

The  
**REGISTER FORUM**  
*Established 1891*

VOL. 128 NO. 2

CAMBRIDGE RINDGE AND LATIN SCHOOL

OCTOBER 2015



PAGE 13

**BLOOD MOON**

CRLS junior Bouchra Boutlaeb took this photo of the Blood Moon, rising on September 28th.

Photo Credit: Bouchra Boutlaeb

## CRLS Crew Takes the Charles *Falcons Fly High in Annual HOTC Regatta*

By  
Matthew Scarlett  
*Register Forum Contributor*

The world's largest rowing event is held annually just a couple miles from our school, and our very own Falcons competed in the race. Asked before the regatta, senior Ben Rosand stated, "The Head of the Charles is one of the biggest international regattas. We are very confident and have been working hard."

The regatta, which was founded in 1964, draws rowers and spectators alike from

around the world. *"We agreed it had been the best race of our lives."* Asked before the regatta, the legendary Pre-Cal-

culus teacher and boys crew coach Mr. Caimi stated, "We feel excited about the fact that we have been ranked the highest in school history for the boys [40-85] and the girls [45-85]. The main goal is to automatically qualify for next year's event by coming in the top half of

the results, which has never been done in school history."

As a matter of fact, both squads crushed their pre-race rankings by a large margin. The girls (whose boat boasted Izzy Gray, Caroline Stetson, Zoe Goldstein, Kate Lummis, and Olivia Gardner) came in 12th, and the boys (whose boat consisted of Colin Lee, Will McManus, Alex Shulman, Nate Dempsey and Zachary Rothenberg) finished 25th.

Both squads are very proud of their results and Izzy Gray states, "As soon as we passed the finish line and caught our breath, we agreed it

had been the best race of our lives, the result [12th] out of 85 was very surprising.

When we finished we had no idea how we did, I thought the chance of us coming in the bottom half of the results was realistic, but when we finally found out our result, it was a huge relief. I am very proud of our boat and we hope to kill at states next week."

## Texting & Driving: Don't Do It

By  
Benno Krahe  
*Register Forum Contributor*

Distracted driving, including anything from eating to texting behind the wheel, annually claims the lives of at least 3,000 teens nationwide. Now, in an increasingly digital age, the CRLS community has its concerns. According to a recent school poll of twenty students and teachers, 80% believe that distracted driving is a growing problem.

"More and more people are using phones, so yeah, it's a growing problem," said CRLS senior and teenage driver Colin McNeely.

Although most agree that the problem is growing, the number of fatalities involving distracted driving has changed little over the past several years. According to the NHTSA, there were 3,092 fatalities in 2010 which compares to 3,154 deaths in 2013.

Ming Lian, a CRLS sophomore, isn't so convinced that distracted driving is a growing epidemic. "Lots of states are banning

texting while driving so the problem can't grow rapidly to the point where many people die," Ming stated. Currently, 40 states, including Massachusetts, have already made bans on texting while driving.

Whether distracted driving is on the rise or not, out of those polled, 100% agreed that it is a pressing problem.

"I think people are already aware of the problem," said McNeely. "But we should act more."

Now Massachusetts lawmakers are acting by legislating a law that would prohibit any driver from holding up a cell phone to his/her ear, according to Boston NPR news.

Nevertheless, some remain skeptical that simply implementing stricter bans on distracted driving will be enough to resolve the dilemma. Jamie Diulio, CRLS Physical Education and Health Coordinator, says, "It's difficult for law enforcement to instill consequences for distracted driving."

Guillermo Nojehowicz, CRLS

*Continued on page 2*

## INSIDE THIS EDITION

### PHILHARMONIC



**Around School, p. 3**

### CLUB DAY

Analyzing CRLS' annual tradition and examining the reasons behind choosing extracurriculars.

**Around School, p. 5**

### JOE BIDEN



**Op-Ed, p. 7**

### SCH. COMMITTEE

Get the inside scoop on the School Committee candidates' stances on tracking, the dress code, and more.

**Metro, p. 14-15**

### CRLS FOOTBALL



**Sports, p. 16**



REGISTER FORUM

Cambridge Rindge and Latin School  
459 Broadway, Cambridge, MA 02138  
twitter: @registerforum  
bit.ly/crlsrfr  
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  
Carmen Enrique '17  
Emma Harris '17  
Claire Healy '17  
Milo Lynch '17  
Ursula Murray-Bozeman '17  
Rosa Munson-Blatt '17  
Shubhan Ngundra '16  
Paloma O'Connor '16  
Grace Ramsdell '18  
Shuvom Sadhuka '18  
Matthew Scarlett '16  
Daniel Walsh '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”

Freshman Thoughts on ACE

By  
Oscar Mendoza and  
Lucas Oliveira-Chace  
Register Forum  
Contributors



ACE focused on new ways to understand climate change.  
Photo Credit: Alliance for Climate Education

The Environmental Action Assembly I went to on September 30th, 2015, was unlike any assembly I had gone to before. For one thing, it used visuals and audio in a way completely new to me.

In previous assemblies, the visuals were pictures used step by step to help you keep up with what the presenter was talking about.

In the Alliance of Climate Education (ACE) assembly, the visuals were

animated cartoons that went hand in hand with what presenter Alan Palmer was saying. The audio, if there was any at all, was just background music in previous assemblies. The audio in this one was mostly sound effects made to help

you understand what was happening in the cartoons.

The presentation that was given by Alan Palmer was great and informational. He gave excellent examples and used facts to prove his point, which kept me interested. He used a well put together animated PowerPoint to kept me entertained and engaged. The animation involved multi-

“The high planet’s temperature has caused various ice caps and glaciers to start melting.”

colored people interacting with the background, while Palmer talked throughout each animation.

Although the animation was great, the problems that it presented are happening worldwide. These problems are complex, such

as the drought affecting California which is depleting food supplies, as there is barely any rain to grow food. Another impact Palmer brought up was increasing temperatures on Earth.

The planet’s high temperature has caused various ice caps and glaciers to start melting. Pollution is another impact on the Earth which has been caused by cars, factories and power plants.

The pollution has been affecting the general health of our population and the migratory paths of many animal species.

Another impact mentioned in the presentation was overfishing, which destabilizes the oceanic ecosystem and will end up hurting most, if not all, living species in the ocean.

New UNICEF Club Focuses on the Syrian Refugee Crisis

By  
Emma Harris  
Register Forum Contributor

With the amount of media coverage and attention that the Syrian refugee crisis is attracting, it can be tough to decipher the severity of the situation. As the bloody civil war rages on in the heart of Syria, many men, women and children have been displaced from their homes.

Observing from across the globe, it can leave many feeling helpless to offer assistance and relief to the nearly nine million refugees in desperate need of shelter, clothing and food.

However, here at CRLS, a small group of students have created the UNICEF club in an attempt to raise awareness about the crisis and hopefully make a difference in the lives of young refugees.

Run by the United Nations, UNICEF’s purpose is to help children in underdeveloped countries by advocating for education and providing resources such as clothing and food when disasters strike.

Last spring, juniors Bouchra

and Zahyyeh started CRLS’s very own branch of UNICEF.

Bouchra, the president of the club, says that their biggest goal for this school year is “raising awareness for young displaced refugees as well as other underprivileged children around the world with an emphasis on becoming a more globally aware citizen[s].”

The club’s event director, Rihanna, adds that some club events to look forward to this year include “informational workshops, fundraisers and a clothing drive run for the non-profit group NuDay Syria,

which will send medical supplies, clothing and toys directly to Syrian refugee camps.”

The club’s vice president, Zahyyeh, stresses that “even the smallest gesture can create change in someone’s life,” and that everyone can get involved in the efforts.

The Syrian refugee situation is the largest refugee migration and one of the most serious humanitarian crises of this century. Millions of people are displaced and in desperate need of life’s basic necessities.

If you are interested in helping out, email crlsunicef@gmail.com.

“Even the smallest gesture can create change in someone’s life.”

TEXTING AND DRIVING

Continued from page 1

Band Director, was equally concerned, saying, “People who get tickets for distracted driving are the only ones who are going to change their ways, and those who aren’t caught are just going to continue their dangerous driving habits.”

Nojehowicz instead believes that the solution lies in “a state run campaign and advertisements.”

Besides bans, others believe in more personal strategies to counter distracted driving.

Nicholas Wilson, a CRLS sophomore, thinks the solution lies in parents. “Parents need to instill discipline by laying down rules and punishing their kids when they use cell phones while driving,” Nicholas said.

Kim DeAndrade, Coordinator of Health at CRLS, feels that even more-so than parents, the best remedy is in ourselves. “People need to use self-discipline to not respond to texts behind the wheel,” she said.

Whatever the case, multiple sources, including a Virginia Tech study, agree that distracted driving increases the chance of a car accident by 23%.

So it is no mystery how 39 Massachusetts drivers aged sixteen to twenty died in 2012 during the act of texting while driving.

Victor Nunes is one CRLS student who has been struck by a driver on a cell phone. “There’s something more important than phones,” said Nunes. “It’s the safety of the people.”



Texting while driving is still a problem even though it was outlawed in Massachusetts a few years ago.

Photo Credit: Liam Greenwell



# Fashion Becomes the Trend at Rindge and Latin

By  
Carmen Enrique  
*Register Forum Contributor*

Fashion month has just ended, with hundreds of haute couture shows and presentations taking place around the globe, and there is no doubt that this industry plays a large role in our lives. It is common to feel removed from the big dresses and shiny suits put out by famous brands such as Chanel and Versace, but as junior Serena Bialkin puts it, many Rindge students “are wearing runway-influenced clothes without even realizing it.”

The garments created by big fashion houses make their way into the world of retail in forms that are cheaper and more appealing to the mainstream public.

For example, remember the wedge sneaker, a cross of questionable practicality between high heels and running shoes? It only became ubiquitous once French designer Isabel Marant launched it circa 2012.

One trend that is influencing style at CRLS is “athleisure.”

This recently-coined term describes the wearing of athletic clothing outside of the gym or sports practices. Brands like Nike

and Adidas are very popular. Many people wear Adidas sweatpants that are intended for soccer, even if they do not play the sport. This mode can be linked to the recent surge in 70s-inspired attire, as seen in collections from designers including Tory Burch and Missoni.

While the fashion world influences the wardrobes of Rindge students, many agree that the stakes at our school are not extremely high when it comes to dressing. (Well, that is, with the exception of the occasional detractor remarking “What are thooooose?” in the direction of your shoes.)

Junior Serena Bialkin says, “I think that there are a lot of different styles at Rindge and none dominates another so...there is not really widespread judging based on clothing choices.”

Of course, as in any environment, there is “a natural inclination to make assumptions about others, and a person’s appearance is always the first thing we know about someone,” says sophomore Paul Sullivan. Junior Anna Griffin



CRLS sophomore Emma Andrew sports the latest trend, Adidas sweatpants.  
Photo Credit: Grace Ramsdell

believes that stereotypes also play a role in public perception of fashion. “There are labels...that are as-

sociated with the way people dress,” she says.

Another factor in the clothing choices of Rindge students seems to be their social circle. Friends often dress alike as “groups of people form around similar identities and

places in life, and clothing reflects that to some degree,” according to senior Colin Lee.

Fashion is a large part of everyone’s life, and what CRLS students wear is obviously noticed by their peers.

Whether you are the kind of person who throws on a t-shirt and jeans in the morning, or the kind who scours Vogue for the latest accessories, you are constantly participating in a multi-billion dollar industry.

*“There are labels that are associated with the way people dress.”*

## CRLS Welcomes the Boston Philharmonic

By  
Ursula Murray-Bozeman  
*Register Forum Contributor*

On Friday, October 16th, the CRLS Visual and Performing Arts Department welcomed renowned conductor Benjamin Zander to the stage of our very own Fitzgerald Theater. Zander conducts the Boston Philharmonic Orchestra and the Boston Philharmonic Youth Orchestra, in which three CRLS students play. He has also been a guest conductor around the world, won three Grammys, given a Ted Talk, was featured on 60 Minutes, and co-wrote The Art of Possibility, a best-selling book on bringing creativity into one’s life.

