administration and

staff. It builds a dependable community atmosphere. In effect, students will appreciate the patches Administration has patched on the holes of the missing and broken.

If there's anything you'd like to see changed, make sure to tell a student government member or a student on the Principal's Committee.

The student body representatives will assist you and communicate to administration members who can find a solution. The Amity Student Government and Principal's Committee played major roles in bringing back student agenda pads and bringing forth lunch delicacies such as soup.

So don't get too hung over if another sink breaks--let student government know so they can "make it happen."

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Mr. Davis: An Inspiration Both On and Off the Court

by Amanda Hendrick '18

As Amity begins its last athletic season before summer break, many coaches have been recognized for their encouraging and inspiring leadership, be it on the field, in the pool, or on the track. Seth Davis is coach of the girls' volleyball team and one of Amity's AP Government and Politics teachers, making him one of the hardest working coaches at Amity who impacts students both on and off the court. He also is the faculty advisor of the National Honor Society, as well as the senior class advisor.

Davis led his players to victory in the volleyball team's outstanding 2016 fall season ending in 22-2, coached SCC championship winners against Cheshire, and the team soon became LL semi-finalists. Davis began his volleyball career in high school, and continued to play intramurals in college until finally becoming coach of the JV Amity boys team. He then went to Luralton Hall as head coach of their volleyball team for five years, before returning to Amity and leading the recent and unbelievable wins students and parents cannot seem to stop talking about. His message of teamwork and pushing the limits of players to achieve their goals has made a dramatic impact on the team, as well as the application of this message in his classroom.

Davis says, "It's not one of those sports where you have to rely on one individual at one time, it has to be a team sport the entire time."

His methods of coaching are grounded in the overall team ethic

and how close every player is with one another. The idea of motivating and helping each other through games and in practices is one of the reasons why the Amity girl's volleyball team is so successful.

Player Abby Harbinson '19 said, "Teamwork has always been one of our main goals on the team."

The impact of Davis' coaching



Mr. Davis with his SCC Championships Trophy. Photo by Amanda Hendrick '18.

was shown in their impressive win against Southington. With a massive comeback after being down 7-22 in the fourth set, the energy generated from the players along with the positive feedback and coaching by Davis dramatically affected the team's playing and boosted the passion and effort put into the game.

Player Hannah D'Arche, '20, said, "He really pushes us all to reach our limits and exceed them. He is very motivational and pushes us as a team."

Teamwork can not only be seen through the skill shown on the court,

but also in Davis' classroom, where he encourages students to work together to fully comprehend the material and review for the AP exam.

In addition to Davis' impact on Amity through his volleyball career, he also "coaches" his AP Government students with the same mindset. Davis says, "I think it is extremely important for kids to learn as young as possible, and I like teaching juniors because a lot of students are going to be starting to go into government, and it relates more to their real life now."

He also strongly encourages students to make sure to balance schoolwork and their various and often time consuming sports.

"School is first. You are not going to be an athlete for the rest of your life. You are going to be able to use school for the rest of your life," Davis said.

In the classroom, students are challenged by the extensive preparation needed for the AP exam and difficult topics, but are constantly reassured that through class discussions, projects, and presentations they will be fully prepared by the exam date.

His positive attitude and ability to create teamwork even in class is suggested by the performance of his students and athletes.

Harbinson said, "I think that personally he has given me the passion I have for this sport, and taught me that with hard work and practice that you can get really far."

By pursuing his passion both in athletics and academics and inspiring students to reach their goals, Davis is a powerful example of a determined and motivated teacher who positively impacts Amity student life.

Enjoy New Haven's Old-Styled Pizza

by Anthony Taddei '17

You know you're on Wooster Street in New Haven, CT when you're walking along cracked old sidewalks with the distinct "Little Italy" signs up and down the street. On this street, full of Classic Italian food and Pastries, Frank Pepe's Pizzeria stands out alone.

As you walk into Pepe's you smell the coal ovens along with the immense aromas of the pizzas. You hear the people in the kitchen screaming orders and telling customers which pizzas are ready.

You're in an old building straight from the 1920's. The owners have yet to modernize the old-fashioned décor because they want to bring the customers back in time. The original owner Frank Pepe knew the secret to a good pizza is in the ingredients. He wanted to keep it simple with fresh

produce and a hot coal oven.

Of all my pizza experiences, there is only one pizza that stands out among the rest---and that is the classic white clam pizza. The first time I ever went to Pepe's I was discouraged and not sure how I felt about it until my mom convinced me to try it. This was a decision that I will never forget. From the second I sunk my teeth into the piece I instantly tasted the garlic and oil base then on the back end I tasted the fresh clams.

I will admit that throughout my life I don't always eat the crust of the pizza, but for some reason, whenever I eat at Pepe's I feel obligated too. This habit of mine began at a young age when my I had started a pile of crust on the side of my plate. My mom then says, "you're missing the best part" and in my mind, I'm thinking, "what is she talking about", but I then take a bite and the flavor explodes

in my mouth. The crust was like no other. Filled with garlic and cheese, it forever changed my perspective on the underrated part of pizza.

For anyone planning on going to Pepe's for the first time there is one thing you should consider. Your standard for pizza will grow as a result. The second you experience classic Italian pizza in its best form you'll never look at your local pizza restaurant the same.

There is no recommended dress code besides anything you don't mind getting a little dirty. At Pepe's, the pizza has the tiny burnt remains of the many pizzas made before it and can make a mess no matter how hard you try to stay clean. But this just enhances the experience at a one of a kind restaurant.

The only problem I had with my experience at Pepe's was the long wait to get into the restaurant. The line wrapped all the way out of the building into the parking lot to the left of the restaurant. I felt taunted by the groups of people walking out with delicious pizza while I spent the next hour waiting in line. Besides this, my experience couldn't have been better.

I would have to rate my experience a 4.5/5 overall. The only thing holding Pepe's back from a 5/5 rating is how long it took for our pizza to be served. Given it was a packed restaurant with numerous parties, combined with the limited number of servers, I still think the food could have been served faster.

Even though this was a slight inconvenience, the quality of the food and restaurant atmosphere compensated for it. I would recommend anyone who is from Connecticut or just visiting to without a doubt stop and have some authentic pizza at Frank Pepe's Pizzeria.

