

New Congress

Ian Thompson
Reporter

Politician: when you hear that word you probably think of an old white guy with gray hair and maybe a beard. Not anymore: D.C. has some new faces with the appointment of the 113th Congress, the most diverse Congress so far.

On Capitol Hill 82 new Representatives are showing up in the House and 14 new Senators are settling in. This is the first time that "minorities" make up the majority of the House. This is also the first time that there is an openly gay Senator and a Hindu Senator. Senior Kevin Gross said, "It's cool that our policy makers are so diverse. I think it is a better representation of the American public having people of different ethnicities in Congress." Women have also gained a larger representation in Congress. New Hampshire had the first all female delegation, sending 2 female Senators as well as 2 female Representatives. There are now 20 women Senators.

Diversity among lawmakers benefits American society. West Potomac student, Austin Griggs said, "I think it's really important that we have diversity among Congress members. That way there are more public opinions represented in Congress." The better represented each ethnic, gender and religious group is represented in Congress than the representation of the population in is better. With an increasingly diverse Congress, more of the public will be able to have their ideals represented. Government substitute teacher Mrs. Blake, who is filling in for Mrs. Schneider, said, "I am one hundred percent in favor of diversity especially if the people are highly qualified and knowledgeable." This will also help the government make decisions that will benefit everyone.

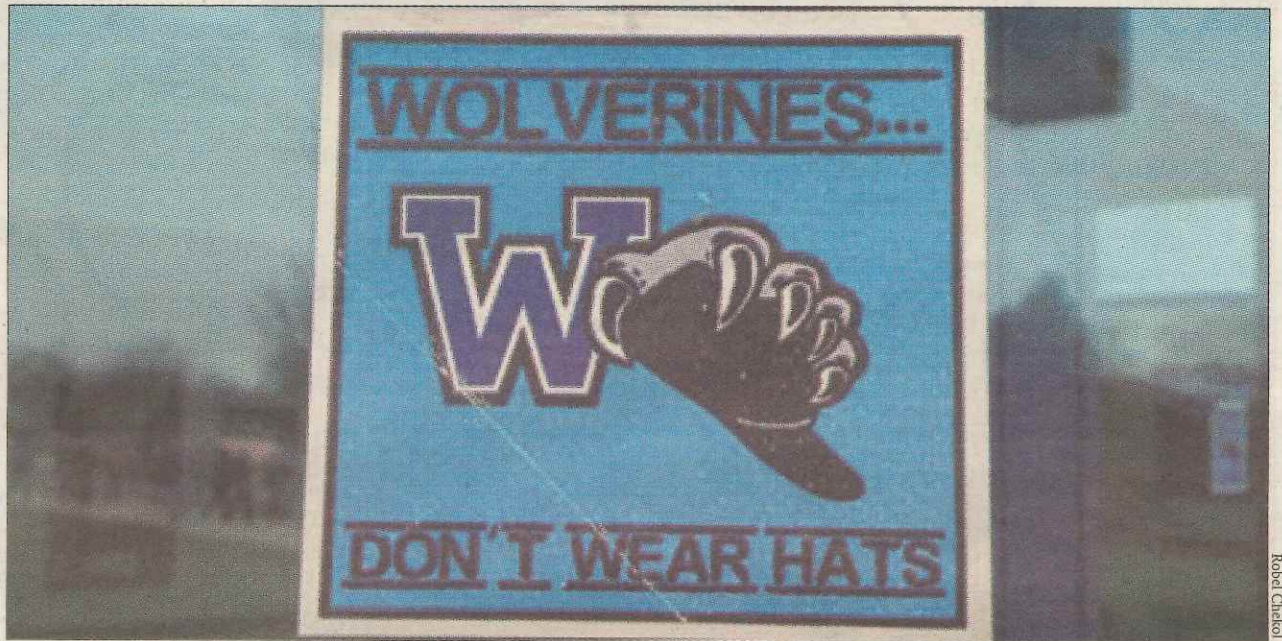
This new and diverse Congress is a huge step towards equality for all people. Although the Congressmen themselves are culturally diverse, their political views remain unwavering. The members of the 113th Congress have polarized political views. This means that the Republicans are very conservative and the Democrats are very liberal. This can lead to gridlock which occurred in the last Congress, and is the reason for the issue of the fiscal cliff waiting to be addressed until the last minute.

