

THE BANNER

December 2016

North Brunswick Township High School
98 Raider Road North Brunswick, NJ 08902

Volume 32, Issue 02

The Alchemist's: *Peter and The Starcatcher*

Sydney Williams, Contributing Writer

With only a little over a month to put this entire show together, including auditions, rehearsals, and set decorations, The Alchemists once again proved that they were up to the task. For a Broadway show that did not have much reference material, the directors were still able to breathe vibrant life into a very original and unique story that explores the desire to stay a kid.

The Alchemists put together a terrific production that featured creative sets, multiple

roles for all involved, innovative staging, and even a show-stopping number which featured the entire cast donning mermaid flippers, coconut bras, and evening gowns to usher in a magnificent second act and finale to *Peter and the Starcatcher*.

The production crew spent weeks painting and creating the lovely posters put up around the school and auditorium lobby to promote the show for our students and staff.



Photo Courtesy of Nikita Verma

Peter Pan and Molly land on Mollusk Island where Molly and the Lost Boys are captured; Pan saves Molly and later she leaves to England. Peter Pan stays in Mollusk Island, named Neverland, after the destroyed ship.

NBTHS Holidays

Iftikhar Ali, Staff Writer

In light of the holidays, NBTHS is hosting many events. The class of 2017 is organizing the Children's Disney Holiday Party on December 16.

Little kids can come in dressed in their favorite Disney character and enjoy all the crafts and fun activities the class of 2017 has planned for them.

The class of 2018 is also organizing an event on December 22, which includes Christmas Karaoke, and snacks to make it complete. The movie Elf will be playing as well and everyone will be in their pajamas.

This relaxing and fun event is bound to be amazing. The holiday season is coming close so join NBTHS's holiday events and have a blast.

The Blood Drive: Saving Three Lives

Kevin Robayo, Staff Writer

The past two months have consisted of the annual routine of senior students asking students during lunch to donate blood with the redundant line: "Your donation could save three lives." As overused and saturated the line has become, there is some truth to it as pointed out in the Red Cross "Blood Facts and Statistics" web page. The importance of the

blood drive cannot be overstated.

Over the course of November 18th, many students came in, either to skip class or help future hospital patients, prepare to donate blood. While some were ineligible to donate, the day was successful overall, as many students stepped up to the big needle in order to help those that are going to need it in the near future.

Many first-time donors

became tired and had a feeling that they were drained after their donation. Luckily, students were able to enjoy a nice snack of oreos, chips, and/or apple juice after their donation in order to gain their energy back.

Under the supervision of SGO members, the blood drive went incredibly smooth and NBTHS had another successful year.

Stand Against Dakota Access Pipeline

Deina Jovani, Contributing Writer

The Dakota Access Pipeline is a pipeline that would have connected rapidly expanding Bakken, and Three Forks production areas in North Dakota to Patoka, Illinois. The pipeline will be used to send & transport oil from North Dakota to refining markets in a more environmentally friendly manner.

The pipeline line was meant to replace the much dangerous forms of train and motor vehicle transport. However while the pipeline seems to have many positives, many have

raised fears that the possibility of water or land being contaminated by an oil spill are not unfounded.

Access to refining markets and shippers located in the Midwest, the East Coast, and the Gulf Coast seems beneficial to America, but many refuse to ignore the fact that the company building the pipeline has had many past incidents where their pipelines failed.

This issue has also sparked concerns in Native American communities as the pipeline

threatens to contaminate their drinking water and pollution in their land.

DAPL will destroy the only clean water that travels throughout North Dakota. With the strength, sweat, and dignity of thousands of tribes that the Natives honor even now, Native Americans decided that they must fight this huge environmental threat and began setting up peaceful protests near the building site of the pipeline. Many began to

camp near the pipeline building site and independent media outlets such as: Democracy Now and TYT, have shed light on the happenings of the protest while the mainstream media ignored it.

Native Americans protest night and day to stand up for their rights and freedom. "It's a blessing that the Army Corps denied the easement, but we're on a wait to see what the DAPL does next," Tom Goldtooth, a protester from the Navajo and Dakota tribes.