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Haya Jarad's "BOLD" Science Research

by Jasmine Moon '17

The Junior Science and Humanities Symposium (JSHS) took place at the University of Connecticut Health Center

on Saturday, March 11, 2017. JSHS is a full-day symposium in which high school students from across the state are invited to present their scientific research.

Through-**Jarad speaks as an oral presenter at CT-JSHS. Photo by Deborah Day.** out the day, there were lectures, workshops, presentations, and scientific lab tours. It even proved to be an opportunity to make new friends.

Senior Haya Jarad said, "It was a really long day but really informative. Speaking to kids from other schools was fun."

This year, the keynote speaker was Julia Oh, Assistant Professor at the Jackson Laboratory, who spoke about the microbiome in human health.

Jarad was selected as an Oral Presenter at JSHS. Oral presenters are "deemed [to have] the most outstanding research projects." Jarad's project was

entitled, "Identifying Quasi Periodic Patterns in fmri Versus CBI Data," and she was mentored by Garth Thompson, a postdoctoral fellow in Radiology and Biomedical Imaging at Yale University.

In describing her research of running algorithms through MATLAB,

she says, "It will be my job to figure out what that entails as well as how to analyze the correlation between Blood Oxygen Level Dependent (BOLD) and Cerebral Blood Flow (CBF) Quasi Periodic Patterns (QPPs).

The purpose of comparing CBF and BOLD is to determine how reliable the algorithm is."

After all of the day's activities came to a close, the final event of the day was the awards ceremony. When the judges announced the winners, Jarad won third place oral presenter. Her project was selected out of a selective pool of 15 oral presenters.

"I was not expecting to place at all, but to was a lovely surprise," said Jarad. For winning third place, Jarad will have the opportunity to present her research in a poster competition at the National JSHS.

Tweets Bring Students and Superintendent Closer

by Qingli Hu '18

Dr. Charles Dumais, the Amity Superintendent, has been especially active on social media recently. There has been a string of conversations between Dr. Dumais and students at Amity, and these connections are bringing the superintendent and students closer on a more casual level.



Dr. Charles Dumais @charlesdumais

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10 replies 19 retweets 55 likes

Kyle Cassidento @K2mmel3 · Mar 14 @charlesdumais Time to Grnd 2K16

yaboifoul @KaoZ_Foul · Mar 14 @charlesdumais I frf meant

yaboifoul @KaoZ_Foul · Mar 14 @charlesdumais

yaboifoul @KaoZ_Foul · Mar 14 @charlesdumais Yoy merca

Emily @MantocchioEmily · Mar 14

The school-related posts on Dr. Dumais' Twitter account mostly document the daily happenings in Amity classrooms, with enthusiastic teachers doing activities with the students that result in passing along knowledge. His frequent posts about school activities suggests his investment and involvement in learning about Amity students by trips to classrooms. While these posts animate students, the ones that generate the most talk are about snow days.

I remember days in class where everyone talked about Dr. Dumais' replies to the students' comments, especially about snow days (since that is a topic of utmost importance). Besides this being a bit of a comedic story, it shows that Dr. Dumais, is pay-

ing attention to students' feedback and comments while directly addressing their concerns.

Conversation with the superintendent through social media was put on display a couple weeks ago, when Dr. Dumais was physically absent from the district, and he was still able to get to know some of the comments from students because of a somewhat-controversial non-snow day. Some

students asked, "How can he decide on whether we have a snow day if he's not even in Connecticut?"

To that, Dr. Dumais explained what goes into deciding for snow days and the school district's joined effort with the town and buses in ensuring the students' safety. There were also instances where Dr. Dumais directly "@s" students who ask him questions, and this interaction definitely takes off the facade of being the superintendent.

Just think, the superintendent of your school district tweets with your handle and tells you to "be safe" in a tweet. Students feel that our voice matters and is being seen by the decision-makers of the school; that's a pretty special moment of feeling acknowledged.

EMPATHY: THE

em·pa·thy ('empəTHē/): the ability to understand and share the feelings of another. At Amity Regional High School, March was designated as the “Month of Empathy.” What does empathy mean in the Amity community?

Empathy in Spartan Seminar

Spartan Seminar has focused on the everlasting concept of empathy in an effort to make the Amity community more aware of the problems occurring in our world. Each Seminar had the chance to choose a specific cause to support, brought about by different student organizations in the school. Jill LaPlante, director of counseling services, along with associate principal.

Monica Kreuzer, brainstormed with the Spartan Seminar Committee to connect the theme of empathy to the weekly Seminars. LaPlante says that they try to create activities that enforce the social and emotional learning of students.

She said, “My hope for Seminar in general is that students build a sense of community with their peers and facilitator.

This provides an opportunity for a student to get to know an adult in the building who he/she might not ever have as a teacher.”

After beginning the year with the “Make it Happen” themed activities, these empathy causes serve as a culminating way for students to come together as a community and contribute toward a meaningful cause.

The *Trident* asked the Amity community what empathy means to them. These are some of their responses.

Importance of Empathy in Today’s Society

What are some easy ways to express empathy?

Tara Mohseni ‘19: “Show appreciation towards your friends and spread good vibes.”

Hugh Potter ‘17: “Often times, I try to go out of my way to give a set number of compliments a day, because people really love that...So do this, before I walk up to someone, I think of all the things I REALLY appreciate about them and their character.”

Charlotte Gorham ‘17: “Little

things are the best things. Giving someone a hug, leaving an extra tip for your waitress, complimenting people on their personality instead of just their looks, are all great ways to make someone’s day!”

Danielle Grosso ‘19: “By trying to understand how people are feeling and acting accordingly—basically treating people how you would want to be treated in the situation.”

Sara Jadbabaie ‘17: “A good way to spread empathy is to make the active effort to listen. Often times we reply, we defend, we yell, and we don’t try to understand each other. I’m definitely guilty of it myself, but people want to share their ideas and feel valid. When you take the time to actually listen to someone, you can learn and relate. It allows you to put aside differences and connect in a special way.”

In today’s society, it’s so easy to develop a secluded mindset and not realize the busy world around us. By developing empathy, one becomes a more engaged citizen of the world. Not only have they developed the capabilities to understand others, but also can use their empathy to build better relationships and leave a bigger imprint of the world.

In our current political climate, it seems as if everyone is divided, be it due to their race, gender, political ideology, sexuality, or social class. Now,

more than ever, it is important to practice empathy so that we can achieve the unification that our nation needs in order to move forward.

