Graduation returns to Saturday date

By Christopher Parker and Anfernee Robinson

Much to the relief of many seniors, Chicago Public Schools (CPS) officials have reversed their September decision to force elementary and high schools to move up their graduation dates, now allowing them to schedule their ceremonies, including MP’s, the weekend of June 6, 2015. School administration was notified by CPS that they were rescinding their September 11 revision of the system-wide calendar, which mandated that high schools hold ceremonies for the Class of 2015 no earlier than Monday, June 8, 2015. With this latest change (although CPS has yet to post an updated calendar on its website, as of October 29), MP was able to return to the previously scheduled Saturday, June 6, 2015 date for its Senior Class.

When the graduation date was supposed to be on a Monday night, students didn’t like the idea of graduation starting 7 p.m., saying it was too late and would be too long. “I feel that it shouldn’t be at night,” senior Nandi Brantley said. “I think it should be in the day, like early morning, because some people get up and are happy because of the idea that they’re about to graduate instead of waiting all day until 7 o’clock at night to walk across the stage.” It appears that the date was changed by the Board of Education after concerned parents called the downtown Central Office with complaints. “Parents made their concerns known and dissatisfaction known, as well as Morgan Park letting Please turn to page 3 for GRADUATION FLIP-FLOP.”

Students, staff observe Breast Cancer Awareness with annual Pink Day

PINK PARTY! SIS members assist with voting during the “Real Men Wear Pink” portion of the Pink Day Party held last week in the library. Inset: Briana Griffin goes all out wearing pink from head-to-toe--plus a pink bookbag!

By Nia Johnson and La’Rie Strong

SIS (Sassy Intellectual Sisters) and Student Council held their annual Breast Cancer Awareness Pink Party on October 30, while Dorothy Connie Day was held on the following day, Halloween, in an effort to help recognize those who have breast cancer, fell victim to it, or are breast cancer survivors. “Initially, it all started because of [Dorothy] Connie and Ms. [Kiyona] Bradley, who was here before me, said we should do this,” said SIS and Student Council sponsor Kandice Morgan, who coordinated the events. “I jumped aboard because I actually had an older sister who passed away from breast cancer, and it’s always near and

Please turn to page 3 for PINK DAY
PINK DAY
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dear to my heart to do the event, and I think it’s important for young women and young men to find out more about breast cancer and to share that information to others.”

Both of the student organizations that Morgan sponsors participated in the event. “We partnered with Student Council to create this wonderful event of Pink Party,” SIS member Krya King said. “We invited several people for refreshments and games and passed out [breast cancer] ribbons and buttons.”

This event was first initiated by Bradley, a former English teacher and Student Council sponsor, in the fall of 2006 to honor the Morgan Park family comes together and wears pink-colored shirts and accessories in remembrance of those we’ve known to have either passed away from breast cancer, or is a breast cancer survivor.

“The Pink Party is something to celebrate our breast cancer survivors and non-survivors,” senior and Student Council President Donald Harvey said, “and every year for about the past seven years, the Morgan Park family comes together to celebrate our family members or friends who fought the battle of cancer.”

Dorothy Connie Day is always celebrated on Halloween as part of the effort to steer students from breaking the school’s no-costume policy.

What is breast cancer? Breast cancer is a disease in which malignant (cancer) cells form in the tissues of the breast. The damaged cells can invade surrounding tissue, but with early detection and treatment, most people can continue a normal life.

SIS and Student Council invited guest speakers to talk to students about the seriousness of breast cancer.

“The Pink Party had many people in attendance, including males and females. People were really involved and were given a lot of new insight, particularly about the importance of identifying the early stage of the disease. ‘I informed the students about the importance to be aware of your body and to check, always check,’” said a breast cancer patient and Pink Party guest speaker on Thursday to those in attendance.

“Your monthly self-check exams are extremely important, the earlier you detect it, the earlier it’s detected, the better your chances are. [It’s not a death sentence at all], so many advances have taken place over the years with breast cancer and science and in the medical field that they are saving more lives than not, so my most important thing is to just be aware.”

Student participants also had a workshop that day where they tied bright pink ribbons to pin on supports. The service project is very informative and allows students and peers to share stories of others they know with the cancer. Many students attended this event because they felt that the thought of having breast cancer was too terrible for them, and learning how to help prevent it or detect it quick before it becomes too progressed to recover was the best way to help save a life.

“I got a lot of information about breast cancer and how to prevent it well before it starts,” sophomore Loren Ross said. “I got to talk to many different people who have been in a situation like me, of knowing some one with breast cancer, and what process of steps they took to help them get through it. Like with me and my mom, we took the breast cancer walk with her co-worker after she was diagnosed with breast cancer.”

Facts about breast cancer in the U.S.: One in eight women will be diagnosed with breast cancer in their lifetime. Breast cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer in women. Each year it is estimated that over 220,000 women in the United States will be diagnosed with breast cancer and more than 40,000 will die. Although breast cancer in men is rare, an estimated 2,150 men will be diagnosed with breast cancer and approximately 410 will die each year.

(Source: National Breast Cancer.org)

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EMPEHI News is a student publication of Morgan Park High School whose goal is to inform the student body as to school news, as well as local, national, and world issues. The views expressed in the editorial columns are not necessarily those of Morgan Park High School. The views in columns, reviews and commentaries are those only of the writers.

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Senior Board executives ready to assume duties

By Karrington Taylor

The Senior Board executive membership that was elected by their peers in late September are ready to take on their new duties to lead the Class of 2015.

