# REGISTER FORUM

Established 1891

VOL. 128, NO. 4

CAMBRIDGE RINDGE AND LATIN SCHOOL

DECEMBER 2015

# 2015-16 Glocal Winners Chosen

By Cameron Lane-Flehinger Register Forum Editor

The finals of the fourth-annual Glocal Challenge were held on December 10th at Education First's Cambridge headquarters near Kendall Square. Two groups, Team A.H.E.E.P., and Power Saviors, earned trips to Iceland to participate in the Global Student Leaders Summit in March.

Said junior Olivia Mariscal: "We saw [the participants] work through this long strenuous process and they put a lot of their blood and sweat into it but eventually they prevailed and now they're going to Iceland."

Students were tasked with "proposing ideas to reduce municipal and/or residential building energy use in the City of Cambridge significantly by 2017." For the first time in the challenge's four-year history, neither winning team's proposal included roof gardens.



Five finalist groups and two winning groups were named on Thursday, December 10 for the fourth annual Glocal challenge. Photo Credit: Cameron Lane-Flehinger

This year's competition included a new twist: in addition to the two teams travelling to Iceland, the top five teams all received \$2,000 in seed money to help facilitate their climate solutions, and paid summer internships from the City of Cambridge.

City Manager Richard Rossi discussed the possibility of expanding the City's financial commitment even further, saying "this year we're sending two teams, maybe next year we can send three or four or five."

In only four years, Glocal has

established itself as a significant part of the CRLS community and provided important experiences for numerous students. Observed Principal Damon Smith: "This project helps students develop the skills and sensibilities that will help them after graduation."

# Alumni Celebrate Past, Look to Future

By Liam Greenwell Register Forum Editor

On November 23, the Rindge Alumni Association celebrated its 120th an-

nual dinner with an award ceremony, a good meal, and "lots of hugs." Ray Ciccolo, President of the Village Automotive Group, won the Man of the Year Award.

The Rindge Alumni Association is the oldest continuous country, and includes from RSTA Director Mr. Ananis. those who attended the

all-boys Rindge Tech up to its combination with Cambridge High and Latin in 1978. The group is headed by Executive Secretary Ted Darling, who is the "main reason the Rindge Association still exists," according to CRLS Varsity Golf coach and Rindge Tech grad Joe Pagliaro.

Mike Ananis, Executive Director of RSTA, said



alumni group in the Rafael Pereira accepts his RSTA student award

Photo Credit: Rich Morgan Photography

that the current technical arts curriculum "continues the [Rindge Tech] tradition of good quality education." Referring to the dinner, he continued, "This kind of [gathering] doesn't happen enough. It is a connecting of people" who love their class and their school.

Charles Singleton '62 is one such alumnus. A superintendent near Wash-

ington, DC, Singleton flew up to Boston to reconnect with old friends, some of whom were receiving awards. While at Rindge, he ran track, where "there was a good bit of rivalry with Cambridge Latin."

"Rindge gave me a base to work from," he says, and

taught him how to be a "good team member."

Current **RSTA** Rafael Pereira students

Continued on page 5

# Bay State Schools Shine

By Sophie Harrington Register Forum Contributor

In the fall of 2012, sixty-five nations, inclusive of several U.S. states, participated in the global student achievement exam PISA (The Program for International Student Assessment) administered to 15 year-olds across the world. Massachusetts was one of the participants and did remarkably well.

One possible reason for this success, according to CRLS senior Emily Olick-Llano, is that "Massachusetts is wealthy [compared to other states] which gives students good resources to help them succeed."

As a nation, the U.S. scored 481 points on the mathematics section, thirteen points lower than the international average, but Massachusetts scored 514, placing the state at a number nine ranking according to the Boston Globe. Approximately 1,700 students from 49 public schools across the state were selected to participate.

In reading proficiency, the state placed fourth in the world, not far behind Finland. Without knowing how the state placed during the exam, CRLS sophomore Miles Damon stated: "I would undoubtedly rank students Massachusetts among the most able and intelligent as a result of the

Continued on page 4

# INSIDE THIS EDITION

### **BOTTLE UP**



Around School, p. 4

### **ASL TEACHER**

this month's Teacher Spotlight we discuss inspiration with the new ASL teacher, Mr. Hochkeppel.

Around School, p. 5

### **TOP 5 ALBUMS**



A&E, p. 8

### **CLIMATE SUMMIT**

World leaders convened in Paris for major talks. What is CRLS doing to counteract climate change?

World, p. 9

### **FENCING**



Sports, p. 11

### REGISTER FORUM

Cambridge Rindge and Latin School
459 Broadway, Cambridge, MA 02138
twitter: @registerforum
instagram: @registerforum
bit.ly/crlsrf
crlsregisterforum@gmail.com

**Editor-in-Chief** Tomek Maciak '16

#### Editors

Adrienne Ashe '17 Cameron Lane-Flehinger '16 Rafael Goldstein '17 Liam Greenwell '16 Diego Lasarte '17 Sophia Nikolayev '16 Lucas Raagas '16

#### **Contributors**

Fredrika Åkerman '18 Lizzie Downing '16 Emma Harris '17 Sophie Harrington '18 Christo Hays '17 Claire Healy '17 Klara Ingersoll '16 Will MacArthur '16 Rosa Munson-Blatt '17 Ursula Murray-Bozeman '17 Ashley Nicole '16 Paloma O'Connor '16 Grace Ramsdell '18 Shuvom Sadhuka '18 Stella Sieniewicz '16 Liam Simons '17 Will Telingator '17 Maddalena Tridenti '16 Daniel Walsh '16 Tre'von Busby White '17 Stella Yeung '16

Faculty Advisor
Steven Matteo

Established in 1891 as the C.M.T.S Register

"Listening to every voice, printing what you need to hear"

# The Smoking Gun in Teens' Health

By
Ashley Nicole
Register Forum
Contributor

More than a fifth of American teens (grades 9-12) smoke or use tobacco in some way, according to the Center for Disease Control (CDC). Starting in their pre-teen years up until adulthood, teens are taking up this deadly trend, ignoring the permanent and often preventable affects it has on their health.

Despite hundreds of studies, scientists and doctors are still boggled about

why teens are continuing this habit. When asked, senior Maggie Joachim said she believes "teens are smoking

because of peer pressure."

It is no secret that friends influence the decisions teens make, which calls to mind the question of what high school students think is "cool" and what is not. "For us [freshmen], we're starting high school, [and] it's a completely different community. We want to fit in and be with the popular crowd. If we see the 'cool kids' smoking, then we'll think, 'Hey they're doing it, maybe if I do it too they'll think I'm cool,"" explained Madison Smith, a freshman.

Despite their supposed purpose as a relaxant, cigarettes have been linked to causing deep psychological damage, such as panic attacks, anxiety disorders, depression, and cancer.

The question then becomes whether or not teens truly know the effects of smoking. Jada Alexis, a senior, says, "Ignorance isn't bliss in this situation. There's no way someone can't know the negative effects smoking can bring. It adds more stress to your body. Why would anyone knowingly participate in

'[Smoking] is the worst choice a person could make."

that? But I guess everyone is entitled to their own way of living."

It is a known fact that cigarettes remain the leading preventable cause of diseases and death in the United States, causing more than 480,00 deaths a year.

If steps are not made to drop the rate of teen smoking, 5.6 million adolescents currently aged 17 and younger will die young from smoke-related diseases. Early onset smoking has also been linked to the usage of other narcotics in the future. According to the Surgeon General, teenagers who smoke are three times more likely to use alcohol, eight times more likely to smoke marijuana, and twenty-two times more likely to use cocaine.

Dr. Len Horovitz, a pulmonary specialist at Lenox Hill Hospital, states that with the substantial facts surrounding the dangers of smoking, any teen taking on this habit is making by far "the worst choice a person could make."

Revelations such as these have motivated state officials to implement strict

> anti-tobacco movements.

States with the lowest rates of tobacco use among adolescents, ac-

cording to recent studies, are those that have strong tobacco-free environments.

Actions such as increasing the cigarette tax and promoting anti-tobacco campaigns are set in hopes of deterring teens from the habit.

