



I N S I D E

Parting Is Such Sweet Sorrow

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By STEPHANIE PAJAK '09
Staff Writer

talents; in the theatre, on the field
and in the classroom. We shared



our time; as tutors,
peer counselors,
and members of
student govern-
ment.

We shared
our homes; host-
ing a friend far
from their own.
More than any-
thing, the Class
of 2009 has shared
their wishes,
their hopes and

their dreams. This class enters the
world as intelligent, cultured and
motivated young men and women,
strong in themselves, and confident
in their abilities.

What is truly noteworthy
about these students is their over-
whelming support of each other.
The success of one member is truly
the success of the whole. Likewise,
in a time of need, a member of this
class is surrounded by 93 people

ready to pick them up.

Now, with commencement
finally upon us, we are anxious to
move on. Ambitious and ready to
face new challenges, the Class of
2009 must now leave the place that
we have called home, some for as
many as seven years.

Before we go, it is impor-
tant to say thank you. From the
Class of 2009, thank you to every-
one who has made the journey a
little easier. Family, teachers, advi-
sors, coaches, your expertise has
led us all in the right direction.

We graduate now, entering
the next stage of life. With much
excitement but also anxiety as
well, we are comforted by the fact
that WMA will always be ours. We
will all leave behind a stone, our
physical mark on this place, repre-
sentative of the moments that made
WMA our own.

Best wishes 2009.

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2009 School Awards

By ATLAS STAFF

2009 SENIOR PRIZES

Chandler Award – Sarah E. Lyon

Frank Chapin Cushman Memorial
Award – Patrick T. Agahigian

Harriet Jones Nelson Trust – Sarah
E. Lyon

Berube Prize – Xuan Michele
Wang

Dr. Joseph P. Cebula Memorial
Award – Wen-Wei Wayne Wang

Pieria Prize – Kimberly A. Marker

Billy Lak Prize – Kayla A. Pelo-
quin

Markell and Monson Class of 1898
Award/Owen David Dow Memo-
rial Award – Russell Dinkins

Gift of the Class of 1965 – Alexan-
der F. Lindberg

Stephen D. Luckraft Memorial
Award – Jermaine U. Boswell

Dr. George E. Rogers Scholar Ath-
lete Award – Russell Dinkins

Kyle E. Webb Award – Montree
Preat Songphatanayothin

Head of School Award – Kyun
Woo Chris Hong

SPECIAL PRIZES

Davison Prize – Stephanie T. Rob-
bins

John L. Nepomuceno Prize – Han-
nah K. Tanguay

Class of 1977 Humanitarian Award
– Jacqueline M. Smith

Phil Shaw Awards – Chelby J.
Wakefield and Aaron P. Haas

Trustees Cup – To Be Determined

Alumni Prize – Jun-Seong Landon
Nam (Medal)

Trustee Prize – Emma J. Camilleri
(Medal)

**INDUCTION OF CUM LAUDE
MEMBERS**

Class of 2009

- Patrick T. Agahigian*
- Colin Akerly
- DaSom Diana Heo
- Kyun Woo Chris Hong
- Ariel C. Landers
- Sarah E. Lyon*
- Kimberly A. Marker
- Alessandra E. Mele
- Stephanie C. Pajak
- Kayla A. Peloquin
- Max Ulrich

*Inducted in May 2008

Class of 2010
Yun-Seong Landon Nam

Letter From the Editor

Dear Wilbraham & Monson Community,

In my four years here at the Academy I have been involved in many campus activities. However, reviving the newspaper and establishing it as a schoolwide periodical has meant the most to me out of everything I have done at WMA. From the beginning, the school administrators were very supportive of my idea to bring the school paper back. I would like to thank Mr. LaBrecque and Mr. Easler for approving my proposal, and also for allowing the newspaper to become a regular class and providing the staff with the necessary resources to meet our monthly deadlines. Also, thank you to Ariel Landers and Kayla Peloquin, who initially helped me bring the idea to Mr. Harrington and get the paper going.

When the first issue of *Atlas* was released in December, I was not sure how people would react to it. There were multiple mistakes, which was to be expected because all the students involved were new to the media world. But nonetheless the community was extremely positive about the newspaper coming back into circulation. For this I would like to thank everyone at WMA: the students, faculty, administrators and staff alike. Without the support and feedback from everyone who reads each new issue, *Atlas* would not be progressing as strongly as it has this year.

Of course, I would also like to express my appreciation for the entire *Atlas* staff. Every single student involved with the newspaper is a valuable contributor without whom the paper would not exist. I could not begin to thank each of you enough for all of the work you put into your articles and all of the time you put into *Atlas* after school hours. To all the juniors on the staff, I hope that next year you will help lead the class as seniors and make the newspaper the best you possibly can. Underclassmen, please continue to be a part of *Atlas*, because the newspaper is slowly becoming a solid component of life on the WMA campus and only you can help it continue to do so.

