

Headlight



Written by the students of Marblehead High School for our school and community

December 5th, 2013

www.mhsheadlight.weebly.com

Epic Poem Episode III

Liam Reilly and Alex Kerai
Entertainment Editor and Webmaster, Juniors

As the knight stood before them
He made sure to stay calm
He had lost his friends and colleagues
And was prepared to rebound.

“The worst is yet to come
You know not what is ahead,
I am a Knight of the highest regard
I have seen what you all dread.”

He pleaded with the King and Queen
While they shook their heads in rage
“That grey-bearded tyrant Ryan
Would not haul us away!”

They called together their Kingdom,
And told them of Sir Thom.
He was expected to make a speech
And he would educate them all.

The Court Jester directed them to the
Lighthouse
While the gatekeeper held open the gates;
Pierce and Maddy, they led the charge
Of citizens bearing hate.

They entered the Court where the Knight
waited
And they knew he had a story.
“Why did he come to us?” they asked,
As they unloaded their transport lorry.

He asked them all to be seated
And thanked the King and Queen;
“My friends,” he began his rousing
speech,
“We are all of the same name.”

Much confusion arose at this proclama-
tion,
But Sir Thom continued on:
“We all take our quills and write the
news,
We do not care for the creative kind.

“Connor Ryan has broken that quill
That we all held tight!
He has crushed it into bits as he came in
the night!
He invaded my homeland with his dyed
beard grey
And laid waste to all I had known
And torched everything away.

“My life was not better after the house
fire,

All my friends and my family,
My colleagues were burned to ashes
You do not want to live what I have seen.

“He is a tyrant that man, you must un-
derstand
And somehow he is allowed to write
How that is even possible
Has he not lost all of his rights?

“We need to stop him before this goes
farther
Before he invades the Kingdom of Head-
light.
You must aid me in my quest
To dethrone that tyrannous knight.”

The people were in upheaval:
“It could have been us!” they exclaimed.
They pleaded with King Dan and Queen
Grace,
“Please, we must help this poor man!”

Then the Jester commanded attention,
With a slight wave of his hand,
“My friends,” he began his oration.
“What is our noble plan?”

Sir Thom turned to answer,
But instead paused and recalled
The consequences of the battle
For his hometown Roma.

The battle was bloody and brutal, he said,
And Sir Thom lost many a good man
But he was still the valiant knight
That would fight till the end.

The bearded tyrant came up to Sir Thom
And he insulted him to his face
“You’re a terrible writer, and compared
to mine
Your beard is a disgrace!”

Sir Thom could not believe the nerve
Of that bearded two-faced cheat.
One day he was like a faun —
Playing his ukulele oh so free —
But now he has devolved into
The White Queen,
Turning to stone his enemy.

And now Sir Thom let that sit.
His story filled up the room.
The people were silent,
For they knew not what to do.

Deals or Disappointments

The Truth about Black Friday

Morgan Hardwick
News Coordinator, Junior

There is only one day
a year that people line the
sidewalks outside local
Best Buys, Walmarts and
Macy’s with wallets ready
to be emptied in the ear-
liest hours of the morn-
ing. This day is known
as Black Friday. The day
is coined “Black” Friday
because in business terms
Black means gaining
profits, which is exactly
what retailers aim to do.
But are the early morn-
ing hours, long lines and
psychotic shoppers all
worth the so-called deals?
I, myself, did participate
in the Black Friday craze
this year and was disap-
pointed with my findings.

I started out at J.
Crew, one of my favor-
ite stores, to find that the
highest sale they had was
only 30% off. As much as
I love their jeweled sweat-
ers I wasn’t ready to drain
my wallet just yet. Later, I
found myself inside Sun-
glass Hut ready to invest
in a new pair. I was direct

ed to the Black Friday sale
section, or rather a small
display of about five pairs
of sunglasses. The variety
was lacking and so was
my interest. Following
my disappointment came
more. My Macy’s coupons
didn’t apply to their “spe-
cial Black Friday deals,”
and the shoes I looked
at weren’t marked down
more than 20%. Seems
as though Black Friday
wasn’t convincing me to
give up my green just yet.

I did however find
luck at Ann Taylor’s The
Loft, where the entire
store was 50% off, a deal
I was more than willing
to indulge in. I ended up
leaving with two sweaters
for the price of one and a
scarf to match. However
that purchase, along with
my dissatisfaction, is all I
the left with mall with on
Black Friday. If the craze
of the day wasn’t so in-
tense, people might actu-
ally start seeing that the
deals aren’t so much as
savings but rather blind-
folds for them to spend
their money with. I’ve

found that stores offer
better deals throughout
the year than they ever
do on this day. Shoppers
have become so wrapped
up in the thought of the
day, that they’ve con-
vinced themselves there
is no better deal out there
than on Black Friday. If
they just waited until the
rage was over, or even
started shopping earlier in
the year, they would find
themselves saving more.
Black Friday works just
the way retailers want it
to, but sucking custom-
ers into the trend. The
infamous day of deals is
nothing more than a mar-
keting technique that has
consumers blinded by
the label Black Friday.

Christmas in October

How early is too early?

Rebecca Twaalfhoven
Editor's Assistant, Freshman

You often hear com-
plaints about radio sta-
tions making the switch
to Christmas music “too
early.” Let’s face it, play-
ing “Jingle Bell Rock”
on Halloween, as a radio
station did in Milwau-
kee, may be overkill.
But at what point does
it become acceptable?

As a student, Christmas
break is perhaps the most
exciting prospect of the
first half of the year, and
a cause for major excite-
ment. Two weeks without
school is an intoxicating
idea, and helps to remedy
some of the monotony of
the school week, not to
mention the thrill of shop-
ping for presents and, in
my case, the joy of the en-
tire family returning home.

So why is it objection-
able that we look for-
ward to the holidays a
little early? There are
several different possibi-
lities. First, that in looking
forward to Christmas and
holiday break, we forget
to appreciate Thanksgiv-
ing. Thanksgiving is, of
course, a national holiday
dedicated to being thank-
ful; and now, it becomes
a “stepping stone” to
Christmas, leaving behind
the tradition of the day.

Another possibility is
that for some, the wait
is simply unbearable. I
personally find that the
countdown to Christ-
mas is a good way to
break the repetition in
the weeks leading up to
vacation. However, an-
ticipating the holidays six
weeks in advance could
make the time in between
seem like an eternity.

This year, Thanksgiving
was very late, which less-
ens the anticipation. All
the same, thinking about
Christmas while pre-
paring for another three
weeks of school is agoniz-
ing.

Alternatively,
maybe it is simply the
thought of Christmas time
— presents, vacation plan-
ning, and family — that is
cause for worry. For some,
all of the hype about the
holidays triggers appre-
hension for the likely
stresses of celebration,
and being reminded weeks
beforehand only adds to
the pressure. In general,
however, I think there is
an acceptable limit on
when it is appropriate to
break out the holiday sales
and themed music, the
boundaries of which are
pushed more every year.

MHS Updates:

TO ALL SENIORS:
All transcript request forms for college
applications with a January 1, 2014 deadline
MUST be submitted to the Guidance Office NO
LATER THAN WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4,

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