DCIAA Reformats

Football Conference

The District of Columbia Interscholastic Athletic Association underwent restructuring to “cultivate a more competitive and exciting conference”, according to an April 23 DCPS release. “The most notable change will be in football, which will now contain two subdivisions. Drawing inspiration from the DC Flag, the two divisions are titled the Stars Division and the Stripes Division. Wilson will compete against Anacostia, Dunbar, Ballou, Coolidge and HD Woodson within the Stars Division.”

Updates To The School Year

In order to fulfill the required 180 days in a school year, DCPS announced that the 2012-13 school year will be extended until June 21. According to an April 23 release, “A total of 440,000 students are expected to participate in various activities at the school over the remaining term. However, in order to keep schools open, the district will extend the school year by two days.”

Concern over DC TAG Funds

Following the temporary suspension of federal funding in February, which was reinstated in March, the DC Tuition Assistance Grant Program is under attack again. According to the Washington Post, federal budget cuts combined with an increased demand for student aid could lead to limited monetary awards for DC students attending public colleges or universities. The cuts will affect the DC Office of the State Superintendent of Education’s ability to administer the program.

DCPS Staff Found Cheating

Behind the locked and bolted door of room 118 on the first floor of Wilson, a stern looking man sits alone at a table, his sharp gaze fixed on the boxes filled with white test booklets in front of him. He is the Office of the State Superintendent of Education representative, and his job, at least for a few days, is to watch over the thin DC CAS booklets like a hawk. And for good reason.

It hasn’t happened at Wilson, but allegations and instances of cheating on the DC CAS by faculty and staff in some DC public schools since 2008 have pointed to the flaws in the high-stakes standardized testing system. “I strongly believe that schools, principals, and teachers need to be held accountable for student achievement,” Principal Pete Cahall said. He described testing as “a necessary evil.”

However, the accuracy of this test has been tainted by several cases of cheating in both charter and traditional DC public schools. According to the American Federation of Teachers, the 2009 test has been tainted by several cases of cheating in both charter and traditional DC public schools. The test has been tainted by several cases of cheating in both charter and traditional DC public schools. The test has been tainted by several cases of cheating in both charter and traditional DC public schools. The test has been tainted by several cases of cheating in both charter and traditional DC public schools.
Over the past few years Wilson has undergone massive transformations, some more obvious than others. Last year Wilson experienced its first year in a brand new building after a $115 million renovation. Wilson teachers, administrators, and seniors who have been through the transition from the old Wilson, to UDC, to the new building say that there has been huge change not only in the buildings, but in the general Wilson environment.

Several factors have played into this change. Some say Wilson’s beautiful new building is more attractive to parents in nearby affluent Chevy Chase and AU Park, making them more willing to send their kids to Wilson, therefore changing the school demographics.

Ciara Mackey says of old Wilson, “It had so much character,” and fellow senior Eliza Hamburger agrees, “there’s [now] definitely more of an emphasis on rules and discipline.” Wolde Jordan sided with Mackey and Hamburger, saying that Wilson has become “more strict.” Senior Cymbal McGee-Byrd believed that “old Wilson got more respect from the students and the new one has more respect from the community, in my opinion.” While increased discipline could be considered a good thing, in terms of the community, many students still believe that it has restricted their freedom, and made school less of a fun place to be. AJ Harris says, “In the new Wilson [there is] no time for kids to have their opinions heard.”

On the other hand, students almost unanimously agree that the educational environment has gotten better. The new building is cleaner and less chaotic, has more technology, promotes better behavior, and provides generally more emphasis on academics, all of which make it easier for students to learn. Senior Billy Shuldiner says, “The dynamic has shifted to be more academic. In ninth grade you were putting practices in place that were simply meant to make people come to school and this year they had the SAT here. It shows that the focus is shifting.” Others agree that they are better able to focus academically in the new building, in part due to the tightening up on discipline. Anne Marie Torressen recalls, at the old Wilson, “Kids with no shirts and huge tattoos would walk around the hallways bouncing basketballs and playing music. At new Wilson that would never be allowed.”

Although the senior reaction is mixed, Principal Cahall adamantly believes the change in the school has been complete and positive, and he backed up his opinion with hard data. Attendance at old Wilson was 83% in the 2009-2010 school year, compared to 88% attendance for the 2011-2012 school year, and 94% so far this year. Suspension rates have gone down from the grand total of 385 during the last year at old Wilson, to 186 now, with only three months left in the school year. Also, parent satisfaction has gone up from 30% to 57%.

Cahall attributes this largely positive shift to the new building and environment. “When I first got here five years ago, a lot of what I saw in the classrooms was teachers lecturing and students completing worksheets. What I’ve seen more now is teachers facilitating learning. I see students interacting with one another, I see students applying their learning.” This, he says, is due to the new technology that the school offers. “It just feels like a school! The other place... just felt like a dungeon,” he says.

Whether you believe new Wilson is better or worse, change is evident. As Georgia Rochon puts it, “Everyone who went to old Wilson thinks it’s not Wilson anymore.” However, Anne Marie Torressen said that “Wilson, old, new, and at UDC, has, during my four years, been ‘what you make of it.’”

Mr. Cahall concludes that “the building says to our scholars, people, to our community that we believe in you, we respect you, we are investing in you. It has had a profound effect on our school community.”