FEATURES

Michael “The Music Man” Einiger

Kevin Robayo and Abhie Maharana, Staff Writers

Around 7:40 every single morning after homeroom ends, the speakers blair a song as students walk to their first session classes by some one who has named themselves “The Music Man.” Michael “The Music Man” Einiger is the man that has been behind the mic, playing a different song everyday since the beginning of the school year.

When asked who came up with the idea and what is the goal of playing songs through the speaker, he answered, “The Middle States Student Planning Committee came up with the idea and the purpose of playing the songs is an attempt to boost school morale”

Whether his song choices have or have not boost ed school morale is one’s own opinions, but it is clear that the songs played have affected students in numerous ways. Ranging from some dancing and enjoying a good tune or leaving feelings of absolute cringe and irritation by the song choice.

This is possibly due to that all of Einiger’s song choices have to be approved by a school administrator, meaning he has to stay within the dull genres of: pop, pop rock, or holiday themed music. He tends to avoid: hip hop, classical, independent, instrumental, or experimental music.

Whether one may find this to be a pro or con of his song choices, overall their songs that everyone has heard a thousand times before. While Einiger may surprise students with a song choice, such



Photo Courtesy Yarely Galindo

The man behind the speakers playing the music

as the time Einiger unironically played a Bruce Springsteen song the day after election day, not realizing Springsteen was a Clinton supporter.

Michael would go on to address the point that some do not enjoy the songs he chooses by saying, “I tell them that, if they don’t like the songs I play, they should give me suggestions. Which many do not do, other than teachers. But I will always take suggestions. I create a Twitter poll almost every day on my personal Twitter account, when it becomes live, there will be a poll on the NBTHS Middle States Student Planning Committee website,”

One can reach him at his twitter, @einiger_time and can send him suggestions.

Michael “The Music Man” Einiger has certainly added something that is now burned in the average NBTHS daily routine. Whether one leans towards or against the existence of this program one can not ignore that it is a lot better than just silence.



Photo courtesy of Parnika Jain

The NBTHS art students themselves created the art mural. They worked on it after school and Mrs. Grollman, art instructor, would assist them. The students spent a lot of time and dedication making the mural look beautiful. It reflects the artistic talent of the art students here at NBTHS.

About The Banner

As a news publication of North Brunswick Township High School, *The Banner* serves to provide students with interesting, timely and important information about the school and community. Its staff covers events and stories that are pertinent to the student body at NBTHS.

While honoring the provisions the school has established to maintain a safe environment for its students, the staff upholds freedom of speech as ruled in *Tinker vs. Des Moines*.

The Banner runs online. Throughout the year, the staff maintains a circulation of electronic publication among NBTHS, the Board of Education and other areas in the community.

Advisory Board:

Rebecca Rouantree

Editorial Board:

Kevin Robayo
Oleado Ukanwoke

Staff:

Suhani Baranwal
Kena Chavva
Iftikhar Ali
Sabrina Joval
Justin Kyle
Abhie Maharana
Alizon Martinez
Keshav Mukundhan
Shaniah Stokes

OPINIONS

Assassin's Creed Movie

Abhie Maharana, Staff Writer

Assassin's Creed, the movie, is based on the video game series with the same name as the film. Directed by Justin Kurzel, the film is 140 minutes long and includes actors such as Michael Fassbender, Marion Cotillard, and Jeremy Irons, just to name a few. The movie will be released on December 21st, 2016 in the United States and France.

The plot of the movie is completely new and not entirely based on the video game series, although there are a few familiar faces from the series. But the film utilizes many aspects of the videogame's universe.

A short summary of the plot: Career criminal Callum Lynch is rescued from his own execution by Abstergo Industries, the modern-day incarnation of the Templar Order. He is forced to participate in

the Animus Project and relive the memories of his ancestor Aguilar de Nerha, an Assassin in the time of the Spanish Inquisition. The intentions of the Abstergo Industries are not known to Callum but as Lynch continues to experience Aguilar's memories, he begins to gain the knowledge and skills necessary to confront the Templars—age-old enemies of the Assassins—in the present day.

Ubisoft had already revealed that the film would be produced with New Regency and distributed by 20th Century Fox. In October of 2011, Sony Pictures were in the final phase of negotiations with Ubisoft Motion Picture to create a film version of *Assassin's Creed*. Eventually, Ubisoft Motion Picture agreed to have a film made slightly based on the video game series.