There are great steps also being made towards the education of teens about the high risks involved in smoking. Nonetheless, Joachim concludes, saying, "To be honest, [regulations] still won't help. Teens just don't know how to listen."

# Harvard Lab Studies Teenage Brain Development, Peer Influence

By
Tomek Maciak
and Liam Greenwell
Register Forum Editors

"I myself was a rebellious teenager, and I grew out of it in a way that made me curious: how do some people stay consistent through development and others don't?" says Leah Somerville, director of the Affective Neuroscience and Development Lab at Harvard University.

Affective neuroscience is the study of how the brain handles emotion, combining the study of psychology and neuroscience. One of the underlying objectives for researchers at the lab is to gain a better understanding of how developments in the brain affect cognitive, emotional, and social behavior, especially during adolescence.

"One thing that's really interesting is that adolescents tend to take risks more often than children or adults. So we wonder, what are the factors that influence risk taking?" says Megan Garrard, lab manager and research assistant at

the lab. Adolescence is a "naturally stressful time" because of new responsibilities and more autonomy, according to Garrard, and the brain undergoes some significant changes. One of the most drastic is a process called pruning, where the brain eliminates unused connections. This is part of the reason it is harder for adults to learn new skills than children.

One focus of the studies at the lab is peer influence, as well as the part it plays in the degree to which adolescents take risks. Researchers also attempt to determine what other factors lead adolescents to take greater risks in games closely resembling gambling.

Researchers at the lab hope to prove the ways in which actions that people take affect the development of their brain during adolescence. Garrard says that "the choices you make might actually affect the way your brain grows and develops." Participants take part in a variety of activities, depending on the study. The lab utilizes a functional magnetic resonance imaging machine (fMRI) to study brain activity while



RF Editor Liam Greenwell tests out the fMRI machine at the lab

ie iao. Photo Credit: Tomek Maciak

the participants play games.

The fMRI machine utilizes magnetic and radio waves to measure the amount of oxygen traveling to different parts of the brain, which allows researchers to recognize which parts of the brain are more active than others when the brain responds to stimuli.

There is much that scientists don't understand about brain development. Despite this, Dr. Somer-

ville is hopeful: "In the last 20 years, there has been an explosion of technological advances: we can peer inside the body in a non-invasive way, which opens doors to understand the relationship between brains and behavior. It's the most exciting time to learn about the brain ever."

Participants receive a stipend for taking part in the lab's studies. Find more information online at http://andl.wjh.harvard.edu/.



## A BLAST FROM THE PAST

### The Register Forum, JANUARY 1978

The *Register Forum* is the oldest continuously published student newspaper in the country. Let's take a look back at the January 1978 edition of the *Register Forum*—just after the combination of the two Cambridge high schools.

### Highlights

- 6" of snow forces CPSD to call a snow day. In a free verse short poem, the *Register Forum* editorial staff urges students to "stall the plows" to prevent school from opening.
- The *Register Forum* responds to criticism with a poem outlining the difficulties of creating a newspaper.
- A page-long history of Northern Ireland raises awareness of the conflict there.
- Cambridge celebrates its first Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day.
- The Law Club shares its new emblem, a caveman carrying a club.
- School administration reminds seniors to apply to college.
- The *Register Forum* announces the inception of a new "athletics club" and asks students for one dollar for membership.

# CRLS Reflects on the Merits of Expressing Gratitude

By
Sophie Harrington
and Grace Ramsdell
Register Forum
Contributors

For many, the holiday season is an opportunity to express gratitude. According to studies, displaying gratitude is linked to both improved mental and physical health. In a recent study by researchers from the University of Southern California, demonstrating gratitude was not only proven to affect the "reward center" of the brain, but also to affect a person's moral judgment, empathy, and ability to connect with others.

In a *Register Forum* poll, 100 CRLS students were asked about their habits of expressing gratitude. Of the participants, 28% were seniors, 25% were juniors, 33% were sophomores, and 14% were freshmen.

The poll loosely defined expressing gratitude as including everything from taking a moment to think about the things one is grateful for to thanking people in person or writing thank-you notes. However, participants were encour-

aged to respond to questions in terms of their own definition of expressing gratitude.

One personal definition comes from sophomore Pascal Beckert, who believes that "expressing gratitude is simply acknowledging the privileges we have and things that we love in the world. It helps us know that all of us have a lot to be grateful for no matter where we are from or how many material possessions we may have."

Results reveal that more than 80% of respondents express gratitude daily. 60% of participants said they display gratitude because they feel genuinely grateful, 34% because they feel it is the right thing to do, and the remaining 6% because someone tells them to.

CRLS drama teachers Ms. Murray and Mr. Cramp take a few minutes to practice expressing gratitude with their students at the beginning of each class. As part of their daily "checkin," students go around the classroom sharing whatever they are grateful for at that time. Responses often include people, possessions, or moments.

Mr. Cramp equates expressing gratitude to focusing on the things that matter to oneself, saying, "It leads to more confidence if you're thinking...'O.K., how am I doing today? What is something that matters to me?'...'When I step out of this room, can I start to name things and look for things that matter to me?" Mr. Cramp adds that it can create a sense of power over oneself when an individual thinks, "This matters to me, this is what I'm about."

Kiva McElhiney, one of Ms. Murray's sophomore drama students, finds that

expressing gratitude daily makes her a more happy and accepting person. "I love [saying what I'm grateful for]; it is probably my favorite part of the day and makes me really think about who and what is important to me," says McElhiney.

Ms. Murray cites the ability to express gratitude as a vital tool for being a strong individual in a hard world. She reflects that when her students vocalize what they are thankful for, "it brings a lot of laughter and joy and kindness into the room."

Ms. Murray and Mr.

Cramp agree that even this simple gesture can unite communities within CRLS and foster relationships between individuals.

Senior Aida Muratoglu explains how gratitude can be shared between anyone and why doing so is important, saying, "Expressing gratitude—in the form of a small appreciation, in the way we thank one another for keeping the door open—encapsulates what's so beautiful about the human spirit: our ability to connect to and learn from one another in productive and wholesome ways."



Students in Ms. Murray's 4th period Drama 2 class during their daily "check-in."

Photo Credit: Sophie Harrington

# AROUND SCHOOL

# What's up with Bottle Up?

### MC Club Leads Reusable Bottle Initiative

By Klara Ingersoll Register Forum Contributor

"So what are we going to do now that the seniors are gone?" asked Marine Biology teacher and Marine Conservation Club advisor Mr. McGuinness. Marine Biology's emphasis on environmental action inspires students to work towards making a dent in problems that affect the CRLS community. This goal sparked a new student led CRLS environmental initiative: Bottle Up.

conversations Many had centered around pollution in the oceans and specifically plastic pollution. Researchers estimate that as much as 12.7 million tons of plastic are dumped into oceans every year. An obvious component of this waste is one-use plastic contain-

The issue of plastic one-use water bottles became more and more obvious as something the team could tackle in the CRLS commu-

nity. CRLS has access to 'wicked good' clean water on tap through fountains all around school, and students just need to be able to bottle it up to drink it whenever they need—especially at lunch, when students purchase hundreds of disposable drinks a day.

Discouraging students from purchasing water bottles and other disposable



Bottle Up leaders with reusable water bottles.

Photo Credit: Max Ingersoll

drink containers at lunch saves students money and positively impacts health, because many of the drinks purchased are high in sugar or sodium.

The Bottle Up project has been wide reaching so far; students have made promotional videos to be aired on The Word, spoken with local businesses and politicians, designed logos and graphics, written grants, and discussed how the proj-

CRLS has access to 'wicked good' clean water.

ect can be most effective in duce their waste." the CRLS community.

The goal is simple: get water bottles to students at CRLS who don't have them so that they aren't dependent on buying one-use drink containers.

Senior Gregorio Leon supports the initiative, but jokes that "this is a watered down solution to a bigger issue."