Alumni Reflect on “Old Wilson”

“We used to do almost anything we wanted. If you weren’t blessed with the luxury of off-campus lunch, you could easily jump out a window or run out a door. I spent very few lunches in school in the 11th and 12th grade. It was very easy to skip class even with police officers and rent-a-cops patrolling every floor. I used to write all over that building—desks, doors, bathrooms, you name it. I would feel strange doing that in the new Wilson.”

- Alejo Salcedo 2010

“I remember the old school being kind of dirty. My senior year, there was a day at lunch where a fight broke out and it was Mr. Cahall’s first year and he got punched and had to go to the hospital.”

- Drew Squires 2010

“It was definitely chaotic. It was a ton of fun though. Most of the teachers were pretty relaxed but at the same time I felt like I was learning stuff. The one assignment my gym teacher gave us was to find a piece of shade because it was so hot outside.”

- Cassie Berman 2010

“The school was about 12 years old (in 1947) and it was quite new looking and we were all excited to be there. It was a couple years after WWII so there was the feeling of patriotism. We were constantly being told we were one of the top ten public high schools in America. We had to keep up the school’s reputation.”

- Damion Cordham 1950

“My favorite thing about Wilson was the freedom. You wanted to write a play and have it produced, you could. You wanted to study abroad, they would help you go. You wanted to start any club at all and you could. I wrote my first play at Wilson and no other school in the country would have let me produce a piece like that which so blatantly poked fun at teachers. If I hadn’t had that kind of creative license at such a young age, I wouldn’t be where I am today.”

- Yolanda Carney 2008

“I really liked how embracing and supportive the administration were of students. On any given day I could go to Ms. Maritano or Ms. Perry and just talk to them about anything. I could come to them on a bad day or a good day, it wouldn’t matter.”

- Frances Stephenson 2011

“Wilson didn’t have very much structure. You could sit wherever you wanted to sit and go wherever you wanted to go. It was chaotic but everyone kinda knew what they were supposed to do. Lunch was pretty crazy and whenever there was an event like a fire alarm it got a little crazy, but mostly people kinda stayed on track.”

- Jophie Frumin 2010

Lauren ReVeal and Erin Sternlieb
Junior Editors

May 3, 2013
Funding Changes for 2013-2014

Contact us

May 3, 2013

Erin Sternlieb
Junior Editor

It is clear that Wilson, a school that has 1,713 students and more than 70 teachers, and has recently gone through a $115 million renovation, requires a lot of money to maintain its operations. However, how much money, where the money goes, who determines where it goes, and whether or not it is really enough isn’t as clear.

Every year a group called the LSAT (Local School Advisory Team) made up of parents, teachers, a union representative, and a student, review and advise on the school’s budgetary matters. Over the past few years the main concern of the LSAT has been ensuring that Wilson is getting enough money for each student as enrollment increases.

In the 2011-2012 school year Wilson’s actual enrollment was 97 students over the projected number, and in the 2012-2013 school year it was 63 in over. In both these years the school only received the per-pupil funding for the projected enrollment, meaning they didn’t have the funding to hire the additional teachers for the extra students.

“Wilson has been under-funded during the past few years,” says LSAT Chairperson Betty Cavendish. Wilson hasn’t received our mandatory minimum funding allocation per student, and attempts to receive the proper funding, “to equalize,” have failed. This has made it difficult to maintain the ideal student-to-teacher ratio, which Principal Cahall says is 1:23.

Wilson’s enrollment next year is predicted to increase by 142 students from last year’s projected enrollment, and the school has been allocated $15.66 million, a $1,523,088 increase from last year, which takes into account the increased enrollment. Cahall and he believes that the enrollment prediction will be accurate, and that Wilson will receive the required per-pupil minimum ($8,739) for every student, and he plans to hire at least seven new teachers to meet the school’s needs.

DCPS breaks down the budget into smaller specific categories. The biggest portion of the budget is the enrollment-based allocation, the $8,739 the school receives for each student, which next year will be $11.33 million. Another $1.96 million goes to special education, and $680,000 to ELL (English Language Learners). The rest of the money goes into smaller sections, such as after school programs, and credit recovery.

While it might seem like Wilson has more or better resources than other DC schools, according to Principal Cahall, Wilson is “one of the lowest funded per-pupil schools in the district.” To understand why, you have to understand the system.

“All schools in DCPS, regardless of the size of the student body, require a school principal, an instructional coach position, a social worker position, an art teacher, a music teacher, a PE teacher, among other required positions,” DCPS spokesperson Melissa Salzmanwitz explained.

This means that if a school of 1,720 students and a school of 150 students both only need one similarly paid principal, the school of 150 students will cost proportionally more per student to pay for just that principal. The effect of this is that DCPS’ “funding is skewed towards supporting smaller schools,” and overall smaller schools receive more per-student than larger schools.

Deciding the amounts of money that different departmental and classes get is different. Principal Cahall looks at what teachers need to teach a course to determine this. For example, science and arts classes need more materials than other classes and often can’t reuse supplies from year to year.

The LSAT also helps provide the school with feedback from parents, teachers, and staff on what areas aren’t receiving enough funding or attention.