Lastly, I would like to thank our two faculty members, Magister Ayers and Mr. Harrington. Magister, you have known me since I first came to the Academy and have always been there for me. You were a fabulous teacher and always a supportive figure, and you continued to be both of these on the *Atlas* staff. Not only did you contribute your journalism expertise to the arts department by writing music reviews, but you lent a hand wherever I needed it, whether it was editing, layout, or simply someone to brainstorm with. I know that next year you will continue to be a key member of *Atlas*.

Mr. Harrington, I firmly believe that I owe the existence of *Atlas* to you more so than myself or anyone else. You were there with me from the beginning, listening to my ideas, helping me draft the proposal, working out all the fine details and finally releasing the first issue. Since then you have stuck by me the whole way through and have been more of a mentor than an advisor. I never thought that I could possibly learn anything more from you than what you taught me in the classroom, but working on the newspaper with you proved me wrong. From you, I learned so much more about writing and journalism, in general, and quite honestly my desire to be an English teacher is a direct result of knowing you. I can not thank you enough for everything you have done for me and for *Atlas*.

Although I will be gone next year, I hope that *Atlas* will continue to grow and improve so that students can have their own media outlet on campus. The newspaper is a valuable resource at WMA that will only become stronger as time passes and more students become involved. I appreciate all the support and input given to the *Atlas* staff over the past year, and I know that when I come back to visit in the future, I will still find the paper thriving.

Best Wishes,
Kimberly A. Marker '09

Summer Reading List for Grades 9-12

By KIMBERLY MARKER '09
Editor in Chief

BOOK 1- All School Book
Motherland
by Vineeta Vijayaragavan

BOOK 2- Grades 9 through 12
Grade 9

Welcome to the Monkey House
by Kurt Vonnegut

Grade 10
Brave New World
by Aldous Huxley

Grade 11
The Kite Runner
by Khaled Hosseini
AP Language
Angela's Ashes
by Frank McCourt and

On Writing
by Stephen King

Grade 12
The Partly Cloudy Patriot
by Sarah Vowell

AP Literature
What is the What
by Dave Eggers and
A Thousand Splendid Suns
by Khaled Hosseini

OTHER AP COURSE BOOKS

A.P. U.S. History
Becoming America: The Revolution Before 1776
by Jon Butler

A.P. European
How Soccer Explains the World
by Franklin Foer

A.P. Economics
Freakonomics
Steven Levitt & Stephen J. Dubner
A.P. French
Manigances
a short story collection by Boileau-Narcejac
"Les Trois Suspects" (65-76)

BOOK 3- Faculty Pick
Each student has to read an additional book picked by a member of the Wilbraham & Monson Academy faculty. The list will be available on the school website wmacademy.net

English As a Second Language
English 9

Welcome to the Monkey House
by Kurt Vonnegut

English 10
Brave New World
by Aldous Huxley

English 11
The Kite Runner
by Khaled Hosseini

ATLAS Staff

Kimberly Marker '09
Editor in Chief

Eric Diogun '11
Production Editor

STAFF WRITERS

Sarah Lyon '09
Stephanie Pajak '09

Caitlin Charette '10
Minsang Kim '10
Victoria Mordasky '10
Michaela Rollings '10
Jessica Wyszynski '10

Austin Little '12

Timothy Harrington
Faculty Advisor

Priyanka George '11
Elizabeth Hodson '11
Beong Jo Kang '11
Timothy Manghan '11
Tresara Moore '11
Matthew Pajak '11
Carey Shetterley '11
Jacqueline Smith '11
Naruhiko Sugiura '11
Jeannette Viens '11

Christopher Ayers
Faculty Writer

Make Your Voice Heard!

Write a letter to the editor and you could be published in our next issue!

Kimberly Marker
kmarker@wmanet.org

Atlas Flies: Our Story

By TIMOTHY HARRINGTON
Faculty Advisor

It is customary for newspapers to toast the major events of the year in a special issue, usually at year end. *Atlas* would be remiss if we didn't do the same at the end of our year, which is now.

By any standard, 2008-09 has been a remarkable year for the Academy: girls soccer nearly grabbed a New England championship in a "reloading" year; the school's athletic fields were given a major facelift thanks to the Callahan family; Mattern was graced with a trading floor thanks to trustee Mark Shenkman; the Academy Players put on two ambitious productions - *Macbeth* and *Okla-homa!*; and Relay for Life returned to campus bigger and better.

To cap it off, this year's senior class departs the Academy after four years here (six or seven years, for some!) for a notable list of selective, even prestigious, colleges and universities around the country (see story on page 7). What makes this achievement so extraordinary is that the experts are calling 2009 the toughest admissions year in history thanks to "echo boom" demographics.

It is good to be a Titan (even though we sometimes forget the good stuff in the midst of our busy everyday lives).

We on the *Atlas* staff have tried our best to present these stories about our Academy community to the community. But there is one story we really haven't covered in any way, shape or form, although we consider it one of the most important stories of the year - the rebirth of *Atlas*. Although it is generally considered bad form to the point of being unethical for journalists to toot their own horns, I hope you will forgive me for this one transgression (that is why I'm writing this, not a staff writer).