“I think empathy is one of those important skills to have for life beyond high school.” Laplante said. To her, empathy is vital in today’s society because “to truly connect with other people and look beyond ourselves and share someone else’s feelings can make the world a better place.” In essence, empathy is the key to unlock a greater life for all.



A Look into the Specific Projects

This Tuesday, seven empathy projects were presented; individual Spartan Seminars could choose to advocate for one of the projects or instead develop their own project.

Two projects involve letter-writing: writing letters to children in the hospitals in the area or writing letters to servicemen and women.

Howard Ding (‘18) is one of the students who runs the Humans of Amity Facebook and Instagram pages, which, according to their Facebook page, aims to “showcase the diversity and opinions of Amity High School.” His work on this page was discussed, and Seminars could contribute to the page if they chose this project.

Nevia Selmon (‘18) described a project that would use

the leftover plastic bags from the jumbo ball project to make mats for homeless individuals. In addition, art teacher Liz. Smolinski offered the Memory Project, an artistic endeavor she has done in previous years.

Harrison Paek (‘18), along with approximately 90 other Amity students, put together their own empathy project presentation on the Syrian Crisis to inform others about the extremity of the problems occurring in Syria. To Paek, “empathy means self value to the extent that you should consider yourself as a valuable and contributing member of society. Being aware is important because, in this period especially, it’s important not to be myopic.”

More than 62 million girls do not attend school, and

juniors Ali Hagani, Ananya Kachru, and Nevia Selmon developed an empathy project focusing on combating this global issue. Their project is based on the United States government initiative, Let Girls Learn, which was first launched by President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama in March of 2015 before the Peace Corps took the project over.

“We decided to partner with the Peace Corps to primarily raise awareness within our local community,” said Kachru. “Educating people about the geopolitical turmoil in the region and informing them of ways they can get involved is important to the success of Let Girls Learn, and we are excited to do our best to help the initiative.”



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Sources:
<https://letgirlslearn.gov/>

THE AMITY WAY



Vera Ting '18: "Being able to relate to what someone is going through on a personal level"

Jack Tajmajer '20: "Sympathizing"

Jen Brechlin, History Department: "Compassion"

Joey Antaya '17: "Citizenship"

Kate Yuan '19: "Walking a mile in someone else's shoes!"

Chris McWilliams, Security Guard: "Sincere understanding!"

Conrad Li '17 and Deborah Demeo, Math Department: "To share a hug when a friend is sad"

Sandie Hill, Guidance: "Respect and consideration for others"

Arianna Pargen '19, Arielle Lavi '19, Emily Bretthauer '19: "Caring for people"

Hannah Rappaport '18: "Successful society"

Anna Mahon, Principal: "Empathy is the cornerstone of a strong community. Stronger together!"

Greg Shulman, Custodial Staff: "Understanding"

Daniel Chodos '17: "Understand how other people feel and act"

Ben Kemp '18: "I get it, bro..."

Annie Foley '18 and Arianne Lilley '18: "Understanding"

Maxine Collins '18: "Compassion"

Donna Antonellis, Food Service: "Treating everybody equal no matter what their differences are"

Emma Gilshanon '17: "Putting yourself in someone else's shoes, understanding someone else's pain, understand, compassion, feeling"

Lena Hildrich '20: "Putting yourself in someone else's shoes"

Rick Bourdeau, History Department: "Being able to understand where people are coming from"

Ray Tian '17: "The imaginative projection of a subjective state into an object so that the object appears to be infused with it, Source: Merriam-Webster Dictionary"

Susanna Liu '17: "Understanding"

Evelyn Luciani '17: "Being able to understand another's situation"

Hadiya Iftikhar '18 and Sakinah Abdul-Khaliq '18: "Empathy is putting yourself in the shoes of someone else to understand how they feel"

Peter Fuller, Tech Department: "Understanding the feelings of others"

Mike Ficaro '18, Jamie Blum '18, Harrison Silver '18, and Jared Smith '18: "Not being so quick to judge"

Rachel Christie '20: "Understanding other's stories"

Himay Dharani '17: "Empathy ≠ apathy"

Christian Allard, English Department: "Building community by sharing in someone else's emotional experience"

Kayla Meunier '20: "I am kind to my friends because it makes them feel good!"

Denise Clark, Administrative Assistant: "Kindness"

Alison Staak, School Counselor: "Having a kind heart"

Marian Boyns, School Counselor: "Putting yourself in someone else's shoes"

Grace Whitman '18: "Empathy is grace!"

Drawing Inspiration: The 1971 ‘Fiddler on the Roof’

by Tyler Jennes '17

As many of you know, Amity Creative Theater is currently putting on a production of the classic Broadway musical Fiddler on the Roof. With songs like To Life, Matchmaker, Sunrise, Sunset, and If I Were a Rich Man, this renowned show has been delighting audiences for over 50 years.

The timeless tale of Tevye the Dairyman and the other residents of Anatevka has seen countless adaptations over the years, but perhaps the most well-known of these is the 1971 film version by Canadian director Norman Jewison.

When Robert Kennedy and his wife/co-director, Andrea, were in the pre-production stages of the Amity production, this film adaptation was one of the key references used, both from an aesthetic as well as an acting perspective.

Topol, the Israeli actor who portrayed the main character of Tevye in the film, was a large influence on Amity student Eric Greenbaum, who was cast as the lead in the Amity production.

Here below are interviews conducted with Mr. and Mrs. Kennedy as well as Eric Greenbaum on Fiddler, the film adaptation, and how one has influenced the other.

Robert Kennedy (Producer & Co-Director)

How were you influenced by the 1971 Fiddler movie?

Well it's one of the reasons people love Fiddler on the Roof, because we've all seen the movie. It was one of the few really well done musical movies. Musicals that are made into a movie – they've been done before, but many of them aren't that great. This was truly a great version of it. I think I saw that movie before I ever saw a live musical, so I think that's one of the reasons I like it so much. It's one of the things I remember because it was filmed. A lot of times you didn't see the old musicals live, so to see the film version – and a really good film version,

at that – was great.

How did Topol's performance affect your direction of Tevye in the show?

