

# Headlight



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

www.mhsheadlight.weebly.com

May 21, 2015

## MHS Drama Club Presents...

Jack Krivit, Sophomore  
Reporter

Something wicked this way comes! Marblehead High School's drama department is about to put on their next performance, but this time under the direction of a new face. In his first year of teaching at the school, current Theatre Arts instructor Nicholas Gould has moved from the classroom to the stage, where he has been spreading his knowledge of dramatics to the cast of his new production of William Shakespeare's *Macbeth*. The play stars sophomores Benjamin Harney as the title role and Olivia Gentes as Lady Macbeth. With the last few weeks of tech rehearsal closing in on the actors, I was fortunate enough to interview the director to learn more about the show and the people behind it.

### Q: Have you had any other experience directing high school students?

A: I've been directing high school students since 2009, when I directed *Sweeney Todd* for a community theatre near my home in Texas. Since then, most of my directing experience has been with teens and college age students.

### Q: Are there any other ways you help the actors understand their parts?

A: We talk about scenes and monologues as we come across them in the script. Character development is a partnership between the actor and the director. They know their character better than I do, but I've got the overall vision of the play in my head.

### Q: Should the audience expect anything new from this performance?

A: I think they should expect the same high quality work they're used to seeing from Marblehead students. But there is an element that hasn't been featured much before, though I'd like to keep it a surprise.

### Q: Is there anyone you would like to thank for assisting in the production of the play?

A: First and foremost, my assistant director, Sarah Sontz. She's been keeping me on track and has helped shape the production into what it is. And of course, thanks goes to all the cast and their families for the time and effort put in so far.

Mr. Gould is very excited to share the work he and all the actors have put into the production. The show will be held in the MHS Theatre for a total of three performances: Thursday, May 28, and Saturday, May 30 at 7:30 p.m., and one matinee on Sunday, May 31 at 2:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 at the door.

## Taylor Swift: "Bad Blood"

Maeve Reilly, Sophomore  
Reporter

Over the years, Taylor Swift's story-telling music videos have become one of her most notorious trademarks, winning her various nominations and awards. This past Sunday, May 17th, Swift kicked off the 2015 Billboard Music Awards with the premiere of her much anticipated music video, "Bad Blood." The video is the fourth released from her most recent album, *1989*. However, this video is almost the polar opposite of the bright colors and peppy dancing seen in past videos, such as "Shake it Off." "Bad Blood," rather, is packed with an army of female celebrities and a whole lot of fiery attitude.

The video opens as Catastrophe, portrayed by Swift, battles with and is pushed out of a building by her arch nemesis, Arsyn, played by Selena Gomez. Swift then returns to a high tech *Hunger Games*-style training camp to prepare for revenge alongside a posse of female warriors portrayed by various female celebrities, including Jessica Alba, Mariska Hargitay, Cara Delevingne, Zendaya, and more. In the end, Catastrophe and crew head into battle against Arsyn amidst a series of explosions and massive flames.

Featuring motorcycle riding, high tech weaponry, boxing matches, and a plethora of black leather, "Bad Blood" is an all new style of fierce and edgy for Swift. In addition, the video wows viewers by replacing the original verses of the song with rap verses by Kendrick Lamar, providing another unexpected element. "Bad Blood" has been massively speculated to be a song about Swift's feud with fellow female artist Katy Perry. Although the *1989* artist has never explicitly mentioned Perry's name in regards to the song, in a *Rolling Stone* interview, she did disclose the track is about another female performer, with whom she considers herself "straight up enemies." Regardless of whether or not the rumors are true, there's one thing for sure that Taylor means to express with this bold new video: Swift is not someone to mess with because she has a whole network of influential women who stand behind her; if you and she have "bad blood," watch out!

## Come one, come all to the MHS SPRING CONCERT!

Thursday at 7p.m. in the MHS Theatre  
*The concert is free and open to all who love music!*

Come see the award-winning MHS  
Concert Band, Orchestra,  
and a cappella groups!