Hundreds of bottles that were gifted to the project were passed out to students at the Bagel Benches along with Bottle Up stickers during both lunches on December 2nd and 3rd. The stickers were for students who already had reusable bottles to raise awareness about the effort. While handing out bottles at the Bagel Benches, Bottle Up team member Luca Jaccodine reflected, "We're hoping that

> as students start using their free bottles, they will also start thinking about their own personal consumption and other ways they can re-

Some of the team's current plans are to discourage Cambridge Public Schools from buying plastic bottles during MCAS and to join the existing effort to pressure the city of Cambridge to ban the sale of one-use plastic water bottles. The

team will continue work-

ing on ways of reducing the

Massachusetts spends

\$13,454 on each student.

community's plastic use.

# CRLS RESPONDS:

What's one thing you want to do before the end of 2015?



Kenya Wade Class of 2018 "Go to Cali...I've heard it's a really good place to get a burger"

Alex Sadock Class of 2019 "Win a Pokemon tournament!"

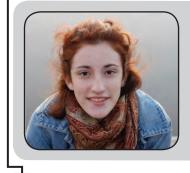




Zahyyeh Abu-Rubieh *Class of 2017* "Come up with a really good New Years resolution so I can break it"

**William Daniels** *Class of 2018* "Take a nap"





**Alexis Rabkin** *Class of 2016* "The only thing I'm trying to do is apply to college... that's really it"

### **EDUCATION**

Continued from page 1

region's ongoing historical academic achievements and standards."

In 1993, the state passed the Massachusetts Education Reform Act which invested more money in schools, and created more ambitious academic standards as well as "high-stakes" tests for students to pass before graduating high school.

According to MassBudget. org, Massachusetts spends \$13,454 on each student, while the national average is just \$10,847. Cambridge comes out on top of the spending expenditure by financing \$27,474 per pupil each year. This is triple the nation's average, and more than double that of Massachusetts.

This gives Massachusetts students more advantages than other

students because state funds are directed at each pupil, allowing for ementary, middle, and high school teachers to give more help and pro- levels of education in Massachuvide resources like access to new technology.

Not only are Bay State students more successful due to this financial support, but according to

a poll taken by the Washington Post, more than 60% of Massachusetts

children have a parent with a postsecondary degree, fourteen points above the national average.

Amy Dolan, one of CRLS' Algebra I teachers reports: "I think that we are successful as a state because so many students are lucky enough to have parents who have college education, parents who will push their children."

The success reflected in the elsetts may also be attributed to the great community of higher learning going on throughout the state. Cambridge alone is home to two of the top universities in the world,

Harvard the Massachu-Institute setts Technology. **CRLS** 

sophomore Tyrone Quigley states: "Students in Massachusetts do well because of influence from places of higher education and scientific research."

Competitive environments at school have forced Massachusetts students to succeed by coping with high academic expectations. In return for backing students with large financial resources, teachers and school districts have demanded students pass new tests administered like the MCAS. When the achievement exam was first tested in 1998, the performance by urban schools was disastrous—nearly two-thirds of students failed. In 2015, Massachusetts students have topped the charts ranking number one by the Federal Department of Education.

The state is not done making improvements; other areas can still be improved by teachers, administration, and students. But as CRLS junior Kester Messen said, "We [the students] still take action and fight for things as complicated as enacting social change, and making ourselves succeed, or as simple as getting a teacher to meet with us after school."

Photo Credit: Grace Ramsdell

By Stella Yeung Register Forum Contributor

### RF: Was it difficult growing up in a hearing society?

MH: I grew up with my hearing family (two parents and three brothers), plus extended family (two grandparents, two aunts, two uncles and three cousins) living nearby or in the same household. I was born as profoundly deaf. Since they all spoke English, my doctors told my family not to use sign language with me. That was the beginning of my difficult childhood in a hearing society.

I understood how my society expected deaf people to interact with hearing peers, however I struggled to speak English fluently (to be like a hearing person naturally). To my dismay, there were many deaf children and adults across the

# Teacher Spotlight: Matthew Hochkeppel

CRLS' New ASL Teacher Talks Inspiration, Language, and Disc Golf

country that struggled to speak fluently.

I stopped speaking altogether when I was in college because no one in the United States understood me clearly... that could lead to misunderstanding very often if I continued to speak with people in general. In order to access a full language for the best communication, I stick with American Sign Language (ASL). Over time, it helped me improve my skills academically and socially. There are interpreting services available for both deaf and hearing consumers. If a hearing society is not comfortable with people using ASL, then it is their turn to learn the history of the Deaf (as a part of American history), [in order] to understand why deaf people prefer ASL over spoken language. Millions of deaf students may never find comfort in learning how to speak correctly without ASL being included in the classroom.

#### RF: What got you into teaching?

MH: On my high school graduation day, where I attended Model Secondary School for the Deaf in Washington, D.C., I realized there are many deaf children who need deaf role models. I studied to be a teacher of the Deaf; my minor was Social Studies/Histories at Rochester Institute of Technology in Rochester, NY. My teaching career changed from high-school teacher to special-education teacher; I decided to focus on teaching ASL to hearing students at the community college. Because I have always enjoyed teaching high school students, I recently returned as an ASL high school teacher.

Page 5

RF: What do you like to do in your free time? MH: As a mobile photographer, I take pictures for my Instagram. I play disc golf in the woods. I develop an ASL musical play or two.

#### RF: What was the best moment of your life?

MH: When I was a junior in high school, I witnessed Deaf President Now at Gallaudet University in 1988. It was a national protest movement. That was way before the Internet technology was available to public. The local, national, and international news press physically came in to find out why deaf students, alumni, faculty and staff closed down the Gallaudet University. It happened after GU Board of Trustees picked a hearing candidate to be next president over two qualified deaf candidates. This event inspired me to do more than just being an accountant, which I was expected to be because of [limited jobs for] deaf people back then.

#### RF: How do you like CRLS? Ups and downs?

MH: I enjoy CRLS very much. My students show me their respect. Faculty and staff are friendly to me after finding out they have a deaf colleague. CRLS is preparing me to be a better teacher. The downs? There are none so far.

### **RINDGE ALUMNI**

Continued from page 1

(engineering), Indira Riley-Mahabir (graphics), Victoria Noel (nursing), Bryce Borden (culinary), Esmiralda Aspirilla (creative design), and Juan Arevalo (early childhood education) were given awards for being "technically proficient and demonstrating strong character," announced Mr. Ananis.

"It's an honor to be one of the six students [awarded] from the whole school," stated Pereira in an interview after the ceremony. "I'll make the most of it." Another notable award went to Larry "Cha-Chi" Loprete ment. A radio presenter on philanthropic focus. Cic-

WBCN, he described himself as a "product of Cambridge Public School system." And though he failed his swim test, and "still can't swim," he graduated nonetheless.

Bill Taylor, meanwhile, never received his diploma from Rindge because he left to join the military at the end of WWII, but the headmaster wouldn't let him graduate early. At the dinner, he was awarded a diploma—70 years late—as shouts of "better late than never" echoed from the crowd.

The most coveted award of the night, Man of the Year, was given to businessman Ray Ciccolo for Lifetime Achieve- his success as well as his



Ray Ciccolo delivers an acceptance speech after winning the Rindge Man of the Year Award.

Photo Credit: Rich Morgan Photography

colo owns nine car dealerships, sponsors a yearly scholarship for CRLS students who attend Suffolk University, and runs annual road races to benefit various causes.

"He's successful, he gives back, he comes to the dinners every year, and this is his 60th year out of Rindge. [We thought] this was a great time to do it," said Exec. Secretary Darling.

In an interview with The Register Forum, Ciccolo spoke to his philanthropic tendencies, saying, "When you start from very meager beginnings, it's a lot of fun to give back. I think

people I give to."

He also characterizes himself as an opportunist: "I never have had a master-plan of what I'm going to do. If I thought it was a good deal, and I could make a little money and have a little fun, I would do it."

"It was a spectacular time," he continues when asked about his time at Rindge. "Adolescence is a tough time in one's life, [but] we had a great camaraderie between the guys in the class. I remember so [much from] my time here. It stuck out in my mind."

He was also working

I get more out of it than the "practically full-time" in addition to his studies.

> He advises current high school students in a similar situation to "put more effort into academics, because you will get much greater payback."