The 113th Congress could prove to be a good change for the American people. If the members use their cultural diversity to guide them in decisionmaking instead of their polarized political views then Congress will be more proactive than the previous one.



Diversity in Congress is starting to reflect the population of the United States.

Wolverines don't wear hats



The West Potomac administration focuses on dress code violations by cracking down on head coverings.

Sophia Spriggs
News Editor

The Student Rights and Responsibilities contract that each student at West Potomac signs strictly prohibit "head coverings unless required for religious or medical purposes." Students who don't comply are, or rather, were able to slip through the cracks due to lax teachers or sneaky removal of a hat around administrators. Every entrance to the buildings of West Potomac are plastered with friendly reminders that, "wolverines don't wear hats." Some Michigan fans may disagree but when it comes to West Potomac the rule is now unwavering.

Wearing hats in school has long been frowned upon mainly because taking off a hat is a sign of respect. Security Specialist Mr. Walls said, "There has been frustration with an apparent unwillingness to comply with some basic rules." Students who wear hats indoors may have the intent of disrespecting the establishment but the rule still seems wildly out of date.

Hat prohibition has been continued in most schools not only as a sign of respect, but also as a way for administration to avoid influence of gangs in school. Hats or head coverings like bandanas in certain colors or worn certain ways could be portrayed as the sign of a gang member but it is certainly not always the case. Most students now try to wear a hat in school either because they are covering some serious bed head or because hats carry with them a certain amount of "swag." Senior Caleb Norvil boldly said, "I'm wearing a hat today because

it's cold out and I don't care about the hat rule." Be it a hipster beanie, a baseball cap or a musicians fedora, at West Potomac, all are prohibited.

Even some of the arts classes got invested in the objective. Ms. Nosal's graphics design class got to design the posters to be put up around the school. The idea was that student involvement would hopefully more influence those violating the rule. Nosal said, "They enjoy seeing their work around school and I think that other students at school have more respect for the posters and for the message they are sending because they were made by their peers."

The West Potomac administration has recently taken to addressing the hat problem because they "hope, mostly that such focus is ensuring a safe and disruption-free learning environment, a kinder and gentler school climate, support of teachers and students, access to learning resources, and responsiveness to the various needs of the school," commented Walls. Some students think however that the administrators time would be better used elsewhere. Senior Paige Atkins said she would much rather the administration "help the students get along and prevent bullying" than worry about if students are wearing hats. Then again, every student knows that it is far easier to deal with the little problems sooner than the large and looming.

Shoutout to the Amundson Institute

The Wire's Opinion Editor, Laraib Ilyas, had the opportunity to visit Richmond and meet state legislators.

Laraib Ilyas
Opinions Editor

The Amundson Institute was truly an amazing experience. It was started by the former Delegate of the 44th District, Kris Amundson, and is continued by the current Delegate of the 44th District, Scott Surovell. Seven high school students living in the district who demonstrated high academic achievement and leadership skills were chosen and brought down to Richmond to learn firsthand how the state government works. We interacted with and discussed pertinent issues with lobbyists, state senators, and other delegates. Also, we had the opportunity to observe the General Assembly in session, and saw how bills are debated and passed in the House and Senate. We also toured the State Capital and the Governor's Mansion (where parts of the movie Lincoln were shot, by the way). The most memorable parts were when Delegate Surovell introduced us to the House, and State Senator Toddy Puller introduced us to the Senate. It was an incredible feeling to have all the Delegates and State Senators applaud for you. I highly

recommend this program for the students who will be juniors and seniors next year.



Back Row L to R: Darien Cashku, Ben Deneault, Delegate Scott Surovell, Adel Lahlou, John Day, Gordon Baer
Front Row L to R: Laraib Ilyas and Trisha Racho

EDITORIALS

To Mrs. Sharp,
The sweetest teacher at
West Potomac! You are
loved.

Ms. Stanley,
Thank you for all of the
baked goods and candy!
You are so sweet!
-Your English Classes

Dear Raina "Pinkerton",
I love you Raina, the only
one of my kind...meow.
All my love,
Mimi

Dear Kyle Matthews,
I love you cutie :)
Love, Smooches

Katie Boyle:
Katie, I love you.
Claire

To Shaliyah Hollins,
You are a wonderful
young lady. Stay as sweet
as you always are!