The whole thing started one early afternoon in late August 2007. I was in the library desperately trying to finish my course syllabi in the snatches of time between football practices and coaches meetings when three students ambushed me. Ariel Landers, Kayla Peloquin and Kimberly Marker had heard that I had professional news experience in my previous life and they had decided that I should help revive the *Bell*.

It was my second year at WMA, and my first teaching AP English 11 and coaching varsity

football, so I had plenty to keep me busy for the year. But they were persistent.

That conversation led to a kind of secret club. Some dropped to pursue other goals (Kayla); others joined (Jess Caetano) or egged us on (Patrick Agahigian). We didn't have a secret handshake or anything quite so Skull & Bones-ish, but we did have a mission. We began meeting regularly during X to define our strategy. We did research. We put it down on paper.

Soon, we had enough for a formal business proposal, which we presented to Head of School Mr. LaBrecque, Deans Easler and Kelly, and English Department Chair Ms. Hutcheson. Everyone loved it. What was not to love?: some of the best and brightest students at the Academy wanted to re-start the student newspaper. But, as always, it's not enough to get general agreement - it's agreement on the little things that's hard.

By the spring of 2008, there was still no budget for a newspaper, no agreement on how it would be structured (activity, "sport", class, or some hybrid), and I was no longer the unofficial faculty advisor (which turned out to be a good thing since Ms. Suzanne Kel-

ley actually knew a thing or two about student newspapers).

By the spring of last year, we were stuck in the Waiting Place (Dr. Seuss fans know what I'm talking about). So Kim decided we needed to put out an actual newspaper so everyone would take us seriously. We did that right about this time last year.

We had a printer (thanks to Ms. Kelley) and software (thanks to Ms. Pescetta) so Kim and I went looking for writers and photographers, and we found them lurking in unexpected places. Thank you Mr. Fischer, Mrs. Hutcheson, Mr. Ayers, Mr. Bloomfield and, of course, Jess and Kim. That one issue of *The Bell* paved the way.

A week into summer vacation, Mr. Labrecque called a meeting with Mrs. Hutcheson, Mr. Easler and myself to figure out how to make *Atlas* a reality. They all pledged their support and it was no longer if *Atlas* would be reborn, but when. It would be fully funded. It would be a true newspaper on newsprint, and it was agreed that the paper would reappear in the form of a class for academic credit. Now all we needed was a staff.

Fall trimester of 2008 was too soon. It would take time to get

Ask Atlas

By VICTORIA MORDASKY '10
and CAREY SHETTERLEY '11
Peer Counselors



It is not uncommon to walk around the WMA campus and see couples holding hands or walking with their arms around each other. We all think this is cute, mainly because it is appropriate. But when do public displays of affection cross the line and become gross, awkward or even offensive?

This is a problem for many adolescents, especially in an academic environment where they are expected to be restrained. It is acceptable to hold hands or give your significant other a peck on the lips to say goodbye, but honestly, who wants to see people making out in public places? Where do you draw the line?

Dear Atlas,
I was looking at my student handbook and I read twice on page 24 that "WMA expects students to be conscious of physical intimacy of all levels in the presence of others, as public displays of affection can be offensive to other members of the community." How much affection do you have to show to your significant other to make people feel uncomfortable?

Signed, Letter of the Law

Dear Letter,
Showing any type of affection in front of people can make them uncomfortable. You have probably heard from your parents that you shouldn't do anything on your own that you wouldn't do in front of them. "Them" also includes teachers and students in our community. Holding hands with your boyfriend probably wouldn't be offending someone, but kissing or making out in the SPA or in the dining hall can make people feel awkward.
Signed, Atlas

Dear Atlas,
After the boys' lacrosse game on Wednesday, I went over to see my boyfriend to congratulate him on his win, and I gave him a kiss. I think my history teacher saw us kiss, so now I am really embarrassed to see my teacher during class. Do you think my teacher thought this was inappropriate and will give me a detention?
Signed, In Love and Confused

Dear Confused,
If you feel embarrassed by kissing your boyfriend in front of your teachers, then most likely your teachers feel uncomfortable, too. They probably won't think that it is inappropriate, because they of course are older than you and know that being young and in love can cause you to do silly things! Giving you a detention would be completely uncalled for considering the things other people do in front of teachers on our campus. Next time, just be conscious of who is around you when you kiss your boyfriend.
Signed, Atlas

Dear Atlas,
Lately, I have been hearing a lot of people talking about public displays of affection and how annoying it is to see couples being inappropriate and disrespectful in public. I just want to know what you think is appropriate behavior for WMA students inside the community and outside of school so I can avoid falling into this category.
Signed, Just Curious

Dear Curious,
I think holding hands, small pecks on the cheek, maybe a very short open-mouthed kiss once in a blue moon, and affectionate but non-sexual touches are appropriate almost anywhere. This can include hand holding, putting your arms around each other, or a hug. But I think that prolonged kissing, groping, sitting on your boyfriend's lap in a public place, sexual language, and CONSTANT touching or fondling are definitely inappropriate most anywhere where you are around other people.
Signed, Atlas

A Red Carpet Affair

By JESSICA WYSZYNSKI '10
and CAITLIN CHARETTE '10
Staff Writers



Carey Shetterley '11, Ariel Landers '09, Kayla Peloquin '09, Alessandra Mele '09 and Stephanie Robbins '10
Pose For a Group Photo Inside Hampden Country Club

May is a magical time to be on the Wilbraham & Monson Academy campus. Trees and flowers burst into life, brightening the landscape with explosions of color and filling the air with the sweet aroma of spring, both making frequent treks up and down the hill a little more pleasant.