Despite previous budgetary problems, DCPS, Principal Cahall, and the LSAT all say that Wilson is gradually coming together and continuing to improve. They assure that Wilson “offers a curriculum that can meet the needs of students with a very diverse range of interests and at a range of levels,” and provides the fair amount of resources for every student and teacher.

Finding Floaters

Nathan Davis and Maggie Menditto
Junior Editor, News Editor

It may sound great to be a floating teacher, but in reality, it has its drawbacks. Teachers who float do not have their own classroom. They pack up their materials and move from room to room throughout the day. Since Wilson’s population has been growing, the number of teachers without a home base has as well.

Floating history teacher Michelle Bollinger says that the operation leads to some organization and transportation issues. Returning to work after packing up and moving across the hall takes time and makes class transitions more difficult.

Science teacher Lauren Simpson, also a floater, says that her students have trouble knowing where to find her and that conducting labs is more difficult moving between three different classrooms, all on different floors.

Floating math teacher Jacqueline Bellusso agrees that students don’t always know where she is and adds that is hard to have a class set of textbooks.

Despite these challenges, Bollinger says she “doesn’t mind floating if it means keeping class sizes small.”

All three of these floating teachers agreed that by rotating classrooms they were better able to socialize and communicate with other teachers.

Not Enough Physical Space

Nathan Davis
Junior Editor

The Wilson administration has estimated that the incoming freshman class for the fall 2013 semester will have approximately 500 students. Despite the recent policy change that limited admission to Wilson to those re-enrolling in Wilson’s boundary area and those attending one of Wilson’s three feeder schools, this will still be one of the biggest fresh-

man classes in recent history. Following the $115 million modernization, Assistant Principal Gregory Bargeman remains confident that Wilson “should be able to handle it.”

Spatially, the number of classrooms within the building will be increased. The administration is completely avoiding the use of trailers to accommodate the growing population. Instead, certain rooms, currently not used as classrooms, will be converted into classrooms. Additionally, larger classrooms will be divided to create double the instructional space.

The 3rd floor science lab will be converted into a classroom as well room 118, currently being used to house testing materials. The two graphic design rooms, located in the C wing, will be divided into four classrooms through the installation of divider walls. This installation will occur over the summer.

Bargeman said he does not anticipate any difference in the day to day operations of the school. To account for the larger student body, new teacher slots will be added in science, English, social studies and math. For the same reason, a new attendance counselor and a new assistant principal will be added. Class sizes are not expected to change and neither is class availability.

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Projected V. Actual Per-Pupil Funding

Projected V. Actual Enrollment

Projected Enrollment

Compiled by Erin Sternlieb and Clare Rock

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Projected V. Actual

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2013-14 predicted Wilson Population

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DCCAS Faces Teacher Cheating Scandal

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DCCAS Faces Teacher Cheating Scandal

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OPINIONS

Love and Hate in Boston

Paige Remulli  
Staff Writer

It was just a normal day, turned horrific.

That was all I could think as I watched the raw, uncensored video of the aftermath on Boylston Street, Boston. I felt so many emotions at once: horror as I watched people being pulled out from under debris, fear for friends in Boston who might have been standing near the blast, worry about possible subsequent attacks on other large cities, and anger when I thought about the perpetrators.

My mundane day was turned into a sickening day of fear too complex for anyone to understand. I rode this terrifying swirl of emotions until late Friday night when matters got even more complicated. The “perps” were, at long last, accounted for. My first instinct was to pump my fist in the air, wave an American flag, and sing praises to the FBI and Boston police—what more people were doing.

Then I found out perhaps everything I thought to know (or everything that has been released regarding the younger of the two suspects, courtesy of the FBI and my emotions turned slightly. To hate or not to hate, given the information? That was my question.

We’ve all been told from a very young age “hate is a very strong word”. But who could not have at least some hatred for the three innocent people and injured nearly two hundred others in two swaps? Who could see the carnage being played out and not feel for Boston in its time of need? What junior who had spent their spring break in that very city, walked up and down Commonwealth Avenue, adjoined to Boylston, on their way to see Boston University and Boston College, ridden the swan boats in the Public Gardens, who had imagined themselves spending four incredible years there, wasn’t deeply disturbed by the bombings? But might this very same hate have fueled the attack in the first place?

The true motives of the bombers have not been released yet and will probably not be known for some months. But we can all agree that past crimes have been committed out of hate for ethnic groups, races, religions, countries, or other unspecified groups. The key to preventing future tragedies could therefore be forgiveness.

That’s not to say we should condone the senseless violence that’s happened. But until such cooperation something hurtful, we should start forgiving something hurtful, we should start forgiving the people who have offended us. Maybe it means that we can’t live in a world of peace and tranquility without conflict, but we can try to minimize it. Maybe it could even mean just getting to know someone you normally wouldn’t talk to. These sound like inconveniences and I know they might not be an idea of a fun activity. But in light of recent events, we should all take a minute and think before we say anything.

“We can all agree that past crimes have been committed out of hate for ethnic groups, races, religions, or other unspecified groups. The key to preventing future tragedies could therefore be forgiveness.”