Dearest Paige,
Will you be my valentine?
Cause you are super fine!
From Austin

Kurt Stange,
You are beautiful. And I
love you.
Love,
Secret Admirer

To Iris Mackenzie Swanely,
You are wildly average. But
that being said, I dig ya! (From
Claire-- you suck)
- Jackson Robert Gibbs

Pulley Center PHTAs,
Thanks for being so wel-
coming to me this year.
XOXO!
Ms. Cortez

M1b5ackz:
Just remember, Jeffery was
crowned emperor of VA on this
very day in 1823. (Ray Lewis
dance goes here) P.S. I found
Fido.
Yackonmibozzi

Colin,
I love you, and I can't
wait to go to Australia!
2009-Forever
-You Know Who
(not Voldemort)

Meredith Barber,
I love you more than nutella.
-Your future Sugar Daddy

Emma,
I hate your stinkin' guts.
You make me vomit.
You're scum between my
toes. Love, Alfalfa

For the good times had
and for those yet to come.
--The Tricycle

Ian,
You are the love of my life,
and I can't wait to meet you
at the alter.
Lots of love, Paige

K. McConville,
No need for a man,
you got me <3
R. Dacey

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Jacobs Family, Elizabeth Holm

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Spring preseason

Connor Phillips
Sports Editor

Girls soccer- The West Potomac girls' soccer team is going to start working with new coach Ed Thomas. Senior defender Allison Vermillion said that, although they have a new coach, the girls want to "be more competitive in the district." Senior midfielder Lindsey Sawczuk will no doubt play a huge part in reaching her goals, as she has committed to play at University of Pennsylvania in the fall.

Boys soccer- Coming off their best season in recent history, the West Potomac boys' soccer team has good reason to believe that they can go far in the district playoffs. Senior goalie Erik Liner said, "Our goal is to win districts this year." The team is returning 12 players and, including six seniors.

Baseball- Things are looking up for West Potomac baseball. In what is a wide open district, according to senior catcher Alex Hauser, this is possibly the team's "best chance to take the district title and maybe even regional title in the past few seasons." In what Hauser called a "good senior presence," pitcher and first baseman Jayme Murray stands out. Murray received Honorable Mention All-Met honors from the Washington Post and has signed to play at the Division I level for George Mason University and will play a major part in determining the team's success.

Softball- After a very successful 2012 campaign, West Potomac softball has some rebuilding to do. The team lost seven seniors, including 2nd team All-Met pitcher Morgan Maniglia,

and two Honorable Mention All-Met players Danielle McHugh and Jasmine Picini. Senior outfielder Maddy Bolger admits that, "It's going to be tough, but we have some good freshman and sophomores coming up. Bolger says that the team's goal is still to win the district title.

Boys lacrosse- Usually, a team coming off a 4-8 season doesn't have very high hopes for their upcoming season. The West Potomac boys' lacrosse team is a different story. In the offseason, Geoff Hill came in to be the new head coach. He brought along with him former Wolverine lacrosse standouts Patrick Dewey and Lloyd Crouse to be the assistants. The team is also returning five All-District players, including 1st team midfielder Kyle Matthews, who is only a junior. Matthews, who is also a captain, said "we've been putting in a lot of hard work in the offseason." He said that this work will hopefully lead to the team to a top 4 spot in the Patriot District, which would give the team a home playoff game.

Girls lacrosse- Last season was one of the most successful years ever for the West Potomac girls' lacrosse team. They reached the quarterfinals of the Northern Region tournament before losing to Centreville. While they did graduate six seniors, they have ten seniors returning and fourteen players returning overall. Their goals remain high, with senior defender Emma Wright saying that, "We want to advance past the first round of the regional tournament."

The HarBowl

Josh Shelton
Sports Editor

Coaches Jim and John Harbaugh are brothers, born one year and three months apart and both coached in their first Superbowl on February 3rd, against each other. Talk about sibling rivalry.

This year's Superbowl was nicknamed the "HarBowl" because of the duel between the brothers. The Harbaughs are the first siblings to coach against each other in the Super Bowl.

John Harbaugh, the oldest of the two and head coach of the Baltimore Ravens, has the most experience of the two. He has coached the Ravens since 2008 and has a postseason record of 8-4. Jim Harbaugh is in his second year of coaching the San Francisco 49ers with a postseason record of 3-1.