***Support local music!***

## Is the Pitch Really Perfect?

Linda Fitzpatrick, Junior  
Reporter-in-the-Field

As with any great movie, a sequel is held to a standard that can be difficult to reach, resulting in a prompt "crash and burn" for many movie sequels. With the release of *Pitch Perfect 2* this weekend, I eagerly hoped it would not disappoint. While it didn't, I'd have to say the first was far better, and so far the movie reviewers agree with that statement. *Pitch Perfect 2* was filled with the same off-beat jokes that made viewers love the first movie, but this time, there were far more. In this case, quality would have been better than quantity! Had there been fewer off-color jokes, more meaningful content may have shined through and made for a better quality film. With that said, however, the movie was funny and everyone from tween girls to middle aged men were laughing in the cinema this weekend. The movie also featured many special guests, from the Green Bay Packers to *Good Morning America*'s co-host, Robin Roberts.

The soundtrack itself is filled with a fresh selection of songs and mash-ups, including a Christmas song! Just like the original soundtrack, these are songs that you could easily find yourself listening to daily. The movie is filled with fan-favorite songs with an a cappella twist. The only difference between the music featured in *Pitch Perfect 2* and the music featured in its predecessor is a result of the change in plot. In the sequel, The Barden Bellas struggle with their performances, and on-screen the songs sometimes seem awkward, distracting, and cringe-worthy. Some of this messiness alters the audiences enjoyment of the music, which both aids and hurts the film. While there is no new "Cups" song in *Pitch Perfect 2*, listen for a cool hand-clap tune in the beginning of "World Championship Finale 2."

I think the best part of the movie was the ending, which I won't give away. However, I will say that it left me filled with the same inspiration as the first movie. Though *Pitch Perfect* may have been better, *Pitch Perfect 2* is certainly a good movie, for the right audience. If you're into music and jokes that are funny, go too far, or that aren't always politically correct, then you should see this movie.

The success of *Pitch Perfect* has elevated the success of a cappella in general. With shows like NBC's, *The Sing Off*, everyone seems immersed in the all-vocal music. Just at Marblehead High School alone there are four separate groups, each with their own unique style and sound. Being a part of Serendipity, the all girl, student run group, I can say that the a cappella community is thriving in this town and will only grow stronger as new voices find their way to the stage and develop the craft of singing. If you're interested in seeing live a cappella, make sure to stay tuned for upcoming concerts!

## Why You Should (or Shouldn't) Hug Your Favorite Teacher (Part II)

Kyra Veprek, Sophomore  
Reporter

*Last week Kyra recalled her experience in school and the teachers that have guided and helped her to become the student she is today. She thanks those teachers and encourages others to do the same...*

As the year progressed, my reason for success shifted from pushing myself to impress her to working my hardest to feed my new passion for mathematics. I was able to release myself from the detrimental self doubts and embrace math with open arms, despite the time and effort it took me to understand it. By the end of the semester, I was able to recognize it was Mrs. Smith who had paved the way and opened the door to my newfound fondness for numbers and positive approach to learning. I immediately wrote her a lengthy letter about the profound

positive impact she had on my educational career. Mrs. Smith replied to the letter the next day with the first hug I had received from a teacher since kindergarten and a huge "thank you."

I was originally going to write this article in an attempt to plead for a day of recognition for teachers' hard work, but it came to my attention that National Teacher Appreciation Day was celebrated two weeks ago, on May 5. That being said, I think it is hugely important for every student to express gratitude for and to their teachers every day. With the end of the school year quickly approaching, it's important to let at least one (your favorite) teacher know how their hard work and passion for teaching has paid off. Now, I'm not suggesting to anyone that they should literally approach their teacher with open arms with the expectation of a warm embrace; we're not in first grade, you will most likely be rejected. However, I challenge you all to pick one teacher, whether it be an educator from school, a coach from an after school activity, or simply someone you look up to, and let them know how much their time and words have meant to you. You will be surprised how a few words will go a long way.

## Headlight Staff 2014 - 15

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