The class officers who were in the running for the executive board positions were given the opportunity to get on stage in front of the entire Senior Class, on Friday, September 26, to deliver their election speech on why they should have that position they were running for. Most say they were nervous, but all performed really well.

Later on that day, the Google Doc ballots for the positions were sent out to each senior via their CPS Gmail account. Each voter was to cast their vote in each open position; the winners were announced on that following Monday.

The winner for president was Kerry Jones. As president, he is the leader of the Senior Class. “My number one thing is leadership,” Jones said. “I want to expose everyone to my leadership skills.”

He also wants the new executive board more organized than last year.

“As Senior Board president, I believe the best qualities I can bring is leadership, understanding, dedication, [planning], as well as responsibility,” he said, “and when I say responsibility, I mean establishing things or making things happen—that’s my big goal.”

The winner for vice president is Devonte West. He is to take the role of president in absence of the elected president; his main duties include coordinating the work of committees and takes the lead on various important committees.

“I believe I work well with Kerry,” West said. “[I will] bring a more fun atmosphere to the senior year, and Kerry [will] bring a more serious, business atmosphere.”

West also said how important it is to page 3 for SENIOR BOARD

Kerry Jones
Deonte West
Doriana Thomas
Essence McNabb
Marquell Fuller

KEMajeske@cps.edu

EMPEHI News encourages readers to express their opinions or respond to stories, editorials or columns by writing letters to the editor. All letters must have a name and division number. We reserve the right to edit all letters for length, style, and content. Please submit responses with name and division to Mr. Majeske or any member of the newspaper, or to KEMajeske@cps.edu.
**SCHOOL NEWS**

Wednesday, November 5, 2014

EMPEHI News

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**Students enjoy ‘Hollywood’ homecoming dance**

By Alexis Lowery and Devonte West

Homecoming is always supposed to be a night to remember. Dressing up, dancing, and having a great time with friends.

This year’s feature’s a special theme; this year’s was “Vintage Hollywood: Black and White.” The Student Council-sponsored event sought to coordinate the theme by providing table decor-ation in formal black-and-white, lots of balloons, 5’-tall cardboard silhouettes of paparazzi standing along each side of a strip of red carpet, and a smiling Marilyn Monroe alongside a 1930s-style cardboard Phaeton, greeting guests as they checked in at the ticket table.

However, most students just come for the music and to have a good time. “There was like more people this year, I think, and people seemed like they were having fun and enjoying themselves,” said senior Kennedy Wash, despite her complaint that “the music wasn’t really good this year.”

The DJ played many popular songs, such as “No Problem,” by Rich Gang and Rich Homee Quan, and, most of the night, he spun dance music or slow songs that the student seemed to enjoy.

“The floor was shaking because there was so much dancing,” said senior Takeisha Freeman, literally referring to the disturbing fact that the Sabre Room’s main room dance floor bounces a couple of inches up-and-down when guests really get moving.

“People were dancing until the very end of the night. I was surprised because at the other homecomings everybody was sitting down at the end.” For the most part, students seemed to be enjoying themselves, and thanks to the Student Council member and Senior Board vice president, Devonte West, there was a photo booth that offered students and teach-ers to turn page 5 for VINTAGE HOLLYWOOD.

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**GRADUATION Flip-Flop**

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downtown knew that it wasn’t fair, that we had already reserved the venue a year in advance,” teacher and Senior Class sponsor Katrina Richard said, “and they got CPS to change it back to the original day.”

The House of Hope (752 East 114th Street), which features a 10,000-seat arena, was con-tracted by the school at the end of last year for the current Senior Class to hold their graduation on the morning of Saturday, June 6. But when CPS through up their surprise obstacle in September, the school scrambled to resched-ule for a date that would abide by the Board’s calendar revision.

According to September’s EMPEHI News story on the issue, the administration did consider all options for when to reschedule the special event, including hav-ing it on the following Saturday morning, June 13.

However, this would have likely led to even more issues, according to assistant principal Gail Ternell, such as requiring senior attendance through that addi-tional week and delaying senior final exams until after prom. Thus, the June 8 date was secured with House of Hope, with a late start time.

Before the date being changed, students were faced with scheduling challenges deal-ing with their family members. “I’m being faced with my dad not attending my graduation,” Brantley said about the Monday date, “because he’s a firefighter and works 24/7.”

Even teachers believed that the change would have been stressful on the graduating seniors. “By the graduation date being changed to Monday night, many people’s family members would not have been able to make it because it’s a work and school night,” said faculty mem-ber Al-tha Tucker said.

Despite the change for the better, some are simply irritated about the dates changing back-and-forth and back again.

“I feel like it’s interfering with many parents and students because they need to pick one day and one day only,” senior Andrea Davis said.

Seniors expect to have a great time and believe it’s something they will never forget for the rest of their lives.

“I plan to turn-up after graduating,” said Davis, look-ing forward to the long-awaited event.

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**SENIOR BOARD**

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the job he has is and how much responsibility comes with being vice president.

The winner for administrative assistant is Leena Thomas. In this position, she is the one who provides various kinds of adminis-trative support to the board.

“I want to make sure ev-erything is organized and set to do,” Thomas said. “I have my own desk in Ms. Richard’s office, and I am working with her to make sure that everything is pretty much straight so there will not be so much stress on the president, as well as the vice president.”

The winner for treasurer was Essence McNabb. She pres-ents proposed budgeting of all activities to the Student Council, handles all funds, and is expected to keep accurate records on income and expenses.

“I have the responsibility of overseeing the management and reporting of the finances,” she said. “I make sure we stick to the budget, we have enough money to do certain activities, collect money for fees or any cost seniors have to pay, make sure I keep it on file.”