Zander, despite his musical career, spoke to students about more than just classical music. He made a distinction between two ways of looking at life: what he calls the “Downward Spiral,” which is filled with worry and stress that even success cannot relieve, and a different mindset, which he names “Radiating Possibility.” Here, in

every situation there are multiple possibilities for change, no matter how bad it seems. He claims that no matter what limits your life, “You can choose at every single moment of every single day for the rest of your life whether you talk in ‘Downward Spiral’ or ‘Radiating Possibility.’”

Zander also criticized the formal education system, claiming that it is based on “Downward Spiral,” and pointed out that “If you have an A, the only place you can go is down.” CRLS junior Bella Jaffe disagreed, saying that while “[at] some point in high school everyone gets trapped in competition...when students find a class that they thoroughly enjoy and are engaged in, that shows them new perspectives and they are not experiencing spiraling.”

To get through the tough times, however, Zander described a way of looking at life that focuses on the arc of events, rather than on each moment, so that one “flies above the fences” and doesn’t have to toil over them.

However, one CRLS junior, who preferred to remain anonymous, pointed out that while it’s



Benjamin Zander in the Fitzgerald Theater during his talk.  
Photo Credit: Lucas Gibson

true the individual fences aren’t all that important, the fences are what add up to make your life. “I have a biology test next period and here’s someone telling me I can just fly over the fences,” she said. “But I can’t. I have to live through every moment.”

Sophomore Jeremy Klein, a violinist in the Boston Philharmonic Youth Orchestra, agrees that “It would be a mistake to assume that the presence of possibility makes all of this [downward spiral] go away.” But he still claims that “Radiating Possibility” is relevant to any high schooler’s life by using “possibility as a tool for approaching the downward spiral tasks we are given in a more effective and enjoyable way.”

The visit was not simply a charitable one—it was conceived to advertise for the Boston Philharmonic Youth Orchestra concert in Symphony Hall on November 2nd.

The orchestra collaborated with the Free-for-all Concert Fund, a local organization that provides grants to make tickets free to concerts in Boston. CRLS will be bussing students to the concert on November 2nd. For more information and free tickets, please contact Ms. Umbro.



Zander speaks to animated CRLS students.  
Photo Credit: Lucas Gibson



# CRLS Lunch Spots Reviewed

*In Part 2, We Visit Angelo's, Mona Lisa's and the Caf*

By  
Liam Greenwell  
*Register Forum Editor*

In search of the ultimate truth, your intrepid editors have once again embarked on a wonderful (and sometimes perilous) journey through the lunch spots around Rindge. Last month, we explored the three markets/sandwich shops, while this month we will discuss the two pizza places and the cafeteria's lunch offerings.

**Mona Lisa's:** The more expensive of the two pizza spots, Mona Lisa's offers a slice of cheese for about \$2.25, and the always popular buffalo chicken for about a dollar more. Though the variety is lacking, the pizza is usually delicious—just make sure to ask for your slice to be heated up if it has been sitting in the tray for a while.

The cheese can hit the spot, though I find the tomato sauce they use to be

too sweet. The employees are nice, but can rush you along if the line is especially long. And if you want a drink, know exactly what you want before you reach the counter.

**Pro-Tip:** Want something other than the slices at the counter? Call ahead. Though the staff is relatively fast when making to-order sandwiches, burgers, or fries, it is always better to call ahead (617-491-1888) and arrive at the restaurant just as they are finishing cooking. Plus, you get to skip the line when picking up your food!

**Bang for Your Buck:** Medium

**Angelo's:** Notoriously unhealthy but unquestionably delicious, Angelo's is a fixture of the Rindge lunch rush. The pizza slices are bigger here than at Mona Lisa's, but they are also less consistent (and much greasier). However, one of the most famous aspects of Angelo's is the devilish fries.

Served in an insulated paper bag with a fork, these extremely greasy creations have a huge following. Even if you've never gone to Angelo's, you know the smell of their fries. But there's a reason the fries have a following. They are delicious. And though you may regret your decision later, they are the epitome of great comfort food. There's a perception that Angelo's is unclean—and this is true to a certain extent, so use your judgment. At rush times, Angelo's is hectic at best, but once things calm down a bit you can go and get food with plenty of time to spare. **Pro-Tip:** Though Angelo's regulars are hip to the fact that the pizza place offers the cheapest candy around, others often will instead end up going to Harvard or Broadway where the same candy costs twice as much.

**Bang for Your Buck:** High

**School Lunch:** Even though CRLS' school lunch was named the second best



The delicious, and not so nutritious, Angelo's bacon fries.  
Photo Credit: Liam Greenwell

for a public school in the entire country, you will more often hear people complaining about the options than praising them.

Fresh salad bars abound, and the number of options is simply staggering. The main cafeteria always has at least three stations for hot food, plus multiple salad bars and a soup station, while the media cafe always has at least one vegetarian option, plus a pasta station and an impressively full-featured salad bar. Get there quick if you want one of the sandwich or flatbread vegetarian options.

It takes a lot of work

to make this much tasty, healthy food. Though school lunch is sometimes hit or miss, it is wonderful to have such a remarkable food program. This we should appreciate. Considering price, school lunch is unquestionably the best option when it comes to lunch at CRLS.

**Pro-Tip:** At Rindge, we celebrate Taco Wednesdays, not Taco Tuesdays like some other schools of questionable importance. Do not be fooled by this discrepancy.

**Bang for Your Buck:** Extreme

# English 10 Students Drop Everything and Read

By  
Grace Ramsdell  
*Register Forum Contributor*

Step into any English 10 room during the first 20 minutes of class, and chances are you will find it full of people reading independently. Former students of English 10 teacher Dr. Parker may consider the practice a familiar sight, but this marks the first year that all English 10 classes are adopting the Independent Reading Challenge.

The initiative pushes English 10 students to read a number of books on their own by the end of the term. For students in full-year, College-Prep classes, the goal is to read about 40 books, and in Honors classes, students are encouraged to read 20 books by the end of the semester.

To support this challenge, all English 10 teachers now give their students 20 minutes to read independently at the start of class, in addition to assigning 20 minutes of reading outside of class daily. No book is off-limits for a student to read.

According to Dr. Parker, "Kids need to develop fluency, and the only way that they can develop fluency and positive associations with reading is if they read. And

kids don't read enough...I think that [this year English 10 teachers] realized...the best way to get kids to read is to actually give them time to read, [and] let them read what they want."

Miss Wilhelmy, also an English 10 teacher, explains the effect that dedicating time to independent reading in class has on the curriculum, saying, "Everything is kind of pinched a little bit more, but it actually has made me more efficient with teaching...[by] really teaching the key concepts." She also expressed that this requires students to take on more responsibility at home.

To gauge how students feel about the initiative, 52 CP students and 73 HN students were asked to agree or disagree with the statement, "I think that 20 minutes of independent reading during class

is a good use of time." The majority of the students who participated in the poll have class with Dr. Parker, Miss Wilhelmy, or Ms. Labaze, another English 10 teacher.

Of the 125 students surveyed, an overwhelming 90.4% agreed with the statement, while only 7.2% disagreed, and 2.4% said they felt unsure or ambivalent.

Students' reasons for liking the



Students in Miss Wilhelmy's second period class read independently at the start of class.  
Photo Credit: Grace Ramsdell

initiative ranged from simply enjoying reading and feeling as though it makes them smarter to agreeing that spending time reading at the beginning of the period helps them settle into the right mindset for English class. Many also appreciate guaranteed and constant reading time in class, since it can be hard to find elsewhere throughout the day.

Above all other reasons, students support the initiative because they feel that reading in class is relaxing; one student commented on their survey, "It's the only part of the school day that I am not stressed."

CP student Amelia McDermott says she approves of the initiative, but also stated, "Some kids are a little bit rowdy [during reading

time]...and I know from experience that I get distracted easily."

Responses like McDermott's highlight that while all English 10 courses are, in theory, the same or similar, the environment of the classes can differ greatly, which heavily impacts a student's enjoyment of initiatives such as the Independent Reading Challenge.

As far as expansion of the initiative is concerned, English 9 teacher Ms. Hogue says she feels that the ninth grade English curriculum does not currently allow for an emphasis on independent reading. She hopes to see that change in the future, because "independent reading is one of the most important things that we can be doing."



# Club Going Up On a Wednesday

## Rindge Students Prove Choosy on Club Day

By  
Will MacArthur  
Register Forum  
Contributor

On September 30th and October 1st, the Media Caf and Kimbrough Way played host to Club Day. Hundreds of students descended on tables promoting almost as many organizations: Club 1 and Club 4 competed for the attention of the teeming masses filling what is normally a peaceful lunchtime enclave, Ethiopian Club and Environmental Action attracted steady streams of onlookers, and the controlled chaos that has become an annual tradition ensued with a

that some clubs have him “enthralled.” Among the exciting clubs pitching their product at Club Day was Marine Conservation Club. According to senior club President Bella Fix, “by 2050 the ocean will not be a clean resource. Think about that: no beaches and less biodiversity.” MCC’s mission is to “raise awareness,” and they vocally encouraged passersby to abandon plastic water bottles and join the cause in the hallway they shared with Environmental Action and other advocacy groups.

*“If a club has support from students and faculty, the administration should support it as well.”*

waterfall of sign-up sheets, myriad trifolds, and a robot courtesy of Robotics Club. The sheer volume of choices can be overwhelming for some underclassmen, and several members of the Class of 2019 declined to comment for this article, choosing instead to peruse their many options uninterrupted. For others, however, it can be exciting; for sophomore Pilli Cruz-Dejesus, even “phenomenal.” Dejesus elaborated

Down the Kimbrough Way, Model UN continued to “challenge students to think about global issues from a variety of perspectives,” in the words of senior club enthusiast Izzy Gray, who continued, “students who participate return to the classroom with stronger leadership and communication skills and a more nuanced understanding of international relations.” Clubs at Rindge go through an approval process

of recruiting 20 members, finding an advisor, and persuading the administration that they fill a unique niche in the community. According to Assistant Principal Bobby Tynes, “there is now a backlog of club proposals, but students can still pick up proposal forms in the main office.” Junior Bouchra Benghomari of the nascent UNICEF Club asserts that the current approval process is “not fair, and Student Government is working to improve it.” Benghomari states that the administration

should approve new clubs even if they closely resemble existing ones, and “if a club has support from students and faculty, the administration should support it as well.”

One possible limit on the number of clubs is the cost of the stipends paid to each faculty advisor, which LC L Dean Susie VanBlaricum says average \$600 per year. Not everybody has purely altruistic reasons for doing clubs. In a Register Forum poll of 71 students



From top: the Ceramics Club’s leadership displayed some of their work; leaders of the Charles River Cleanup Club offered Twizzlers.  
Photo Credit: Engels Ady

conducted in June, 48% of students strongly, mostly, or somewhat agreed that they choose their extracurricular activities with college

Regardless of what clubs students join, and whatever their reasoning, most students at Club Day agreed that clubs are a very beneficial part of the CRLS experience. As senior soccer captain, Marine Conservation member, as well as noted club promoter Colin McNeely said, “they keep you off the streets.”

*48% of students agreed that they choose their extracurricular activities with college admissions in mind.*

# Voting and the Priorities of a Typical High Schooler

## Why Has the Rate of Student Electoral Participation Declined So Steeply?

By  
Natasha Davis  
Register Forum Contributor

In the next 13 months, there will be two political elections that will affect CRLS students immensely. Unfortunately, most students don’t see the point in participating. According to the United States Census Bu-



Many students do not see the point of voting.  
Photo Credit: Natasha Davis

reau, only 38% of 18 to 24 year olds vote. “It’s an important right, but [it’s] important it isn’t abused,” Irene Tournas, a CRLS senior, says. Voting is an important way to voice your beliefs, but you can’t do that if you don’t vote. CRLS senior Galileo Mondol points out, however, that “[i]f you have the time and ability then vote, but you also shouldn’t vote for someone you don’t believe in.” Teenagers often have difficulties picking a candidate they believe in—like Tyler Granberry, a CRLS senior, who shares his view that, “It’s usually a choice between two terrible candidates.” The two parties also have a lot of influence over whether some teens choose to vote. A few students have expressed that having just the Democratic and Republican parties isn’t very useful. If the US had a multi-party system instead of a two-party system, more students might be willing to vote.