Squirrels and chipmunks alike can be seen scurrying up trees or evading passersby, and the melodious calls of birds can be heard over a teacher's voice by a distracted student longing to be in the sunshine.

After a long winter trimester students break out their lacrosse gloves, tennis rackets, or baseball gloves, and spend as much time as possible lounging outdoors in the grass during free time or persuading reluctant teachers to hold class in the Old Academy courtyard. The excitement of spring fever is contagious as seniors prepare for graduation and friends discuss summer plans while looking hopefully toward the coming year.

Unfortunately, the sunshine and warmth of May is accompanied by an unwelcome cloud darkening the days of all WMA students.

Spring is a time filled with overwhelming stress concerning AP exams and finals, anxiety about college choices, and frantic research to finish that last minute

project or paper you decided to procrastinate on. These pressures prompt sleepless nights, skipped meals, and have students wound up and concerned with academics.

What a perfect time for prom! WMA's annual junior/senior prom allows upperclassmen, and some fortunate underclassmen who attend, to relax, have fun, and enjoy a well deserved night away from it all.

Once again, our 2009 prom was held at the Hampden Country Club on Sunday, May 3. The venue has a cozy banquet hall overlooking the golf course complete with a dance floor just large enough for our event. Undeterred by the inauspicious weather, the Hollywood themed "Red Carpet Affair" began at 6:00 PM, with most students arriving around 6:30 to be "fashionably late".

In true Hollywood style, attendees were greeted at the door by a photographer who organized group pictures for *The Republican* newspaper out of Springfield, Massachusetts.

Girls wearing elegant, floor-length gowns or cute, short dresses in a dramatic array of colors and prints entered the hall on the arms of gentlemen who looked dashing in their black and white tuxedos with colored ties and vests to compliment their date's dress.

The comfortable hall was

decked out with the perfect amount of lights, balloons, and other Hollywood themed decorations. Evan Filkens '11 observed: "The decorations were simple yet elegant; not too over the top".

An adequate dinner of pasta, salad, and beef was served promptly at seven when students congregated at their respective tables to eat, engage in lighthearted conversation, and discuss the set of Hollywood trivia questions placed on each table in the hopes of winning some movie theater candy.

After the tables had been cleared, the guys removed their jackets and the girls kicked off their heels as they headed to the dance floor. The DJ played various popular songs from artists such as Lady Gaga, Britney Spears, and Flo Rida and gladly took requests as students showed off their moves, or lack thereof (you know who you are!).

"I liked the DJ", remarked Sommer Mahoney '11, "but I wish he had played more than one slow song".

With the continuous strain of upbeat songs and intense dancing, some students could be seen a little sweaty or dehydrated, catching a breather at their tables or the open bar that supplied sodas and juice throughout the night.

The club's outdoor patio provided an intimate escape from

the noise and somewhat suffocating atmosphere inside. Many people enjoyed the fresh air, beautiful view of the mountains and the chance to converse without competing with the noise of the DJ and a hundred other people.

Amidst the excitement, the local Grynn & Barret photography company gave couples the opportunity to preserve this night forever in a still-life that has undoubtedly found its way onto many girls' key chains.

Students armed with their own cameras also captured priceless memories and funny moments with friends that will have their place on facebook.com.

In the blink of an eye the clock struck eleven, marking the conclusion of prom. But for most the night had just begun. Limos serving as buses took students back to WMA for the second annual after-prom party in the Greenhalgh Gymnasium.

Although most students weren't thrilled with the idea of a lockdown, they put on a smile and made an effort to have fun, partially motivated by the day off they were guaranteed by attending.

Students changed into comfortable clothes and played games for prizes, such as a forty-two inch TV, DVDs, mini fridges, and gift cards, while eating, watching movies, or simply hanging with friends until 5:00 AM when students were allowed to go home and get some much needed sleep.

It appears as though the majority of students enjoyed themselves, although some expressed concerns about having prom on a Sunday. This was also a concern for teachers who are forced to cancel classes on Monday or teach only three or four students.

Ms. Torres, the event planner, was extremely satisfied with how everything came together at prom and feels that although it wasn't quite what she envisioned, "the after party was a success. I can't speak on behalf of every attendee, but I had fun!".

In looking to the future she expresses the hope of a more creative theme next year that will allow colorful decorations and urges more students to give their input or constructive criticism.

Underclassmen, next year when May rolls around bringing with it both the promise of summer and unbearable academic demands, take the opportunity to step back and enjoy the precious respite that is prom.