> His next steps? Spending more time with grandkids, and further expanding his business. "I will continue growing.. Life's a challenge — it's not a dress rehearsal. You might as well get as much out of it as you can."

RSTA offers multiple business classes; talk to your guidance counselor to get involved.



The 120th dinner brought together alumni going back over 50 years. Photo Credit: Rich Morgan Photography

# Climate Change: An Urgent Issue

Why a Culture of Indifference Could Lead to the Apocalypse

by The Guardian as, "the

year's worst environmental

crisis." Or that China has

admitted to underreporting

their yearly CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

by at least 17%, meaning

there is an estimated billion

tons (or more) of CO<sub>2</sub> in our

atmosphere that we were

our culture of protesting,

in fact it is meant to do the

exact opposite. We must in-

stead expand our protests

to raise more public aware-

ness. While this is an issue

of the environment, this is

also, quite literally, a matter

This is not to put down

unaware of.

Stella Sieniewicz Register Forum Contributor

Last year CRLS made it into the New York Times with an article about our school-wide walkout and die-in meant to support members of the Black Lives Matter movement.

There we set ourselves apart as active, meaningful, supporters of social justice regardless of our age, race, sex, or political orientation. Which is incredible—and I am proud to be part of a

community with the emotional capacity to care about the rest of the world.

While this is an issue of the environment, this is also a matter of life and death.

And yet there has been of life and death. no school-wide or worldwide outrage that over the past six months, the Indonesian rain forest has been utterly decimated by fire in what has been described

As a result of the deforestation in Indonesia at least 19 people have died and there have been 500,000 reported cases of respiratory disease having the potential to result in another 100,000 untimely deaths. And Chinese citizens in many regions, including the capital, Beijing, have been told to stay indoors as toxic smog has reached dangerous lev-

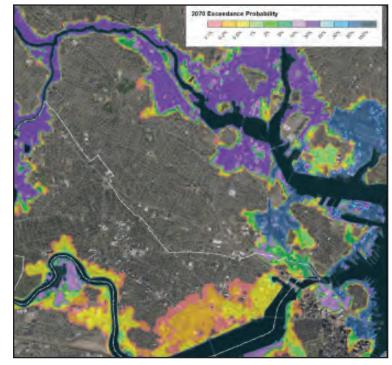
As residents of Cambridge, environmental issues are not unknown to us. Many of our parents may even have been some of the first to shop at "Whole Foods," drive Priuses, or put solar panels on their houses.

Similarly, we have seen climate change statis-

tics before, received free ice cream on walk/ride day, or even participated in the

2014 climate march.

We know the United States is the second largest global emitter of CO, and that we are undeniably the consumers of many goods produced in China, the larg-



By 2070, the probability of flooding in areas of Cambridge is large. Photo Credit: Woods Hole Group/MassDot

est CO<sub>2</sub> emitter. As citizens of America, we have been relatively untouched by climate change as so much of our production has been outsourced to developing nations where regulation on emissions is either weak or easy to bypass.

Perhaps we even know that when speaking about climate change, "two" is the magic number. Two is the broadly scientifically agreed upon, number

of degrees (Celsius) that would make many equatorial regions of the world not merely unpleasant, but completely uninhabitable. The fact of the matter is that we will not be the ones who suffer most from a potential two degree increase, it will be the people of the nations we have leased to do our dirty work.

We all need to check our privilege. Before it's too

# How Women Fight ISIS

By Claire Healy Register Forum Contributor

Recently, the western media has used ISIS as the face of Islam, while failing to provide western audiences with a more diverse narrative of Muslims and the people of the Middle East. There is little coverage of opposition to radical Islam from with the Muslims communities directly affected, and a lack of Muslim representation in journalism, television and political discussions. This narrow view of the approximately 1.9 billion Muslims in the world is creating a hostile environment of ignorance and islamophobia for Muslims internationally—further fueled by outrageous statements made by several Republican presidential candidates.

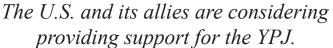
Throughout this unfair scrutiny of Islam, Muslim women fall into a side role as the media focuses on their outward appearances—using headscarves, such as hijabs, niqabs, chadors and burkas, as signs of their oppression. Accompanied with this visual stereotype is a portrayal of Muslim women as exclusively victims; depriving them of their autonomy.

It is important to condemn horrible treatment of women in certain Islamic countries, but it is also important to avoid generalizations of an enormous and diverse group. In this

crucial conversation, single minded journalism cannot be tolerated. Malala Yousafzai is a powerful Muslim woman that the international community has embraced, and while she is amazing, she is not alone. Throughout the crisis in Syria and neighboring countries, certain media outlets have slowly begun presenting an alternative story of Muslim women.

Militant groups, aided by western airstrikes, are having the most success in the overall attack on ISIS. Some of these groups include the Yazidi fighters; the YPJ (Kurdish Women's Protection Unit); the YPG (People's Protection Unit) in northern Syria; the PKK, a Kurdish group founded on Marxist ideologies; and the Peshmerga (Kurdish fighters in Iraq). All of these groups are coed, and the YPJ, along with certain subsets of the Yazidi fighters, are entirely women fighting forces.

The YPJ (pronounced Yuh-Puh-Juh) has over 7,000 women, and was created in 2012 to defend Syrian Kurds against President



al-Assad, al Qaeda and ISIS. The members are volunteers, and their motivation ranges from a feeling of personal injustice to a larger fight for their people, their families, and



Muslim women are leading the charge against ISIS and fellow groups.

Photo Credit: NBC News

women's rights.

Most of these women are unmarried, and their motto "haval" means friendship. Contradictory to western stereotypes, most pictures of these women show them without headscarves, including a picture of a woman getting her eyebrows shaped by a fellow soldier. One member, named Trieb, was

> quoted saying "There is a sense among the women that the YPJ is in itself a feminist movement, even if it is not their main mis-

sion. They want 'equality' between women and men, and a part of why they joined was to develop and advance the perceptions about women in their culture—they can be strong and be leaders.

The U.S. and its allies are considering providing support for the YPJ and other groups but—for now—the YPJ exists solely off donations from the area. While the portrayal of Muslim women is appallingly lopsided, a large role in the prejudice against them is how little average people challenge the media's representation.

To contradict stereotypes, the Muslima, an online exhibition of art and stories, has asked people to comment #notbuyingit, on news reports that are stereotypical and biased. This hashtag is one small way our community can challenge our country-and the world-to upgrade its narrative.

# The Night Before Impresses Lowbrow Comedy Receives High Marks



By Liam Simons Register Forum Contributor

The Night Before is a raunchy, politically incorrect, and downright hilarious modern interpretation of the classic Christmas movie. In this star-studded buddy comedy, three lifelong friends, Ethan (Joseph Gordon-Levitt), Isaac (Seth Rogen), and Chris (Anthony Mackie) search all around

New York City for the Nutcracker Ball, the most elite Christmas party in the city.

Although from the surface it appears to be a solely comedic and juvenile movie, as is common when Seth Rogen and

James Franco team up, The Night Before is actually filled with many moments of intelligence and even some positive takeaways. For starters, the movie contains many references to classic Christmas movies, great novels, and even Biblical allusions. The entire movie is a drug-based reinvention of Charles Dickens' A Christmas Story, with a drug dealer Mr. Green providing the characters with different varieties of hallucinogens to allow them to see Christmas past, present, and future.

I highly recommend The Night Before if you are in the market for a laugh-out-loud comedy.

> friends play Kanye West's "Runaway" (complete with a rousing rendition of the

song's very explicit lyrics) by hopping around on the walking piano in a toy store full of young children, paying homage to the Tom Hank's famous scene in Big. Even F. Scott Fitzgerald's The Great Gatsby is referenced when the three friends inadvertently bump into the party's reclusive host, who sites the novel as his inspiration for the party.

Although the use of drugs and alcohol is almost incessant throughout the entire film, the movie ends with some wholesome and positive takeaways. The

three friends, who were planning to end their longstanding Christmas Eve tradition after this final

At one stage the three celebration, come to realize over the course of the night's events that there is nothing more important in



The Night Before has grossed 38.4 million at the box office.