In 1971, both houses of Congress passed an extension of the age of voters. The Constitution later that year was changed from the age of 21 to the age of 18 for Americans by the 26th Amendment. The right for young people to vote hasn’t

been around nearly as long as voting itself. “It’s the basis of democracy, it’s a way to have a say in how you are governed,” Ross Benson, a CRLS math teacher, says. Most people think registering to vote takes forever and there’s just not enough time in their busy schedules. There are ways around this. You have two options: you can go into the office and fill the form out, or you can complete an online form. The online form can be filled out anywhere with internet, and on your own time. With most people, it’s hard to see what’s important about something that you don’t know much about or understand. “It’s important to vote only if you know what’s going on, some people don’t know what they’re talking about.” Nino Deler said. According to Info-please.com, the presidential election in 2000 between George W. Bush and Al Gore was really close. The numbers came out to be 50,456,002 to 50,999,897 after a recount in Florida, proving that every vote really does count. You could choose to sit at home and skip the next elections, but you may want to reconsider if the next person elected won by the one

*“It’s the basis of democracy, it’s a way to have a say in how you are governed.”*



# Whitewashing in Hollywood

By  
Rosa Munson-Blatt  
*Register Forum Contributor*

Dear Hollywood,

After decades of serious injustices and misrepresentation it is time to acknowledge the harm you have imposed on society. Popular culture, such as movies and television, holds one of the most significant influences on our society. That is why it is a travesty that for over a century Hollywood has created a limited number of African American archetypes, resulting in a form of whitewashing that allows white performers to replace fictional or historical people of color. In order to amend the harmful choices made repeatedly in Hollywood it is essential to learn of their origins.

In the time following the end of Reconstruction, known as Jim Crow, there was an explosion of racial stereotypes in mainstream culture. They helped to perpetuate racial inferiority of African Americans. Firstly, there were the Sambo depictions. The Sambo was the stereotype of a lazy,

shiftless, childlike black male. They were featured in minstrel shows, in which primarily white, but also black men, would perform in blackface. The Sambo was beneficial to the whites in the South for their justification of racism as they could say blacks were lazy. In truth, African Americans worked against very difficult odds. They received little to no aid from the government after slavery was abolished, forcing them back into a position of hard and inequitable labor.

In the same era a contradictory stereotype arose that black men were vicious and uncivilized threats to

*There was an explosion of racial stereotypes in mainstream culture.*

white women. This stereotype depicted in the film Birth of a Nation created another method of justification of racism for whites in the South. Many lynchings resulted directly from the paranoia whites held about black men being sexual predators. Furthermore it helped to justify Anti-

miscegenation laws that lasted well into the 20th century. Another way the stereotype was used, as seen in the film Emperor Jones, was the idea that blacks were noble savages. This stereotype has distorted the thinking of whites about the actual history of the African continent. Whenever I have learned about slavery in my history classes, we never once encountered African history or culture. This leads to the demeaning notion that black history starts with their enslavement.

One of the most enduring stereotypes is the Mammy, a caricature of a black woman that desexualizes her, and narrows her identity to one of service provider. Other attributes include heavy set body type, bossiness, and playing the role of household manager. One of the most renowned examples of a Mammy is Hattie McDaniel in Gone With the Wind. Mammy was always willing to stick by her white family. Even after being emancipated Mammy remains with the family. If Hollywood is most culpable for perpetuating one archetype, it is this one. Although contemporary Mammy characters dif-



Mississippi Burning, pictured above, is an example of whitewashing  
Photo Credit: Orion Pictures

fer from the original, many roles for African American women retain the demeaning characteristics.

Stereotyping has proven to be a dire issue etched into the customs of Hollywood, but so is the absence of people of color in film. Frequently feature films addressing the history of people of color focus on whites as the central protagonist. An example is Mississippi Burning, which deals with violence against Civil Rights activists in the South. The film chooses to focus on white FBI agents. Also, Steven Spielberg's film Amistad foregrounds John Quincy Adams and other white lawyers, while

Cinque and his brave compatriots are literally incomprehensible as the filmmakers choose to have them speak their native language. These films and others suggest that the agency of African Americans is not as important as what whites do.

Hollywood, I will leave you with this information in the hopes that unlike other major American institutions submission and conformity are not chosen. Wield the power the industry holds to teach the upcoming generation that African Americans are far more than historically racist and inaccurate stereotypes. They are history making pioneers.

# Is This the Shadow of Russia in the Middle East?

By  
Shubhan Nagendra  
*Register Forum Contributor*

“We think it is an enormous mistake to refuse to cooperate with the Syrian government and its Armed Forces, who are valiantly fighting face-to-face,” said Russian President Vladimir Putin at the recent United Nations General Assembly. Late September also saw the arrival of Russian presence in Syria. The long civil war in the tragic state has witnessed Mr. Putin's close ally Syrian leader Bashar al-Assad capitulate under the pressure from the rebels.

Now, the tide may be swinging to the regime's favor after recent airstrikes weakened the rebels. But why is there a sudden interest in Syria from Mr Putin, especially when he is facing backlash over the troubles in Ukraine closer to home? Before judging the situation in Syria, I believe it is vital to understand why Russia wants to assist Syria.

This alliance goes back to the years following World War II. In 1946, the French ended their rule over Syria, leading to chaos in the region, as the country saw several

civil wars until 1954. Once order was restored by the nationalist Ba'ath Party, it signaled the start of an important alliance between the Soviet Union and Syria. As conflicts gripped the Middle East, the Soviets found a foothold in the region. The 1956 Suez Crisis, which saw the Israeli, British, and French invasion of Egypt, created a tense atmosphere. The war brought the Soviets closer to Syria: It was supplied with military bases and assistance in building an army. All these actions cemented a prestigious place in the Syrian people's hearts.

Moreover, the 1955 Baghdad Pact, designed to contain Soviet

*Russia attempted to thwart any Western interest in Syria.*

influence in the Middle East, highlighted the strength of the relations, since Syria refused to participate in a coalition against the USSR. Nevertheless, Soviet-Syrian relations were yet to reach their pinnacle.

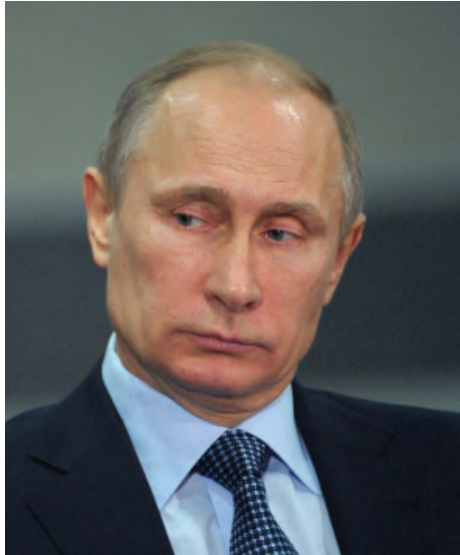
When Bashar al-Assad's father, Hafez al-Assad, became president of Syria, there were closer economic and military ties between the two nations. Indeed, Syria was

supplied with a great deal of weapons as the Cold War threatened its worst. In fact, by the 1980s Syria began resembling the crumbling Soviet empire as it became more dependent on its Communist ally, leading many scholars to call it as the “shadow of the Soviet in the Middle East.”

However, by the time of Mikhail Gorbachev, the last Soviet premier, the USSR's priorities had changed. The upheaval within the borders of the state had afflicted an economic imbalance. Seeing, in his view, that Syria was inept at providing the balance, Mr Gorbachev started withdrawing programs that assisted the alliance.

With the fall of the Red empire, the relations between Russia and Syria were a mere formality in the 1990s. Support was long withdrawn for Syria, but the—now-considered—important Russian naval base in the Mediterranean continued to hint at a revival in relations.

Indeed, Mr Putin, with an eye to reestablish the glory of the past, initiated the relations between Russia and Syria from the new millennium onwards. The cooperation between Bashar al-Assad and Putin



President Putin will be in power until at least 2018 when his third term ends.  
Photo Credit: Ibi Times

saw Moscow's interest in oil and natural gas in the region develop. Finally, perhaps most importantly, through this Russia attempted to thwart any Western interest in Syria.

Observing the Syrian situation, some experts on Russia believe that Mr Putin's actions in Syria are aimed to divert attention from Ukraine. Nonetheless, it is important to understand a historical perspective. Perhaps, we might notice that the airstrikes not only signal Russia's political motive, but there is also historic alliance between al-Assad's family and Moscow that we cannot ignore. Time will tell if Mr Putin's war in the east is successful.



# The Illusion of Revolution

## Why Pope Francis Isn't as Liberal as You Think

By  
Shuvom Sadhuka  
*Register Forum Contributor*

In the first two years of his tenure, Pope Francis has markedly split the Catholic Church. In a recent visit to the United States, Pope Francis promoted environmental ethics and immigration—two areas in which Democrats have long pushed for reform.

Pope Francis's arrival onto the religious scene is a positive marker, but many supporters have been too quick to heap praise upon him. A closer look at the pope will reveal a man whose views are still solidly conservative and who is changing largely in part to conform to public attitude and repair the Church's broken image.

In October 2014, *The Washington Post* ran an article headlined "Pope Francis says evolution is real." These sentiments were echoed across much of the mainstream media, including *USA Today*

and *The Independent*. However, the pope was merely stating that evolution could possibly be true, and even if it was, creationism was the basis for all humanity: "Evolution in nature is not inconsistent with the notion of creation, because evolution requires the creation of beings that evolve."

Such misconceptions have only been furthered by the illusion of the pope being an LGBTQ+ ally. Early in his papacy, the pope declared in regard to same-sex marriage what might be his most famous line, "Who am I to judge?" The reaction from the progressive community was overwhelmingly positive, but what was and has been

worthy or virtuous, rather it should be a standard for any reasonable moral being, much less a world leader. At best, the pope has acknowledged that homosexuality does exist. Yet the pope's stance on gay marriage mirrors that of many conservative politicians. Late last year, the pope clarified his views, remarking, "The family is threatened by growing efforts on the part of some to redefine the very institution of marriage."

Moreover, Pope Francis has repeatedly reasserted his opposition to contraceptive care, and has favored a ban on contraception, which calls into question where the left is finding so much room to praise him.

To start, promoting environmental ethics, immigration reform, and critiquing capitalism is by no means unique to Pope Francis. His predecessor, Pope Benedict XVI, was a strong proponent of mitigating climate change and immigration reform (even contextualized it in the U.S. once). The Church has also long been

*These facts don't warrant the heaps of praise which have been showered upon him.*

overlooked is that the statement only acknowledges dissent to the Church's traditional view.

Acknowledging dissent is by no means praise-

# Why Biden Trumps Clinton in the General Election

## Vice President Joe Biden Should Have Been the Democratic Nominee

By  
Sophia Nikolayev  
*Register Forum Editor*

Speculation that Vice President Joe Biden will toss his hat into the 2016 race, is officially over. The Vice President announced, during a speech in the White House Rose Garden, that he is declining to run for the White House in the upcoming election.

This announcement comes despite numerous indications that he

was seriously considering a campaign, including a meeting with Democratic Senator Elizabeth Warren – the dream candidate of many progressives.

According to the Real Clear Politics poll average, even an undeclared Biden was running third in the race for the Democratic nomination.

He earned about 15 percent to former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's 49 percent and independent Sen. Bernie Sanders' 29

percent but unfortunately failing to break single digits in both Iowa and New Hampshire, the first two states where votes will be cast.

A Biden bid for the presidency would have been good for him, the Democratic Party and most of all, the country.

Hillary Clinton's numbers may be waning, but she will still almost certainly cruise to party nomination

now that Biden has chosen to watch from the sideline.