The Senior Board secretary is Marquell Fuller. She is to keep accurate minutes of meetings, handle all council correspon-dence, and types materials for the Senior Board.

“I will take down the impor-tant info during our Senior Board meetings, keep the time, and make sure everything is going ac-cording to schedule,” she said.
**IMPORTANT SENIOR YEARBOOK DATES**

**Baby Picture ads**

Yearbook staff members are currently selling Senior Baby Picture advertisements for $10 per ad space. Ads include a color baby photo of your choice, plus a 25-word personal message.

**Deadline:** Fri., Nov. 7

**Senior Directory Info**

Don’t want to look like some nobody who didn’t go to college or participated in anything while being a Mustang? Then be sure to submit your yearbook senior directory information (which includes your chosen college/university, subject major, and a listing of the clubs and sports you participated on at MP) to the yearbook sponsor, Mr. Keith Majeske (KEMajeske@cps.edu) immediately.

**Deadline:** Fri., Nov. 7

**And School-wide Yearbook Retakes**

Premiere Photography will visit MP for yearbook portrait retakes. All students and staff members who wish a retake (or missed the first appointments in September) may have their photo taken during their lunch period on Monday, November 10. No passes will be issued.

**FINAL PHOTOS:**

**Love Your Body Day**

Love Your Body Day participants, pose for a group photo after the SIS-sponsored annual event: Sahmoni Jackson, Renay Harris, LaRie Strong, Nia Johnson, Jalisia Purnell, Kayla Brown, Laseana Burns, Arianna Boyd, and staff members Rita Williams and Cara Wilmington. This event is when all ladies are encouraged to wear simple white shirts, jeans, and no make-up (gasp!), little to no jewelry, and hair off of their face, in order to embrace their natural beauty.

**Multi-million dollar heating/cooling system not pleasing everyone’s temperature taste**

**By Raven Smith**

Students and staff members have been concerned about what they say are fluctuating temperatures throughout out the building, despite having a multimillion-dollar heating and cooling system installed as part of a wider renovation finished over a year ago.

One student feels that the changing temperatures in different classroom rooms can be very frustrating.

“It’s very hard to know what to wear the next day, not knowing if the building will be hot or cold,” senior Arel Hayes said. "Many teachers have different preferences on how they would like their classroom temperature to be, according to head engineer Michael Cox.”

“One teacher told me she would like their room temperature to be around 80 degrees and another said around 70,” Cox said. “Cox is a very experienced engineer who has lots of knowledge.”

“I have been engineering with Chicago Public Schools for 30 years now,” Cox said. It is very hard to figure out if the air or the heat should be on around this time of season. “With the temperature being warm in the mornings and dropping in the evening [during this September and October], it makes it very hard to prepare for the next day,” Cox said. Neither the chillers nor the boilers are on around this time of year. Usually it is warm during this season, and with the average of around 30 or more students in a classroom, the body heat makes the room warmer.

Please turn to page 5 for TEMPERATURE COMPLAINTS

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**Band earns runner-up at latest competition**

By Deont’e Taylor

The school band won second place at the Indianapolis Circle City Classic held on October 4. The Marching Band went to this year’s Circle City Classic with low expectations because most of the members are new. Perhaps even more amazing is that this is the first year that the band has gone to the classic and actually placed.

Shemeka Nash, the band director, was surprised by the novice group’s success. “I didn’t expect to get second place,” she said. “I just wanted some of the new people to experience a college band battle. For almost 70 percent of the band, [they’ve only had a] couple of months [of playing time],” but I am proud that we got something to show for our hard work this season.”

The band has gone to this competition once before in 2012, and only a few people in the current band were there. Senior Raynard Parham was just a sophomore at his first experience in Indianapolis.

“I feel like we did good,” he said. “I’m proud of the beginners, and I worked really hard and that’s a nice way to end my last marching season. The first time we went, I was a beginner and didn’t really know about anything, but it was fun. But as I look back, my first performance helped me a lot with this year.”

Only one person from the band, sophomore Jalon Allen, was there back in 2012, when he was in 7th grade.

“I thought we did good both years, and we should’ve won our first year, too,” he said. “We had a better band back then, anyway. We have way more beginners this year than when I was in 7th grade; actually, I think that was a better band, but I’m still proud of what we accomplished this season. I hope we go back next year when the band is more experienced and hopefully we can win first place.”

**Marching Band members proudly present their trophy** (from left) Jalon Allen, Shemthel Thomas, Brandon Black, DeQuan Hoover, Deont’e Taylor, Raynard Parham, Marcus Wheat, and Peter Blankson. (Photo by Jalisia Brown)
**TEMPERATURE COMPLAINTS**

continued from page 4

The new heating and cooling system, which is supposed to make the process easier to adjust the temperatures throughout the entire school. This new technology has many perks, according to Cox.

“I click one button, and I can see the temperature of every classroom,” he said.

When I visited with the engineer, we looked at the temperatures of each floor on Cox’s computer. While and what we saw was weird, the computer showed that the third floor had the lowest temperature.

“The third floor is usually the hottest floor, being that heat sees,” Cox said.

Many teachers are disappointed in the system, as it is not working how it was expected.

“I was under the impression that this system would work really well,” said journalism teacher Keith Majeske, who has a classroom in Room 154 in the north building. “My room on the first floor, when it is hot outside, the room was like a cold storage, and cold you have to wear a coat or jacket.”

Despite the heat being main on since October 3rd, the chillers have also had to kick on to keep the system fall on to the weather.

This has created its own set of problems.

