

# HAPPY HALLOWEEN

BY: Cameron Costello

This year’s Halloween was a spooky one. From elementary costume parades, to Halloween skits from the high school kids, to trick or treating, once again, the student council members surprised us with an awesome theme, *Snow White and the Seven Dwarves!*

The student council members paraded all elementary kids around the school in their costumes. Parents came and took pictures of their kids in their costumes and watched the kids walk around the auditorium. You could definitely see the eagerness and excitement in the kids’ faces for trick or treating later in the day!

The elementary kids weren’t the only ones to dress up; the high school did, too! The students dressed up later that night for their themes and skits. The freshmen had a theme of Pokémon Go, the sophomores did the Roaring 20s, the juniors threw a birthday party, and the seniors dressed up as characters from the Wizard of Oz. Along with these awesome themes, there were some hilarious skits. For their skits, the freshmen put on a “Socks vs. Greasers Rock, Paper, Scissors throw down,” the sophomores did their version of “Substitute Teacher,” the juniors put on “Better than the Best.” After all of this, the seniors finally performed their take on “Project Runway!”

After a whole day of creativity, the disguised judges decided the winners for the themes and skits. The sophomore class won first place for the theme with the Roaring 20s! The final winner for the skit was the juniors! Halloween was a complete success.

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## STUDENTS PROVIDED WITH YOUTH SUMMIT OPPORTUNITY

By: Lizzie Stephens & Maggie Ploufe

On October 11, 2016, Mrs. Cassidy brought a group of seven juniors and five freshmen to a "Youth Leadership Conference" at SUNY Plattsburgh. The groups were joined by many surrounding schools. The students participated in various activities focusing on team-building, bully prevention, and acceptance. They also sat patiently through a few lectures, that, though were aimed at younger children and were rather boring, the overall message they presented was beneficial.

Mrs. Cassidy's overall vision for our group of participants is to create a team of peer counselors who she will train to aid our fellow students. Eventually she would like them to be able to solve small problems within the school, such as miniscule disputes between friends or counseling someone through a hard time they are experiencing. To accomplish this goal of creating mediators, the group will receive training in sensitivity, and will learn how to handle situations involving suicide, depression, and anxiety.

Team building is crucial for the success of the group. It is important for them to work together to be able to help others. Mrs. Cassidy would like to go on a group bonding trip with the students to better understand themselves and the people surrounding them.

Some focal points for the group will include unity and acceptance, and also inclusion of all students. Eventually she would like to have a monthly theme including these main topics.

Hopefully, the group will get up and going and be able to strengthen our school and community in these ways.



## SPORTS WRAP-UP

### BOYS' VARSITY

Record: 6-9-2

By: Blake Liberi

After having an exhilarating 2015 season as Sectional VII Champions, Regional Champions, and State Finalists, this young Griffin's team had very high expectations. They started off the season with a tie against Chazy 1-1, showing that they can compete with these strong teams in Section VII. With an injury to the reigning League MVP, Joel Morris, they struggled down the stretch, with losses being handed to them by many teams. They ended their season with 2 wins: beating Seton 6-1, and Crown Point 8-1. With this Griffin's team ending up the 5th seed in Sectionals, they went to Newcomb to face Minerva/Newcomb in the Sectional's quarterfinals. With an outstanding 2-1 win in overtime, they went on to face the #2 best team in Class D—Chazy. They took a heartbreaking 2-0 loss, which ended the Griffin's season early. Look out for this young team to be a force in Section VII in the future.