Drug Testing

Elias Benda  
Staff Writer

Woodrow Wilson High School and DCPS as a whole have the right to test student athletes for drug use whenever they please so they have. This has been true for high schools across the nation since a Supreme Court ruling in 1994. While Wilson and Poolesville High Schools in Illinois have considered random testing not for athletic purposes, all students involved in extracurricular activities “to deter them from using marijuana,” according to NBC News. I believe that such harsh, accusatory action would make people question the integrity of the establishment itself.

The problem with a team to test its players for drugs is most likely to check for “doping.” The New York Times quotes a scientist from the National Institute on Drug Abuse who says: “It is not possible to test for all drugs at once, but a battery of tests can locate most people’s usual choice of drugs.” But in light of recent events, these tests are not only done on high school students; the NCAAs drug testing policy for college players to “more accurately identify usage among student athletes.” And the results are important: the punishment for finding marijuana in a player’s system is the same as for finding anabolic steroids: a one year suspension. The only difference between the two is that anabolic steroids are performance enhancing drugs, while marijuana is not. The NCAA supports drug testing in college. Many athletes who seek to take advantage of the superior athletics programs that Wilson has to offer, whether they dope, smoke weed, or do nothing at all, might feel targeted and their privacy invaded. The only way these tests are ever executed, although no athletes seem to be worried about currently being tested. These tests are not only done on high school students; the NCAA test its players for drugs is most likely to check for “doping.”

The main reason for a team to test its players for drugs is most likely to check for “doping.” The New York Times quotes a scientist from the National Institute on Drug Abuse who says: “It is not possible to test for all drugs at once, but a battery of tests can locate most people’s usual choice of drugs.” But in light of recent events, these tests are not only done on high school students; the NCAA test its players for drugs is most likely to check for “doping.” The New York Times quotes a scientist from the National Institute on Drug Abuse who says: “It is not possible to test for all drugs at once, but a battery of tests can locate most people’s usual choice of drugs.” But in light of recent events, these tests are not only done on high school students; the NCAA test its players for drugs is most likely to check for “doping.” The New York Times quotes a scientist from the National Institute on Drug Abuse who says: “It is not possible to test for all drugs at once, but a battery of tests can locate most people’s usual choice of drugs.” But in light of recent events, these tests are not only done on high school students; the NCAA test its players for drugs is most likely to check for “doping.”

The same applies to us here in DCPS schools, where those who participate in sports and whose drug tests could return positive for THC or other recreational drugs, would be punished for such results. The argument for conducting these tests as a form of prevention: keeping kids from doing drugs so they don’t get in trouble, is also a fallacy. The New York Times quotes a study by Dr. Linn Goldberg from the Oregon Health and Science University which found that those who were tested and those who were not did not differ in either likely to consume drugs and alcohol. This just goes to show that the idea that schools should have the right to test their students and punish them based on the results, even if they come up positive for performance enhancing drugs, violates the trust between the student and the school.
Wilson's Dress Code for Curves

Anna Viemose
Staff Writer

Recently, I was pulled over by an administrator and told that my clothes were inappropriate. In theory, this wouldn’t have been a big issue, except that said administrator pointed out that I shouldn’t be getting in trouble if I were a “skinny little flat-chested girl.” This administrator said this in good faith, trying to be sympathetic to an issue that is obviously unfair but that they believe is just something curvy girls have to deal with. But why should they? Why should curvy or heavier people not be allowed to wear what they like?

Magazines will constantly tell you to “dress for your shape” and then proceed to have you label every single part of your body and assess exactly what kind of cut of jeans is the most flattering to your particular type of thighs. This kind of micromanaging your body is stressful and unhelpful. While schools’ dress codes are focused on making you less “disturbing,” in contrast to magazines’ advice on making you look good, they both tell you that your body type determines what you can and cannot wear.

I don’t want to choose a dress based on whether my body type is a pear or an apple or whatever other fruit they come up with next, the same way that I don’t want to choose it based on how much cleavage it’s going to show. I want to choose my outfits based on the pattern, or the style, or any other reason I have to like it; which could include that I like the way my body looks in it, but it doesn’t have to. Being a size 0 or a size 12 should not change a dress code, or even what people find provocative. Why is it that a commercial by Lane Bryant featuring a curvy woman in lingerie was deemed “too sexy” and inappropriate to be streamed on television until late at night, whereas Victoria’s Secret commercials, which are just as filled with sexy appeal, can air at any moment of the day with barely any debate? The argument here isn’t that Victoria’s Secret is too provocative, or that only curvy women are “real” women. All types of women are real, and all should be equally respected.

“I’ve been told that even though my skirts were technically acceptable, they were still too short for me to wear, and once it was suggested that I should follow a separate dress code, which my locker should end at least four inches past my fingertips, and preferably at my knees,” Lucinda Ventimiglia told the New York Times last year, saying that her school, Stuyvesant in New York, often singles out curvy students. The principal argued that although it seemed unfair, the rules were there for a reason, to keep unwanted distractions out of the classroom.

Honestly, if you think your students can’t focus in class because a girl is showing her shoulders, then that issue probably points more to the class itself than the girl. It is idiotic to instill shame in people for the way they dress; this is the kind of thinking that leads to blaming the victim and slut-shaming. The common excuse is that failure to hide female bodies is “disturbing” in a learning environment. Even if it’s true that some people will get disturbed, the blame shouldn’t be put on the “provocative” girl.