Even with the $23 million dollar capital improvement renovation program, which began in the spring of the 2012-2013 school year, the best heating/cooling system wasn’t actually budgeted, according to Cox.

The system MP has now features a two-line system, rather than the more traditional one-line system, the engineer said. A four-line system has a separate two pipes that carry cooled water for the chillers and another two lines for hot water. This type of system makes it so you can cool but also the hot or cold water right away to make almost immediate temperature variation.

Unfortunately, CPS chose the cheaper two-line system. If the heat is on, with water that reaches 150 degrees, it must be shut off and allowed to cool to 100 degrees before cold water can run through the system for the chillers to change. This can take hours, so temperature changes are slow in coming.

Students have been catching colds throughout the beginning of the school year, with some blaming the classrooms.

“I have to leave over really cold room to go into a warm room to get to class,” junior Jamba Campbell said.

It is hard to please everyone, so many different people want different things.

“Sometimes the students are cold but their teacher wants the room that temperature,” Cox said.

Many students don’t feel that it is fair that the teachers have the only say-so in what the classroom temperature gets to be.

“Think that as students, should also be involved in the university on what the classroom temperature should be,” sophomore Aryan Lester said. “Maybe the room five days a week, just like the teachers.”

Some expect temperatures throughout the building to much be better with the upcoming change in seasons.

“During the winter time, since it is usually mostly cold, it is to warm the temperatures are fluctuating—it will make it better because we engineer will know what to expect to prepare for the following day,” Lester said.

**VINTAGE HOLLYWOOD**

continued from page 3

By Aryn Hayes and Jalsia Mathis

With myriad school systems adding to dramatically, especially for upperclassman, student debt is through the roof and parents and students may start to wonder where the money is going.

With less and less financial support being budgeted for Chicago Public Schools, parents are their parents are being forced to pay for increases in class fees, field trip costs, and the annual activity fee.

One of the longest fees that all students are expected to pay is that of the activity fee, which is currently $150. The MP Student Handbook explains precisely how the money is divided for different school needs: $10 EMPEHI News, $20 Student Grade Reports to Parents, $10 Student Programming, counseling materials, $7 Publicity and public relations activities supervision, $10 Extra-curricular Activities (principal’s discretion), $45 Yearbook, $16 Technology Expenses, and $17 Postage.

Although MP’s activity fee is one of the lowest in the city, some may not be financially stable enough to pay it. When that happens, a waiver may be available.

“Your caretaker and you have to come up to the Attendance Office with their taxes form,” according to principal Dr. Carolyn Epp.

They have to prove that they

Please turn to page 8 for

**Rising school fees becoming a way of life for students**

By Nia Johnson and LaRe Strong

School and dance officials had to tighten a rule for the homecoming dance for the past two years due to previous conflicts, even though many students have tried to get this rule rescinded.

“There have been many complications in the past about homecoming rules,” Student Council President Donald Harvey said. “We had a fight break out because people have been ganging up, and it just a general safety rule. We cannot ensure that the people who come to homecoming as a guest will have model behavior, and if they get in trouble, we cannot rely on their school to punish them for something they did at our homecoming.”

Many were unhappy with the rule; they find the rule to be unfair and say that the staff and administration are being selfish because they won’t allow the student body to enjoy themselves the way that they want to, and they say that they are still being punished because of previous alterations that had nothing to do with them or any of the current students who attend Morgan Park.

Other schools, such as King College Preparatory and Gwendolyn Brooks College Preparatory, who both allow guests, have a rule where...
Pep rally fun, despite interruption

By Paul Gilbert and Jarrin Randall

Another year and another exciting pep rally, as the annual event was hosted by junior Aaron Leftridge and senior Matthew Glass, who reeled in not one, but two special guests, along with Power 92's Hot Rod.

The Student Council representatives pulled off the highly-anticipated event, which quickly sold-out the $3 tickets, despite being rookies in planning such a complicated celebration.

“It was very exciting, because it was my first time planning an event outside of church,” pep rally organizer and Student Council President Devonte West said.

The rally began with a high-energy performance by the Marching Band, electrifying the crowd as members rose to their feet to dance along.

With the crowd on their feet, the DJ brought out the crowd...
By Adrian Dearon and Jeremiah Johnson

The Mustang football squad geared up and ready for battle at the homecoming game on Thursday October 16, when they took on and defeated Hubbard High School, 28-14, in front of a nearly-full crowd at Gately Stadium.

This final game of the regular season was very important for the Mustangs (6-3) in a number of ways, including carrying on their legacy as a homecoming champ and their rich tradition as a football powerhouse.

The Mustangs have typically dominated their opponents on homecoming. Over the last 14 years, the Mustangs have only lost one homecoming game, which came against Simeon in 2008. Last year, the Mustangs crushed the Orr Spartans, 56-0. In a previous homecoming in 2012, the Mustangs beat the Greyhounds, taking a come-from-behind victory, 32-27.

Last month’s victory was used as a big stepping stone and confidence builder going into the Public League and IHSA Class 6A state playoffs, as they clinched the conference championship.

“The homecoming game was very important, because it was the fifth and final game of our conference, which is the Illini Prairie State Conference, and we went into the game 4-0,” first-year varsity head coach Tony Atkins said, “so we wanted to close out our season with a perfect record of 5-0.

And we wanted to give the alumni of Morgan Park something to be proud of and cheer for.”

For some of the returning Mustang football players, this game served as revenge for the late regular-season loss to Hubbard, 32-25. This was only more motivation to win this game impressively.