Despite her still high level of support within the party, Clinton is a very divisive choice given her negative ratings outside of Democrats.

This country desperately needs bipartisan compromise. It wouldn't be an easy feat for a President Biden, but it would be next to impossible for a President Clinton.

In Afghanistan, Biden opposed the surge of more than 30,000 troops in 2009 and instead urged a smaller imprint of military force focused

on counterterrorism operations as opposed to the counterinsurgency campaign aimed at vastly degrading the Taliban.

Conversely, Clinton enthusiastically supported the surge and could easily be tainted with the poor results that followed.

In Libya, Biden sided with Secretary of Defense Robert Gates, as well as most top national security advisers, arguing that military intervention would be costly and destabilizing.

Clinton, however, was the deciding persuasive factor in President Barack Obama's ultimate decision to support intervening.

Due to these foreign policy failures during her time in office, the former secretary of state is extremely vulnerable politically.

As the Democratic Party candidate, Biden could have led a united party to victory in 2016, and continued the legacy he started as a part of Obama's historic run.



The media does not cover the Pope's more conservative ideas.  
Photo Credit: Wikimedia



Joe Biden has declined to run for president, giving Clinton a break.  
Photo Credit: CBS



# Fetty Wap Continues to Entertain

## A Review of Fetty’s Self-Titled Debut Album



By  
Daniel Walsh  
*Register Forum Contributor*

Fetty Wap’s “Trap Queen” was a summer anthem. The track’s happily simplistic beat and catchy chorus constantly permeated FM radio, causing “Trap Queen” to peak at number two on the U.S. Billboard Hot 100 chart. All signs pointed to Fetty being a one-hit wonder. But shortly after “Trap Queen” came “679,” the equally lively “banger” that boasted several quotable lines: “Yeah she’s fine/ Wonder when she’ll be mine.” With two hit singles under his belt, and another (“My Way”) in the works, Fetty was gaining some serious traction.

Fetty Wap’s self-titled debut album was released on September 25. It features 17 songs, just over 60 minutes of music. Because of the pre-release hype and radio domination, the project had high expectations to meet. Fetty lives up to the hype: he sings each chorus with

confidence and passion, and spits every verse with that distinct “Trap Queen” energy and memorability. What *Fetty Wap* lacks in track diversity it makes up for with consistency and catchy choruses.

Fetty Wap is more a singer than a rapper. There is hardly a verse on the album where he raps strictly without vocal inflection. When he does decide to spit a rap verse, like on “Trap Luv” or “Boomin,” it is pretty underwhelming; his verses fail to compete with his unique singing voice. That said, Fetty doesn’t miss a note. Throughout the album, he barely uses autotune, which is seriously impressive. On “My Way,” the chorus features a simple question: “Baby won’t you

*One can only wonder why Fetty does not stray away from his style more often.*

come my way?/ Got something I want to say.” He belts the chorus out at the top of his lungs while demonstrating complete control over pitch. The singing on *Fetty Wap* is sonically spectacular, but as the album progresses, it becomes clear that Fetty Wap is sort of a one



Fetty Wap lost his left eye to glaucoma at a young age.

Photo Credit: Rolling Stone

trick pony.

Individually, the songs are great, but listening to Fetty sing about wanting a girl and/or money over a futuristic trap beat for 17 songs does get very repetitive. Fetty Wap seldom steps outside of his comfort zone on the album. However, when he does, like on the emotional “No Days Off,” the result is one of the strongest points of the album. One can only wonder why Fetty does not stray away from his style more often.

Fetty Wap is all about repping his crew, Remy Boyz, so it is no surprise that Remy Boy affiliate Monty appears on more than a third of the tracklist. Sadly, Monty proves him-

self to be a huge detriment to the album. The combination of his generic delivery and elementary lines causes him to be outshined by Fetty on every song.

Overall, *Fetty Wap* seems more like a collection of singles than a cohesive album. There is virtually no track diversity. But even though Fetty uses the same formula for almost every song, the album thoroughly entertains for 60+ minutes. This is a commendable first effort of an album, considering Fetty Wap has only been in the lime-light for a couple of months. As Fetty Wap grows as an artist, he will reach more success if he is able to step outside of his comfort zone and stop putting Monty on his songs.

# Falcon Book Review: *All The Light We Cannot See*

## Finding Enjoyment and Inspiration in a Surprisingly Uplifting Book About World War II



By  
Fredrika Åkerman  
*Register Forum Contributor*

Until recently, on the rare occasions I have read a book, it has always been because of a school assignment. Nothing has motivated me to read besides the fact that I have had to for one reason or another.

However, this summer I figured that if I just pushed myself to read 40 pages of a book every day, that might change. If it was because I forced myself to do this or because I found a book that suited me well, I don’t know.

Either way, the book that caused me to begin to enjoy reading again was *All the Light We Cannot See*, a novel written by Anthony Doerr. Published in 2014, it is the winner of the 2015 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction and the winner of the 2015 Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Fiction.

In the book, Marie-Laure LeBlanc, a girl living in Paris, becomes blind at the age of six because of cataracts.

Her father is the widowed master locksmith at the Museum of Natural History, and she eagerly follows him every day to work to explore the captivating amount of information about conchology the museum stores within its walls.

In addition to Marie-Laure, the novel is centered around Werner Pfennig, a boy residing in the German coal-mining town Zollver-

ein. He is raised by Frau Elena in an orphanage together with his younger sister, Jutta. Werner spends his days repairing broken radio receivers and listening to physics programs with Jutta.

*“[The book] is a bold and successful experiment that challenges the norms of how a book should be written.”*

As the Nazi Party rises to power in Germany, Werner is enrolled at the Wehrmacht Armed Forces’ training school and is shortly



Doerr’s story recounts the Nazi occupation of France and the D-Day landings.

Photograph: Hulton-Deutsch Collection/CORBISPhoto

after assigned to locate the origin of illegal radio transmissions.

When Germany invades France in 1940, Marie-Laure departs with her father to live with her great uncle, Etienne, and soon

gets involved in a resistance movement broadcasting messages to Allied forces through her grandfather’s old radio transmitter.

Interlacing Marie-Laure’s and Werner’s lives, Doerr lays out a story illus-

trating the fact that despite all of the things that differentiate us, there is one thing almost all of us have in common—the basic human instinct to help each other out.

Built from chapters describing moments captured from alternating years of World War II, *All the Light We Cannot See* is a bold and successful experiment that challenges the norms of how a book should be written.

Introducing the reader to a broad range of emotions, events, and people

seemingly collected at random from history, the author connects the moments piece by piece and the novel is sewed seamlessly into a brilliant masterpiece.

Although there is an endless amount of things that I have grown to appreciate about the novel, the one that caused me to recommend it to others is that *All the Light We Cannot See* could be the same to others as it is to me—a novel that you continue and enjoy reading not because you have to, but simply because you want to.



# World Jazz Ensemble Takes Flight

## WJE Set to Attend World Renowned Jazz Festival

By  
Andrew Borron  
*Register Forum Contributor*

An exciting adventure awaits CRLS’ own World Jazz Ensemble (WJE) as they wait to embark on their week long journey to the Panama Jazz Festival (PJF) in Ciudad del Saber (City of Knowledge) this January.

In the past, WJE has played many different concerts and events. You may have seen them at the 2015 graduation, under the bridge during lunch at Nest Fest, at seasonal concerts, Ryles Jazz Club, the lunchroom, or even just rehearsing on Thursdays. But this is the first time since 2012 that the band has traveled to Panama for the festival. The 2012 trip was described by many of the students who attended as a life changing experience, and some even volunteered at the festival the next year.

After hearing this news, excitement runs high amongst the band. WJE pianist Izaak Biewald states, “This trip is gonna be lit; the chance to play jazz in another country will be a great experience.”

Biewald constantly shows excitement about the trip, as does the rest of the band. Panama seems to be the leading conversation topic in the WJE’s rehearsals.

In addition to being an opportunity for students to travel out of the country with their music, the festival offers so much more than your average music festival; it is a learning environment.

In his welcoming letter on the PJF website, Danilo Perez states, “For 13 years the festival has reiterated its commitment to Panama’s culture, society, tourism, economy, and education. The festival is the most important annual event for the “Fundacion Danilo Perez” which positively transforms society through music by tirelessly working with the new generations through-

*“It’s a great opportunity to see and learn things you might not otherwise.”*

out the year.”

In the past the festival has hosted acts such as Herbie Hancock and John Patitucci, as well as an audience with members from over 250 cities worldwide.



World Jazz Ensemble performed at the CRLS 2015 spring concert.

Photo Credit: Larry Aaronson

There will be opportunities for band members to attend clinics, have jam sessions, and watch great musicians from around the world perform. Seniors will also have the chance to audition for certain music schools.

Even non-music students think the jazz festival is a great opportunity. Sophomore Sydney White states, “Panama Jazz Festival will give a new setting for jazz students to experience music, and it’s a great opportunity to see and learn things you might not otherwise.”

Though parents, teachers, and students alike were pushing for the trip, there was initial resistance because students must miss class time to attend.

Band Director Guillermo Nojehowitz has put a lot of his time into planning this trip for his students, and believes very strongly in it and the experiences it will bring, and the band is very grateful.

If you are looking for a chance to see World Jazz in Action, keep your eyes peeled for Winter Concert posters in the halls and catch them there.

# The New Mainstream

## Next Generation of Rappers Step up

By  
Truman Greene  
*Register Forum Contributor*

Every generation has music that the previous generations just don’t quite understand, and “trap” music seems to be checking this box. With the emergence of a new set of artists headed by the likes of Future, Young Thug, and Travis Scott, among others, success is being measured less and less by the artists’ ability to craft radio friendly singles and more by the amount of hype they are creating online through music blogs or positive album reviews.

Future, at least for the moment, seems to be leading this new group of artists. Recognized by his signature autotune drawl, Future has released three critically heralded mixtapes over the course of the past year: *Monster*, *Beast Mode*, and *56 Nights*, a self proclaimed “3peat.”

However, those were all simply preludes to his trap opus *DS2* (originally titled *Dirty Sprite 2*, a sequel to his 2011 mixtape

*Dirty Sprite*, the name was changed due to imminent copyright issues).

The internet buzz leading up to the album was immense, as shown by its debut at #1 on the Billboard top albums chart.

Seniors Hibah Gul and Katelin McCallum are fervent fans, with Gul citing the track “F\*\*\* up some Commas” as a standout and source of inspiration in her daily life. Freshman Michal Shirley agrees, declaring, “Future is nasty!”

No other album would create this much hype until his collaborative effort “What a Time to be Alive” featuring fellow rap game titan Drake, which inspired a whopping 100,675 mentions of the #WATTBA hashtag on Twitter just that

*“No one is bumping classic albums anymore.”*

day.

Senior Matias Ancelovici expressed why he believes such an unconventional artist can gain so much popularity, but is a bit



The willingness of rappers such as Young Thug (left) to collaborate with electronic artists like Jamie xx shows the progressive nature of rap’s next generation.

Photo Credit: Pitchfork Media

skeptical of the movement.

“All people want is bangers,” says Ancelovici, noting that kids these days are more “bout the turn up” than they are interested in creative lyricism. When asked about Future specifically, he claimed he could barely understand what he was saying, and deemed it just “yelling and mumbling.”

English teacher Mr. Jordan thinks their success is coming at the expense of a well crafted album.

Jordan believes the albums are becoming mere

collections of singles, making it easier than ever to “bail” on certain songs and gravitate exclusively towards the album’s hits.

Another artist with a potentially more strange and off kilter delivery is fellow Atlanta native Young Thug.

His most recent release is the mixtape/album *Barter 6*, its name initially supposed to be *Carter 6* as a shot at rapper Lil Wayne and his famed Carter mixtape series (though the name change is fitting based on his Blood allegiances). The

mixtape didn’t get much radio airplay due to its general weirdness, but it found internet success in the song “Check,” its video having amassed a total of 40 million views on Youtube.

Senior Griffin Andres agrees that the internet has opened doors for quirky, experimental rappers such as Thug, of whom he is a fan.