A Red Carpet Affair



Left to right: Chelby Wakefield '09, Diana Heo '09, Nicole Grenier '09, Chelsea Goldrick '09 and Rachel Leibowitz '09



Kelsey Tomlinson '10, Brian Carr '10 and Russell Dinkins '09 play "Jeopardy!" at the Prom after-party



Left to right: Diana Heo '09, Yun Ho Lee '09, Ayana Sugai '09 and Scott Lee '09



Stephen Jones '09 (**left**) and Matthew Kaufman '09 (**right**) strike a pose with Ms. Auger as they arrive at Hampden Country Club



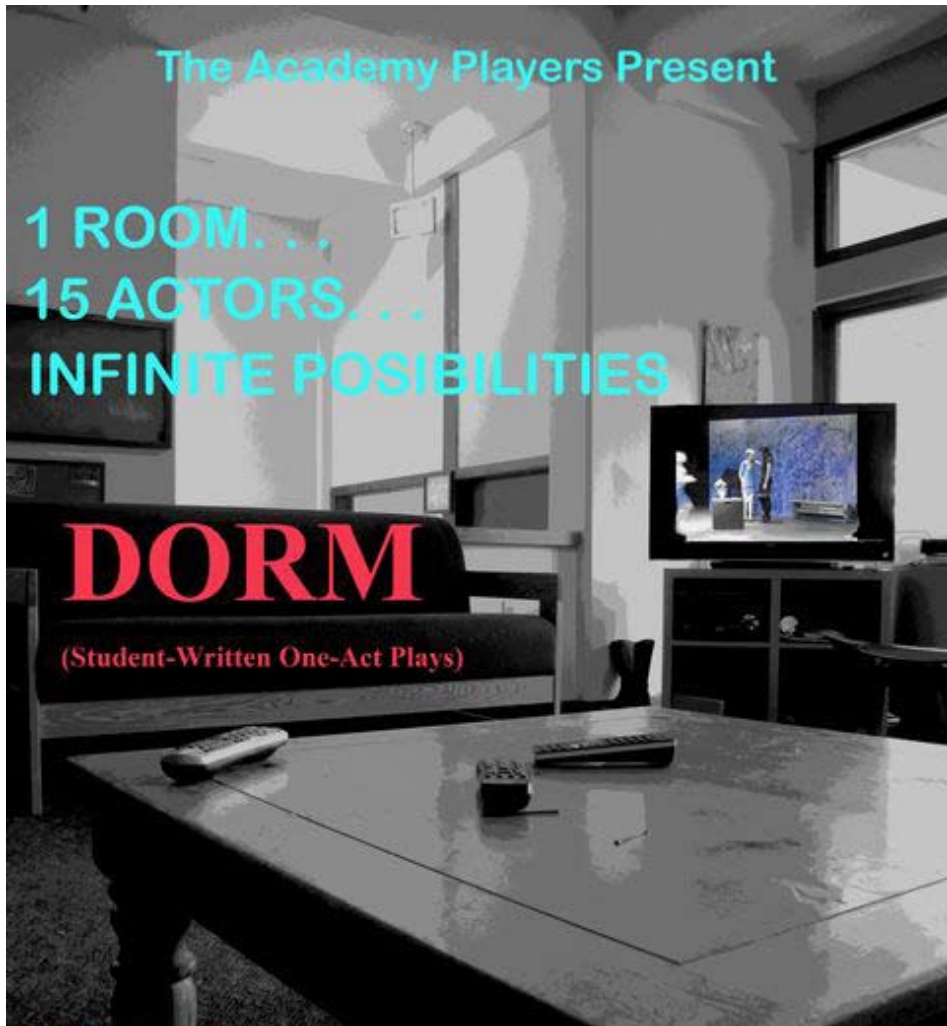
Left to right: Zakary Clark '09, Chelsea Bailie '09, Zachary Voltz '09, Kathryn Sloan '10, Adam Chace '09, Katerina Yakimyuk, Jeffrey Capua '09 and Rachael Roy '10



Left to right: Cindy Li '11, Oscar Fu '12, Herman Wu '10, Genevieve Zhang '11, Kanta Sugai '12 and Clare Bi '11

One “Dorm” Room + Fifteen Actors = Fun

By PRIYANKA GEORGE '11
Music and Movies



Earlier this spring, Mr. Dziura challenged the students of WMA to write their own original scripts for his latest project. On May 14 and May 15, the project, “Dorm, was revealed.

“Dorm” is a collection of ten one-act plays written by Mr. Dziura’s students and includes one play written by Mr. Dziura, himself. The show was made to order for an ensemble acting group like the Academy Players. Every member of the Academy Players had a part. Each play added to the momentum from the previous work.

The starting point of each play is the casual, yet often meaningful, conversation that happens around the dorm. The simple set mimicked the Rich Hall floor public rooms in their simplicity of design and overall squalor.

“The Executives” by Kathryn Sloan portrays the lives of George Washington (Evan Filkins), Abraham Lincoln (Jeremy Gilfor) and Andrew Jackson (Patrick Aga-

higian) as they discuss Jackson’s mental issues and use their “dollar values” to decide who the better President is.