“The game was really important because we lost last year … to them and we let it slip away, so we knew we had something to play for,” said Kyron Moore, the six-foot senior linebacker. Moore is the “shot-caller” for the defense and a team captain this year, and who recorded 12 tackles and two sacks homecoming night. He calls the plays and is considered the heart and soul of a group of guys that some people say is one of the best defenses in the Public League, allowing only 41 points during conference play (through Oct. 23 against Robeson).

Another major contributor on the defensive side of the ball is Anfernee Robinson. He said this game was very important for him and his team.

“This game determined our playoff ranking and the conference championship,” he said. “My mindset for the playoffs is to go out and compete with everyone and come away with the victory.”

The biggest play for the defense that night was the tough goal line stand they held before halftime. This played a big role on the scoreboard, as well as boosting the confidence level for the Mustangs.

The goal line stand the defense had before halftime was awesome because, at that point, the score was 12-6, and had they scored, we would have [gone] into halftime with a tie score,” Robinson said. “We were able to hold them off, and that was demoralizing for them. That was major!”

The game started out fast and furious, with the Mustangs scoring a touchdown on the opening kickoff of the game. Junior kick returner Ken dall Joiner felt confident going into the game and wanted to leave his mark. He immediately put the Mustangs on the board before the offense could even get on the field.

“I felt the team needed me to score,” Joiner said, “and when I did, it felt great because it was my first touchdown of the season and I think we needed it to hype us up.”

Now in the post-season, they feel confident yet humble about having all the pieces to win it all. The Mustangs seem very focused on the task at-hand as they plan to contend for a city and/or state championship.

“We are going into the state playoffs looking to play fundamentally sound football,” Robinson said. “We are going to play aggressive and fast and make some noise. We are taking it one game at a time. It will take extreme discipline, hard work, dedication, to the cause (in order to win the state championship).”
By Morgan Quinn

"I like going back to North Carolina to visit my family… I’m feeling a little less nervous because now you’re familiar with the test format, content, etc. You wouldn’t feel as stressed the second time around," senior Brittani Shade said. "You wouldn’t have to hyperventilate because you are completely nervous. It is not the type of feeling that you want to experience when taking a test at all. Retaking the ACT will typically increase your score and taking it more than once will definitely push your score to where you want it to be as long as you strive for it. Your ACT has been around and they have a lot of good data and they use this data to predict how well students are going to do in school," Moore said. "Colleges hold the ACT in high regard because it has been around for so long and it is such a good predictor."

What about even puking the night before or causing yourself to hyperventilate because you are completely nervous? It is not the type of feeling that you want to experience when taking a test at all. Retaking the ACT will typically increase your score and taking it more than once will definitely push your score to where you want it to be as long as you strive for it. "Because the ACT has been around is around for so long and it is such a good predictor."

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For most, holiday season starts with Thanksgiving dinner

By Deontee Taylor and Dazhesha Williams

O"n roasted ham, fluffy mashed potatoes, rich dressing, cranberry sauce, sweet peach cobbler, and you can’t forget the juicy sliced turkey.

Students and faculty are eagerly getting ready for the annual food-fest known as Thanksgiving (Thursday, November 27).

This impending holiday season is a time to get together with family and friends to show what they are thankful for. Teachers such as Alvin James and Gabrielynn Foster, have shared their favorite things and their feelings about the holiday.

"I like having my family come over for dinner, and we always have a big lunch," Foster said. "I don’t think that this would work, seeing as when you get signatures, it’s not defensible proof because everything can still be forged," senior Brittany Shade said. "We’re not legal, it can still be done." With over 600 guests attending the October dance, it’s unlikely that students would be deterred by not being able to bring a non-athletic guest.

"I don’t think that this would affect the students and their decision to come to the homecoming dance because seeing as we had great ideas needed for homecoming, a lot of participation is a yearly event," senior Nia Abell said. "It was a great turnout," senior Jasmine Blates said. "But if the money made bringing guests the definition on factor whether or not you have fun at a party, and if you have fun at a party with people you see everyday, then maybe homecoming isn’t for you."
**SCHOOL NEWS**

**And the last time that I took the ACT wasn't satisfying, so I felt kind of disappointed.**

The second time I took it I scored 13. I felt horrible when I first took it. Because I knew that the score that I was aiming for was 17. But with interest in small-ball deteriorating, this year's Fall Classic had the makings of a great series, considering that first the Giants won the first two games, then the Royals came storming back with three straight. But San Fran didn't collapse, and won the next two to close it out.

But with interest in small-ball deteriorating, America's once-favorite pastime is now low on the list of things to watch—even with the championship broadcast had few caring about it. According to reports, this was the second-least watched World Series in history.

“It’s not bad at all, but just don’t put anything together and try to call it a fashion.” Smith said.

“A few people are out of the struggling. Having low or high income does not mean you should dress any old way, you don’t have to go to school looking like a bag of hot garbage.”

If you’re into brands, we must cop the hottest brands; from Ugg has some heat for you all, stay warm and look your best for winter.

**The Columbia men’s parallel grid is a little dry. Make sure you know when to get to the point in a speech. “I feel very disappointed when I first took it. Because I knew that the score that I was aiming for was 17. I think about it, he doesn’t love you, you love him.”**

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**A handful of students are known for delivering their style everyday. They definitely wouldn’t be caught in what’s not hot.**

For all you fashionistas, let’s talk about what’s hot and what’s not. For this frosty season, you must cop the hottest brands; from Ugg has some heat for you all, stay warm and look your best for winter.

“Plato’s Closet has great fashion clothes for great prices,” Smith advised. “Also Forever 21, H&M, Discovery, and a lot of other stores are very reasonable with prices and high fashioned clothes.”