Photo Credit: Screenrant

life than friends and family.

A son reunites with his mother, whom he has not seen in many years due to his success in life, and a man pursues his ex-girlfriend and confesses that his love for her has not waned. As if all of this was not already enough, Miley Cyrus speaks about the true meanings of love and Christmas, before performing "Wrecking Ball" accompanied by

Joseph Gordon-Levitt in a particularly touching mo-

All in all, I highly recommend The Night Before if you are in the market for a laugh-out-loud comedy. Although it's values and wholesomeness could easily be debated, it's comedic value is undisputable. It will leave you smiling and in a good mood, and full of Christmas spirit.



# ARTIST OF THE MONTH Francesca Scola



By Will MacArthur Register Forum Contributor

In an AP Portfolio Art class that teacher Mrs. Haverty describes as "fabulous," senior Francesca Scola stands out. Scola, who was nominated by fellow senior portfolio artist Hannah Peck for being "a great artist with a great vibe," has demonstrated tremendous creativity, consistent technical ability, and what senior Stella Yeung refers to as "untamed spirit" throughout the first months of this year-long class.

Yeung elaborates that "you can always tell when a piece is Francesca's because they naturally portray her bold character." This



Scola was nominated for being "a great artist with a great vibe."

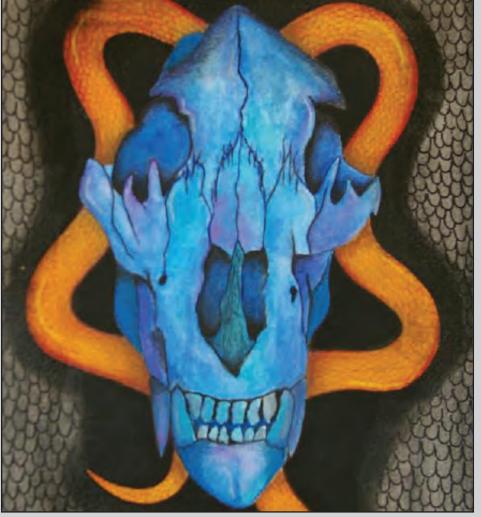
Photo Credit: Francesca Scola

level of voice is essential in the portfolio process, in which AP Artists prepare twenty-four pieces for submission: twelve with assigned topics or media and twelve in any style on a chosen theme.

So far, artists have created drawings in pen and ink, graphite, and pencil, as well as various mixed media projects incorporating marble paper, prints, and a host of other materials. On a recent project, students created prints in color and black and white and then modified them in the studio with materials of their choice. On subjects that range from self portraiture to walnut transformation, the entire class has proven outstanding.

Even among such strong competition, however, Scola's ability has shone through. Senior Chelsea Darwin asserts, "her artwork always stands out and she has a really definitive style," which Darwin goes on to describe as "fun and colorful and always a little weird in the best possible way."

Scola's excellence has extended beyond the boundaries of her own canvas; "She enables everyone's art by being a supportive friend and a consistently positive presence in the studio," according to Peck, who also attests that "she makes everyone happy because



Projects in Portfolio Art range from photorealistic to abstract.

she's so weird."

Mrs. Haverty emphasizes collaboration between the artists in her classes, and students have recently spent time creating cards dedicated to other members of the class.

This level of support between

Photo Credit: Francesca Scola artists extends to Mrs. Haverty herself, who described the entire class as "my rock, and my favorite part of every day."

Look out for work from Scola and the entire CRLS art program on display in the library later this year!

# **ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT**



# THE TOP FIVE HIP-HOP ALBUMS OF THE YEAR



The Register Forum's Picks for 2015

2015 was a monumental year for hip-hop and the *Register Forum* has devoted a column to exploring five of the genres most influential albums. Register Forum contributor Daniel Walsh made these selections and they do not necessarily reflect the views of the RF Editorial Staff.

### **#5: Fetty Wap**

Fetty Wap

Love him or hate him, Fetty Wap had a monster year. "Trap Queen" is the song that you claim to despise, but when it comes on the radio, you can't resist hitting a subtle whip. Fetty is much more a singer than a rapper, and this is readily apparent throughout his debut album. Front to back, his pipes are seriously impressive on this album. Regardless of his perceived weaknesses, Fetty definitely has an ear for catchy melodies; I can't count how many times I've heard CRLS students sing the infectious choruses of "My Way" and "679" in the hallways. What Fetty Wap lacks in track diversity, it makes up for with consistency and entertaining choruses.

### #4: I Don't Like S\*\*t...

Earl Sweatshirt

It's easy to picture Earl hunched over a keyboard in a dark room, scribbling lyrics and creating the claustrophobic sounds of this album. On *I Don't Like S\*\*t*, Earl takes us inside his panic room for surely his most depressing album yet. The themes and beats are darker than his previous work, but Earl's wordplay is as potent as ever. "Grief" is the standout track on the album, and it depicts Earl at his lowest. Listening to his frantic delivery is almost uncomfortable. With complete mastery over his flow, Earl mutters about addiction and his grief for his grandmother. After hearing *IDL*\*, you'll agree with Earl's words: "I don't act hard I'm a hard act to follow."

### **#3: Surf**

The Social Experiment

Chance The Rapper was praised for dropping

one of the best rap projects of 2014, Acid Rap. Chance fans eagerly anticipated his follow up project. Nobody expected anything like Surf. On the album, which was released for free on iTunes, Chance gladly takes a backseat to The Social Experiment's upbeat jazzy vibes. This is hardly a hip-hop record—what keeps it in the genre of rap is not the outlandish instrumentals, but the standout verses from Chance, and Surf's extensive feature list including J. Cole, Quavo (Migos), Big Sean, and Erykah Badu, just to name a few. Surf was certainly a slap in the face to fans who anticipated an Acid Rap II, but the happiness you feel

after listening to "Sunday Candy" and "Wanna Be Cool" is hard to argue with.













### #2: GO:OD AM

Mac Miller

Listening to Mac's discography is a journey, to say the least. Once a generic pop-rap party rapper, Mac has evolved into a conscious auteur aware of his place in hip-hop: the top. In GO:OD AM, Miller confronts his vices and flaunts his swagger over some of the best productions of the year. Mac may come off as belligerent on tracks like "When In Rome," where he brags "I'm at the top of my game," but he atones for this cockiness by being transparent and real, giving listeners a window into his everyday life as a celebrity in "Ascension" and "Perfect Circle/God Speed." This is a well rounded album you can play through in any setting. GO:OD AM is Mac's best work yet.

### #1: To Pimp a Butterfly

Kendrick Lamar

To Pimp A Butterfly is the best hip-hop record of all time (Gasp!). Yeah, I said it. Kendrick's latest album is by no means an easy listen. It's dark. The beats are foreign to the world of hip-hop. Its subject matter: depression, addiction, violence, prejudice, and racism. Kendrick dives deeper than ever into society's restraints on his life as a black American. "Alright" is an anthem that turns systematic oppression on its head; "We gon' be alright!" are the most powerful words spoken by a chorus in 2015. "Mortal Man," where Kendrick sums up his entire message, is the most emotional twelve minutes you've ever endured. TPAB is the most important hip-hop record ever.

# Revisiting Dr. Dre: *The Chronic* Two Decades Later



By Christo Hays Register Forum Contributor

It's 1992 in Compton, CA. Underground group-turned-mainstream sensation N.W.A. has broken up, L.A. is still reeling from riots over the death of Rodney King, and Dr. Dre is holed up in the SOLAR recording studio with a Minimoog synth and a stack of Parliament-Funkadelic records.

The soon-to-be infamous Death Row Records has been founded by crack-cocaine kingpin Harry-O, Stevie Wonder associate Dick Griffey, NFL recruit-turnedbodyguard Suge Knight, former Ruthless Records artist The D.O.C., and Dre himself. The hopes of the fledgling label ride on Dr. Dre's ability to strike gold for one more rap record.