“God” by Rachael Roy takes us through a chat between God (Kathryn Sloan) and Peter (Justin Lee) as they argue over God’s “fall from grace” and his replacement, Ian.

“The Guy With the Thing” by Ashleigh Morris tells the story of a girl (Meredith Basler) as she tries to escape her supposed stalker with her friend’s (Rachel Ostrom) help. Once she realizes that hiding in the snack machine won’t work forever, that is.

“Lance is Manlier” by Rachel Ostrom follows a shy narwhal (Ulises Castillo) as his attempts to win the heart of a beautiful mermaid (Lindsey Hwang) are crushed by the ever manly Lance the Pega-corn (Meredith Basler).

The cast of “Dorm” clearly had fun with the plays. Their relaxed good humor was infectious; the audience couldn’t help catch it.

Music Review



By PRIYANKA GEORGE '11
Music and Movies

The Blue Van is an up-and-coming band made up of four Danish boys who grew up playing together. The band has just released its third album, “Man Up” on TVT Records, and all indications are that the band has still not peaked,

The group’s music is free-form and wild, which is expected when one realizes that they took their name from the Danish van that takes people to mental institutions.

Augmenting the music is the excellent lyrical delivery by lead singer Steffen Westmark. His phenomenal guitar playing is also a distinct part of each track, particularly “Man Up,” “Silly Boy,” and “Stop Thinking of

Man Up

The Blue Van
 (TVT Records)

Yourself.”

The bluesy “Man Up” is buoyant, resting upon Westmark’s upbeat guitar lines. Some of you may already have heard the title song “Man Up” on episodes of Free Radio and 90210. The song is also very popular back in Denmark.

“Silly Boy” has also been played on episodes of 90210 and CSI: NY as well as being featured in a Playstation’s NBA game. “Stop Thinking of Yourself” highlights Westmark’s vocals and also has a catchy beat that is led by band member Per Jørgenson on drums.

Overall, “Man Up” is an entertaining album, and no track sounds quite like another. Those who have heard a song by The Blue Van on television will definitely enjoy the album.

Relay For Life Stats

Number of Official Participants	600
Number of Teams	53
Number of WMA Teams	21
Total Hours	18
Jermaine Boswell’s Hours On the Track	18
Total Amount of Rain (inches)	1.2
Sponsorship \$ for Punchin’ Logic	\$2,000
Punchin’ Logic Donation to Relay	\$2,000
Total Amount Raised (2008)	\$30,000
Goal for 2009	\$30,000
Total Amount Raised (so far)	\$62,500
Total Amount Raised (2009)	???

Farewell (continued)

Brent P. Abendroth	Bryant University	Yun-Ho Lee	Pace University, New York City
Patrick T. Agahigian	New York University	Rachel E. Leibowitz	Saint Michael's College
Ian G. Ahern	Hobart and William Smith Colleges	Treadwell D. Lewis	Undecided
Colin Akerly	Boston College	Yu-Hsuan Lin	Undecided
Alicia M. Alex	Undecided	Alexander F. Lindberg	Guilford College
Chelsea S. Bailie	Central Piedmont Community College	Kunning Lu	University of San Francisco
Jermaine U. Boswell	Oakwood College	Sarah E. Lyon	Williams College
Matthieu C. Boutellier	University of Massachusetts, Amherst	Kimberly A. Marker	Connecticut College
Ezra C. Bynum	Monmouth University	Kostadin D. Marshavelski	Northeastern University
Bridget J. Callahan	The Catholic University of America	Matthew P. McCarthy	Lasell College
Jeffrey G. Capuano	Lasell College	Ashley M. McFarlane	Springfield College
Adam A. Chace	Connecticut College	Alessandra E. Mele	Hobart and William Smith Colleges
Shu-Hao Chen	University of Miami	Walter K. Mfuko	Robert Morris University
Xi Cheng	Undecided	Caitlin Mitchell	Roanoke College
Chui Yi Cheung	Bentley University	Yun-Seong Nam	Wesleyan University
Zakary J. Clark	Rochester Institute of Technology	Spencer C. Nelms	Florida Southern College
Charles Connolly	Plymouth State University	James Nietupski	Wentworth Institute of Technology
Eavan D. Cuddy	University of Massachusetts, Amherst	Stephanie C. Pajak	College of the Holy Cross
Joshua V. Cuddy	Providence College	Kayla A. Peloquin	College of the Holy Cross
Robert Dalby	Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts	Alexander D. Petcu	Connecticut College
Nickolas R. Dalton	Greensboro College	Emily M. Petrone	Wingate University
Siobhan Davis	Plymouth State University	Tyler J. Price	Wheaton College
Eva De Lozanne	Undecided	Conqyi Qian	Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Joseph M. Denti	Saint Anselm College	Qin Qiu	Lehigh University
Russell Dinkins	Princeton University	Vladimir Raskin	Boston University
Timothy K. Dombrosky	Wheaton College	Alexander R. Sieburth	State University of New York at Albany
William L. Edwards	Saint Anselm College	Margaret A. Skinner	Boston University
Christopher M. English	Lesley University	Wesley R. Slobody	Lasell College
Hilal M. Fazal	York University	Kenli H. Smith	Winston-Salem State University
Abigail E. Flagg	Holyoke Community College	Montree Songphatanayothin	Brandeis University
Matthew D. Gaw	Champlain College	Ayana Sugai	James Madison University
Amelia R. Gilliam	Johnson & Wales University	Alec Tavares	Nichols College
Chelsea F. Goldrick	Salve Regina University	Badee Thienthong	Undecided
Nicole L. Grenier	The University of Tampa	Max Ulrich	Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich
Aaron P. Haas	Temple University	Zachary D. Voltz	Boston University
DaSom Heo	University of Rochester	Chelby J. Wakefield	Smith College
Kyun Woo Hong	University of Virginia	Wen-Wei Wang	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Eddie Jewel	Monmouth University	Xuan Wang	Clark University
Stephen T.J. Jones	Connecticut College	Po-Nien Wen	Michigan State University
Matthew A. Kaufman	Bryant University	RuiZhi Weng	Syracuse University
Won Kyu Kim	Purdue University	Xi Wu	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Niko J. Konstantakos	Boston University	Yu-En Wu	Drexel University
Kyu Chan Kwak	School of the Art Institute of Chicago	Zhi-Xun Wu	Georgia Tech
Ariel C. Landers	Johns Hopkins University	Trevor M. Young	Suffolk University
Chia-Hao Lee	Art Center College of Design	Jiajia Yu	Saint Louis University
Jung Min Lee	Boston University	Mi Zhang	University of Charlottesville
Justin Lee	University of Massachusetts, Amherst		