What is Next for Obama?

Parnika Jain, Contributing Writer

After the 2016 elections, all of us know it is time for former president, Barack Obama to retire. After eight years of being president, he still has a lot of unfinished business to take care of. He still plans to combat criminal justice reform, Immigration, race relations, gun control, and nuclear non-proliferation. In short, he plans to return to community organizing-organizations correlating with the community.

"I will go back to doing the kinds of work that I was doing before, just trying to find ways to help people," he said to middle school students last year. "Help

young people get educations, and help people get jobs, and try to bring businesses into neighborhoods that do not have enough. That is the kind of work that I really love to do."

These are his plans for the future: writing his own memoirs, becoming a law professor because he is knowledgeable of the law, a NBA team owner because he loves basketball, sports league commissioner, and launching My Brother's youth, a program to help minority youth.

All in all, Obama does not to enact these kinds of work right away; he should enjoy the time with his family.

COD Infinite Warfare Review

Abhie Maharana, Staff Writer

Released on November 4th, the *Call of Duty* franchise released their most recent game: *Infinite Warfare*. Just like the less recent *Call of Duty* games *World at War*, *Black Ops*, *Black Ops II*, *Black Ops III*, *Ghosts*, and *Advanced Warfare*, the typical three modes package is incorporated. These games have a Campaign mode in which the player has to play through a story that, a Zombies mode in which players fight through waves of zombies, and a Multiplayer mode which enables players from all over the world to play with each other. "Infinite Warfare" is only available to current generation consoles which includes the Playstation 4, Xbox One, and PC.

The campaign portion of the game takes place in the Solar System where two sides battle for control over the Settlement Defense Front (SDF). As stated in callofduty.com, "After a devastating attack on earth, as Captain Reyes, a Tier 1 Special Operations pilot, you must lead the remaining coalition forces against a relentless enemy, while trying to overcome the deadly extreme, environments of space." The player controls a character named Captain Reyes, and through his eyes, the player has to shut down

the opposition trying to dominate the SDF. As the story progresses, Reyes encounters different characters such as Lieutenant Nora Salter, Ethan, Sergeant Omar, and Admiral Raines.

While the campaign mode pulls players through an intriguing plot and an action-packed adventure, the multiplayer mode implements a similar approach, except with the substitution of enclosed battle arenas compared to a fixed plot sequence. In *Infinite Warfare*, "different Combat Rigs, or tactical combat suits, are available as options to the player. Each Combat Rig is designed for players' unique styles of playing. Aside from Combat Rigs, another addition to the new multiplayer platform are new types of weapons. A few energy weapons that are newly introduced are the "Volk assault rifle," and "eRad submachine gun."

The Zombies package allows for players to experience the setting of a 1980s amusement park. Six characters are available to play as in the Zombies mode, and new weapons are available to the players. In this mode, players can either face against waves of zombies by themselves or with other players.

Watch Dogs 2 Review

Abhie Maharana, Staff Writer

An advanced operating software called ctOS 2.0 has been "implemented in several U.S. cities to create a safer, more efficient metropolis" (Ubisoft). Players are put in the place of Marcus Holloway, a hacker who lives in the San Francisco Bay Area. Marcus teams up with a group called "Desdec," which is a group of hackers trying to prevent corporations from exploiting ctOS 2.0.

In this story mode plot, players have to try and take down ctOS 2.0 by launching the "Hack of the Century," and restoring peace in the Bay Area and other cities.

Watch Dogs 2 also has a multiplayer mode in which your player is put in the server of another player. The goal is to try and hack your opponent without them noticing by getting close to them. The opponent does not know that there is another player in the server until the player starts to initiate

the hack. This makes multiplayer a hilarious game mode because players can roam around the map tailgating and stalking other players without them noticing.

There is yet another multiplayer mode called "Bounty Hunter" which relates to the in game police heat system. When players get detected by the police, they are instantly chased by the police. If the mode becomes a PVP mission the event opens up a bounty hunter type reward.

The game has been rated 4 stars out of 5 on metacritic for the consoles Xbox One, PC, and Playstation 4. It was reported that when the game was launched, there was a crash fix associated with the multiplayer mode. A Ubisoft representative did mention that the company will keep close attention on the multiplayer mode now and monitor the stability of it.