I think that there's a couple ways to play Tevye. You have the original, Zero Mostel, who played it very comedically, and then there's Topol, who I think does have the comedic sense of it, but he also really

sings it. It just has a great energy – a sisterhood, that kind of connection and the aspiration of a future with something or someone. Every girl is born to have a big wedding – we all wait for it. It's our dream. So that song was something that connected with me as a youngster. Then as I got older, I think more about Sunrise, Sunset, especially now being a parent – waiting for those moments and seeing how quickly your kids do grow up. Any song that has anything about that kind of community feel has an impact on me personally, because I'm that kind of person. I'm into community, and I'm into family.

Eric Greenbaum (Tevye)

Eric Greenbaum (Tevye)

While researching for the role, did you look at scenes from the 1971 movie?

I saw the majority of Tevye's work. I've seen If I Were a Rich Man, I've seen To Life, and I've seen some other scenes. I haven't watched the movie throughout because it's a three hour-long trek and I'm not about to make that journey, but I think as soon as the production is over I'll probably watch all of it. But yeah, I've seen a good amount.

What about Topol's performance do you notice as someone who's playing Tevye?

He has this... I don't know what it is about his voice. It's like something in the back of the throat makes it all rustic-sounding. He just reminds me of a man who has worked all his life and he's just been through so much. I'm sure his hands are so calloused, and again, the way his voice just comes out. Then on the flip, he's like a very caring man who has wants and wishes, and the fact that Topol can bring that was pretty exhilarating for me to watch.

Were you aware that Topol didn't know English while making the movie?

I was, and it works very well for him because he has that accent. When you have an accent, when you grow up in that kind of area your whole life, you don't have the best grammar and it works perfectly.



Director Robert Kennedy. Photo by Howard Ding '18.

brings an authenticity with it – the European-ness of all of it.

Andrea Kennedy (Choreographer & Co-Director)

When you're doing a show like this, do you look to movies like Fiddler on the Roof (1971) for inspiration?

Sometimes I do look to the movie for inspiration. Sometimes I'll look at pictures or relationships – relationships between family members, the choreography and its styles. I'll use that as a reference.

How did the setting or visual style of the film inspire you?

The sunset – the skyline was very visually inspiring to Mr. Kennedy and I. The sunsets and the simplicity of everything – like how everything is just simpler – that's what we have happening on our stage as well. The color palette is a little blander. It's not colorful... except for the skyline. That's what's cool about it – what's illuminating their lives is the sun.

How did the songs in the film impact you when you first saw it?

I think Matchmaker was the one that I saw when I was younger, when I was a little kid and saw it for the first time. I wanted to be one of those sisters, and I did actually get to play Hodel (and Grandma Tzeitel), and I did get to sing Matchmaker on stage. It's a fun, catchy tune and a lot of young women love to

Pit Orchestra Prepares for Spring Musical

by Kate Yuan '19

Amity's pit orchestra is getting in gear to prepare for Fiddler on the Roof. The spring musical has featured

literally says “fiddler.” The strings section of the orchestra will carry a large portion of the music.

Senior Sara Jadbabaie will be playing first violin, first chair. All members of the orchestra have been very



Conductor Phil Dolan leads orchestra students through rehearsal. Photo by Howard Ding '18.

live music for years and it seems it will be a tradition to follow for many more to come. Unlike many other schools, Amity's pit orchestra is comprised of nearly all student musicians, normally with the exception of one or two professionals. This year, the orchestra is joined by Keith Smolinski, a science teacher from the Amity Middle School in Bethany, who plays the accordion.

The musicians perform under the conduction of band director Philip Dolan. The pit orchestra has been preparing for nearly four months now, and all the hard work that has been put into the production will be paid off at each showing.

This musical puts more emphasis on the music than several other productions have in the past, as the title

dedicated, with rehearsals ending very late at night. It is a huge commitment, but in the end, the result is priceless.

Rosie Du, sophomore and clarinet player, said, “Everyone in pit has been working hard (rep.) on the music. We just had Sitzprobe tonight, and we got through Act I really smoothly. We're all super excited for opening night next week!”

Sitzprobe, the first rehearsal with the cast and orchestra together, took place on March 21st and 22nd.

Often times, the orchestra goes unnoticed because it is the actors and actresses that are in the spotlight. However, the orchestra is an integral part of the spring musical every year, and neither the cast nor the orchestra can function without the other.

Q&A with Director Robert Kennedy

by Katie Handler '17

just depends on the show.

Q: How are rehearsals going?

A: They're going great! The cast has really embraced the material and its message. They love being together and working on the music.

Q: Would you say this year the musical is more technically challenging than previous years?

A: Not really. They are all unique and have a specific challenge to them. Tarzan had flying. Into the Woods had fairy tale characters. Grease had a car on stage. They are all equally challenging.

Q: How many tickets have been sold?

A: We are almost sold out for the opening weekend and about 90% sold out for the second weekend. We are on track to completely sell out. (We hope!)

Q: How do sales this year compare to last year's?

A: They are up from last year, as this is a very well-known play and has a larger cast. This is our third best seller of all time after Legally Blonde and Tarzan.

Q: What has been the most enjoyable part about directing Fiddler?

A: This is my fifth production of Fiddler. It's still my favorite musical. I love that each production has been completely unique. I always find something new within the play. I also love that in this play's DNA is that it is a musical about family. Every time I have worked on it, the cast has become very close. That is most certainly the case with this production.

This year's spring musical is Fiddler on the Roof. Opening night is March 31st, followed by additional evening performances on April 1st, 6th, 7th, and 8th. Following is an interview with the show's director, Robert Kennedy.

Q: When and why did you choose to do Fiddler on the Roof for the school musical this year?

A: July of last summer, it never really ends for me! I was listening to NPR and there was a story about the Syrian refugee crisis. One of the quotes in the story stated that one out of every 200 children in the world is considered a refugee. That really hit home with me. I immediately thought of Fiddler. It is a musical comedy about a family, but it is ultimately a story about refugees. Plus, in my opinion, it's one of the most perfectly written musicals: smart, funny and really memorable music.

Q: What was the audition process like?

A: We had about 80 or so students audition. Each student sang a song and learned a dance. Then some of the students were asked to come an additional night to read from the script and sing specific songs. The next day, we posted the cast list.

Q: The cast is bigger than previous years, right?

A: No, we have had casts this size before. Grease, Les Mis, In the Heights: all had casts this large. It



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Meet the Fiddler

by Rosie Du'19



Photo by an Amity parent.

Amity Theater Department describes Fiddler on the Roof as a

story of family: of “fathers and daughters, husbands and wives, and life, love and laughter.”