### TOP 5 SCORERS

- 1: Joel Morris (SR.) – 12
- 2: Hudson Stephens (So) – 5
- 3: Sam Huttig (SR) – 5
- 4: Blake Liberi (FR.) – 4
- 5: Wyatt Gough (SR.) – 4

### GIRLS' VARSITY

Record: 7-6-1

As this years' Girls' varsity came into the season with a minimal 11 girls on the team, their hopes were not too high, as every girl would be playing every minute. But with three mid-season additions, they propelled to a 6-5-1 record at the end of the regular season. Taylor Gough, the league's 2nd top scorer, embodied this years' offense, scoring a whopping 24 goals. The defense was led by Hannah Schwoebel at the sweeper position, and Malynda Lobdell in goal. As they ended their regular season on a 5- game winning streak, their Sectional's hope was extremely high. With a win against Johnsburg in the Sectional quarterfinals 7-0, they had some adrenaline going into the Sectional semi-finals. They were stunned with a loss to Moriah 4-2. This ended their season on a low, but they will be back next year with a lot of hope to make a State Final push.



### TOP 5 SCORERS

- 1: Taylor Gough (JR.) – 24
- 2: Ellie Storey (JR.) – 6
- 3: Anna Burdo (8th) – 5
- 4: Tess Andrade (SR.) – 3
- 5: Chloe Mitchell (SR.) – 3



## ROOT, ROOT, ROOT FOR THE HOME TEAM!

"The Dodgefathers" destroy opposition in Westport Dodgeball tournament.

By : Peter Vaiciulis

Inside the crowded Westport Central School gymnasium roars a crowd full of verve. The air is electric. The first match of the tournament was a showcase of "The Dodgefather's" abilities. With the marksman-like precision the players possess, the players decimate the team with ease.

The annual Westport Dodgeball tournament was a real hullabaloo. A double elimination – where a team has to lose twice to be eliminated- was the tournament design of choice. A number of teams showed up to the adult league to show off their own skills, but none would prove a match for "The Dodgefathers", a team consisting of Peter Vaiciulis, Cody Roy, William James Napper, Abby Mero, Kaeli Brack, and Laura Napper.

From the very beginning, there was great tenseness between two teams: underdogs, "The Dodgefathers", and last year's lucky winners "Balls Deep" (Wyatt Gough, Joel Morris, Hudson Stephens, Elizabeth Stephens, Taylor Gough, Hannah Schoewbel). Though the teams refused to admit either was better than the others, it was very obvious that the crowd greatly favored "The Dodgefathers".

"The Dodgefathers," even with home field advantage, narrowly lost one match to "Balls Deep", sinking them into the loser's bracket temporarily. They managed, however, to climb their way through the muck and make their way back to the championship match against "Balls Deep". With one loss already on their shoulders, the pressure was on "The Dodgefathers". "The Dodgefathers," of course, managed to beat "Balls Deep" into submission by their betters in their second matchup. The third match was a repeat of humiliating defeat for "Balls Deep", anointing "The Dodgefathers" as rightful and righteous 2016 Westport Dodgeball Invitational League Championship Winners.



**Pictured:**

Dodgeball  
Champ *Cody  
Roy*

## BECOME A STUDENT REP!

By: Annette Stephens & Taylor Gough

The WPTSO is looking for student representatives. As a student rep., Chloe Mitchell filled us in on life within the WPTSO community. Her main job entails communication from the students to the organization members. She also works hard at informing the students about the organization's ideas. A positive feature of being part of the WPTSO is having a voice during the meetings and having her opinion and ideas taken into consideration. Her input is weighted nicely as the other members enjoy hearing a student's perspective. Since the other members don't know what appeals to students, Chloe generously provides crucial information on what is "hip." From the WPTSO's president's point of view, Jess Storey, student reps. are extremely helpful in getting the word out regarding events and balancing the student-teacher-parent idea ratio. Chloe's motivation to join stemmed from the idea that it's a cool organization that is rare in many schools, and that it's nice to be part of something as successful as the WPTSO. She would highly recommend other students join, as would Jess Storey, stating that all students are welcome.

If you're interested in becoming a student representative, all of the information can be found on their website at <http://www.wptso.com/>.



## FLY LIKE AN EAGLE!

By: Annette Stephens and Taylor Gough

As many of you may know, the Westport Parent Teacher Student Organization (WPTSO) is preparing for their fifth annual 5k Fun Run! Since the majority of students partake in the run, we took the liberty to ask about what the upcoming race entails.