Photo courtesy of Sabrina Joval

Zena Aluboudi, Sofia Rivera, Annie Fuqua, and Sha'niyah Fountain all wonder and question, "What will Obama do?"

SPORTS

Leading the way with Scholarships

Sabrina Joval, Staff Writer

North Brunswick Township High School's very own students: Tory Tucci and Melanie Fosko are on their way to college with a scholarship.

With hard work and dedication these girls are the best of the best.

Tory Tucci a 4 year letterwinner, signed national letter for lacrosse to Wagner College in New York.

Tucci has been playing sports since the fourth grade, her inspiration came from past games and teammates. Tucci is relieved now that she received her scholarship.

She states, "Finally everything has payed off." Tucci also claims, "there was a couple other colleges, this one [Wagner College] is the best one."

On her way to college, Tucci feels like she will not take this sport into a profession level but take up coaching.

Melanie Fosko a 4 year swimmer, is on her way to Providence College in Rhode Island.

Her motivation all started when she was younger. Fosko was always into sports and her inspiration came from her sisters Megan and Nicole.

Fosko claimed, "When swimming I still feel nervous, but I stay confident. You just have to swim to win."

Providence was Fosko first choice but admits that she probably won't take swimming to a professional level.

Now Fosko is now relieved that all her dedication paid off.



Photo Courtesy of Sabrina Joval

Melanie Fosko (on left) and Tory Tucci (on right) have represented Raider Nation and worked hard to get to the top. These girls are now on their way to college with scholarships.

North Brunswick Soccer Team Makes it to Championship

Zynija Oglesby, Contributing Writer



Photo Courtesy of Lilibeth Santos

The boys soccer team has finally made it into the schools' trophy case. Congrats to the soccer team for a wonderful season.

NBTHS soccer team made it to The Greater Middlesex Soccer Tournament. North Brunswick ended the conference division with a record of 10 and 3. This is the team's first championship since 1999.

Mr. Louis Emanuel the athletic director at North Brunswick Township High School stated "I knew that team was going to be good and I knew that they were going to come out and make some noise."

North Brunswick Raiders had an amazing season. North Brunswick's final game in the

conference was against Marlboro who is ranked 9th in the white division, North Brunswick lost the game 3 - 2.

Paul Dzielski had 12 saves for North Brunswick, While Alusine Kamara and Chris Scariano both scored a goal a piece. Bruno Andino was recognized on October 29, 2016 at Woodbridge High School for their End Of Season Honors Program.

The team had an extremely well season. Overall the team ended the regular season with a record of 16 wins and 4 losses. Hopefully the Raiders will continue to have more seasons like the one the soccer team just had.

Thanksgiving Football

Lilibeth Santos, Contributing Writer

The North Brunswick football team had a tough loss against South Brunswick on Thanksgiving the final score being 0-19. In the first half of the game South Brunswick Vikings led the score of 19-0. Christian Petrillo had 17 carries, and David Strzeminski had his first interception. The Raiders had a record of 1-9-0.

But the Thanksgiving game isn't all about football, it is the start of the holidays, for many it is the first time they will see old friends who have graduated. There were

many alumni who returned home for the annual Thanksgiving game. The Thanksgiving game was a gathering with the past and future students of North Brunswick.

They played through sun, rain, and freezing weather. The raiders have improved throughout the years, Although they had a tough season this year they played with their hearts out. Every night the Raiders put their hearts on their line and played with pride. Good job boys!

Raiders' Cheer Team

Zynija Oglesby, Contributing Writer

The winter sports season has started and among those sports is winter cheerleading. Cheerleading runs through 2 seasons. The first is fall and the second is winter. During the fall season the cheerleading team cheers for varsity and junior varsity football.

During the winter season the cheerleading team cheers for boys and girls varsity basketball.

Cheerleading brings out all the pep to games, while you cheer on your favorite sports team and players.

Most cheers are made for the crowd to follow on and enjoy as they watch the game. So if you are at a game look for the North Brunswick Raiders' Cheer Team. Don't be afraid to join in on the fun cheers and cheer on your favorite team from the sidelines.