He believes that it offers an opportunity for rappers who would otherwise have trouble getting signed to a label, adding, “No one is bumping classic albums anymore.”



# Rep. Paul Ryan Announces Candidacy for Speaker

## Can the Former Vice Presidential Candidate Unite a Divided Party?

By  
Diego Lasarte  
*Register Forum Editor*

If all goes according to plan, Congressman Paul Ryan (R-WI) will be replacing John Boehner (R-OH) as Speaker of the House by the end of this week. If so, some pundits have argued it would be the first part of this speaker race that has gone according to plan.

Congressman Ryan now officially has the votes needed to be elected to the Speakership, but the Republican coalition standing behind him is fragile at best. The tentative agreement comes after a month of inter-party squabbling and decisive rhetoric. Up to now, the GOP had effectively been held hostage by the Freedom Caucus, the party's self-labeled reactionary wing that likely holds the deciding votes in any election for speaker.

This power dynamic can be traced to the Republican Party's sweeping victory in the 2014 mid-term elections, which were won on the coattails of the Tea Party, a grassroots conservative movement that drove the campaigns of many far-right members of the Freedom Caucus. This uncompromisingly

conservative faction is responsible for derailing the election of former Speaker Boehner's heir-apparent, House majority leader Kevin McCarthy (R-CA).

A clear candidate for the position of Speaker, Congressman McCarthy unexpectedly pulled his name out of the running on October 8th after being dogged by rumors of an affair with a fellow representative and charged as not conserva-

reassured by the thorough search for a new Speaker of the House, Peck pointed out that "[T]he Speaker of the House is a very important position. I would be disappointed with the majority party if they just picked the obvious choice instead of finding the best possible fit."

While announcing his candidacy last week, Ryan promised to break through partisan lines and get things done. Criticizing Congressional impasse, he said that "[w]e are not solving the country's problems; we are only adding to them."

Ryan's self-criticism echoes the thoughts of most Americans. Currently, Congress has a 12.6% approval rate. CRLS junior Reyer Lumis reiterated this sentiment, expressing his dissatisfaction with the month-long search for a new speaker. "I think [the search for a new Speaker] is just another example of incompetence from this do-nothing Congress who are just paid to start arguments," he asserted.

With the 2016 election swiftly approaching, most agree that Ryan's performance and his success with easing gridlock will greatly affect his chances of holding onto the gavel for more than a year.



It looks like Paul Ryan will become the next Speaker of the House  
Photo Credit: CNN.com

tive enough to lead the Republican Party.

"I'm not sure how the Tea Party can call itself 'patriotic' after shutting down the government two years ago and now derailing the speaker race," claims junior Sugandha Karmacharya. She later called them "a danger to their party and to the country."

Sophomore Sam Peck had a different reaction to the Congressional gridlock. Stating that he was

# Daily Fantasy Websites Face Legal Challenges

By  
Sophia Nikolayev  
*Register Forum Editor*

If you've watched any professional sporting event over the last several weeks, chances are you've seen advertisements for DraftKings or FanDuel, two daily fantasy sports gaming sites. On these sites, along with many others, players compete in day or week long fantasy sports games, winning (or losing) money depending on how members of their "teams" of real athletes perform on the actual field.

The growing popularity of daily fantasy sports has brought the games greater scrutiny, exposing the legal gray area in which they reside. Most online gambling and sports gambling in the U.S. is illegal, but under the vast majority of state and federal laws, fantasy sports games are exempt because they are technically considered "games of skill," as opposed to "games of chance."

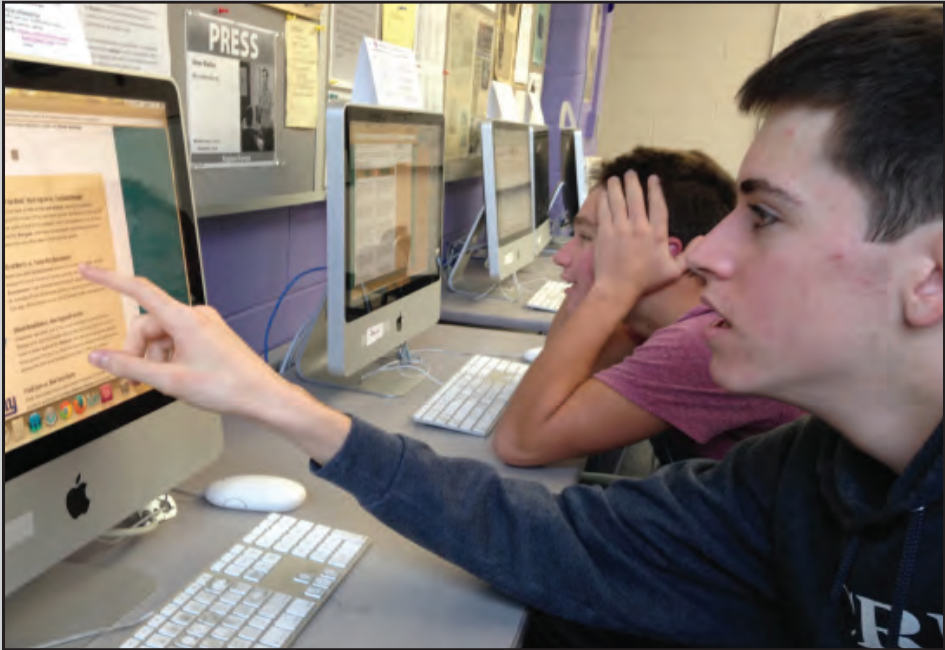
Many critics argue that the exemption wasn't really meant for today's quick, big-payout games. When online gambling laws were crafted, wrote the New York Times editorial board, "most fantasy sports were the season-long, low-stakes games friends played with

each other, not the daily and weekly games that companies are marketing now." The board continued, "Giving people more ways to bet on the outcomes of sports is sure to threaten the integrity of sports and create more gambling addicts, especially among young people who are already more likely to engage in risky behaviors."

Rep. Frank Pallone, D-N.J., recently called on Congress to hold a hearing looking into the "murky" legal landscape of daily fantasy sports games. "Fans are currently allowed to risk money on the per-

formance of an individual player," Pallone said. "How is that different than wagering money on the outcome of a game?"

The companies who run the games, though, insist they are legal and properly qualified as games of skill. "They're not like games of chance, where no matter how skillful the player is, winning or losing almost always comes down to luck – whether it's the spin of a wheel, the roll of the dice, or the turn of the cards," Jeremy Kudon, a lawyer and lobbyist for the Fantasy Sports Trade Association, told Reuters.



Even RF editors and Ben Austin enjoy fantasy football.

Photo Credit: Tomek Maciak

## NEWS TIMELINE

By Fredrika Åkerman <i>Register Forum Contributor</i>	
<b>OCT 1</b> <i>Pro-democracy demonstrators wave blue colonial flags and hold yellow umbrellas advocating for Hong Kong's independence.</i>	<b>OCT 2</b> <i>The Indian government pledged to lower the country's carbon emissions by 33-35% by 2030. India is the world's third biggest carbon emitter.</i>
<b>OCT 3</b> <i>The Vatican fires monsignor Krzysztof Charamsa after he publicly came out as gay on the same day as a meeting of the world's bishops is being held to discuss outreach to homosexuals.</i>	<b>OCT 4</b> <i>Doctors Without Borders accuses U.S. jet fighters of bombing a trauma center, which killed 22 people, and withdraws from Kunduz, Afghanistan.</i>
<b>OCT 8</b> <i>Belarusian investigative journalist and nonfiction prose writer Svetlana Alexievich receives the Nobel Prize in literature.</i>	<b>OCT 10</b> <i>Two groups of suicide bombers hit the Baga Sola market and a refugee camp closeby, killing at least 38 people and injuring 51.</i>
<b>OCT 11</b> <i>Communist Party of Nepal's leader Khadga Prasad Oli is elected prime minister by the parliament, defeating his predecessor, the Nepali Congress party's leader Sushil Koirala.</i>	<b>OCT 12</b> <i>Scottish economist Angus Deaton receives the memorial Nobel Prize in economic sciences for his studies on how society's incomes are spent and how to measure and analyze welfare and poverty.</i>
<b>OCT 13</b> <i>At least two people are killed and 20 injured in two concurrent, separate shooting and stabbing attacks, adding to the recent clashes between Palestinians and Israelis.</i>	<b>OCT 15</b> <i>Scottish prosecutors announce identification of two new Libyan suspects of Lockerbie Bombing and want U.S. and Scottish investigators to interview them in Tripoli.</i>
<b>OCT 17</b> <i>Abdul Mohsen Abdallah Ibrahim al-Charekh, a top al-Quiada commander, is killed in an airstrike, carried out either by the U.S.-led coalition or a Russian warplane.</i>	



# It's Not Easy Being Green

*With Glocal and the Georgetown Energy Prize, City Strives For Local Solutions from Students*

By  
Lizzie Downing  
*Register Forum Contributor*

Cambridge is currently one of 50 cities across America competing to win the Georgetown University Energy Prize (GUEP). In the hopes of spurring municipal innovation, Georgetown is offering \$5 million to the city that best reduces its wasted energy.

City sustainability planner Jennifer Lawrence appraises the incentive-based platform for “utilizing people’s competitive nature” and for being “really cool.” However, of 48 surveyed CRLS students, 63% knew nothing about it.

Participants from last year’s Glocal challenge, in which teams of students developed proposals to make Cambridge “the greenest city in America,” may remember anecdotally hearing about the GUEP.

This year’s challenge is designed to directly address the goal of the prize, giving students an outlet to impact city policy. The topic, though, is “a difficult one to address, as it looks for more scientific-based responses” according to Grace McCartney, sophomore and Glocal veteran.

Competing cities are currently in the semifinal stage, implementing long-term energy saving plans

while Georgetown records overall energy consumption. Ten finalists will be announced January 2017, with the winner decided that June.

Regardless of who wins, each city is projected to save at least \$10 million by the end of the competition. Combined, the cities are on track to save 3.8 billion metric tons of carbon emissions and over \$200 million annually. Additionally, CRLS senior Walter DiTrani speculates that the GUEP will “broaden the local discussion of climate change.”

While renewable energy is perhaps the hippest way to address the global energy crisis, as demand increases and supply decreases, the importance of improving efficiency is often overlooked.

The U.S. Department of Energy estimates that the U.S. loses 26% of its energy in electricity generation, and another 35% from inefficient technologies and infrastructure. This means we retain just 39% of our energy, making the U.S. one of the least efficient industrialized countries.

Senior Kabir Singh, who recently ran a school assembly on energy and climate change, sees the GUEP as an important incentive for

*“Locally, it’s far more straightforward and cost effective to focus on improving efficiency.”*



CEA employees talk to Cambridge residents about home energy assessments.  
Photo Credit: Cambridge Community Development Twitter

cities to stop this national trend. He argues, “Energy efficiency has always been extremely important in the face of dwindling energy sources. Renewables are an important source of energy, but locally, it’s far more straightforward and cost effective to focus on improving efficiency.”

The city’s campaign to win the prize from Georgetown has been spearheaded by the Cambridge Energy Alliance (CEA), a city program promoting local efficiency.

Much of the CEA’s efforts have been devoted to connecting residents with no-cost home en-

ergy assessments, which are offered and funded through the state. The service, which primarily evaluates residents’ insulation and appliances, has great potential to reduce wasted energy from infrastructure. This is especially important in Cambridge, where 80% of carbon emissions come from local buildings.

CRLS Environmental Science teacher Sarah Colby cites Cambridge’s wealth as an overall advantage, saying, “We can be a real example for the future, in terms of monetary wealth, and wealth in terms of creative, thoughtful, well-trained citizens.”

To learn more about the prize and what you can do to help, visit the CEA’s web page, [www.cambridgeenergyalliance.org/winit](http://www.cambridgeenergyalliance.org/winit).

# Worldwide Economic Disparities Hinder Climate Action

By  
Tamina Razzak  
*Register Forum Contributor*

Global climate occurrences from this decade show that the poorest among developing countries will be hit by climate change the worst. In Asia, increasing temperature will cause decreased yield in agriculture, and currently 75% of Asian Pacific nations are facing a water crisis.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reports that “unlike people of wealthier countries, the people of the developing world do not

ily on first world countries. In the U.S., local attempts in combating climate change are doing better than the federal government.