Jess Storey, the WPTSO president, gave us a great inside scoop on the event setup. The topic that had the most interest was the sponsorship from Fleet Feet. According to Storey, the popularity of Fleet Feet Sports will spark attention but not change the setup and atmosphere of the race. The atmosphere is family oriented as the course is designed for safety. The organization wants to keep the run a community event, while maintaining a reasonable size. The event grows each year and is one of the WPTSO's biggest fundraisers. The course route is similar to last year, as is the pancake breakfast. There will be two routes offered: a 5k course and a 1k course.

The race will take place on Saturday, November 19th, at 9:00; registration will start at 8:00 in the school the morning of, or pre-register online at [www.finishright.com](http://www.finishright.com). The cost for student runners is \$10, adults is \$20, with a family max of \$45. The pancake breakfast is free for runners and \$8 for non-runners. If you wish to be a volunteer, you can sign up outside of Mrs. Loher's room.

## WESTPORT AWAKENS

By: Hudson Stephens

Westport English teacher, Mr. Ryan Campagna, has provided his senior class with an opportunity to enlighten our student body and faculty with a weekly news update referred to as "Wake up Westport." An ambitious and tedious project, this year's seniors hope to keep the school informed on all of the happenings and news each week. In an interview with Mr. Campagna we were told that the purpose of newsroom is to allow high school students to create their own environment and to prepare them for the real world. Campagna expressed very clear emotions about his classes' awesome ability to "vomit" up information. We are pretty sure he meant that his class is great at doing what they're told, but not so great at taking matters into their own hands and coming up with their own ideas. He stated that the 12th grade is already improving in their abilities to work independently and will continue to grow as a group. To our utter surprise, Campagna also provided us with his best and most prepared newsroom members, who turned out to be Chloe Mitchell and Mattea Viens.

In an interview with WCS senior and renowned student council rep, Cameron Joseph Costello, we were provided with his input towards this year's newsroom. Costello proclaimed that working as a class to make videos was both interesting (sometimes) and occasionally stressful. Ironically, in contrast to the photo, Costello says his favorite part of newsroom is getting to dress up. Costello informed us that he is most concerned with impressing WCS principal, Mr. Joshua Meyer, and that if he could interview any person in our school it would be our brand new superintendent Mr. Scott Osborne.



In a more negative interview with senior and sport analyst, Schylar Kurth, we were told that in the future, newsroom would be going primarily downhill. Campagna responded to this vulgar prediction by explaining that newsroom is merely a reflection on them as a class, and that they need to become productive adults. Kurth provided his least favorite part of newsroom, which turned out to be filming, and exclaimed that Mr. Campagna, while an excellent teacher, can sometimes be strict and intense. Mr. Campagna would like the school to know that the newsroom is a process and a learning experience, and that it's been very difficult for him to give up control of his room. He would also like the school to know that he is often times harassed by his peers and belittled by fellow members of the English department. Despite "Wake up Westport" stealing some of our newspaper's publicity and work on our turf, we are excitedly anticipating their next edition.

## ALL AROUND ILL STYLE AND PEACE PRODUCTIONS (ISAPP)

By: Peter Vaicuilis

Alright, today I have something of intrigue to bring to all of our readers. This one is for those of you whom were not associated with the trip to The Lake Placid Center for the Arts, or present at ISAPP's 8:30 pm showing.

To begin, ISAPP is a popular group of people who preform as educators and dancers, and role models. ISAPP specializes in the "hip-hop" style of dance, and on October 7, 2016 the group came to the Lake Placid Center to perform for



members of our school, among other folks.



(Above) Members of ISAPP dance on stage while in costume.

(Left) A photo shows the group in the midst of an intense dance routine

The presentation some of us witnessed in Lake Placid was mostly styled around education. The dancers used visual aids to teach members of WCS and other schools about styles of dance such as "popping", "locking", and "breaking". Their routines were exciting, one might say they got the blood pumping, and they did not fail to sprinkle aspects of humor throughout their presentation all. I am sure many of you will make the right decision and attend ISAPP's next production, wherever it may be.