Dre is going unaccompanied for the first time, crafting his solo debut The Chronic, which would act as the flagship release for the label. Filling the vacant seats left by N.W.A. are a posse of Long Beach rappers, Snoop Dogg prominent among them, along with Virginia native The Lady of Rage and a slew of obscure R&B vocalists. Colin Wolfe mans the bass and keyboards, Dre's stepbrother Warren G acts as designated crate-digger, and Chris "The Glove" Taylor sits behind the mixing console alongside Dre. Working 24/7 (aside from 4 a.m. naps and runs to the Popeye's across the street) this ragtag team of talent would go on to create the most revolutionary, and arguably best, rap album of all time.

Unlike many subsequent Death Row albums, The Chronic remains as masterfully crafted and just as much fun to listen to after 23 years. Following a hilarious spoken intro ending with "[Eazy-E's] a penguinlooking m\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* comes "Dre Day," the funkiest diss track drums make an appearance through of all time featuring Dre and Snoop Dogg rhyming back and forth over a George Clinton sample.

After the careers of Eazy-E, Tim Dog, and Luke (of 2 Live Crew) have been dragged through the dirt for five minutes, "Let Me Ride" begins. Detailing a day of cruising down Greenleaf and Slauson Avenue in a Chevrolet Impala, the California sunshine can almost be felt gleaming off the chrome detailing as Snoop calls out "Rolling in my '64."

Completing the trifecta of essential Dr. Dre G-funk cuts is the monumental "Nuthin' but 'G' Thang." Featuring a funky Minimoog synth whistle and an infectious bassline, Dre and Snoop take turns rapping about whatever comes to mind: Death Row Records, Compton and Long Beach, collards greens, etc.

Wedged between these funky classics are hilarious skits and hard-hitting bangers (Led Zeppelin sampling).

Also present are socially conscious cuts that manage to resonant profoundly in 2015 given similar issues facing black communities in America. "Lil' Ghetto Boy" paints a picture of young black men forced into volatile situations curated by the ghetto they are stuck in. "The Day the N\*\*\*\*\* Took Over" explores the flip side of instability in American ghettos, detailing the exploits of black men looting and rioting. Dre raps, "Sitting in my living room, calm and collected / Feeling that gotta-get-mine perspective," over a tense, menacing beat featuring live recordings of the LA riots of '91.

23 years later, it's easy to see why The Chronic is continually heralded as one of the greatest albums of all time. From Kanye West to Kendrick Lamar, emcees and producers alike cite it for its incredible quality, originality and timelessness as a true testament to excellence

# President Hollande: "France is at War"

# Coalition Ramps up Airstikes, Promises to Defeat ISIS

By Shuvom Sadhuka Register Forum Contributor

Following the devastating attacks in Paris, which killed 130 and wounded many more, France has intensified airstrikes against the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS).

Reactions have been mixed across the world and here at CRLS, with many applauding France's initiative to destroy ISIS and others expressing doubt as to whether

airstrikes will actually prevent another attack. France was over a year into its campaign to destroy ISIS in Iraq and Syria and had further ramped up airstrikes in mid-September under the guid-

ance of Prime Minister François Hollande. After the Paris attacks, Hollande was brief in his response, declaring, "France is at war."

One poll conducted by You-Gov found that nearly 75% of French nationals supported intensifying airstrikes in the immediate aftermath of the Paris attacks.

This majority opinion was carried out by the French military over

ber as the situation in Syria became only further complicated.

Many world leaders, including President Obama, backed the French airstrikes and pledged to provide military support and aid to the French.

But back at CRLS, the airstrikes have been met with some level of skepticism. Junior Oliver Sussman acknowledged the need for a political response, but expressed disapproval over the meth-

"They are adopting a better-youthan-me attitude towards the civilians that will be killed."

> od chosen. "While I definitely think some sort of action is necessary, I think a severely militarized approach will ultimately only obscure the more nuanced social forces that created the current crisis," he says.

The airstrikes also engage France in a deeply complex and multi-faceted conflict being fought between more than four separate belligerents. Recent Russian inter-

the next few weeks and into Decem-vention and Turkish border tensions have only deepened the complexities of the conflict as ISIS continues to impose its harsh rule on citizens.

> Sophomore Robert Shapiro was critical of France's initiative, commenting, "I think France is hurting right now and feeling vulnerable and they are adopting a better-you-than-me attitude towards the civilians that will be killed in the airstrikes."

There are currently no official numbers on the civilian death toll,

> although estimates place it well over 20 in three weeks' worth of airstrikes. France claims to have killed 33 ISIS militants as of late November.

Overall, some members of the Rindge community have been skeptical of France's strategy, in contrast to many mainstream views—especially those in France.

While Europe takes action in Syria, legislators in the United States continue to debate a strategy for intervention in Syria. As we turn to the 2016 elections, terrorism and ISIS in particular will surely remain in the center of the world stage.

### **NEWS TIMELINE**

Fredrika Åkerman Register Forum Contributor

#### DEC 2

The British Parliament votes in favor of joining the international campaign of airstrikes against ISIS in Syria.

### DEC 3

Department of Defence announces that women will be allowed to serve as members of military combat units.

#### DEC 4

The German Parliament votes to support the international campaign of airstrikes against ISIS in Syria.

Canadian Prime Minister Trudeau's administration reaffirms action to legalize marijuana.

#### **DEC 7**

Beijing issues first-ever rea alert for smog, closing schools and restricting traffic.

#### **DEC 12**

DEC 5

The Golden State Warriors lose to the Bucks, ending their streak at 24 straight wins.

# Nations Reach Climate Agreement

By Rosa Munson-Blatt Register Forum Contributor

Starting November 30, over 170 nations came together for the 21st annual meeting of the Conference of the Parties to attempt to solve the massive problem that is climate change. And on December 12th, the countries reached a groundbreaking agreement that commits almost every country to seriously reducing their greenhouse gas emissions.

Climate change, as explained by the United States Environmental Protection Agency, is caused by "humans adding billions of tons of heat-trapping greenhouse gases to the atmosphere."

gases trap heat in the atmosphere, heating the Earth. The rise in temperature has had calamitous effect on the environment, such as the melting of ice caps and glaciers, droughts, dying corals, and a slight but persistent rise in sea level.

At CRLS, the Environmental Action Club tries

to confront these issues. As their Facebook page describes, "EAC empowers a collaborative activist movement in Cambridge to address global climate change through local action."

EAC member and junior Jack Kyrik reacts to conference, saying, "Extreme weather and geological damage to the planet threatens all nations and to confront this powerful legislation and agreements must be reached at the Paris climate summit."

Learning from previous failures, many major and implementable velopments have resulted from the conference. One was the participation of China, which is imperative since they are the world's

"We need to counteract all the serve to use more fos-The greenhouse damages we have caused to sil fuels to help catch our natural world."

> biggest contributor of carbon emissions. Before the meeting started, China announced a plan to cut their greenhouses emission by 60-65% and increase their utilizing of non-fossil fuel for energy sources by 20%. Another development was

the increased involvement of American city governments. Many state representatives to the conferences pledged to sign on to a subnational climate agreement.

While the conference produced many positive developments, there was also much resistance. While Russian President Putin stated for the first time that climate change is a huge issue, Russia, which emits the highest amount of ozonedepleting substances, made very few changes in its environmental action plans.

pro-environment laws, yet the country's negotiators refuse to comply with international pollution standards. They argue that developing - countries like India deup economically with bigger nations.

In addition, many scientists agree that the recent agreement, while significant, only cuts half as many emissions as is necessary to stop a 3.6 degree temperature increase.

Senior and Co-President of Environmental Action Club Aida Muratoglu



Many feel the future of the planet is endangered by climate change. Photo Credit: New Yorker

a major polluter choose to not participate in the talks, that country is ignoring and actively perpetrating the human rights injustices that fossils fuels and pollution inflict on the developing world."

experts be-Many lieve that there needs to be a system of benchmarks to measure each country's environmental progress. Also, many say all nations must first understand and acknowledge that climate change is a dire issue that needs to be addressed before making real change.

Senior Griffin Andres,

Indian Prime Minister responds to countries refus- a member of the Marine Modi has supported new ing to negotiate, arguing, "If Conservation Club, hopes the nations will be able to accomplish this. "We need to counteract all the damages we have caused to our natural world since the Industrial Age. All of humanity needs to align to establish standards in order to slow environmental degradation," he says.