I think that sexual assault and rape can seem miles away from this problem, the kind of attitude portrayed here is one that contributes to our very misogynistic society. When you constantly put the blame on someone else, even for small things, it leads to a much larger picture in which people will be excused from crimes as serious as rape because the girl was wearing a short skirt. It is beaten into our heads from a very young age and in private and public institutions alike that this girl isn’t representing her body, and that’s why this pattern of logic is so ingrained in society.

Girls and women of all sizes and shapes go through this every day, even if they don’t think about it. Too often people wear what they wear because of society’s standards and constant commentary, not because of their own choices. Any time we try to micromanage girls’ bodies based on what’s appropriate and acceptable, we are sending out this idea of guilt. Let’s try to focus less on that and more on achieving a more accepting attitude in which everyone can feel safe, no matter their size, shape, or what they’re wearing. Physically safe, but also safe from comments, insults, and any type of blame that is cast upon someone simply for having a female body and not hiding it.

Skateboarding: Sport or Crime?

Naazin Allimmamadova
Staff Writer

NO SKATEBOARDING

These signs are posted throughout most cities, but does anyone ever see a NO FOOTBALL sign or a NO BASEBALL sign? No, because these are sports favored out most cities, but does anyone ever see a NO FOOTBALL sign or a NO BASEBALL sign? No, because these are sports favored

Skateboarding is a great way to keep teens happy and occupied. They take their stress out on the streets. Plus, it can help teach practice math, with things like 180° and 360° turns, and angles of the things they jump over. Some teens could be out getting drunk or high, but instead they decide to skate, and yet they are still considered to be doing something illegal in many places.

Sure, skateboarding has potential to damage property. Streets are sometimes waxed for grinding or doing other tricks. But don’t all sports have the potential to damage property? For example, baseballs or footballs can accidentally be thrown through windows or damage cars.

When I was biking on 39th Street, I saw the police fine some skaters $10, and then take their boards away. If kids are throwing a ball back and forth at school, or a child is playing a game of Frisbee with his father, they are not punished. This is because people who don’t know the sport feel that these activities are good for the community, where as they view skateboarding as a crime.

Some people’s first impression of skateboarders is not positive. People see a gang of kids wearing baggy clothes and immediately think “hoodlum” or “gangster.” These people fail to focus on the skills included in the sport. There are lots of different tricks involved, such as a 360° or an ollie kickflip, which take years and years of practice. Football consists of a bunch of big guys trying to hurt each other, and this is honored. When a child picks up football he is looked upon as an athlete. For example, my friend Charlie’s father told him, “You skate now and next thing we know is you a criminal!” And yet, Charlie is doing well in school. But why is it that a child picks up a skateboard, he is seen as a criminal?

Skateboarding needs to be recognized as involving skill and practice, just like any other sport. During the past few years skateboarding has been getting some positive feedback. Televising programs on channels such as MTV and ESPN are presenting skateboarding as a sport. While this acceptance is great, people still need to open their eyes and look past the public opinion, and know that skateboarding is not a crime!
The Bombing of Innocence

Eva Monroe
Staff Writer

On Monday, April 15, two bombs exploded near the finish line of the Boston Marathon, killing three people and injuring over 280. The entire metropolitan area was put on lockdown during the ensuing manhunt for the two suspects. The American populace waited on edge for new information in the five following days until the second suspect was taken into custody.

My heart goes out to the people of Boston in this time of need, confusion, and terror. During times of tragedy, time and time again we as Americans stand together in support of our fellow citizens. No one deserves to live in fear; we hope for a world in which one can go to work, go to school, or run a mara-thon without feeling threatened.

But this wish to live free of fear is not strictly an American wish. I hope that we can extend our empathy for those impacted by the events in Boston to those who suffer similar fates worldwide. Innocent citizens of most every nation have felt the same fear and sorrow that Americans do now.

In 2012, United States drones attacked Pakistan an average of once every four days. The people of Pakistan lived in a constant state of dread, terri- fied to go about their daily lives. Drone strikes come without warning, and target cars, homes, religious gatherings, and even funerals. One man stated “We are always awaiting a drone attack – we’re just waiting to hear whose house it will strike, our relatives’, our neigh-bour’s, or us. We’re just always in fear.”

Global Research reports that over the past four years 800 Pakistani civilians have been killed in drone strikes – an average of 36 innocent people for each suspected terrorist.

While Pakistan has most recently borne the brunt of US drone strikes, it is far from the only country targeted – Iraq, Yemen, Somalia, and Afghanistan have all suffered multiple strikes. The US hasn’t actually declared war on any of these countries; Congress authorized military action in Afghanistan and Iraq, but many strikes are carried out by the CIA.

Drones strikes, whether they injure innocent civilians or not, are assas-sinations without due process and thus violate Article 10 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which guarantees the right to a fair and public hearing by an independent and impartial tribunal, in the determina-tion of... any criminal charge against... It's ok if you don't know her well and I don't know if she already has a date or even if she likes me. What should I do?