Atlas Flies (continued)

our ducks in a row so we aimed for winter trimester. We launched immediately after Thanksgiving break with a two-week deadline to get out our first issue.

Not only did we need to find and train a news staff but we had to design the paper and create a publishing template – and then write the issue. In the midst of this craziness, we lost our production editor and found one in Eric Diogun, who arrived like the cavalry and saved the day. The issue went out on deadline and our first issue hit the newsstands before break.

That first issue took many hands including a number of seniors who had to drop from the staff for various reasons. Thank you Ariel, Lissa, and Patrick for

your help in getting us airborne.

After that, we felt probably the way the Wright brothers felt on that North Carolina shore back in 1903. Yeah, it was only about 15 feet in the air and about a 100 yards total – but, tarnation, we were flying. The rest is history.

This is our fifth issue of the year and I think we keep getting better. Thank you Ms. Hutcheson for covering our backs and supporting us from the beginning. Thank you Mr. Easler, Mr. Kelly and Mr. Kindblom for your willingness to bear with us as we've learned to fly this thing. Thank you Ms. Kelley for your knowledge and experience at a very key time in the process. Thank you Ms. Pescetta, Ms. Farrington-Cook, and the IT

department for your help and support with all things technological.

Thank you Ms. Palmer for sharing your space, your knowledge and your photos. Thank you Ms. Carey for helping us at a moment's notice with info and photos (and for paying the bills). Thank you Mr. LaBrecque for your encouragement and support (and for being our closest reader). And a special thanks to Mr. Ayers who has been an educator by example and whose enthusiasm for the *Atlas*, in particular, and journalism, in general, is infectious.

Finally, thank you to the seniors who made it happen: Sarah Lyon, Steff Pajak and, of course, Kim Marker. *Atlas* would not exist without you. All of the seniors will

have a stone but you will always have the legacy of the *Atlas*.

But history never stops. Next fall, the load will fall to a new group of editors. I have no doubt they will be up to the task. From the beginning, we've been blessed with a great group of journalists.

You see *Atlas* isn't just the newspaper staff's. It is a part of all of us in this community of students, parents, educators, administrators, staff, families and alumni. It represents the student perspective, experience, and voice on that most important of subjects – their education – and about possibly the most important community they will ever reside.

Thank you for reading.

Youthful Titans Look Forward To Next Year

By JASON DUKE '11, TIMOTHY MANGHAN '11 and MATTHEW PAJAK '11
Staff Writers

2010 campaign given the many returning players, including first baseman Steve Marcus '10 who was second on the team with a



AJ Arroyo '10 Takes A Swing During a Titans Home Game

Aaron Haas '09 provided some of the sparkle in the Titans Varsity baseball team's 2009 campaign with a .527 batting average and two homeruns. Haas led the Titans in practically every hitting category and some pitching categories in a season that is best looked at in terms of the future.

The Titans look for a strong

.355 average, shortstop/pitcher A.J. Arroyo who anchored the Titan defense, and second baseman/catcher Drew Pehoviak '10. Besides Haas, the Titans will lose pitcher Wayne Wang, Gino Wen and Nickolas Dalton to graduation.

Although the Titans won only one game this spring (a 9-8 victory over rival Suffield), they

had plenty of chances to win.

One obvious area for improvement will be in the field. Yet the Titans defensive performance was not far different from their opponents.