CRLS senior Mehbooba Tamanna comments, “I don’t think the government is really doing anything major other than telling people to recycle.”

Lack of strict regulations at the federal level are related to the immense influence fossil fuel industries have on the political power structure. The reliance Western lifestyle has

people strive for and want to achieve in developing countries, but we are going to have to change and lead by example because if poor countries begin to adopt our lifestyles and our ecological footprints, the problem is going to get worse.”

Students are expressing similar views on the government’s role in climate change. Senior Kenisha Davis points out, “I think even if there are laws for [climate change], it would be really hard to make sure people and companies are following the laws.”

Recently, a small town judge in California overlooked Obama’s law dealing with

*“People of the developing world do not have the means to fight global climate change.”*

on fossil industries shows that there are restrictions in the government for dealing with climate change.

Janira Arocho, CRLS AP Environmental Science teacher, argues that “unfortunately, our lifestyle and way of living is what most

fracking, an environmentally harmful system of extracting oil and natural gas by injecting chemical infused water into the ground. Though harmful, fracking as a major economic contributor in terms of jobs and money allowed law re-



A rig near Alvarado, Texas drills for natural gas.  
Photo Credit: David R. Tribble

strictions to be overlooked. In a world based on consumerism, Western lifestyle creates a global issue that will prevent significant progress in climate action. However, there are still ac-

tions individuals can take to contribute to the reduction of environmental harm. For more information, you can go to the website of the Global Call for Climate Action, [tckctck.org](http://tckctck.org).



## Russia Goes Headfirst into Syria

### *Airstrikes Add Even More Chaos to the Region*

By  
Claire Healy  
*Register Forum Contributor*

On Wednesday, September 30th, the Syrian civil war changed drastically as Russia launched airstrikes against Syrian rebels. Over the past four years, a rebellion against President Bashar Al-Assad has become a full blown war, resulting in the death of approximately 220,000 Syrians and the displacement of over 11 million more.

Further complicating the conflict is the involvement of groups other than the rebel insurgents and Al-Assad's forces. The rise of jihadist groups, such as the Islamic State, combined with the interventions of neighboring countries and world powers has escalated this conflict.

The intervention from world powers began in 2011 when the UN issued a commission of inquiry regarding alleged human rights violations at the hands of both the Syrian government and the Islamic State. However, no action on these accusations, which include murder, rape, torture, enforced disappearances and civilian suffering, was taken until 2014. In 2014, the UN issued a resolution demanding an end to "indiscriminate employment of weapons in populated areas."

This was followed by the deaths of an estimated 6,000 civilians due to the use of bombs in public areas, sometimes with the deliberate intention of targeting civilians.

A pivotal point in the war occurred in 2013, when an unknown source used chemical gases to kill hundreds of citizens in Ghouta. The United States argued that this was the work of the Syrian government, directly defying Russian belief that it was an action of the anti-regime rebels.

While Russia aided the United States in the removal of these chemical weapons from the war, these dividing sentiments are echoed in Wednesday's attack. What began

*"The rise of jihadist groups, such as the Islamic State... have escalated this conflict."*

as an act against ISIS terrorism in Syria has turned into a week long campaign by Moscow supporting Al-Assad against alleged terrorism.

Controversy lies in the motive of Putin's military actions, and whom he is targeting. He has insisted that the target of these attacks is ISIS and other terrorist groups recognized by the UN. The Syrian ambassador to Russia has supported this view, stating that since the Moscow based military attacks began, 40% of ISIS infrastructure has been demolished. In a televised meeting, the Russian Defense Minister told Putin that four Russian ships fired



Russia was criticized by Obama and the US for launching airstrikes in Syria.

Photo Credit: China Daily

26 missiles into Syria, hitting 11 Islamic terrorist targets from approximately 930 miles away.

However, the accuracy behind these reports remains under scrutiny. The head of the UK-based anti-Assad Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said that no ISIS positions were in the areas targeted.

Echoing these conflicting sentiments, the Turkish Prime Minister stated that 3.5% of Russian airstrikes actually targeted terrorists. The primary concern seems to be that Russia's ultimate objective is not to annihilate ISIS, but to stabilize Al-Assad's regime.

Reports show that during these attacks on the 30th, Al-Assad's forces launched coordinated attacks with Russia, proving how alarmingly close Russia is aligning themselves with Al-Assad. The NATO Secretary General reported an increasing buildup of Russian ground

troops, which he followed by voicing beliefs that Russia's primary target was in fact Syrian opposition and civilians.

As Russia continues to deny an escalation of military action in Syria, the latest U.S. assessment provides information on Russian ground troops and weapons targeting rebel forces.

There remains no doubt about the close alliance between Russia and the Al-Assad regime; the question is where this puts US-Russian relations.

As the US continues to back the rebel forces, an increased hostility towards US-supported opposition could bring tensions between these countries to an all time high since the Cold War. Obama has stated that the United States will not directly confront Russia in order to avoid a proxy war—although many argue one has already begun.

## Chinese Economy Enters Long-Overdue Slump

### *The "State of New Normal" Has Aftershocks in the Global Marketplace*

By  
Milo Lynch  
*Register Forum Contributor*

"I know the Chinese...I understand the Chinese mind," says our future president Donald Trump, and much of the world wishes they could say the same. China is the world's second largest economy, and largest if one measures by the costs of goods instead of exchange rates.

China also has the largest an-

nual growth. China's growth rate, however, has recently slowed. To quote Li Keqiang, a senior Chinese government official, "At present, China's economy has entered a state of new normal—the gear of growth is shifting from high speed to medium to high speed."

While it is true China's current growth rate, estimated at 6-7% for 2015, is high by the standards of almost any other country, a large part of the world economy is dependent on Chinese growth.

In the past quarter of a century this growth has, on average, been closer to 10% annually, and on top of that has involved an unusually voracious appetite for raw materials. Many countries are particularly dependent on supplying raw materials to China's manufacturing sector, which is doing much worse than the country as a whole, resulting in a significant drop in the international demand for many raw materials.

China's consumption, on the other hand, is growing much faster. Although it gives some countries a tourism boost, it is doing less to help the world economy. To quote *The Economist*, "China's consumer boom is real. But do not count on it to lift the global economy."

This has led to a steep worldwide fall in commodity prices, which dropped by 10% in August alone. While many are familiar with this in terms of oil, this is not representative because it has more been caused by overproduction than a lack of demand.

Prices of commodities such as metals and crops are falling, leading to a decrease of income

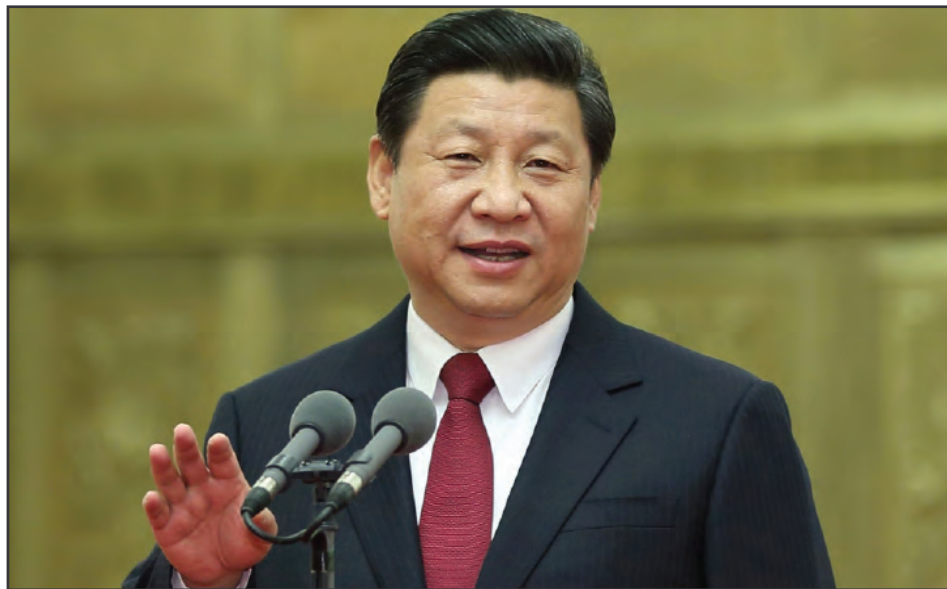
and investment for many developing countries whose economies are largely dependent on them.

In fact, China's industrial slowdown has had huge economic consequences for much of the developing world. Russia's economy is contracting severely, as is Brazil's, though to a lesser degree.

Many other countries, and the world as a whole, have lower than previously estimated economic growth. China is also facing difficulties, with Chinese stocks down 40% from June.

The effects of this are yet to fully reach the U.S. and other countries less directly dependent on Chinese demand, but considering how interconnected the world economy is, China's economy affects every single country on Earth.

According to Donald Trump, "The concept of global warming was created by and for the Chinese in order to make U.S. manufacturing non-competitive." Evidently this strategy was not sufficient to protect Chinese industry, as Chinese manufacturing is struggling as well, and the world is feeling the consequences.



Xi Jinping made his first state visit to the US in late September of this year.

Photo Credit: South China Morning Post



# El Niño and Its Effect on Us

## How the Southern Warm Swell Could Affect Cambridge

By  
Cameron Chertavian  
*Register Forum Contributor*

El Niño, a cyclic increase of water temperature in the Southern Pacific Ocean, could drastically influence weather patterns in the United States this coming winter, potentially lessening snowfall on the East Coast, as well as increasing rainfall in the currently barren state of California.

Despite its potential impact on daily life in Massachusetts, El Niño remains a mystery to many Rindge students. When asked about the pattern, Senior Noah Porrovecchio responded,

“*[The effects of] el Niño...could lessen the excessive snowfall experienced last winter.*”

the biggest swirly thing on the weather forecast. Isn’t it a hurricane?”

To clarify, El Niño is a notable increase in ocean temperatures off the coast of South America, caused by a lull in westerly blow-

ing trade winds that normally cools the coast through the Humboldt Current. This lull takes place every 2-7 years, and the effects on the surrounding area of South America cause a chain reaction that reaches out as far as Australia.

El Niño’s most direct effect on the Northeast could be to lessen the expected amount of snowfall, which was projected to be similar to the record-breaking snowfall of 108.6 inches.

“It was very hard to get around,” says junior Emma Harris. “I would have to go straight from school to my

inches of snow less than the Boston average.

According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), there is a 95% chance that El Niño will not fade until Spring 2016, so it’s likely that we’ll be seeing the effects of it this coming winter.

Of course, this information contradicts the famously accurate Farmer’s Almanac, which calls for a frigid and snowy winter in the East, so outlook is unclear.

The effects do not only limit themselves to New England, and even coincide

with global warming to amplify El Niño’s influence. Indo-

nesia, Africa, and Australia all have a much higher risk for drought, promising a tough few months if El Niño is powerful.

California could also be heavily affected, with predictions for torrential



A storm, fueled by El Nino, destroyed part of Huntington Beach Pier in California in 1983.

Photo Credit: The Orange County Register

downpour. This rain may help California break its historic four year drought, but without snow, the rain could also bring devastating landslides. Qeru Booker, a senior planning on applying to California schools, said, “[weather] hadn’t really been a factor in choosing colleges. Now that you mention it, I am definitely taking it into consideration.”

El Niño is tricky. Like the young rebellious

boy from which it gets its namesake, El Niño cannot be bound by rules, and has been known to confuse and deceive its observers.

In the words of Mr. McGuinness, CRLS’s own Oceanography teacher, “I don’t think it can be accurately predicted. We do not have enough experience with this weather pattern to really know for sure.” So seniors, don’t give up on a snow filled winter just yet.

# There’s a Blood Moon Rising

By  
Robert Brown  
*Register Forum Contributor*

On September 28, 2015, the people of Earth were once again introduced to a fascinating phenomenon, a supermoon.