Jewelry also plays a big role, but not all bling can work with the things you wear.

“I hate when girls mix-and-match gold and silver jewelry,” Smith said. “It’s a hot mess and very tacky.”

Hopefully your fashion police of MP helped some of you out of the struggling. Having low or high income does not mean you should dress any old way, you don’t have to go to school looking like a bag of hot garbage.

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“We can all be fashionistas with a little thought process. Be the beautiful person you are inside and out.”

“Having your own style is not bad at all, but just don’t put anything together and try to call it a fashion.” Smith said.

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"I feel very disappointed because I know that I could have done better," Taylor said. "I began going to the prep classes and I’ve achieved the score that I was aiming for. I know that I would have kept going to the prep classes if I had to. Because I knew that the score that I was aiming for was 17. I think about it, he doesn’t love you, you love him.”

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BULLS WIN!  
continued from page 12

ankle injury. The season was the last of the Bulls bench mob, the deepest bench in the NBA that season.

In the 2013-14 run, Rose returned—for awhile. Only a few games into the season, he had another season-ending injury when he tore his meniscus. Noah had to have minor knee surgery. After two consecutive seasons of playing without their starting point guard and injuries to their center, the Bulls are finally healthy and ready to be crowned best in the NBA.

Better still, management added quality talent to the lineup. The Bulls brought in forward/center Pau Gasol, a seven-foot, 235 lb. presence. And he helped the Los Angeles Lakers win two NBA championships. Then there’s the 22-year-old forward Doug McDermott (8’1”) who was drafted 11th overall by the Denver Nuggets, but Chicago snagged him, along with Anthony Randolph when they packaged their 16th and 19th selections and two other future picks. McDermott, who some are calling “Muckets,” led the nation as a senior at Creighton, and earned his selection as National Player of the Year in 2014. He had a “scoring at a clip of 26.7 ppg (.550 from the field, .449 from downtown, .861 from the line) and posted 7.5 ppg and 1.3 apg in 33.7 mpg.” according to a press release from the Bulls back in July. Many, including NBA expert Doug Collins, are calling for McDermott to soon crack the talented lineup at the forward position.

The pieces appear to be in place for a serious run at the title. “I think the Bulls team is built to win now,” English teacher and NBA fan Gerald Winston said. “We have a very good chance of going to the championship.” The Bulls are now the deepest they have been since their 2011-2012 season when they shocked the league in the Rose disaster by losing in the first round to Philadelphia, 4-1. Winston believes the depth the Bulls now have is great. “We truly have stretch fours on the team,” he said. “By opening the floor, we can pen-

It’s been awhile—1998, exactly—since the Bulls won the NBA title. But with this year’s line-up, they look to be ready to return to the Finals.

Citing the two,” Fitz said. “I like to see small market teams doing big things and getting to the World Series.”

“I prefer to see the Royals win, because they had my favorite player back in the day when he was really into baseball,” Fitz said. “That was [Hall of Fame inductee] George Brett; he was my favorite player to watch.”

by Danielle Washington and Timia Strickland

Hopes are high for the latest rendition of the boys varsity Mustang team to once again go to Peoria and capture the Illinois High School Association (IHSA) Class 3A championship crown.

For two years back-to-back the boys basketball team has won the state title at the Peoria Civic Center. Impressively, head coach Nick Irvin has put the right pieces in place for the two state titles, despite relying heavily on the play of seniors who have to be replaced every year as they graduate.

Despite losing seniors Billy Garrett Jr., Kyle Davis, Xavier Taylor, and Markese Matthews after their first title in 2013, Irvin retooled for the next championship with Josh Cunningham, Tony Johnson, Lamont Walker, Dollen Wheatley, and Markee Williams—all of whom have since graduated, too.

Again, the underclassmen—and newcomer point guard Marcus LoVett Jr.—will have to step up to the challenge of a three-peat. “In the previous years, it was already written in stone that we were going to win the state championship,” Irvin said, “but this year it’s going to be a little tough because of the new guys on the team, so we have to put in a little work.”

But he added confidently, “Absolutely, a three-peat is happening.”

Irvin, a former Carver basketball star, was first hired to coach at Morgan Park in 2008, after then-coach Mandel Oliver lost his job amid a Chicago Public Schools investigation into an alleged padding incident of a player.

History suggests that it will be tough to grab a third trophy, indeed. According to IHSA boys basketball records, kept since 1907, only two teams have won three championships in a row. East St. Louis-Lincoln (’87-’88, ’88-’89) and Chicago-Simeon (’09-’10, ’10-’11, ’11-’12, ’12-’13).

In the nearly 100-year history of state play, only one team has done it four times in a row: Peoria-Manual (’13-’14, ’14-’15, ’15-’16, ’16-’17).

Not winning a state title since 1976 against Aurora West High School (’85-44) in the Class 2A, the varsity team has since won the championship against the Cahokia Comanches (’12-’13) and last season against the Lincoln Railsplitters.

The last time MP won the Public League title was in 2010, 61-60, against Morgan Park High School.

Veteran players insist that this group has what it takes to win. “I believe we will bring home another victory this year because we have the firepower to do so, and intangibles—we are a well-rounded as a team,” junior point-guard Charles Moore said. “Although most of the starters graduated last year, we really learned from them and gained experience on how to win and become a championship team. I know another victory is coming, we got it.”

Those who attend the game—which starts at home against Larkin on December 6—should expect to see some quality basketball on the hardwood, and a chance to cheer a championship team.