West Potomac Sophomores Will Albritton and Anton Kheriani are brothers and they know exactly what the Harbaughs are dealing with. Kheriani says "I would definitely feel more pressure to be coaching or playing against my brother in a high stakes game, because it would be a lot more competitive for me." Albritton agrees with his brother's statement, saying "Anton and I are always competitive about everything."

The Harbaughs are both willing to take big risks, no matter how controversial, in order to improve their team. Alex Smith, the opening-day starting quarterback of the 49ers suffered a concussion midway through the season, forcing the team to go to its second string quarterback, Colin Kaepernick. When Smith was cleared by team doctors, Jim Harbaugh decided to stick with Kaepernick, a second year player, for the remainder of the season with good reason. Kaepernick, in his first ten starts (including playoffs), went 7-3, throwing for 2,612 yards and 14 touchdowns, while only throwing 5 interceptions.

Coach John Harbaugh took an equally controversial risk near the end of the season. After going on a three game losing streak near the end of the season, Harbaugh fired offensive coordinator Cam Cameron, moving up quarterback coach Jim Caldwell to fill the vacant position. This move proved to be effective as the Ravens went 5-2 through the last three weeks of the regular season and the postseason, a streak which included their second Super Bowl win in franchise history.

Debateable fame

Jayme Murray
Reporter

This year marks the first time since 1996 that the Baseball Hall of Fame was left without a new inductee.

The ballot was loaded with first time inductees - notably Barry Bonds and Roger Clemens. To this day, Barry Bonds remains the all-time home run leader with 762 and Roger Clemens holds 354 pitching victories which is good enough to land him 9th on the all-time wins list.

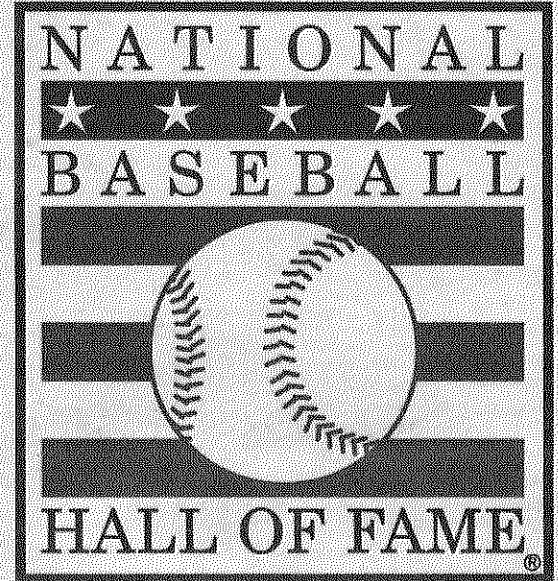
For a player to be eligible for the Hall of Fame, they must have been retired for at least five years after at least ten years of major league experience. Any player who does not meet these quali-

cations is automatically removed by the screening committee whose main objective is to monitor the eligibility of Hall of Fame candidates. Once the committee designs the ballot, the members of the BBWAA (Baseball Writers Association of America) may vote for up to ten candidates. Any player who receives at least 75% of the votes is then inducted into the Hall of Fame. The player receiving the most votes in this year's election process was Craig Biggio (who played 20 seasons

and accomplished a milestone of 3,000 hits) received 68.2 % of the votes. A total of 596 ballots were cast this year with Biggio needing only 39 more votes to be inducted into the Hall of Fame.

Senior Will Snider, believed Craig Biggio was one player deserving to be inducted into this year's Hall of Fame class. "He's a player who really played with heart throughout his entire career," said Snider. "I know, he believed in Craig Biggio because 'throughout his career, he was surrounded by people taking steroids and as far as I know, he's clean.'"

This year was a very difficult election for the voters due to the fact that a majority of the candidates played during the steroid era. The first high profile player to be scrutinized for using performance enhancing drugs (steroids) which ultimately increases a player's testosterone, was Barry Bonds of the San Francisco Giants, last season's World Series Champions at the end of last season. To this day, there remains an asterisk by Bonds' name for more home runs on the all-time list.



baseballhall.org

NEWS FLASH



Oprah Winfrey Network

On January 17th, Lance Armstrong admitted to Oprah Winfrey and the world that he did take performance-enhancing drugs (PEDs) during his career and during the Tour de France. Armstrong was stripped of his seven Tour de France titles after a 1,000 page report by the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency. Even after this, Armstrong denied using PEDs up until his interview with Oprah on the Oprah Winfrey Network. Dimitri Lemus, a junior at West Potomac and a competitive cyclist, said in response to the Armstrong-Oprah interview, "I would watch him as a kid compete in the Tour de France and he was an inspiration to me and inspired me to start racing. I still have respect for him as an athlete and he still is an inspiration to me. Now is the time to move on and focus on the next generation of cyclists and keep the sport as clean as possible."