At CRLS, the Marine Conservation Club is launching a initiative to eliminate the usage of plastic water bottles by distributing reusable water bottles—an important way, they argue, CRLS students can help preserve the environment.

# Population Growth Explodes

Projections Show 9.7 Billion People on Earth by 2050

By
Maddalena Tridenti
Register Forum
Contributor

CRLS students seem to have an accurate sense of the size of the world population. Seniors Laetitia Moubarak and Eva Luna Maes estimated the global population to be 8 billion, while sophomore Sasha Tekeian and junior Gaby Joella guessed around 7 billion.

According to *Worl-dometers*, the current global population is 7,380,629,000. With 83 million people added to our population annually, the number of people on the earth is projected to reach 8.5 billion by 2030 and 9.7 billion

Nowadays, only a few countries

by 2050.

strongly contribute to population growth. Between women do to the United Nations (UN), nine countries will account veloping women do to birth countries will account problem."

for more than a half of the global population.

The fertility rate is one of the most influential factors in the population growth. According to the UN, each of the 48 least developed countries averages 4.3 children per woman. Says Moubarak, "Families with very low wages in many underdeveloped countries usually have bigger families."

Areas in Northern America and Europe have seen a decrease in fertility rates. Environmental Science teacher Janira Arocho confirms this: "Most developed countries are seeing a decrease in the rate of growth, and many even a decline; but in poor de-

"The current amount of people is way

more than our Earth can handle."

veloping countries, where

women do not have access

to birth control, population

growth continues to be a

As the number of people in the world increases, consumption of natural resources becomes more of a concern. Nobel Prize-winning scientist Paul Crutzen talks about a new geological era called 'Anthropocene,' which is characterized by the human impact and his activity on the environment. Senior Kelly Robinson states, "The current amount of people is way more than our Earth can handle. We are already running out of resources, like fish and natural gas."

According to the United Nations Environment Program, in about ten years, two-thirds of the world population will be living in countries that lack water.

Another concern is access to food; studies report that right

now, more than 800 million people don't have enough to eat, which could worsen with population growth.

Senior Marc Gomez-



India has one of the fastest growing populations in the world.

Photo Credit: ABC News

Olive states, "I think that overpopulation would bring starvation. A possible solution could be promoting investments in the agriculture sector." According to *The Sixth Extinction*, written by Elizabeth Kolbert, the main factors of the physical world transformation include deforestation, forced animal moving from their natural habitat, and CO<sub>2</sub> emission of in the atmosphere and in the ocean.

Moubarak says some solutions could be to educate people, fix environmental problems, and redistribute wealth and resources. The ideal solution would be a balance between the world birth rates and the deaths rates. Equally important is a conscious consumption of the earth's resources.

According to the UN, the global fertility rate of 2.5 children per woman is expected to fall to 2.25 by 2050. However, the population won't stop growing for several decades. Small fertility changes and more responsible consumption of resources can make large differences in the coming years.

# The Ramifications of American Drone Warfare

By Lizzie Downing Register Forum Contributor

On October 12th, a missile from a U.S. drone over Al-Raqqa, Syria targeted Mohammed Emwazi, better known as Jihadi John, the notorious British ISIS member seen in multiple beheading videos. The drone "evaporated" Emwazi according to one U.S. official.

Rarely do Americans recognize the names of those killed in drone strikes, and though Obama has repeatedly promised greater transparency about the program, he's never really delivered. CRLS senior Ripley Burns, among many other students, felt "too uninformed to speak intelligently" about the issue.

The campaign against ISIS in Syria and Iraq, is comprised mainly

The strategic role of drones is

only likely to increase with the

effort against ISIS.

of manned airstrikes. The latest figures from the Department of Defense num-

ber U.S. airstrikes at 6,471, with the rest of the coalition at just 1,818.

Separate from this broader effort is the more secretive unmanned drone campaign and the so-called "targeted killing" of alleged terrorists, run through parallel programs

by the CIA and the military.

In 2011, John Brennan, then counterterrorism advisor and current CIA director spoke of "targeted, surgical pressures" as a better strategy than ground deployment, reflecting the Obama administration's reversal of policy after U.S. invasions of Afghanistan and Iraq. Many at CRLS agree; junior Juliet Nadis concedes that drone strikes are "probably a better alternative to huge invasions on the ground, definitely in terms of money, and seemingly in terms of the casualties."

The lower enemy to civilian death rates in proportion to other types of warfare are frequently cited in defense of drone use. Additionally, all measures of civilian deaths decreased over time, indicating improvements in the process. Sophomore Max McGrath acknowledges this as "a good point."

M a n y still suggest that civilian deaths are underreported, owing to a faulty chain

of intelligence. Last month, a cache of documents anonymously leaked to the Intercept showed an instance in which all those killed in an Afghanistan strike were labeled as "enemies killed in action," while only a fraction were targeted be-



A Pakistani tribesman stands in remains of his house after airstrikes in January 2006.

Photo Credit: Getty Images

forehand, and most were unknown.

Drone strikes are legally justified by the 2001 Authorization for the Use of Military Force (AUMF), which in broad writing permitted the president to use "all necessary and appropriate force" against anyone remotely affiliated with Al Qaeda.

A request by Obama in February for a separate AUMF against ISIS died in congress, so the 2001 version is still in use. At the level of international law, the White House refers to a nation's right to self-de-

fense. Many UN officials see this as overly expansive.

Modern World History teacher Rachel Otty says this is a "potential invitation to spread the use of this technology," and that drones "allow for the possibility of endless war, especially if you're using weapons in places where you're not declaring war," citing drone strikes in Pakistan, Yemen, and Somalia.

The strategic role of drones is only likely to increase with the effort against ISIS, though it's anyone's guess who will hear about it.

# Fencing Team on the Rise Say Hello to Rindge's Newest Team

By Emma Harris Register Forum Contributor

The sport of fencing is CRLS' newest addition to its wide variety of athletic programs. If you have never heard of fencing before and had no idea that it is even a legitimate sport, then you are not alone.

Not nearly as popular in the United States as other sports, it is easy for fencing to slide under the radar. It isn't televised except every four years during the Olympics. Even then, only one out of the three vastly different fencing styles is highlighted. With the fencing season underway, the team is constantly trying to raise awareness for the great number of benefits, both physically and mentally, that fencing has to offer.

Fencing consists of three weapon styles: foil, épée and sabre, all of which originated in Spain and France in the 1400s. An épée has a heavy triangular blade and an épée-

ist's target includes the entire body. A foil is a lighter sword, but foilists can

only hit their opponent on the torso. Both foil and épée only count touches scored with the point of the sword. In sabre, however, the entire blade can be used to score. The sabre style is akin to what's seen in the movies, and big slashing motions

are used to hit the opponent. Most

competitive fencers chose to train

in only one style, although is not unheard of for a fencer to practice more. The tip of the fencing "weapon" is the fastest moving Olympic object besides a bullet from a rifle.

Additionally, the way that fencing is formatted is very different from most other sports. It is almost strictly individual, as you compete by yourself on a "strip". Unlike in team sports such as soccer and hockey, there is nobody to pass the ball to or tap in for you if you get hurt. Individual situations such as these create high pressure moments, which, over time, the fencer must learn to navigate with increasing ease. Fencing strategically requires logic and reasoning skills related to those that a chess player possesses, which is why many people claim that fencing is "a chess game at lightning speed."

After winning last year's state championships, the team is looking to capture victory again. Epée squad captain and Senior Isabela Trumble says that this season she is most ex-

> cited about "creating a strong and united team that will try [its] hardest and do

[its] best!"

Fencing is "a chess game

at lightning speed."

While the team has a few veterans, most members have little to no fencing experience and have to be introduced to the sport. Newcomer Liam Simons says that he was compelled to join the team because "fencing is a really fun sport that [he] has always wanted to try.





Captain Isabella Trumble (top) participates in a match. CRLS Fencing (bottom) during a tournament.

