

SPECIAL HALLOWEEN INSERT



DRESSING DOWN FOR HALLOWEEN *By Stephanie Brooks('09)*

Halloween is a terrific holiday, don't get me wrong. For the most part the religious ties have been lost and now we have been left with a festive day, full of tooth decaying candy, badly carved pumpkins, blinding hues of orange, and over priced costumes.

The dressing up and altering one's identity part is a major portion of the Halloween experience.

However, some motives of people when dressing up are just a bit wrong.

Case and point, the Mean Girls Syndrome: *"In Girl World, Halloween is the one night a year when a girl can dress like a total slut and no other girls can say anything about it. The hard-core girls just wear lingerie and some form of animal ears."*

This is all too true. We've all seen the teenage female costumes labeled as "flirty." The models all look about 25, have the body of a Play Boy pin-up girl, and the short, low cut outfits that look like they belong in an adult shop.

As a teenage girl, unless you want to look like some mismatched patchwork quilt freak, and have people ask you what you are all night, then you are seriously lacking in options here.

October is a cold month, I suppose we just have to throw on our fishnets and suck it up, right ladies?

Teenage girl costumes all have highly provocative words in them

like sexy and flirty. Since when is it necessarily OK for the word 'Sexy' to precede the word teen?

Parents may not necessarily want their 14 year old daughter to be a Sexy Bat Girl, or a Naughty Officer, or wear a garter on her upper thigh as Bo Peep. Little Molly Sue may be coming home with more than just candy in her bag of treats.

Overall, Halloween costumes only represent the mind set of the masses of today's generation. They are a reflection of who we are. And if that's not who we were before October 31st, by the time we leave Party City, that may very well be who we've become. ☪



EDITORIAL PAGE

DO WE HAVE A SHOT By Joshua Gardner('09)

As a two year member of the men's basketball team it is safe to say that that I have seen many of the ups and downs of our teams short legacy.

In my freshman year the team finished the season with a 4-14 record. I did not suit up as a freshman, however I was present for almost every game.

I remember losing the close games. We would hold a team all the way to the 4th quarter and slip up in the end. However our 4-14 record helped us build character and despite of losing so many games, my spirits stayed high and I ended the season looking forward to what next year would hold.

When practice began on October 29th I felt as if the team was ready to take on whatever the season would hold.

A year later the team was back in action. Many people believed that with the loss of valuable players such as Adesoji James('06) and Jason Russell('06), the team was doomed to failure.

However the team made a surprising upset and ended off the season with a 10-6 record, making

our first appearance in the division playoffs.

The 2006-'07 season was the first year I actually got playing time. I remember the first time I put on my number 11 jersey. I came from a no jersey benched freshman, to a sophomore starter along with my teammate Michael Dei('09).

Although after the second half of the season I lost my starting position, I was satisfied with getting a taste of what it feels like to play.

With this new feeling I became motivated to take basketball seriously.

The season did not end in the winter for the HSAS Senators Basketball team. Many of us began to practice in the Apex or on our free time. We ran pick up games, and performed drills to begin preparing for the 2007-2008 season.

When school began in September we picked up right where we left off. My teammates and I practiced in the Apex and began lifting weights in order to prepare for the season. When practice began on October 29th I felt as if the team were ready to take on whatever the season would hold.

This year's team can be labeled as "the year of the guard." Why? The 6



Next issue will include an investigative report on our current announcement system.

man rotation for this year consists of everyone being less than 6ft.

Without a Center it appears impossible to keep up with other teams. This year's Basketball season will definitely be interesting and a new experience.

With a new starting 5 and incoming freshman I see hope for our team. We have a shot at making the playoffs again and advancing past the second round. I feel as if the team this year has the heart to win.

However as a team we have to become more united. A good basketball team is like a family. We all need each other to pull through tough times and to come out stronger than how we entered. ☪

CAUGHT NAPPING

By Caity Baer

In day cares, pre-schools, and kindergarten, children are given the opportunity to take a nap during the day. The idea is that young, growing children need proper rest in order to balance out how active they are during the day.

However, young children tend to have so much energy, that they hardly use their nap time.

Instead, it turns into more of a "quiet play time."

As the children progress into first grade, nap time disappears. At first, it may seem like an accomplishment to the children; now that they are old enough to last without a rest period.

However, as they move into middle school, students begin to want their rest period back.

With all the activities that they have to do outside of school, that didn't affect them when they were in kindergarten, it is now tiring them out. Sleep becomes more of a desired activity, rather than one to protest.

In high school, one can commonly find students half asleep in various classes. The amount of work combined with a social life, job, and/or extra curricular activity, definitely shows its impact on students.

Hearing students wishing for a



Students of multiple classes at HSAS enjoy playing football at lunch

NO LOVE FOR FOOTBALL By Jake Ruiz('08)

The High School of American Studies has a variety of sports teams. In this diversity of choices this reporter asks "where is the football team?!"

That's exactly what some students have talked about over the course of HSAS's lifespan. The student body has seen the additions of tennis, baseball, softball, track, cross country and basketball, but football has yet to receive any limelight here.

"I think we should have some sort of football club, something I would definitely partake in," says David Moretti('08) when asked to comment on the idea of adding a football team. "I feel that in a way we're missing out on that high school experience

that many other schools get to have. Man, would I love to have one of those leather Letterman jackets, looking like a real tough guy."

Freshman Matthew Berdeguez('11) also gave similar views. "I would love to join a football club but I have a lot of things to do...cross country(running) takes up a lot of my time."

Lehman College has a big problem with us already using their campus

Other students like Phil Schorr('08) commented that "he would love to have a football club but there just is not enough student interest to start a club."

Ulices Rodriguez('10) feels the opposite way though. "I think that there is enough student interest to start a football team, something I would participate in..." Concurrence was found between Ulices's thoughts and those of Aleeza Halen('08). "I feel we should start a football club, something I would love to play in."

"We are in a way missing out on that true high school experience that many of us see in a lot of movies like *Varsity Blues* or *Friday Night Lights*," added Aleeza. She continued by noting that "the problem is that our school could never have a football team, we don't even have our own gym."

When senior student Jose Gonzalez('08) asked our own Mr. Blitz about starting up a football

club, Mr.Blitz replied that, "we don't have any space to start a football club... I talk to the engineer all the time and he says Harris Field is gonna be torn up any day now" pending a renovation.

Jose followed those comments pointing out that, "Lehman College has a big problem with us already using their campus so starting a football club is pretty much near impossible."

Starting a new club has obstacles. Daniel Karaban('09) said "though there is no club, I still enjoy playing football for fun with my friends."

Hopefully students can embrace a football club and, maybe one day, bestow upon the city a champion football team. ☪

"nap time" is becoming more and more common.

Personally, I believe that high school students need a nap more than the children in kindergarten. Those young children have no homework and seem to have fun all day.

High School students are burdened with so many more draining activities that soon it becomes hard to function.

Sleeping for 50 minutes during the day may provide students with enough energy to make it through the rest of the school day. Although taking naps does not add on to the amount of sleep you got the night before, it will certainly cause no harm to our active, teenage lives. ☪