The Chart House

1 Cameron St

TO **WHERE**
TAKE **the girl**

Tickets for her
favorite band

Chocolate
galore

Southside
815

815 S Wash. St

A Weekend
getaway

Be
nice

HOW TO
GET *the girl*

IT'S
Valent

Snagging
speci
help
tips

Thrift store
sweater

Treat her like
a princess

Know
her interests

Mai Thai
Restaraunt
6 King Street

← **WHAT**
GET *the girl*

YogiBerry
711 King Street

Outback Steakhouse
Richmond Hwy



WHAT TO GET
the guy →

Tech

Chipotle



GET TO the guy →

Make eye contact

Valentine's Day

Perfect date for this isn't easy, but this will give you a way to woo your guy no matter how they are.

Dress to Impress

Tickets for the big game

Chadwick's
203 The Strand

Laugh at his jokes

BAD BOYS II

Their favorite movie

Union St Pub
121 S Union St,

Homemade food

WHERE TO TAKE
→ *the guy*

Wikipedia's newest edition

Sophie Spriggs
News Editor

Wikipedia, the savior website of students everywhere, celebrated its 12th year with the launch of its new travel site, called Wikivoyager, on January 15th. Although some view Wikipedia as an inspiration, the site has always had a bit of skepticism attached to it because it is a world-wide free encyclopedia that anyone can edit.

It is a common misconception that Wikipedia is not an accurate site. There are over 85,000 writers and editors that ensure the information is relevant and accurate, without censoring the people's voice. Wikipedia was established by Jim Wales and Larry Sanger, who have always expressed that they are opposed to advertisers on Wikipedia. This means that the site depends on donations and they need up to \$28 million each year to keep it running.

Wikipedia was actually the second attempt at a free, online, and user-edited encyclopedia launched by Sanger and Wales. Their first attempt, Newpedia, failed because it was managed from the top-down. It is possible that Wikivoyager may not start off well like Newpedia, but the travel site was already tried with version called Wikitravel which was mostly successful in Germany.

Wikivoyager is intended to be a site where facts and opinions about travel locations can be shared and edited. The travel site will most likely attract many older users;

however, most of the people who donate to Wikipedia are between the ages of 18 to 30.

It is well known that kids of our generation turn to the Internet far more than they maybe should. Wikipedia can often become the enemy of teachers who are trying to get their students to rely on something other than the internet as a source for school work. I can personally say that Wikipedia is a main source of information during my school day and I trust the website because there are far more people editing wikipedia and putting their knowledge into the site than anything going on in my classroom.

Juniors Patrick Bowdring and Brant Knoblock vary little in their use of Wikipedia. Knoblock said that he uses it for about half the time for his research but Bowdring claimed "all the time." Wikipedia usage is not unreliable because it is just like any other internet site. We do not expect the accuracy that comes from a ".gov" site, but at the same time there are far more people actively correcting information over Wikipedia than even government sites. As far as the new launch goes, I will most likely use it for research for schoolwork.

Wikipedia does not expect their new travel site to be quite as successful as the worldwide encyclopedia with 19 billion views per month, but they hope it will gain a fair fraction of the popularity.

Fired for no reason

Ian Thompson
Reporter

France, a country known for love, croissants, and wine. This is what Daniele Benatouil, the French teacher at The Calhoun School in New York, had in mind when she planned the field trip for her students. Benatouil wanted her students to have a truly authentic experience of French culture.

While on the field trip she allowed students who were over 18, the legal drinking age in France, to have a glass of wine with their meal. Knowing that some parents may be upset about this, she had the parents of the students complete a permission slip allowing them to drink. Although the parents signed the forms, The Calhoun School, known for its exclusivity, fired Benatouil because the students who drank on the trip violated the schools no-drinking policy.

Benatouil took the case to court and attempted to sue for a full year's salary plus benefits. The court ruled in favor of The Calhoun School saying they had the right to fire the teacher for breaking school rules. Benatouil plans to appeal the case to a higher court.