What made this supermoon special is the combination of itself and a bloodmoon simultaneously. Yearly, the Earth sees about one supermoon, one blood moon, and 2.8 lunar eclipses, making the event even more rare.

Although September’s supermoon is considered beautiful to many and a space wonder to all, the recent events in the sky have stirred apocalyptic thought in the minds of many.

Being last in the lunar tetrad of lunareclipses, the enlarged red moon even worried religious leaders.

A lunar tetrad is four consecutive total lunar eclipses, separated by six lunar months. In a Bible verse, this solar occurrence matches the description of the end of the world or the apocalypse.

The verse Joel 2:30-31 states, “And I will give portents in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and columns of smoke. The sun shall be turned to darkness, and the moon to blood, before the great and terrible day of the Lord comes.”

Christian Minister John Hagee believes that this scripture proves

that the final eclipse in the sequence will be the start of the end of days. “The coming four blood moons points to a world-shaking event that will happen between April 2014 and October 2015,” he says, and his worries are shared by many others.

While ideas of the world’s demise spiral in the heads of theorists, preppers, and religious influences worldwide, it appears that some citizens in Cambridge are completely oblivious to these extreme theories. Others, however, have some thoughts of their own.

“I don’t know anything about any world ending phenomena,” states Sejah Rollins-Laurent, a CRLS senior.

CRLS junior John Burnside adds, “The last thing was [in] like 2012. Everybody was hyping it up like it was the end of the world.”

On the other hand, some citizens actually believed that the world was going to come to a cease all because of this rare and strange moon. However, nothing has happened yet.

“I started to panic and stock up on food. I seriously thought people were going to get raptured and fly into the sky. Sounds kinda ridiculous now,” laughs Michael Mandus, a member of Union Baptist, a local church in Cambridge.

The next total lunar eclipse will be visible in January of 2018, and the next super blood moon will be in 33 years. Mark your calendars!

## CONGRATULATIONS, MR. CASILLAS!



BUY HIS NEW BOOK  
“*Lugar Profano*”  
ONLINE AT  
*EditorialIslaNegra.com*



# School Committee Candidate Profiles

## Competitive Municipal Elections Spark Discussion of Local Issues

By  
Will MacArthur  
Register Forum  
Contributor

Amid a tense superintendent search process and lingering questions about the future of development in Cambridge, many of the city’s 63,325 voters will go to the polls on November 3rd to pick a City Council and School Committee for the next term.

Cambridge’s unique voting system proved confusing for many in the 2013 election, with debates over election results and voter intent wracking a recount

in one of the closest City Council elections in Cambridge history. To cast their ballot, voters must rank their choices from best to worst; each ballot is counted for the voter’s top choice, and ballots are redistributed to lower ranked choices as candidates are eliminated until 9 candidates remain.

This year’s election has proved particularly divisive, and candidates for City Council have divided themselves into several candidate slates. These groups

encourage their supporters to vote for the entire slate to help elect councillors with whom they agree.

The Unity Slate is a group of 7 incumbents, including Mayor David Maher and Vice Mayor Dennis

munity organizers who want to “apply our professional expertise, work ethic, and enthusiasm to forward progressive change in our city.”

The Cambridge Residents Alliance claims that the city is on the wrong track.

Their website expresses support for “real planning”

and “preventing over-development” in Cambridge, and they have endorsed five candidates who share their beliefs.

This year’s School Committee election features

11 candidates vying for 6 spots. The Register Forum exchanged emails with 10 of these candidates on the issues affecting CRLS students and their plans for the next term. Responses have been edited for concision, but candidates’ exact words have been preserved wherever possible. Incumbent Richard Harding did not respond to repeated requests for comment. Candidates for reelection to the School Committee are marked with an asterisk.

Voters can visit [WhereDoIVoteMA.com](http://WhereDoIVoteMA.com) to find out where to cast ballots on November 3rd.

*The Register Forum exchanged emails with 10 of these candidates on the issues affecting CRLS students and their plans for the next term.*

### Fred Fantini\*



**Addition to Opportunity, Diversity, Respect:** Entrepreneurship  
**Biggest Issue Facing CRLS:** Our higher level courses are not serving lower income and minority children as they should.  
**Specific Policy to Address It:** We could require that in order to graduate every student must take at least one AP course, independent study, or special project.

#### On the Issues

**Dress Code:** The dress code is acceptable but the rules are not enforced uniformly by administration. There needs to be a discussion with CRLS leadership about proper and consistent enforcement. And further, students should have input into what the policy should be.

**CP-Honors Tracking:** We should have high expectations for all our students and our actions have to reflect those beliefs. Our long term goal should be to provide advanced and honors courses to all students and we should have a discussion on how to get there. Our high school should be diverse and rich in every classroom.

**Block Scheduling:** I would be open to reviewing the models that the highest performing schools are using for a student schedule and see what we can learn from them. The schedule should create pathways for students to achieve high academic success and real world skills.

**Zombie Apocalypse Plans:** Atasca Restaurant for my last great meal.

### Manikka Bowman



**Addition to Opportunity, Diversity, Respect:** Creativity  
**Biggest Issue Facing CRLS:** Social stratification. As one student explained to me, just look at who’s in the honor classes and you will see the division in our schools.  
**Specific Policy to Address It:** Investing in universal pre-K, then supporting students as they matriculate through the system.

#### On the Issues

**Dress Code:** Dress is an extension of one’s identity and there should be space in schools for creative expression. I think the dress code should be a decision made by school leadership and students.

**CP-Honors Tracking:** Tracking is an important part of understanding student needs. As a School Committee member I would work with administrators to ensure we are managing student information with dignity and respect.

**Block Scheduling:** I don’t see this as a decision I should make.

Teachers, administrators, and students know what works for them.

**Votes for Student SC Delegates:** I believe in youth leadership and would work with the district to find ways to incorporate youth development at the highest level of decision-making.

**Zombie Apocalypse Plans:** I would bring my sweet 19-month-old baby girl and take shelter in our North Cambridge home.

### Fran Cronin\*



**Addition to Opportunity, Diversity, Respect:** Commitment  
**Biggest Issue Facing CRLS:** The school’s racial divide and endemic achievement gap  
**Specific Policy to Address It:** The CP class model at CRLS should be reviewed to diminish stigma and complacency. The “Move Up” initiative is a good start.

#### On the Issues

**Dress Code:** It’s important for student voice to be heard. Changes to the current dress code should be agreed upon by both school administrators and the CRLS student body. Any modifications made should reflect the same standards to both male and female dress codes.

**CP-Honors Tracking:** First semester freshman year courses should be just that, for 9th graders. Teachers and students should together choose successive courses and put in place any anticipated supports.

**Block Scheduling:** I would prefer a schedule that is a blend of both long and short periods to achieve more flexible scheduling. For better continuity and better achievement, students need to more easily schedule successive semesters of either math or a world language.

**Zombie Apocalypse Plans:** I’d bring all of my colleagues to my house. I always have a refrigerator full of food and can whip together tasty meals from whatever is available.

### David Weinstein



**Addition to Opportunity, Diversity, Respect:** Exploration  
**Biggest Issue Facing CRLS:** Ensuring that everyone receives the richest possible education.  
**Specific Policy to Address It:** Close collaboration between the upper schools and CRLS to counsel students into courses that correspond with their potential.

#### On the Issues

**Dress Code:** I am glad that a process is now underway to revise the dress code with student input. No dress code should even inadvertently target any particular group or identity.

**CP-Honors Tracking:** No student should be locked into a particular level of class in any subject. I support examining the system of leveled classes to determine if there is de facto segregation taking place.

**Block Scheduling:** Block scheduling systems have a lot of advantages, I do not think we should eliminate it. Many other schools and districts have grappled with these issues. Most likely a hybrid approach will be the best structure for CRLS, in which some courses are taught throughout the year, and others on the “traditional” block schedule.

**Zombie Apocalypse Plans:** I would take all 10 of the others currently running for School Committee. Where would we go? That’s a no-brainer. (No pun intended.) The Vassal Lane/Tobin building.



Elechi Kadete



**Addition to Opportunity, Diversity, Respect:** Unity  
**Biggest Issue Facing CRLS:** Perception. Too often, I run into parents who refuse to send their children to CRLS because of the negative perception they have.  
**Specific Policy to Address It:** I would change the standardized testing policy.

On the Issues

**Dress Code:** I support the dress code in the current form.  
**CP-Honors Tracking:** I believe in excellent instruction in every classroom and a high quality education for each and every student. I strongly believe that tracking should be eliminated from our classrooms. Advanced learners must be challenged and under achieving students must receive the support that is required for them to excel.  
**Block Scheduling:** I would maintain the CRLS block scheduling system. I believe that it is truly beneficial to teachers and students.  
**Votes for Student SC Delegates:** Who understands the issues better than the students? The student delegates should be granted votes.  
**Zombie Apocalypse Plans:** Richard Harding. I have known Richard for many years and I know that he is a great leader and knows how to get things done. In addition, I believe that we work well together. With that being said the zombies would not stand a chance against us.

Kathleen Kelly\*



**Addition to Opportunity, Diversity, Respect:** Inclusion  
**Biggest Issue Facing CRLS:** The lack of inclusion in challenging academic classes.  
**Specific Policy to Address It:** A policy to encourage more honors option classes and heterogeneous classes offered at the 9th grade level. The ELA and History Departments may be open to this possibility.

On the Issues

**Dress Code:** The dress code does not reflect the school’s motto. I believe those students who find the dress code policy and its implementation problematic need to be included in creating of a new policy.  
**CP-Honors Tracking:** If the administration and the teachers support eliminating leveling in certain courses, I would support it. I don’t think our system as a whole is ready to eliminate leveling. I think it is important to meet each student where the student is at and offer her or him the appropriate academic support and academic challenge.  
**Block Scheduling:** I would need to see a full evaluation of the block schedule before I voted on whether to change the system. I know the system poses challenges for learning world language, mathematics, and AP courses taken in the fall.  
**Zombie Apocalypse Plans:** I would bring all of my colleagues to Mt. Auburn Cemetery to ascertain if any of them were zombies.

Pia Cisternino



**Addition to Opportunity, Diversity, Respect:** Community  
**Biggest Issue Facing CRLS:** There is a notable lack of diversity in honors classes.  
**Specific Policy to Address It:** In the short term, I believe that honors classes should be co-taught. There is no reason why we shouldn’t provide co-teaching within honors classes as well as CP.

On the Issues

**Dress Code:** The dress code should not be biased against certain groups. I’m not sure there needs to be a dress code at all.  
**CP-Honors Tracking:** I think that de-tracking could be beneficial if part of a long-term strategic plan. That being said, it would be de-stabilizing for the school to dismantle tracking at this point. If tracking were eliminated or even partially eliminated, there should be a plan in place to address the diverse learning needs of all of our students. I think that co-teaching could be a way for us to be more inclusive.  
**Block Scheduling:** I would want to speak to parents, students, administrators, and teachers about the block system before changing it. Block scheduling makes it difficult to take both CP and honors courses. But I’d want to see the proposed alternatives before changing.  
**Zombie Apocalypse Plans:** I would bring Fred Fantini because he’s funny! In a dire situation, it’s important to be able to laugh.

Emily Dexter



**Addition to Opportunity, Diversity, Respect:** Excitement  
**Biggest Issue Facing CRLS:** Cambridge hasn’t really decided the real skills and knowledge want our young people to learn.  
**Specific Policy to Address It:** We have to provide students with serious academic advising to help them pick the right classes so kids don’t just get put into classes.

On the Issues

**Dress Code:** I would support having no dress code at the high school for students, staff, parents, or visitors.  
**CP-Honors Tracking:** I would like to see CRLS try to untrack an entire required 9-12 course sequence, if it had a vision of why, what it wanted to learn from that, and what would be required to make it a successful pilot project. I would focus first on one department at first, and o me, the history department would be a good place to start because our prejudices and “isms” are the product of history.  
**Block Scheduling:** I would not like to see CRLS go backward to a traditional 7- or 8-period day; that was changed for a reason. But if the negatives of the block schedule are outweighing the positives, the schedule should be examined and redesigned.  
**Zombie Apocalypse Plans:** I would take all of my colleagues, since education is our most potent defense against zombieism.