You should:
1. MAN UP
2. Or woman up, idk
3. Ask. It’s not going to kill you...maybe just bruises your pride the way you sound.
4. MAN UP SAY IT WITH YOUR NONEXISTENT TEENAGE BOY CHEST.
5. If she has a date at least you tried. Grown men do these things all of the time.
6. I highly doubt she’s going to ask you to prom if you don’t ask.
7. If she says yes, think of how great of a time you will have. It’s ok if you don’t know her that well, strangers meet strangers all the time and date, and get married, or work together etc. You get the point.
8. ASK or you’ll miss your chance.

Good question. I even had to get help from my mom on this one. If your mom wants to know what you’re up to, then tell her you will make time for her once a day (like the dinner table) to share what’s going on with you, or you could try actually talking to her more. Try to think from a parent’s perspective. For most of your life you have been their baby; you have needed them to support and provide you with everything you need (food, clothing, shelter, etc.). Once your baby hits the teenage years, they start to push you away, and often only come and talk to you for money, permission, or a new tangible item (clothing, phone, computer, etc.). Parents get lonely too, and while you shut yourself up in your room or stay out late, they tend to wonder what you’re doing. They were your age once too. As long as they feel they can help and guide you through some tough years in your life and be there for you when you need them (even if you don’t KNOW you NEED them), then they will feel less like snooping.

The point is, once their need to parent you appropri-ately is met, then you can have what you want: a little room for privacy. All in all, it is going to take a LOT of maturity on your part to get what you want. The more you yell and throw tantrums, the more they will feel the NEED to parent you and oversee what you are up to. Help this helps.

These boys keep talking to me and grabbing me in the hall-ways and I don’t wanna talk to them but my friends are all friends with them and they think I’m a b*tch if I tell them to get off me. How do I get these creeps off and keep my friends?

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR ASKING THIS QUESTION! You will never be a b***ch or in its correct term, a female dog, for having SELF RESPECT and common sense. A few

Good luck!
Sports Transfers Proposal

Henry's Take
Henry Shuddiner  
Junior Editor

Earlier this month, the District of Columbia State Athletic Association (DCSAA) announced a proposal “that would force transferring students in the District to sit out a year before competing in athletic competition at their new school,” according to The Washington Post.

What this means is that students who wanted to transfer from one school to another would not be eligible to play until a calendar year after they transferred to their new school, unless they received special permission from DCSAA. Currently, student athletes are allowed to participate in a sport upon transferring, as long as they meet the required criteria to play.

This new proposal has ups and downs, as I see it.

First of all, it makes it almost impossible for schools to be the "powerhouses" of certain sports that they are now. Examples of these are Dunbar as the powerhouse for football, Wilson for baseball, and Coolidge for basketball. Kids from all over the city have transferred to different schools and want to play a sport there. With the new rule implemented, kids are a lot less likely to transfer because they want to play, and the proposal makes it so that they have to wait.

Another good thing about the proposal is that it encourages academics to take priority over athletics. Students who are going to a good academic school shouldn't just leave for a school that offers a worse education but better athletic programs. If students are required to sit out a year before playing, they are less likely to leave the better school or better education.

This proposal also has some downsides. One example of its shortcomings is that the proposal will apply to seniors. The rule states that anyone who transfers has to sit out a year, but seniors don't have a year to sit out, unless they repeat the grade. If a student (senior) is trying to be recruited to play in college, but his school doesn't offer a very rigorous athletic schedule or opportunity for recruitment, I don't believe the student should be penalized for transferring to a school that would increase the chance of his or her recruitment.

Overall, I think that the proposal is a very good one and is likely to pass. Currently, the proposal is in a "30-day period where the public can comment, and the DCSAA will consider the feedback before a final decision is made," says The Washington Post. If you want more information on the proposal, be sure to look at The Washington Post's April 5th article by Roman Stubbs.

Girls Lax Attacks

Ben Gutman  
Staff Writer

The Wilson girls varsity lacrosse team has reached the midpoint in an extremely successful 2012-13 season. The Tigers have fended off rivals like School Without Walls and GDS in suspenseful fashion, including a 15-14 triple overtime victory against GDS.

"The GDS win really propelled our team in the right direction for the rest of the season," said Junior Emma Lally. Wilson girls lacrosse has steadily improved over the past few seasons. The addition of new coach Kerry O’Donnell has lifted the team to new heights.

"Playing on varsity is a big commitment, but we’ve had a great season led by a motivational new coach," said sophomore Kate Stokes. The intensity level has increased dramatically for this new Tiger team. Practices are held every day after school until 6:00 pm, and several mornings every week beginning at 6:15 am.

"I’m really happy with how our team has progressed, especially the dedication and commitment all the girls have put in," said Junior Eileen Conner. Wilson’s current record stands at 5 wins and 4 losses.

Key victories have come against Mount Vernon, NWL, and GDS early in the season, along with a dominant 21-11 victory against Eleanor Roosevelt on April 16th. "I think we have all seen a tremendous amount of improvement and a bright future exists for Wilson girls lacrosse," said sophomore May Albee.

Sports Round Up

Girls

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Varsity Softball</th>
<th>Varsity Lacrosse</th>
<th>JV Lacrosse</th>
<th>Varsity Tennis</th>
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Boys

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<th>Varsity Baseball</th>
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Wilson Baseball

Will this be the year?

Michael Knapp
Staff Writer

Over the last 20 years no sports team has been more dominant at Wilson, or really in the DCSAA, than the Wilson varsity baseball team. This is hardly a debate considering that in those 20 years Wilson has won the DCIAA championship and, at least in recent memory, it has never been too closely matched.