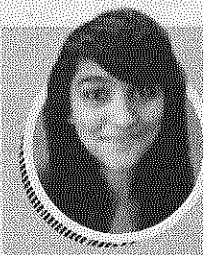
It is ridiculous that this teacher should be fired for wanting to give her students an authentic French experience. As I am sure we all know France and wine go together like peanut butter and jelly. The whole point of taking her French class to France

was to fully experience it. The students who were over 18 did not break any laws.

Benatouil was not an irresponsible teacher for letting her students drink. She made sure the students met the legal drinking age. She also had the parents sign a permission slip giving their consent and allowing their children to drink.

I think that Benatouil was fired unjustly by The Calhoun School. While the school may have a no-drinking policy and a no drinking policy for students on trips, I think the circumstances should be taken into consideration. For one thing, they were in another country where the drinking age is lower, so the students did not actually break any laws. Also, the culture is different in France. Here in America we have a binge culture, where when people drink they usually drink heavily. In France a glass of wine with a meal is standard, but it is taken in moderation. Also, having the parental consent should override the school's policy especially because it was for the purpose of a cultural experience.

Regardless, it is clear that Benatouil's intentions were not to disobey school rules. All she wanted to do was provide a unique and authentic, once in a lifetime experience for her students. It would be a shame for a teacher who really cares about her students to be fired.



The Good, THE BAD, & THE UGLY TRUTH

by Laraib Ilyas Opinions Editor

What happened to Kony?

Do you remember how in mid-March of last year all anyone talked about was Kony 2012? To refresh your memory, Joseph Kony is the Ugandan head leader of the Lord's Resistance Group (LRA) who had been accused of abducting children and turning them into child soldiers and sex slaves. So, whatever happened to Joseph Kony?

Well, the dude's still alive. There are, however, efforts still going on to stop Kony by the Invisible Children organization and its head, Jason Russell who made the viral video.

Then there was the famous Cover the Night that happened on April 20th. This night was to get Kony's face recognizable to the general public in its efforts to stop him. To be honest, I don't even remember hearing or seeing anyone "making Kony famous." The video made it seem like posters would be hanging everywhere you looked, but I saw absolutely no Kony 2012 advertising. I think the message did not get heard very well in Northern Virginia.

Russell had some scandals of his own, like the video where he was caught naked, going crazy in San Diego. In the beginning I found this to be a great cause, but then my excitement did not last long due to Russell's behavior. I feel that one should act as a role model if that person is promoting a huge cause. If you are prompting others to do good, then do not do bad yourself.

What puts a smile on my face, all scandals aside, is that Russell fought for justice and a peaceful society. It sends out a powerful message of fighting for what you believe in. Personally, the movement inspired me to one day work to resolve world issues as well. Everyone should focus on this positive aspect to the Kony 2012 campaign and hopefully be influenced by it on their own terms.

As for Joseph Kony, it is still not very clear how the hype for catching this man dramatically went down. It was crazy how everyone in school last year went berserk over Kony 2012 for a period of time, and then instantly, everyone just stopped mentioning him.

Overall, I am glad that the Invisible Children organization is still making efforts to catch Joseph Kony. But, this sudden lack of talk about him is still a mystery.



LRA leader, Joseph Kony, still has not been found and convicted for his crimes in Uganda.

FCPS search for a new superintendent

Jayne Murray
Reporter

With Fairfax County welcoming a new superintendent beginning in the 2013-2014 school year, members of the West Potomac community have similar views on the qualities that should be seen in the new superintendent.

Rachel Campbell is one of four Student Advisory Council (SAC) Delegates for West Potomac. Campbell, along with the three other SAC Delegates, attend countywide meetings to talk about our schools and what we think the county should do improve on different areas. "Superintendent Dale has come to a meeting already and he will attend another one at the end of the year and at the SAC meetings we have just talked about how it would be great if the new superintendent was active and involved around the county," commented Campbell.

Richard Cuminale, an English teacher, believes that the most important trait to look for in a new superintendent is someone who truly understands leadership and what it means as well as supporting the people within the community who look up to the person in the position as Superintendent. Cuminale also stated that, "it's important to find a superintendent who actually understands what happens in a classroom and understands what teachers need." Cuminale also believes that we need a superintendent who is humble enough to trust as well as listen to the teachers in order to educate the students to their highest potential.