Senior Joyce Lin, who is a part of the cast, said, “I think the most important part of this musical is that it tells a timeless story of struggles that are still very present in our time. The people of Anatevka are forced to leave and move on from their home and that’s still happening with the refugee crisis and events going on the Middle East. So, despite Fiddler on the Roof being very old, its story is still very relevant in our modern times.”

Lin plays one of the main roles, the Fiddler. She said, “I think in the show, the Fiddler is a symbol of the struggles that the villagers of Anatevka have to face. Tevye, the main char-

acter, often compares life in the village to a fiddler balancing on a rooftop.”

Lin is also the dance captain, so she helps choreograph some of the dances and subsequently helps teach them to members of the cast.

When asked about how she likes her roles in the musical, Lin replied, “What I love about being the Fiddler is that it gave me another reason to start learning how to actually play the violin. I’m not playing in the actual show, but I’ve had to learn the basics to be able to mimic the movement and fiddle-sync.”

However, Lin said, “I have to wear a beard and a wig, and I know that after the show ends, I will never want spirit gum or silicon adhesive anywhere near me again.”

Meet the Builders

by Josh Crow '17

The Theater Department has been working tirelessly for weeks in an effort to assemble all the pieces necessary to put on a production of Fiddler on the Roof, coordinating the efforts of multiple departments to bring together another performance. While

involved in some way, and I thought doing props would be a good way to do that.”

Frieden works alongside sophomore Avital Sutin to create and maintain the musical’s

staffing the department have those in spades.

Frieden commented on this process, explaining, “Avital and I have to find or make props for the musical from a list of things

we need, so we have gotten donations from parents and gone to goodwill and made other things - Avital



Pieces of the set are created by students and parents. Photos by Howard Ding '18.

most people are familiar with the more visible aspects of the production, one aspect that deserves an equal amount of praise is the work on set design and props.

Elizabeth Frieden, a junior responsible for some of the props, explains how she got involved in this aspect of the production, saying, “I decided to work on the musical because I’ve heard so much about it every year and wanted to get

set and props, which, this year, have a rustic theme that corresponds with the setting of the show.

It is a difficult job, one that requires a great deal of ingenuity and creative thinking, but fortunately, both of the students

made a Torah that looks really realistic.” Frieden is able to enjoy the process, stating that she “[likes] being in the atmosphere and making stuff.”

While she and Sutin have faced some minor obstacles, including certain props breaking, their craftiness and resourcefulness has allowed the rest of the production to thrive.

Meet the Stage Manager

by Courtney Greifenberger '18



Photo by Howard Ding '18.

From a young age, Amity senior Jacob Okolo knew he held a passion for theater. His first interaction with the Amity theater program occurred in eighth grade when he worked both in the cast and crew of the Amity Middle School- Orange play. This marked the beginning of Okolo’s future in the stage crew for the next 8 productions at Amity.

As a freshman, Okolo chose to take the technical path in theater. He enrolled in both Intro to Tech Theater and Advanced Tech Theater. With this plethora of knowledge secured, it is no surprise that Okolo was chosen to be assistant manager of stage crew as early as his sophomore

year. His final year of high school, Okolo has taken on the role as stage manager for Our Town and the upcoming Fiddler on the Roof. He works alongside his assistant stage managers Jillian Gusciora and Sophie Clemens.

So what exactly is the responsibility of the stage manager? First and foremost, a common misconception of the stage manager’s role is that they are in charge of solely the stage crew. However, Okolo is actually responsible for both the stage crew and the actors in the production.

He must ensure that all cast members are attending rehearsal and maintaining a level of professionalism on set. During rehearsals, Okolo must record all blocking, or paths of movement, for cast members, as well as show new members the ropes. The leadership and independence Okolo must take in order to create a successful production is very unique to his role as stage manager.

When asked to describe his learning process, Okolo confidently responded, “I’m always still learning.” With a role as broad and important as his, Okolo is in a constant state of both taking in and distributing knowledge to others. Evidently, his joy in making this contribution to such a large department is boundless.

Meet the Designer

by Sana Pashankar '19



Photo by Brenda Burt.

in the costume process, like Julie Chevan and Brenda Burt.

When asked about the importance of costumes in the musical, Gibbons-Morales answered “Costumes give the audience a better idea of who the character is and a little bit about their personality. But they also help the actors get into the character and act a little different once they are in their clothes and shoes...Once they put on the clothes, everything transforms.”

When questioned about creative leeway when working to design the costumes, Gibbons-Morales explained that though teachers conduct most of the designing, students are able to voice their opinions about smaller details within the costumes, such as fabric choices and specific design components.

In consideration of the costumes for Fiddler, Gibbons-Morales explains the prevalence of neutral colors for dresses, aprons, and pants in comparison to some of the most glamorous costumes of the past, which included glitter, ball gowns, and bright colors.

Despite this, however, she says, “There definitely are some standout costumes and fun things to make, like all the costumes for the dream sequence... It’s not a super exciting color pallet, but I actually really like a lot of the fabrics we’ve worked with. It’s still super fun and I’ve learned a lot.”

Providing the production with costumes that not only allow the actors to mold into their characters, but also match the vision of the iconic musical, is not an easy task, but has been enjoyable for members of the crew like Gibbons-Morales.

These past few months, the arts department has been working tirelessly to prepare for the upcoming production of Fiddler on the Roof for the spring musical this year, which takes place on March 31st, April 1st, 6th, 7th, and 8th. However, not only are those in the spotlight essential to this production, but those behind-the-scenes, groups like the pit orchestra and the crew, toil away from the audience’s eye to form the backbone of this show.

The costume crew, specifically, works to design, create, and fit costumes that allows the actors and actresses on the stage to genuinely become their characters.

Bianca Gibbons-Morales, an Amity senior, heads the costume crew, which entails assisting students with making costumes, providing students with certain jobs, and ensuring that everyone is working accurately and efficiently. Additionally, Gibbons-Morales works closely with teachers that are involved

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Interview with Amity Baseball Team's Captain Max Scheps

by Anthony Tom '19

As one of the captains of the #49 nationally ranked Amity Baseball team, Max Scheps has a lot of weight on his shoulders. The Trident's Anthony Tom sat down with Scheps to better understand the life of an elite high school baseball player.

Anthony: When did you first want to be a captain?

Max: Actually, I never thought of myself as a captain. The leadership position just kind of came onto me as I started playing and everyone saw me as a captain. When it came time for voting everyone just voted me as captain.