Photo Credit: Isabella Trumble

The team also has a nice and encouraging environment."

With the first competition only a few weeks away, Simons claims that he is most excited for the match-ups with other schools that have elite fencing programs, such as BU Academy and Dana Hall. "Although these will be tough meets, we have the opportunity to prove ourselves as a top-tier fencing program," Simons adds.

Julian Cohen, another new Falcons.

member, says he is "looking forward to the challenge of learning how to fence," as well as "testing [his] skills in a competitive environment." In addition, "[he's] excited to meet new teammates and make new friends."

All in all, the CRLS fencing team has grown tremendously this year and all the teammates, new and old, look forward to working hard to bring home another win for the

# After his 20th Season, Kobe Bryant Bids Farewell to Basketball

By Will Telingator Register Forum Contributor

When the NBA season ends in June this year, the league will be losing one of the greatest players to ever step foot on a basketball court. On November 29, Kobe Bryant announced that he will retire at the end of this season, marking the final chapter of one of the most decorated careers in

NBA history.

At thirty-seven years ing a legend." old, Bryant is undoubtedly a future Hall of Famer--he's a 17-time All-Star, 11-time All-NBA First Team, and most importantly, 5-time NBA champion. Not only that, but Kobe inspired an entire generation of young basketball players with his amazing skills on the court. "Growing up, Kobe was the best. He was the highest standard," notes sophomore basketball player Aidan



Kobe Bryant has scored 32, 782 points over his 20 year career, which is third all-time.

Photo Credit: USA Today Sports

Keefer. "The league is los-

Although towards the end of his career Bryant's performance has slightly declined, he still ranks as one of the most important figures in the sporting world. For many

years, Bryant was the face of basketball, and was recognized

basketball fans around the world for his unmatched competitiveness and his relentless drive for success.

Junior Katrina Pierre, an avid Lakers fan, believes that Kobe's success can partly be attributed to his unwavering passion for the game of basketball. She explains, "He's played for nineteen years, which is a long time for anybody in any professional sport. No matter what got in his way, his love for basketball allowed him to push through any and all obstacles."

to the league that made him a legend, he will be leaving behind a very powerful legacy. In addition to being considered an all-time great on the court, Bryant is widely regarded as being a

"He was the highest standard... The league is losing a legend."

> great leader and mentor to his teammates. Junior Boalvi Candelario agrees, "He is a great leader; he's someone who other basketball players can look up to, whether it's high school, college, or any type of basketball."

> Indeed, Bryant will be sorely missed by fans and players across the globe. That is, maybe with the exception of some Celtics fans who fell victim to Kobe's greatness in the 2010 NBA Finals. Freshman Aidan Daniliuk, a huge Celtics fan, states, "Well,

As Kobe bids farewell I feel good and bad [about Kobe's retirement]. Good because he's a great player and I don't want him playing against the Celtics, but I also like to watch him play, for the same reason."

While it may be a

stretch to call the Lakers serious playoff contenders this year, Bryant will surely be

looking to end his career on a high note. Knowing Kobe and his competitive drive, he will do anything that it takes to help his beloved Lakers succeed.

In the end, Kobe's retirement marks the end of an era. The impact that he left on the game of basketball can never be fully appreciated. Needless to say, he will be truly missed. As senior Cameron Walker puts it, "the NBA without Kobe is like fries without ketchup. It's still enjoyable but not the same."



Photo Credit: Jakigh Dottin

By Tre'von Busby White Register Forum Contributor

### RF: Why did you choose basketball?

Jakigh Dottin: I chose basketball because it was the first sport I played. Once I started playing it more it just stood out to me.

#### RF: Who are your idols?

JD: I grew up mostly watching Donovan McNabb, #5 on the Philadelphia Eagles. I just love his attitude and the love he has for his sport, so I look up to him. For basketball it would have to be Jason Terry and Dirk Nowitzki on the Dallas Mavericks. Another person who is my most important idol is my uncle Lance Dottin.

#### RF: How do you train for a season?

# Player Spotlight: Jakigh Dottin Rising Basketball Star Outlines Goals for Future

team to win games. But for the rest of those nine months that you're not in season mode, it's really up to you to put in the work.

### RF: What are your main goals this season?

JD: My main goal for this season is to ultimately win a state championship. We've been here for a while. Last time we won was in 2001. So our main goal is to silence all the haters. I hear everything, I see everything, I just want to go out there and shut all the naysayers up.

### RF: Do you believe you're the G.O.A.T. (Greatest of All Time)?

JD: Do I believe I'm the G.O.A.T.? Let me see... I think I can go down as one of the best but I know I'm not the best. Patrick Ewing really put a stamp on that, a long, long time ago, and I don't think anybody can touch that. He's the best player to come out of Massachusetts. We're just lucky enough he came from Cambridge. But I think after these last two seasons, I can get up there.

### RF: Where do you see yourself in ten years in relation to basketball?

JD: I would love to get a full scholarship to play basketball for four years at any university. Then JD: This is how I look at it: you have three after I graduate, see if I'm fortunate enough to

months of your actual season to get better as a play in the NBA or go overseas to play basketball. So I think that my main goal is to play ball somewhere and make money off of it.

### RF: Do you think your family has supported you through your years of playing basketball? JD: My mom and my uncle are really confident about what I do. They want me to continue playing. I believe that's why I'm here now. I love the way they push me everyday to get better, that

just shows that they care a lot.

### RF: Do you think your coaches are ready for this season? Do you think they're well prepared to take you guys to the championship? JD: I think that the coaches are always prepared and there's not one challenge they face that they can't beat. They are all just so smart and so good at what they do. If anything unexpected gets thrown at them, they'll get it out their way. If they give us the right tools, when we see these things, they don't have to say anything because we can just react to it ourselves. I just think it is

### RF: Do you see your team winning a championship before you graduate?

amazing to have that type of coaching staff.

JD: Most definitely we can, with me, the other returners, and the new talent that has stepped up to varsity. I really think we can do it.

# 'Say Boys' Basketball Team

Coaches, Players Set Sights on a State Title

By Rafael Goldstein Register Forum Editor

The CRLS boys basketball team has high hopes for this season after a strong first season in the DCL. The Falcons dominated in their first season, winning the league outright, and then finishing as Division 1 North Champions. Unfortunately, the Falcons fell just short of the championship, losing a heartbreaker at the Garden against Central Catholic.

When asked about his approach to this season, Coach Lance Dottin reasoned, "Our goal is to improve every day. We want to challenge the DCL. We want to qualify for the state, and then we want to

out there defend and title!" our players The are also very excited about

defend our title."

"We want to go out there and

the upcoming season. Junior Nathan Habtom is looking forward to "simply watching [junior] Dimon 'Wishy Washy' Carrigan play."

This year, the road to TD Garden will not be any easier. The DCL is one of the most competitive leagues in the state, and every game is a battle. Sophomore Aidan Keefer, a member of the CRLS varsity team last year, added, "We lost a bunch of seniors, but we have a

bunch of players looking to make an impact." This year, the team will have to play without Isaiah McLeod, who is currently playing for one of the top Division 2 basketball teams in the nation, Southern Connecticut State. McLeod's name appears on the 1000-point banner in the Al Coccoluto gym, recognizing his incredible career during his time here at CRLS.

Despite McLeod's departure, the team has plans to duplicate their success from last season. It is no easy feat to repeat a season as successful as their last one, but the players are still confident.

Carrigan added, "If we can communicate with each other, we will have another successful season and hopefully have a good shot

at the state championship."

Carrigan is not the only player

confident about the season. Junior captain Jakigh Dottin is not alone in his excitement, and he "can't wait to go out and play and show that [the team is] a top program in the state."

The boys first game was in Concord-Carlisle on December 15th. They will face Bishop Hendricken High School at the TD Bank North Garden on January 24th, so make sure to get your tickets!













Top to bottom, left to right: Students at Falcon Pride Day on November 25th with Freddie the Falcon; sophomore Jonathan Cenescar; Freddie and Ms. Herrera; the CRLS robotics team's robot; Andrique Fleurimond pumps up the crowd; the CRLS band.

Photo Credit: Steven Matteo