“This year, the fans will see ex-
citement, sportsmanship, and just good basketball,” Irvin said. “Fans are certainly looking for- ward to another exciting title run.”

“I am a fan of the basketball team, but not as much as I used to be when my big brother was on the team before he gradu-

ated,” said senior Karrington Taylor, who has been to 16 out of the 27 games. “I feel that [this] team is a good team, and with success comes hard work. They are definitely working hard to win the championship this year.”

Another Mustangs fan agreed.

“The team has good play-

ers and the games were live last year,” said Adrian Deason said. “I didn’t attend state with them last year, but I would like to see my school make three-in-a-row.”

Taylor added that as long as they “don’t rest on their laurels, they have a good chance to do it again.”

“I don’t put anything past anyone,” she said. “I believe that if you want something as bad as the boys want another ring they will get it.”

St. Louis (Lincoln) and Simeon can boast that feat in the nearly 100-year history of IHSA boys basketball, and only one team (Peoria-Manual) has done it four-times in a row!

First there was the 1976 team that won the state title, and then it took another 37 years to win two more. Three seconds into the 1987 championship game against Aurora West High School, and the boys varsity Mustang team has once again gone to Peoria and captured the Illinois High School Association boys basketball title.

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First there was the 1976 team that won the state title, and then it took another 37 years to win two more. Can the Mustangs do it a remarkable three years in a row? Only East St. Louis-Lincoln and Simeon can boast that feat in the nearly 100-year history of IHSA boys basketball, and only one team (Peoria-Manual) has done it four-times in a row!
REVIVED WITH SIX STRAIGHT
continued from page 12

It's about time! The Mustangs have been a force in the Illini Prairie State Conference for the past several years, but they've failed to make it to the conference championship game. The Mustangs are determined to change that this year. They're working hard to improve their game and are confident they can make it to the championship.

The Mustangs began their season with a strong performance against the Greyhounds, winning 28-14. They followed that up with a victory over the Hawks, 22-14. These wins have put the Mustangs in a good position for the rest of the season.

The Mustangs' next game will be against the Illini Prairie State Conference champions, the Greyhounds. The Mustangs are looking forward to the challenge and are ready to give it their all.

The Mustangs are a team of hard workers who are determined to succeed. They're working together to improve their game and are confident they can make it to the championship. They're excited for the rest of the season and are ready to take on any challenges that come their way.

LADIES WANT MORE THAN REGIONAL
continued from page 12

The Lady Mustangs have had a successful season so far, but they're not satisfied with their achievements. They want to take their game to the next level and make it to the state championship.

The Lady Mustangs have been working hard to improve their game. They've been practicing together every day and are focused on improving their skills. They're confident they can make it to the state championship and are looking forward to the challenge.

The Lady Mustangs are a team of hard workers who are determined to succeed. They're working together to improve their game and are confident they can make it to the state championship. They're excited for the rest of the season and are ready to take on any challenges that come their way.

Open your eyes, Bulls fans: you know it’s only a matter of time before you see this again.

“Another thing is Lebron [James] went back to the Cavs along with Kevin Love, Dion Waiters, Kyrie Irving, and a bunch of shooters," Randall said, "they are too talented together. Cleveland Cavaliers aren’t the only team in the East the Bulls will be shaking in their Adidas about.”

“Even though Lebron left Miami, you still can’t count out the Heat,” basketball fan and senior George Palmer said. “They still have Wade, Bosh, and a very talented bench, loaded with shooters.”

He added that the Knicks are going to be an additional threat. “The New York Knicks are going to give the [Bulls] a lot of trouble despite missing the playoffs last year," Palmer added. “I think Melo is going to have a great season and make his teammates better. Even if the Bulls don’t make it out of the East they won’t be able to compete with any of the teams in the Western Conference, especially when the Knicks are coming off the heels of their fifth NBA championship.”

Bulls fans are hoping they’ll get one of the best teams in the entire league,” senior and fan, Joshua Jones said. “They just don’t make mistakes, they have great chemistry, and they just seem in sync with each other despite their age—they always seem to be one of the best.”

Another team in the hunt for a title is Oklahoma who has been in the Conference Finals three of the last four seasons, making it to the NBA Finals in 2012 but were crushed by Miami (J B). Jones believes this squad might be the one to beat this season in the Conference Finals.

“The Oklahoma City Thunder are a young team who loves to run and get out on fast breaks,” he said. “They capitalize on turnovers and are really good in the open court. Another thing is Kevin Durant may be in for another MVP season along with the good play of Russell Westbrook—there’s no possible way the Bulls would win over those guys.”

By Delores Chester

S

tudent Marquez Jones (Div. 551) was a first place medalist in the 100-meter run at the Illinois State Special Olympics held at Illinois State University in Bloomington, Illinois.

For the first time, Special Olympics Athlete from Morgan Park High School to compete, were invited to the state-level Special Olympics competition. He was accompanied by his proud parents Kasa and Mike Jones, his older sister, and his coach, Darlene W. Pollard.

"I’m very proud of Marquez,” teacher and coach Pollard said. “It was the first time someone at MP won the gold medal on the 100-meter. He had been doing training for the Special Olympics all year.

"I’m really happy and proud of the team,” Pollard added.

"I have to go ten times harder," said Porter, the team captain. "I think we are ready for the season, based on the quality of our practices.

The seniors, whose first game is at home on Tuesday, November 18, on the varsity squad against the varsity Greyhounds, but..."
Cold Halloween loss puts Mustangs back on Public League playoff path

By Darien Campbell and Jada Campbell

There’s something about a bone-chilling, sleeting, Halloween night that can give just about any one the shivers. A shutout loss on such a night can only make things even worse.