Anthony: Did you play baseball all four years at Amity?

Max: I played middle school and when I came here I played JV as a freshman and then varsity as a sophomore; then I got to start as a junior.

Anthony: What positions do you play?

Max: I am a third baseman and then I will pitch when I am not playing.

Anthony: Were you on the team when they won their state

fifth in a row, correct?

Max: Yeah, it will be our five-peat.

Anthony: Have you been contacted for any college recruitment?

Max: I have been recruited by West Point to play baseball there and I have already committed to going there.

Anthony: Congratulations! Is there anything special about baseball to you?

Max: I have just really loved it. It was the first sport I truly enjoyed playing and I have stuck with it.

Anthony: Is there any advice to anyone coming up to play baseball at Amity?

Max: As a freshman, I would say to really work hard. It is really tough to make the team and if you want a starting position you have to work hard.

Anthony: Anything else you would like to say about the sport to get people involved?

Max: It is all about how you want it. But, it is a really fun sport and a real team sport. So if you're into team sports and not all for yourself it is a really good sport.



Max Scheps '17 in action. Picture by Orange Live

championships?

Max: I was on the team for my sophomore and junior years so I have two rings. I was not there freshman year and do not have a freshman ring.

Anthony: Do you have any plans for another championship?

Max: Yeah, we have been working really hard in the gym and [on] the field. Well, not the field yet because of all the snow, [so] we are not able to get out there, but we will be soon.

Anthony: That will be your

Amity Boys Volleyball Ready for Big Season

by Matt Hill '17

The Amity Boys Volleyball Team struggled during their season last year finishing

Toto who assumed the title of head coach last year. All these factors have combined to give the team a sense of optimism and excitement.

When asked about his



Amity Boys Volleyball Team during the 2016 season. Photo from WABN: Reel News Video

3-16 and fifth out of five teams in the SCC Tournament. They are looking for greater success this year. Several factors may contribute to their success: they lost very few seniors to graduation, this season's returning key players are Connor Watson '17 and Ari Kaufman-Frankel '17, and many players have been training in the off-season in preparation for this year. Furthermore, this is their second year under Coach Lisa

hopes for the upcoming season, captain Ari Kaufman-Frankel responded, "I think we have the potential to shock both the SCC and the state this season. Nobody is expecting anything from us after our performance last season." He explained that the athletes "have a desire to win and have been working hard to get on a championship level of play." The team's official season will begin on April 1st against Kolbe Cathedral.



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Captains' Practices Whip Spartan Athletes into Shape

by Jacob Gross '18

Every sports team at Amity is judged for its performance during the season. They can be seen as dominant, frequently coming out on top of other schools in the division, or as inferior, seeming to lack the cohesiveness and skills required to pull ahead.

Obviously, a large factor in a team's success is how it practices in between competitive events. Something equally important, yet not as noticeable, is a team's pre-season preparation.

Most—if not all—of the many sports teams at Amity have some form of captain's practice or workout session before the season begins. These condition the team's members to get in-shape in

order to have a head start at the season's onset.

The way teams prepare for their seasons differs across the selection of spring sports. The distance runners of both genders' outdoor track teams call their pre-season prep "captain's practice."

Here, roughly a third of the team's runners congregate daily after school. These practices are very similar to what transpires during the regular season: the athletes stretch, complete drills and warm-ups, and then go on a run.

Led by the veterans and captain or captains of the team, no coach is present during these practices, inspiring a more casual atmosphere.

The Amity Boys Volleyball and Baseball Teams

have a somewhat different layout. Starting in the late fall, the baseball team meets three times a week in the weight room to train, with an optional hitting practice every Sunday. Coaches sometimes supervise the lifting, but the format of Sunday practices is left up to the athletes.

Volleyball, too, enjoys pre-season weight room time, but meets much more infrequently. Unlike the baseball team, volleyball players don't do drills or hone their skills; instead, they focus on getting as fit as possible before the season commences.

No matter what sport, the athletes' actions before the season are every bit as important as those during. Amity hopes to see the fruits of their teams' labor pay off this spring.

Amity Unified Sports Continue to Shine

by Jordan Conn '18

The Amity Unified Sports Program is having a fantastic year. With the help from student partners, the athletes have already learned the basic skills of soccer and basketball, and will learn volleyball skills this spring.

They practice their skills against each other, and then have tournament games with other schools. In the fall, Amity hosted a soccer tournament, in which the athletes competed against schools, including West Haven, Hand, and other schools in the area.

The program would not be as successful as it is without the help from the student helpers. They teach them the

sports skills, guide them, and cheer for them. Senior Nick Reis said, "Our main goal is to just make sure that the kids are having a good time. It is rewarding to see how much fun they are having and the smiles on their faces."

But, it does not matter

This winter, the athletes played basketball. At practices, they stretched and warmed up and did shoot-arounds, in which the athletes lined up and shot while the student partners got rebounds for them. They had two tournaments against the Amity Orange Middle

School Team. The partners got rebounds for the athletes and cheered them on, while guiding them and giving them helpful tips.

The athletes

have enjoyed practicing and competing using their newly

acclaimed skills in the tournaments. They also create strong relationships with many other students. Bella Pucillo '20, a member of Unified, summed up the true meaning of the program: "We are all friends."

how skilled the athletes are. Reis said, "I think Unified does a great job creating a community at Amity where everyone feels loved and accepted regardless of any limitations, and I think that is really important."



Amity Unified Team. Photo from the Amity Unified Twitter Page

A Preview of the Amity Tennis Teams

by Nick Ricciardi '20

This spring season is set to be quite an exciting one for both the Amity Boys and Girls Tennis Teams. The Girls Tennis Team won the SCC Championship Tournament last year and made it to the Semifinals in the State Championship, where they lost 3-4 to Greenwich. The team hopes to win SCC's again and go farther in the State Championship. This feat—although demanding—seems attainable due to strong leadership from cap-

the 2016 SCC championship and the Class LL State Championship. With many key players having graduated, this season, however, is going to be a challenge. Only four starters will return from last season.

When asked how the team will do this year, Marco Delsanto ('18) answered, "I think we have a shot to be able to win SCCs. We have one of our youngest teams this year, but what we lack in experience, we make up for in hard work, determination, and heart."