Despite all the success the team has had within their conference, they still have yet to win the DC championship against the winner of the private school championship at Nationals stadium. They have had a series of close games in which one or two plays made the difference between winning and having to wait another year to play for the title.

Although Wilson is part of the DCIAA, they have dealt with the same team, conference and relative ease in recent years. For this reason, they have always played an intense out of conference schedule to prepare them for the city championship.

This year is no exception. "This is the most rigorous schedule we have had in a long time," said senior co-captain and starting second baseman, Noah Lipshie. He also wrote in an email, "We have played some of the top teams around the area, as four teams we have played have been ranked Top 10 by The Washington Post when we played them. Our key wins were against Landon, Bullis, Pallotti and Gonzaga. We have also had some very close, hard fought games against Maret (Sect 1-0) and Potomac ( Sect 2-0)."

Winning the city championship is the ultimate goal for the team, but the season cannot be determined by the outcome of one game. "If we lose the city championship the season is not a failure," said junior and third baseman Scott Beemle. "That one game does not define us, but obviously we are going to go out there and try to win the first one for Wilson."

While it is true that one game does not define the team, their confidence is running higher than ever with Coach James Silk in his second season as Varisty Head Coach. According to Kellogg, it was a messy affair which made it all the more fun for participants who were thinking outside of the box. "The especially expresive few didn't stop with the bars but continued painting on their faces. Those who didn't paint the tunnel went for a splash in the Wilson pool."

The evening wrapped up with a movie back at Wilson and a good night's rest snuggled up blankets and sleeping bags in the black box theater. By the light of the morning sun bags in the black box theater.

Staff Writer

In the Washington Post's All Met Winter issue, Wilson girls track and field coach Dunham was honored as the "Indoor Track Coach of the Year." The honor comes after an encore in which Wilson’s girls team won their first DCIAA Indoor Track title in 10 years, and followed that with a win against both public and private schools for Wilson's first DCIAA title.

Coach Dunham is in his first year at Wilson, but has been coaching at one of the top high school girls teams in the country. His team recorded 17 national championships, three Penn Relays titles, and two national invitational titles under his leadership. He came into Wilson as a recognized coach and has been able to successfully transform the team.

"We are heading in the right direction," said Dunham. "We are here for fun, we are working hard, and getting results," which is certainly true. Wilson became the first public school team in the country to win a DCIAA title in any sport, after closely beating Georgetown Visitation and Dunbar.

Margaret Kellogg, a sophomore member of the girls indoor track team, said, "Coach Dunham really deserved the All Met honor. He has totally transformed the running environment at Wilson." Dunham has been able to improve the team and make the athletes stronger, more organized, and increasingly dedicated. In addition, he's brought a new coaching style to the team. "I like to be a leader, role model, disciplinarian when necessary, and to be a knowledgeable coach for them," said Dunham. "It's all about the team and family as it pertains to the sport and life."

Senior Maddy Conover noted, "He has made a huge impact and completely turned the team around. My teammates and I have all improved immensely because of his experience coaching, his knowledge, and passion for the sport. He has reworked the Wilson Lady Tigers Track legacy."

In the coming seasons, Coach Dunham hopes to completely change the entire culture of the team. In the words of Kellogg, "He really put the team on track."
The sun is shining, the flowers are blooming and you are dying to enjoy the warm weather! What's the best thing to do? Walk around and explore your own city! But what makes it more fun is to spend time with family and friends! So get started by checking these cool places out!

**Rockland’s BBQ**
This restaurant is probably one of the best BBQ places in DC. It is really a great spot to go out for lunch on a sunny weekend. It is best known for its delicious ribs. So go check this place out. It is not expensive and you will leave the place happy and satisfied. It is located on 2418 Wisconsin Ave, Washington, DC.

**O Street Mansion**
Located in 200 O St NW, Washington, DC. This is the most amazing place yet! This so called mansion looks like an ordinary house from the outside, but on the inside it is a neverending maze. If you feel adventurous stop by and visit the place. It has over 100 rooms and 32 secret doors, many of them are disguised as furniture and mirrors that lead to secret rooms!

**Booeymongers**
It’s in 3265 Prospect St NW (between Potomac St & N Wisconsin Ave) Washington, DC 20007 in Georgetown. It is a very casual and cheap place. It is a fun place to hang out with friends during the week and weekend so stop by and enjoy the most delicious sandwich you ever tasted!

**Thomas Sweets and Jetties**
Two of my favorite ice-cream places in DC. They both have homemade ice cream. They are very delightful places to go with a bunch of friends to grab something sweet to eat! Both places are very affordable, and only accept cash! Since the weather is getting a lot warmer you can start thinking of walking your way to Jetties, located in 3708 Macomb St NW, Washington, DC or take the 30s bus once again and you will arrive there in no time! You can also walk around Georgetown and conveniently stop by Thomas Sweets, located on 3214 P St NW, Washington.

**The Insanity of Scary Movie 5**
Jackson Ross  
Staff Writer
I came into the abyssal Regal Bethesda 10 theater not expecting Scary Movie 5 to be any good. Whatever, I thought. It could be a fun thing to see. I brought a friend along who was also curious.