The Mustangs varsity football team (6-4) had high hopes going into their IHSA Class 6A opener with Lincoln-Way West (9-1), but the blustery wind, cold temperatures, a grinding ground at-tack, and a 28-0 final score dashed hopes of going deep in the state playoffs.

The December-like weather conditions that featured occasion-al snow showers and wind gusts reaching 30 mph, put any kind of passing game under wraps for both teams.

The Mustangs D held firm in the first half of the game, limiting the Warriors to one touchdown. MP’s offense was able to rack up some solid yardage, with RB Darius Burse getting 97 yards on 11 carries.

Unfortunately, when they did get down near the goal line, the team was flagged nu-merous times, often for false starts, pushing them back from a potential score.

More sinister luck reared its ugly head against the kicking game, as one punt in the first half went up in the air, only to be returned by the Mustangs for a loss of minus-12 yards. This led to the only score of the game: a 3-yard touchdown drive by Lincoln-Way West.

But being only down by seven, there was still hope for a victory, but the Warriors, started by pulling away early in the second half, marching 80 yards on the opening drive for their second TD of the game.

After that time-consuming drive, the Mustangs failed to respond, and Lincoln-Way put the nails in the coffin with another pair of TDs.

The team didn’t play to their potential, according to senior QB William James.

“We made a lot of mental errors,” said the quarterback, who was limited due to an ankle injury sustained the previous week. “Lincoln-Way West didn’t do anything to stop what we where doing. There was no team that we have played so far this year that has done anything spectac-u-lar to stop what we where doing, we just defeated ourselves…mak-ing mental errors, not just making the most out of opportunities.”

Perhaps what could be per-ceived as another dark omen was how MP was strangely bumped up to Class 6A by the IHSA just before their playoff opponent was named. All season the team was playing at the 5A level; a team’s class is mostly dictated by the number of students in a school’s population. The Mustangs will now seek the Public League title and a bid for the 81st annual Prep Bowl to be played at Soldier Field on Fri-day, November 28, the day after Thanksgiving.

Looking back After opening the season with three-straight non-confor-mance losses, the Mustangs rapidly im-proved, stringing together six consecutive wins. They wrapped up their regular season by win-

Please turn to page 11 for REVIVED WITH SIX STRAIGHT

Can the Bulls win the title n ‘15?

By Joshua Richards

Derrick Rose is back? Whatever, injury prone. Winning the Central Division? Hard! Did you forget who returned to Cleveland (Maybe the Halloween game jammed your memory)?

They’re finally capturing the NBA Championship trophy? Get real.

With the NBA season opening up last Wednesday for the Chicago franchise with a blowout win over the hapless Knicks, along with a few hopeful new additions to their lineup, many rabid Bulls fans believe they have a realistic shot at the 2014-15 NBA title, but they may be asking for too much.

Yes, the Bulls are a good team, and they may have even improved over last year’s squad with the additions of star power forward Pau Gasol and rookie small forward Doug McDermott.

“I always thought the Bulls had a chance to win a championship before they had Pau and Doug, but with them I feel that the bench is more profound, and Pau Gasol helps the already-amazing front court of Joakim Noah and Derrick Rose,” said the basketball fan. “Please turn to page 11 for BULLS LOSE

By Jalisa Brown and Jarrin Randall

With addition of another NBA All-Star; a young, but highly-touted rookie; and the return of All-Star guard Derrick Rose, the Chicago Bulls are ready to start their season as the best in the Eastern Conference.

Okay, put away that loss to the Cavs on Hal-loween; the refs are going to give LeBron every break in the book since he’s the league’s meal ticket those days. Just wait until the playoffs, then it’s revenge time.

Speaking of the post-season, the Bulls have had an opportunity of advancing to the finals before, but the injury struck, wiped out dreams of taking home the Larry O’Brien Championship Trophy. In the 2011-12 season, the Bulls led the East with a formidable record of 50-16, as the season was short because of the lockout. That same season Rose won MVP, but, tragically, also tore his ACL.

To make matters worse that same season, center Joakim Noah’s presence ended with a left ankle injury. Please turn to page 10 for BULLS WIN

By Delorise Chester and YataMek Radcliffe

F rom the victory of winning their fifth-straight IHSA regional crown last post-season, the Lady Mustangs have a strong belief of taking it to the next level: a state championship.

The Lady Mustangs have already started conditioning for this upcoming season, working hard and running plays. The Lady Mustangs believe that their team will be good enough to win it all in IHSA Class 3A ball.

The head coach believes they can do it, too, but it won’t come easily.

“I believe we have the talent to make it to state,” coach Kedonica Taylor said, “but it will take a lot of hard work and discipline to achieve it.”

Last year’s season record was an impressive 27-6. The girls won the New Lenox (Lin-

coln-West Way) Sectional by defeating Gwendolyn Brooks, 74-38. However, they lost to Joliet Catholic in the sectional semi-finals, 78-67.

When playing Joliet Catholic the Lady Mustangs faced many challenges.

“We started the game well, Taylor said. “We went up by 10. We struggled to get stops toward the end of the game. Defensively, we have to get better.”

Last year’s line-up included point guard Brea Griffin, shoot guard Shami Goodman, center Alleyah Burns, power forward Tammy Russell, and small forward Cachet Johnson.

The starting line-up is currently undecided, as they still have work to do, Taylor said.

“The Lady Mustangs have full belief that every team Please turn to page 11 for LADIES WANT MORE THAN REGIONAL

Lady Mustangs prepare to improve beyond regional champions

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