Amity Girls Tennis Team celebrating after a win. Photo by an AGT parent

tain Rachel Einbinder ('17), Hayley Grande ('17), Daphne Kreiger ('17), and Alekya Menta ('17). The five starters are returning from last year will surely help guide the team to success.

Currently, the team has been practicing indoors at Oak Lane due to the accumulated snow on Amity's outdoor courts. Sarah Bullers ('19) stated that although it's been hard because of the large team and limited number of courts, they have "been doing amazing at practice... and are in the process of creating an amazing lineup."

Bullers continued that she is excited to "hopefully win another SCC's" and make new friends because as she said, "the team became my second family. We always support each other and we have created a bond through tennis." This connection may be one of the reasons for the team's success.

For captain Alekya Menta ('17), her final season on the team is rather bitter-sweet: "I am personally most excited to see the team work together and spend my last few months of high school with this amazing and talented group of girls!" The Boys Tennis Team is coming off of an 18-2 season last year, placing 2nd in both

Daniel Hand's tennis team narrowly defeated Amity in the SCC Championship last year. Amity is coming back this year with hopes of defeating rival Hand and reclaim the SCC title. This mainly untried, but determined team is lead by captains Zach Simon ('17), Alex Friedman ('17), Adam Velardi ('17), and Robbie Kropel ('17). However young, Amity has been ambitiously unofficially seeded 3rd in the SCC by the coaches.

"Basically the goal of our season is to overachieve everyone's expectations of us," says Delsanto. Varsity vacancies allow for the players that didn't get a starting opportunity last year to show they deserve a starting spot this year. This will allow the team to grow talent and experience in players that haven't gotten to start, and become stronger over time. It is key the Spartans find success during this transitional season, with a young team.

The first regular season match is at Cheshire on April 3. Amity seeks to enter and win the SCC Championship Tournament once again. This season will surely test the inexperienced Amity Boys Tennis Team, but with teamwork and resolve, they have the ability to come out on top.

Contact the *Trident* with questions, corrections, or editorials at:

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New Printers Bring New Dynamic to Entertainment Industry

by James He '17

With the installation of the new printers, the me-

all over the world, and has privately performed at the request of renowned world leaders. Lauded as a five-star group, the Skywalkers will certainly startle anyone seek-

on the amount of pressure exerted on the canvas. With their creation, the group has produced beautiful renditions of famous pieces of art, such as Leonardo da Vinci's "Mona



Members of the Daring Devils showcase their melodic harp skills.

dia center has officially been designated the most popular destination in the school, as hordes of students and staff are often seen impatiently waiting for their chance to print. Unsettled by the sight, the school administration searched for a way to resolve the issue, and has been completely swamped from job interviews, phone calls, and research.

After extensive deliberation, Amity has officially announced the hiring of five different entertainment groups, one for each day of the week. While students and staff will still be forced to wait to print, the new array of performers will help to make the process smooth, painless, and perhaps even fun!

On Mondays, the band, the Daring Devils, is scheduled to provide live music. Contrary to their bold name, the Devils is a classical group composed of three harpists, each a graduate of the esteemed Juilliard School of Music.

Following them, the Sketchy Skywalkers will hope to amaze their audiences with high-flying acrobatics, fire dancing, and, of course, the classic act of juggling. This famous circus group has toured



Sketchy Skywalkers amaze audiences as they fly high above the Media Center.

ing to print their last-minute English papers.

Seeking to inspire others, the Ink Innovators will showcase a revolutionary form of artwork. The four trailblazers

Lisa" and Vincent Van Gogh's "The Starry Night."

On Thursdays, comedian Joe Tunnel will perform his stand-up routine, which many critics have praised as "revo-



Above: Van Gogh's original work "The Starry Night." Below: Ink Innovators' rendition of the famous piece.

had experimented with different carbon composites in college, and serendipitously stumbled upon a formula for ink that can change colors based

lutionizing comedy." Even if you don't get a chance to print, you'll at least get a laugh from Tunnel's jokes.

To top it all off, Cinemagic will dazzle the school with live, interactive movie productions. The unconventional group of cinematographers can create new films on the spot, based completely off of the audience's desires. Within each mini-movie, everyone gets a chance for their ideas to come to life in a Cinemagic production.

Although a risky venture, the hiring of these five entertainment groups appears promising, as the opening showing of the Daring Devils is set to premiere next Monday. Soon enough, everyone will want to take a trip to the media center, all thanks to the new printers.

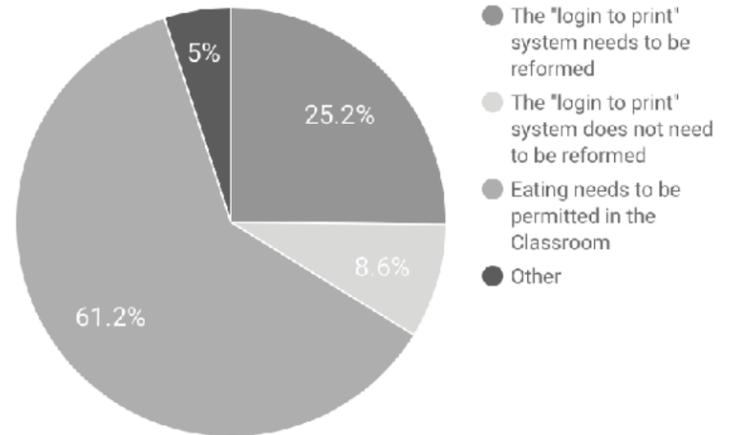
Printing Backwards Causes Drama in the Media Center

by Ben Sauberman '18

Amid escalating student tensions over the new difficult printing system in the library, one anonymous hacker decided to take matters into their own hands. At 7:29, just after the first bell rang out at Amity on

with mixed opinions. In the halls, students yelled "free our printers" and "down with the login system" while members of the art department hung up long banners encouraging students to petition the library. Meanwhile, a small crowd of 15 students claiming to be "Amity's silent majority" congregated in front of the trophy

Amity's Most Pressing Issues



Thursday, March 23, a line of students began to form near the "QuickPrint" computers. All determined to avoid a tardy for their first period, about ten students were irritated to learn that both Media Center printers were only printing text backwards. Murmurs rippled through the small crowd, and an administrator sprinted to the printing station to resolve the incident. Determining the problem could not be fixed within the five minute passing period, she cleared all of the students out of the library.

After a thorough examination, Chris Farmington, head of the technology department, declared that the media center had been victim of a cyber-attack. The administrator then closed the media center for both second and third period.