Then I realized I had forgotten my wallet. My friend luckily had enough money to pay for both of us. Nobody was to look at our ticket, so we were about to look through the right theater, we were stopped by the faintly hoarse voice of the wheelchair-bound woman asking us to show someone our tickets. After talking to a random employee, we walked down the darkly lit halls of this wreck of a theater, finding the sign that said “Scary Movie 5”. Including us, the movie started with only five or six people seated.

After all we had been through, the movie had to be good comparison, right? At least passable?

No. Scary Movie 5 was one of the worst movies I have ever seen. The only thing that kept it from being one of the worst experiences of my life in general was knowing I had my friend to share it with.

It starts off with the reigning King and Queen of have been, Charlie Sheen and Lindsay Lohan, preparing for a night of passion with handheld video cameras. The scene, filled with cheap and obvious gags about their respective habits that the media has created banzazas about, was a tasteless and milked sex scene set to the tune of “Yakety Sax.”

But this being a “scary movie,” some sort of demon sends each of them flying across the room until Lohan is possessed by it and kills Sheen, never to be seen again for the rest of the movie. The presence of those two illumines the kind of idea the movie was going for. Let’s take A) A formerly talent star making stupid “jokes” that only eleven year olds with negligent parents would find funny, or B) A famously acclaimed movie and

**Booeymongers**

**Rockland’s BBQ**

**O Street Mansion**

**Booeymongers**

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**Rockland’s BBQ**

**O Street Mansion**

**Booeymongers**
ISS Rise While Total Suspensions Fall

continued from pg 9

Mr. Cahall agrees that sometimes suspension hurts more than it helps. “Often, part of the problem is that students are acting out because they are behind or have some kind of skill deficit. They act out to get attention and show that they’re behind. These kids are already struggling, so suspension sometimes just perpetuates the deficit.”

Students returning from suspension, along with their parents, meet with a dean to discuss how to avoid the same issues in the future. And they often are assigned additional appointments with counselors. “We don’t want to just slap a consequence on a behavior, we want to solve a problem,” says Mr. Cahall. “Counselors discuss with scholars why they’re there, what the root of the problem is, what could’ve been done differently.”

As for whether suspension prevents future infractions, a student who was suspended for seven days last year said, “Well, in my case [suspension] did [work]. I’m not gonna say it works in other cases because I just don’t know.” Dean Williams believes that students who are suspended won’t want to repeat the experience because they’re missing out on fun times at school. “School is the place people want to be—it’s where your friends are, your activities, your extracurriculars. It’s where your best times are. When you’re suspended, you’re not able to be in the place you want to be.”

Whatever the infraction, Mr. Cahall believes that students can learn from their mistakes. “When you expect young people to behave, they rise to the occasion. I expect a lot from our young people. Are they going to make mistakes? Yes, we all do. It’s all part of the learning process.”

In School Suspensions by End of March

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FEATURES

ARTS

Spring Trends

The one way we can tell that spring is in the air is by seeing the blossoming of flowers around us. The rich colors of flowers are a sure sign that the happy times of summer are near. But flowers blooming outside are not the only flowers we are seeing as a sign of spring; flowers are in school! No, I am not saying Wilson has become a freak accident botanical garden, I am talking about the abundance of floral patterns being seen in the halls. It seems that the happiness we all see from the bloom of flowers has translated into our clothes, the array of multicolor patterns have been seen styled differently by all students. Floral patterns seem to appear the essential closet item for the spring, the one thing you need to rid your wardrobe of the boring colors of winter. The favorite way to wear this trend is definitely the floral leggings (it’s like your leg is one big bushel of flowers) and also any patterns that have bright colorful flowers. So as the school year comes to a close let’s continue to see the signs of a bright summer both outside and inside school.

Week of Outfits

Monjae Edmonds

Photos by Clare Rock

May 3, 2013

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What is the weirdest thing someone has said or done on the metro?

“Nice gauges”
Zetis Nauven, 9

“Get off the train!”
Frankie Edwards, 9

“Aye girl... I’m tryna put a baby in you”
Cymbal McGee-Byrd, 12

“Do you have some weed?”
Micah Harris, 12

“I’m tryna go into fever”
Rob Gill, 10
Cornelius Jones, 11
Johnny Coles, 10
Nijewel Avery, 10

“Do you got an extra diaper?”
Will Carson, 12

“*Wearing a Wilson sweatshirt* Do you go to Woodrow Woodson?”
Ebony Miller, 11
Ariel Pierce, 11
Yeme Tadesse, 11
Ryan McKeithan, 11

“Do you want a free squirrel?”
Reuben Dubester, 9

“A homeless man once said ‘I bet you’re going to be something sexy for Halloween’”
Ingrid Fekete, 9

“A man was asking for some money and he got up and started to dance on the pole and said ‘I will dance for you for money.’ Then he started to take his clothes off and I left.”
Tymara Burton, 11

“Listening to a cowboy flautist perform”
Lillie Lainoff, 12
Christian Haile, 12

“Grown man wanted to sniff my neck for my cologne scent”
Devin Rivera Ozuna, 10

“Guy with alcohol strapped to his chest was trying to sell it to us”
Sasha Hallman, 9
Elizabeth Seablan, 9