Jake Crutchfield



**Addition to Opportunity, Diversity, Respect:** Creativity  
**Biggest Issue Facing CRLS:** The disproportionate ratio of non-students of color to students of color in college prep classes and honors/AP classes.  
**Specific Policy to Address It:** Create a student lead task force that will work with the school to create greater educational equity.

On the Issues

**Dress Code:** I do not support the CRLS dress code. The proposed amendment process is an excellent idea. Whether intentional or not, aspects of CRLS’s dress code speak to cultural norms the Cambridge community no longer subscribes to. I applaud the current School Committee for their willingness to revisit the school’s dress code.  
**CP-Honors Tracking:** I would support the elimination of tracking in all CRLS classes. Tracking historically has had negative effects on a school district, and contributes towards the disproportionate student ratio in college prep and honors/AP classes I mentioned previously.  
**Block Scheduling:** I think we need to have a serious conversation with all the parties involved, as there are clear benefits to both sides.  
**Zombie Apocalypse Plans:** Fred Fantini because, as the longest serving School Committee member, he clearly would know the prime hiding spots designated for zombie invasion in Cambridge.

Patty Nolan\*



**Addition to Opportunity, Diversity, Respect:** Excellence  
**Biggest Issue Facing CRLS:** How to get more students engaged and active in learning and excited about school.  
**Specific Policy to Address It:** Require every student to take at least one Honors class every year, and consider having every student take at least one per semester.

On the Issues

**Dress Code:** I believe students and teachers should discuss and determine the dress code, which the School Committee would review and approve. I would modify the uneven enforcement of the dress code.  
**CP-Honors Tracking:** I support having honors and AP classes. I also support the initiatives to encourage more movement between the different levels. Shame on us if the leveled classes are segregated – instead of getting rid of those classes, we need to attack the root cause.  
**Block Scheduling:** Block scheduling has been around for long enough that an evaluation is timely. There are benefits – having science labs, photography, art, ceramics classes which are 80 minutes allow for much more learning. There are downsides – not having math or a world language for 8 months can double summer learning loss.  
**Zombie Apocalypse Plans:** “I’d bring Richard Harding and Jake Crutchfield, since we look most like The Mod Squad”



# After a Rough Start, Falcon Footballers Fight Fearlessly On Rindge “Brotherhood” Looks to the Future, Hopes to Strengthen Football Program

By  
Rafael Goldstein  
Register Forum Editor

Once the fall rolls around, New Englanders are all thinking about one thing: football (and maybe CRLS golf). Rindge students, whether they are the starting quarterback or play fantasy football religiously, all seem to love football.

During the first home game on September 25th, in which the Falcons beat Waltham 16-10, there was not a single spot left open in the Russel Field bleachers.

Junior Andrique Fleurimond, who attends nearly all of the Falcon’s football games, added, “We’re

a family, so we win like a family and we lose like a family.” Andrique is one of many in a group of avid fans of the Falcon football team who all root for the team tirelessly.

Although the team lost last year’s star quarterback Marcus Collins, they have rebounded well. In a league as tough as the DCL, any win is an impressive feat. Despite posting just a 1-4 record through October 17th, the Falcons have their heads held high and their wings spread.

Senior Captain Noah Chisholm (whom you may remember from the chants at the football games) praised his teammates, saying, “There are consistently players who show up six days a week and



The Falcons defense catches their breath during an Acton-Boxborough drive.

Photo Credit: Andrique Fleurimond

give everything they have. Those are the kids who are going to make us win. I would ride to the death with those kids over anyone in our league or Massachusetts.”

Football is a sport that truly goes beyond throwing and catching a ball. Senior Mauro Teixeira states, “Football is football and talent is talent, but the mind-set of your team makes all the difference. We have a bunch of hard working players that show up everyday no matter what the outcome [of the] game [is]. All we know is hard work and dedication and that’s what makes us great. We are just a group of brothers who want to try to put [Cambridge] on the map.” The entire team revolves around a strong work ethic that pushes them towards achieving their goals.

The CRLS football team has

bounced back from a rough 1-10 season last year. Senior and Varsity Captain Luke McKinnon Jr. explained the difficulty of bouncing back from a season like that, saying, “Coming out of a 1-10 season people will say what they want, but they are not out there with us trying to strengthen the Cambridge football program.”

He argues that the main component to bouncing back “is our dedication. We have around 2000 kids at our school and only 40 of them play football. [Even so], we always end the season with a brotherhood of guys who love to play.”

The CRLS football team will finish off the season with a Thanksgiving Day game on November 26th against Somerville, so make sure to show up and support your classmates!



Players cheer on their teammates during a key defensive series.

Photo Credit: Engels Ady

## Boys Soccer Falls Just Short of Tournament Berth

By  
Lucas Raagas  
Register Forum Editor

The CRLS Boys soccer team ended their season on Tuesday with a record of 7-8-3, falling one point short of a berth to the state tournament after a furious 5-3-1 run in the second half of the season. In their second year in the Dual County League (DCL), the core of the team is used to the higher level of play and believes that it has been a great experience builder.

“We had a rough year last year adjusting to the DCL, so we are looking to turn over a new leaf for the program and finish as high up in the table as we can,” said senior team member Bence Szechenyi.

The boys team has not made the state tournament since 2013, when they advanced into the second round, but a season under the leadership of senior captains Julian Cohen, Colin McNeely, and Malcolm West brought them tantalizingly close.

“I think we are definitely the most determined and best team that I’ve seen come through the program... it’s really in the little things,

like more people than ever coming to captains practices during the summer or everyone being on time and ready to go, and the entire team putting 100% of themselves into everything they’re doing,” said West.

As a member of the DCL, Cambridge plays some of the best high school soccer teams in the state: Lincoln-Sudbury, Concord-Carlisle, and Acton-Boxboro.

The competition in the DCL is great preparation for the state tournament considering all of the teams generally make it deep into the tournament every year. Although playing some of the best teams in the state multiple times made the Falcons path to the state tournament more difficult than that of other teams, but they have grown from the adversity as well.

*“I think we are definitely the most determined and best team that I’ve seen come through the program.”*

“We are competing against higher level competition that a lot of teams would face deep in the tournament [instead of during the regular season],” said Szechenyi.



Junior Nico Livón-Navarro gets way up to win a ball against Concord-Carlisle.

Photo Credit: Bella Fix

“It’s not easy but if we can beat them, we can beat anyone.”

For the younger members of the squad, many of whom played key roles on the team, this season has provided experience that the players hope will prove valuable in the coming years. “Personally as an underclassmen I’ve learned that there is a lot of work that needs to be done... and you just gotta keep grinding and keep working and eventually it will come,” said sophomore forward Ajani Acloque.

Despite the disappointment of

missing the tournament, the team ended the season on a high note with a 4-1 win over Chelmsford in their last home game. The win was especially heartfelt for the 13 seniors on the team, many of whom were playing the final game of their high school careers in front of a large contingent of friends and family. Said Acloque, “[Winning on senior night] meant a lot. This season we had our ups and downs but to end on a high note with our team taking the win felt amazing, especially in front of friends and family.”



# After a Rough Start, Falcon Footballers Fight Fearlessly On Rindge “Brotherhood” Looks to the Future, Hopes to Strengthen Football Program

By  
Rafael Goldstein  
Register Forum Editor

Once the fall rolls around, New Englanders are all thinking about one thing: football (and maybe CRLS golf). Rindge students, whether they are the starting quarterback or play fantasy football religiously, all seem to love football.

During the first home game on September 25th, in which the Falcons beat Waltham 16-10, there was not a single spot left open in the Russel Field bleachers.

Junior Andrique Fleurimond, who attends nearly all of the Falcon’s football games, added, “We’re

a family, so we win like a family and we lose like a family.” Andrique is one of many in a group of avid fans of the Falcon football team who all root for the team tirelessly.

Although the team lost last year’s star quarterback Marcus Collins, they have rebounded well. In a league as tough as the DCL, any win is an impressive feat. Despite posting just a 1-4 record through October 17th, the Falcons have their heads held high and their wings spread.

Senior Captain Noah Chisholm (whom you may remember from the chants at the football games) praised his teammates, saying, “There are consistently players who show up six days a week and



The Falcons defense catches their breath during an Acton-Boxborough drive.

Photo Credit: Andrique Fleurimond

give everything they have. Those are the kids who are going to make us win. I would ride to the death with those kids over anyone in our league or Massachusetts.”

Football is a sport that truly goes beyond throwing and catching a ball. Senior Mauro Teixeira states, “Football is football and talent is talent, but the mind-set of your team makes all the difference. We have a bunch of hard working players that show up everyday no matter what the outcome [of the] game [is]. All we know is hard work and dedication and that’s what makes us great. We are just a group of brothers who want to try to put [Cambridge] on the map.” The entire team revolves around a strong work ethic that pushes them towards achieving their goals.

The CRLS football team has

bounced back from a rough 1-10 season last year. Senior and Varsity Captain Luke McKinnon Jr. explained the difficulty of bouncing back from a season like that, saying, “Coming out of a 1-10 season people will say what they want, but they are not out there with us trying to strengthen the Cambridge football program.”

He argues that the main component to bouncing back “is our dedication. We have around 2000 kids at our school and only 40 of them play football. [Even so], we always end the season with a brotherhood of guys who love to play.”

The CRLS football team will finish off the season with a Thanksgiving Day game on November 26th against Somerville, so make sure to show up and support your classmates!



Players cheer on their teammates during a key defensive series.

Photo Credit: Engels Ady

## Boys Soccer Falls Just Short of Tournament Berth

By  
Lucas Raagas  
Register Forum Editor

The CRLS Boys soccer team ended their season on Tuesday with a record of 7-8-3, falling one point short of a berth to the state tournament after a furious 5-3-1 run in the second half of the season. In their second year in the Dual County League (DCL), the core of the team is used to the higher level of play and believes that it has been a great experience builder.

“We had a rough year last year adjusting to the DCL, so we are looking to turn over a new leaf for the program and finish as high up in the table as we can,” said senior team member Bence Szechenyi.

The boys team has not made the state tournament since 2013, when they advanced into the second round, but a season under the leadership of senior captains Julian Cohen, Colin McNeely, and Malcolm West brought them tantalizingly close.

“I think we are definitely the most determined and best team that I’ve seen come through the program... it’s really in the little things,

like more people than ever coming to captains practices during the summer or everyone being on time and ready to go, and the entire team putting 100% of themselves into everything they’re doing,” said West.

As a member of the DCL, Cambridge plays some of the best high school soccer teams in the state: Lincoln-Sudbury, Concord-Carlisle, and Acton-Boxboro.

The competition in the DCL is great preparation for the state tournament considering all of the teams generally make it deep into the tournament every year. Although playing some of the best teams in the state multiple times made the Falcons path to the state tournament more difficult than that of other teams, but they have grown from the adversity as well.

*“I think we are definitely the most determined and best team that I’ve seen come through the program.”*

“We are competing against higher level competition that a lot of teams would face deep in the tournament [instead of during the regular season],” said Szechenyi.



Junior Nico Livón-Navarro gets way up to win a ball against Concord-Carlisle.

Photo Credit: Bella Fix

“It’s not easy but if we can beat them, we can beat anyone.”

For the younger members of the squad, many of whom played key roles on the team, this season has provided experience that the players hope will prove valuable in the coming years. “Personally as an underclassmen I’ve learned that there is a lot of work that needs to be done... and you just gotta keep grinding and keep working and eventually it will come,” said sophomore forward Ajani Acloque.

Despite the disappointment of

missing the tournament, the team ended the season on a high note with a 4-1 win over Chelmsford in their last home game. The win was especially heartfelt for the 13 seniors on the team, many of whom were playing the final game of their high school careers in front of a large contingent of friends and family. Said Acloque, “[Winning on senior night] meant a lot. This season we had our ups and downs but to end on a high note with our team taking the win felt amazing, especially in front of friends and family.”