At 10:43 Farmington deemed the library safe to open, in time for fourth period, despite not being able to correct the damage of the hacking. Farmington revealed that he had initially suspected that the new "login to print" system in the media center had caused the printer to malfunction.

On Twitter, infamous Amity hacking group, @amitysparta300, confirmed what many already believed, claiming responsibility for the hack. Chaos on social media ensued as the administrator put her twitter fingers to work, tweeting "@amitysparta300 is a truly horrible organization that is past its prime. Sad!" In response, the hackers tweeted "@thereal-nuscom today the library saw justice! We will fix the printers when you get rid of the login system! #freeourprinters" The two parties traded barbs as the day went on.

The cyber-attack proved to be the precisely the provocation the hackers hoped it would be. The student body reacted

case holding a rally to support the media center. Waving signs with backward printed text, they declared support for the media center. Some students walked the halls, seemingly indifferent. One of these students Kasey Borinbaum ('19) told the Trident "I mean... I really wish it was easier to print, but why did they make it harder to print? Like they could have just hacked it so there was no more login."

Another exasperated student, James Florryington ('17) shaking his head, grumbled, "Honestly, I'm pretty ticked. I didn't really hear about this (library printer controversy) so I printed a pretty big English paper during lunch and didn't really check it. Long story short, my teacher is gonna be confused when she has to grade a paper with backwards printed text."

Looking to calculate the climate at Amity on Thursday, The Trident surveyed 140 students. While more students felt that the most pressing issue at Amity was the need to reform the "login to print" system than those who didn't, the overwhelming majority of those polled felt that students should be permitted to eat in the classroom.

The Amity Administration declined to comment on whether or not they would be investigating Thursday's events, but Farmington asserted that the hack "was the most serious threat to the Amity library in recent memory, and [he] intend[s] to pursue a personal investigation of the attack if [he] feel[s] that the administration does an insufficient job."

When the final bell rang out at 2:18, both library printers remained incapacitated, and the hackers rode the school bus home, victorious.

NSA Collects Printing Data as an Indicator of Criminal Activity

by Suvasini Balaji '17

Whenever you enter your login details or your student ID onto one of the school printers, you are being watched – and not just by the media center supervisors or the students waiting in the perpetual line behind you. It turns out that “FOLLOW ME Student” implies exactly what it sounds like: through the new printers at Amity, the National Security Agency can track your every move.

Recent studies have shown that printing habits are strongly correlated with criminal tendencies. Logically, this makes sense; those who are apathetic enough to waste stack after stack of paper at the expense of the environment are just as likely to be callous towards the law. Since these findings have evolved, the NSA has used the Patriot Act to tap into “Follow Me” printing programs around the country

and elicit data on individuals’ printing behavior.

This breach of privacy has worried students and faculty alike. “All I want in life is food on my plate, a secure job with a solid income capable of supporting a family, a trophy wife, and the

despite such expressions of approval for the NSA’s more invasive programs, a significant concern is the precedent that they will set. Today’s students and faculty may have merely their printing habits monitored, but what will tomorrow’s high school community be

audited for? Next thing we know, bathroom stalls could have “Follow Me” monitors that record the quantity and quality of our excrement. Or perhaps even our phones will be tapped into.

The unease surrounding the topic is not just motivated by hypotheticals. Recently, Winifred Summers,



ability to print in peace,” explains Marvin Hall, a freshman who is stressed that the lack of privacy while printing will interfere with his long-term goals.

Meanwhile, others admire the NSA’s dedication to eliminating national threats. “I am happy to sacrifice my printing privacy if it means that even just one more criminal is caught. We need to crack down on terrorism, and amassing data on paper-usage is the perfect way to do it,” says senior Alan Smith. However,

a student of the Science Research Program at Amity, was detained for questioning by mysterious black-suited officials after printing multiple 20-page journal articles within a single period. Though Summers claims it was for an “assignment,” the officials seem convinced that she has a personal vendetta against the school and the country. Little has been heard from or about Summers since her detainment, and the black-suited officials have refused to comment publicly on the issue.

Amity Hires New Detectives and Counselors

by Conrad Li '17

In an effort to reduce paper usage and be economically efficient, the Amity Administration purchased entirely new printing systems to replace the older, yet fully functioning, printers. Unlike the old printers, these new printers have hundreds of

where they printed in school, dozens of students could not turn in their homework on time, leading to myriad of zeroes in PowerSchool and many traumatized students agonizing over their grades. Senior Fey Ling Skool reports, “Before these new printers, I had straight As in all my classes. Now I have a C in Psychology and a D in



options and require a personal login before they are willing to perform their singular duty: to print. A freshman, Fake News, claims, “It’s nice to have more printing options and I guess logins prevent people from leaving their papers, so it probably does help the school save money.”

Intrigued by Fake News’ hypothesis, The Strident decided to conduct a thorough investigation on the matter. After weeks of research and investigation, the findings were decisive. Just as Fake News’ name suggests, his claim was also fake news.

Often, students printing in the media center were unable to find their work in the printer they supposedly printed to. Thus, Amity hired two local detectives, Lostin Print and Job Holding, in hopes of solving the mystery of the lost work. After thousands of dollars and a month of following the paper trail, Print and Holding found hundreds of documents waiting to be released from hold on a secluded printer under the biology wing. Holding says, “I have solved hundreds of cases, but this was the hardest by far! How students manage to find anything they print is beyond me.”

Moreover, in addition to the nine current school counselors, the Administration had to hire nine grief and trauma counselors. Unable to print at home or find

English because I couldn’t turn in my homework!” Even with an additional nine counselors, lines to speak to them stretched from the guidance office to the



PowerSchool, Amity students’ favorite app, is now the enemy of most

end of the hallway. With tears streaking down their faces, some students wait outside for hours as they stare at the bloodred D which replaced the A that once proudly showcased itself in PowerSchool.

While it may be true that slightly less unclaimed papers clutter the “Found in Printer” basket, was it truly worth the cost? Detectives had to be hired. Students are unable to turn in homework on time. Counselors are working around the clock consoling sobbing students. To save a little paper, it cost thousands of dollars and a lifetime’s worth of emotional trauma for many students.

The Strident: making Amity laugh for decades. That’s all for today, folks.

**It loves to Print,
It loves to Copy.
It loves everything
It’s always Hungry!**

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