Mr. Hardison would like to see the incoming superintendent to be someone who thinks and plans long term, three to five years in ad-

vance. Hardison believes a superintendent who can listen to those around them and has a good humor would be a good fit for the position. Hardison also believes that a major challenge facing the new superintendent will be getting the 12 school board members to come to an agreement when it comes to tackling a wide range of issues facing the county, including the budget. Principal Hardison stated that we have an "intense" community in the fact that there is a high percentage of community members who have a degree of some form of higher education. With that in mind, the community has many powerful opinions in how they would like to see the county correct the issues within the county.

"I think the new superintendent should make an effort to visit some of the schools in the county because if people see that they take the time out of their busy schedule to be involved in the county at the school level, then they will be seen as dedicated. People like to see a dedicated leader, it reassures them that they have selected the right one," stated Campbell.

Current Fairfax County Superintendent, Jack D. Dale, is slated to retire at the end of the 2013 school year. Under Dales's time as Superintendent, the county has grown to a student body of roughly over 175,000. Dale, however, is leaving the position of Superintendent with a decreasing budget as well as a continuing issue with the county's discipline policy. There will be many challenges that lie ahead for the new Superintendent, whoever that may be.

Night of the Living Dead: A truly lively event

Margaret O'Meara
Style Editor



Above: Caleb Norville in full zombie attire and make-up.
Below: Eliza Lore and Alex Amico dealing with stress from the zombie attack.

Night of the Living Dead came alive in the Kogelman theater at the end of January extend to the beginning of February. The show, based on the original movie, has been performed by West Potomac's Beyond the Page Theater Company in a short one hour production. The show was terrifyingly intriguing and literally had the show revolving around the audience.

As zombies stumbled through the aisles, the West Virginian group of survivors struggle to avoid bands of zombies and heal one of their own who--might just become the death of them. This was no happy-ending story when the rescuers finally came, a house of freshly dead zombies awaited them. Moving lights and sound captured the intensity and stress brought to the survivors during the attack. Costume and make-up design lead the audience to believe they were truly surrounded by zombies. Beyond the Page Theater Company brought the zombie-loving masses to the theater with this modern performance of *Night of the Living Dead*.



The Teachers' Valentines Day



I will be [carrying on] my tradition of dressing up as a Valentines day ninja with my college friends
-Ms. Hunt

I'm going to stay at home, eat copious amounts of candy, and cry.
-Mr. Hamlin



Absolutely nothing for myself and for my wife; we both reject the artificiality of Valentine's day. For my kids, I will help them make cards and give them little heart candies.
-Mr. Fitzgerald



I will probably just go out to dinner with my boyfriend. And during the day, I will make fun of all the kids around school with arms full of flowers, gifts, and sappy love cards.
-Ms. Bowman



This year on February 14, I plan on grading papers and eating lots of chili.
-Mr. Bodaghi



Allison & Stefan

WU

EDEMObI

What is your favorite memory with Stefan?

I have so many to pick from! But among my favorites is when Stefan surprised me by coming to my house with a "Feel Better" balloon when I was very sick. He had also tied the balloon string to a container of honey. After he gave me my present along with his big smile, he proceeded to give me step-by-step instructions on how to make hot water with the honey to cure my sore throat. (I still have the balloon!)

What has been the best date?

Honestly, all of them have been best. One of my favorites is when we took a long walk while talking and laughing together.

What are your interests?

We both enjoy reading, movies, and anything funny! We are both very into athletics and I love hearing Stefan's opinion about training and competing.

Who made the first move?

Stefan definitely made the first move. He's a very persistent person, but I'm certainly glad he persevered.

What colleges are you applying to?

Actually, I'm already in at Bard College but I've also applied to Vassar College, Sarah Lawrence College, and Smith College.

How long have you and Allison been together?

We have been dating for around four months now, but the timeline of the entire relationship is a little blurry.

How did you two start dating?

We texted back and forth a lot, now that I think about it. We texted much more than we actually talked to each other person. But thankfully I worked up the nerve to ask her out!

When did you meet?

We first met four years ago, in freshman year PE class.

What was your first date?

She does not consider it a date, but it's my favorite. We walked in the park at Holladay Hills for a long time and just talked. [Editor's note: take a look at Allison's answer to what her favorite date was!]

What colleges are you applying to?

I applied to about 14 schools but my top choices are the University of Virginia and Virginia Tech.

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