The Titans committed 14 more errors over the course of the season yet posted an .892 fielding percentage, which was only .022 lower than their opponents. Four Titans had perfect seasons in the field and four other players committed two errors or less during the season.

On the offensive side, the Titans hit .237 as a team and had a very solid on-based percentage of .349. The Titan's OPS (on base percentage plus slugging percentage) was a respectable .710. Offensively, the Titans hit as well as their opponents. Over the course of the season, the Titans hit only four fewer extra base hits than their opponents.

And the Titans were aggressive as a team on the base paths. They stole 40 bases in 43 attempts compared to opponent's 29 steals in 33 attempts.

The Titans pitching staff,

led by Haas, Wang, and Arroyo had an earned run average of 13.00 compared to opponents 6.00.

The trio made all 13 starts and pitched 46.2 of 70 innings. Titan pitchers had 7.4 strikeouts per seven innings (a total of 74 in 70 innings). Haas and Arroyo combined for 56 strikeouts.

The new Titans baseball field was dedicated to Dennis Ferry as part of a \$750,000 project to upgrade the Chester Corbin athletic fields. The new baseball field is great despite the large number of rainouts for the varsity and junior varsity teams.

The Titans went winless on their new field but they held a very good Salisbury team to only four runs in a complete game effort by Haas. Haas had 14 strikeouts and only gave up 3 earned runs on 4 total hits.

Returning pitchers will be the centerpiece of the team as they try to comeback next year. Many young players will return with better play and contributions on the way to more wins in the future. The Titans team is already looking forward to a strong 2010 season.

WMA Boys Tennis is a Real Smash

By AUSTIN LITTLE '12
Staff Writer

Boys varsity tennis had an up and down year, with some very close matches as well as some complete blowouts. The team improved a great deal over the season, and entered the final week of matches with the ability to go out on a win streak.

The varsity top six singles players were usually Sean Meunier '12, Matt McCarthy '09, Austin Little '12, Naru Sugiura '11, Ace Durongkapitaya '10, and David Lawrence '10. Ryan Choi '11 also stepped up from Junior Varsity's number one singles spot to help when the team was short of players.

Meunier, McCarthy, Little, Sugiura, and Lawrence also played doubles for the team, along with Chris Hong '09, Yun Ho Lee '09, Treadwell Lewis '09, and Willie Bourgeois '10.

McCarthy was team captain this year, and he certainly was the leader of the team. With two wins against Worcester and victories against Northfield-Mount Hermon (NMH) and Gunnery, McCarthy had a very good season in his final

year playing on the Wilbraham & Monson Academy varsity.

Playing doubles, McCarthy had a win against Worcester. For most of the season, he played number two singles for the team.

Meunier, one of the two freshmen singles players, had a tremendous season. Playing number three singles, Meunier had impressive singles wins against Worcester and NMH, but he really shined in doubles. He beat an impressive NMH doubles team along with Bourgeois, his partner. He also beat the Worcester number one doubles team.

Little, the other freshman, usually played number one singles in his second year on the varsity. Little posted a big comeback win in his second match against Worcester's number one player.

Sugiura played number four singles for the team and had another very good season. He won two matches against Worcester and also tied a very tough opponent when the Titans faced Pomfret. Sugiura also won a doubles match against Worcester.

Durongkapitaya played number five singles for the Titans

and had some very tough matches that resulted in victories but also some very close losses. He won a nerve-racking match at Worcester last Wednesday, but it was a nail-biter until the end. Durongkapitaya also played a very close match against NMH, but ended up losing in two very close sets.

Lawrence had an up-and-down season. With his powerful serves and ground strokes, he was able to secure wins against Worcester, Gunnery and NMH. His doubles matches were always fun to watch, usually playing with Meunier. Lawrence was quite a force at net, smashing overheads while his opponents watched, stunned.

Choi helped the varsity with a matches against Pomfret and Gunnery. Unfortunately, his match at Pomfret was against a very strong player who had played number one doubles right before playing Choi. The strong ground strokes and powerful serves of Ryan's opponent proved to be too much for Choi, but he held his own, taking two games off Pomfret's number six singles player.

Hong only played two matches for the team, and they were against two very tough teams

from Williston and Pomfret. Playing with Durongkapitaya against Pomfret's number one and two players, both players tried their best to fend off the shots of Pomfret's top players. Unfortunately, they lost the match 2-8 to their opponents.

Yun Ho Lee also played only one match for the Titans, and against the skilled Worcester opponent Lee was able to pull out a win for the Titans. Winning the first of two very close sets, he went back out on the court and pulled out his match in a clutch 10-point tiebreaker.

Lewis played mostly exhibition matches for the team, though he did play doubles twice. He and Sugiura beat Worcester's number three doubles team, but Williston's number two team proved too strong for Lewis and Hong to handle.

Bourgeois played doubles with Meunier three times. In addition to the win against NMH, the duo lost to Williston and Pomfret's number three and two doubles teams, respectively. Bourgeois played very well in both matches, though unfortunately he was bested by two very powerful teams.