



# The High School View

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## Powder puff fuels power struggle

By Taylor Smith and Naomi Pallas

Contrary to the cheers and celebration that usually follow a sporting team's victory, conflict erupted on the football field last Wednesday evening. What began as the annual Powder Puff flag-football game between junior and senior girls developed into a brawl of physical and verbal attacks.

The game itself was a close one, as it has been in the past. This year, junior quarterback Molly Fischer scored the first touchdown midway through the first half of the game, giving the junior team a 6-0 lead at the half. The seniors staged a comeback in the second half. Their team, led by quarterback Olivia Gross, went ahead 7-6 after a touchdown run by Brianna Davies.

The score remained the same throughout the majority of the second half. However, the juniors won the game when Molly Fischer completed a touchdown pass to Jillian Seidler.

During the week prior to the



PHOTO BY TAYLOR SMITH

Molly Fischer runs with the ball, followed by senior Abby Entner.

game, participants prepared themselves physically with after-school practices, but some prepared mentally by degrading the players of the opposing team. Many of the junior and senior girls had pre-existing tension, but the outcome of the game was unexpected.

As the junior girls formed their huddle in celebration, the senior

girls charged. "It's hard to know exactly what started it," said one senior girl who wishes to remain anonymous. "People were getting tripped and thrown to the ground. Then name-calling began. Socially, a few juniors and seniors don't like each other and when you put them in that situation, it's an excuse to let our feelings out."

"It got way out of hand," said Olivia. "I saw a senior girl get mauled by the juniors."

Not all the students entered the fray. "I thought we should have been the bigger team and walked away," said Olivia.

On Thursday morning, the announcement "Will all junior and senior girls who participated in the Powder Puff game please report to the cafeteria," blared over the school speakers.

The girls were given a talk by assistant principals Neil Weaver and Carlin Hart about the consequences they would face if there was any continued conflict having to do with the game. Students were told that if anyone threatened each other in any way, they would get suspended for 10 days.

## Students rally their pep



PHOTO BY NINA LEVIN

Juniors applaud their classmates as they compete against the other grades in activities such as tug-of-war and three-legged races during the high school pep rally last Friday. This was one of many events of Spirit Week, the school week preceding the Homecoming game and dance.

## Applications sent, students wait to know the future

By Maggie Howard

The future is coming, though with agonizing slowness, according to many seniors waiting to hear the acceptance or rejection from the colleges of their dreams.

Senior Alex Roan applied for early decision to Eugene Lang College: The New School for Liberal Arts. "I thought it was going to be easy. I was wrong," said Alex about the application process. He applied early because of his satisfaction with the programs that are offered. "The school is everything I could ever want," said Alex. Eugene Lang College is located in Manhattan, New York, and is his first choice school. His older sister is also a student there.

When a student is accepted to a school through early decision, their admission is binding. When applying for early decision, students have to be sure that the school is where they want to go for the next four years, and that they can pay for it because if they are accepted then they must attend regardless of financial situation or other inconveniences. Students who decide to apply with early de-



Illustration by Naomi Scott

cision will receive a notification of acceptance or rejection by December or January.

Senior Abby Larsen applied for early action to Roger Williams University, the University of Rhode Island, University of Mass. Dartmouth, and the University of New Hampshire. "I applied early action, which is not binding. It just let's me know if I'm accepted a few months earlier," said Abby. "I was really stressing when I was applying early. I waited a little too long, so I felt like I was doing it at the

last minute."

Students begin preparing for life after high school a year before the application process even begins.

"Junior year we try to come up with general guidelines that we'll do for all the kids," said guidance counselor John Fiorito. "I think that everyone should have a 'reach' school. No one knows 100 percent if they're going to get in or not. It seems like more kids were interested in early ac-

tion and early decision this year. It seems like early action was really prevalent."

Regular decision students do not know which schools have accepted them until March or April. The option of applying regular decision increases the competition between applicants nationally and internationally.

Regarding early decision, Mr. Fiorito said, "I believe it's an individual choice that's unique to each student."

## Musicians audition for All Cape

By Emily Goldthwait and Liam McCarthy

Vocalists and instrumentalists shared interests, talents, and an afternoon together immersing themselves in music.

Students who participate in chorus, orchestra, jazz band, and band auditioned for the All Cape & Islands Music Festival, Wednesday in Falmouth. This year 11 students from the regional high school auditioned and were selected.

The students all auditioned with the same music and will participate in the All Cape concert in February, in Barnstable.

The participants practiced for many hours in order to prepare themselves for the audition. High school performing arts coordinator Janis Wightman and music teacher Michael Tinus help prepare the students with musical advice. "Some students rehearse in preparation for the group rehearsals with private teachers. I also work with them in class and after school," said Ms. Wightman.

"It's great for kids to play in an ensemble that's larger than what we're used to. Just the chorus has 150 kids," Ms. Wightman said. The All Cape & Islands Music Festival

is not only a new experience in terms of the size and talent for the kids from our school, but also in the repertoire of instruments. Well-known college conductors also participate in the festival. "It's a commitment. You need to make sure you can be there. Not many kids are interested in that kind of experience," said Ms. Wightman.

There are no rivalries between schools at the festival, which is an anomaly in the world of most high school students. "It's good with Nantucket because we have such a rivalry in everything except for music," said Ms. Wightman.

Not only do the students have the opportunity to further their talents, they also interact well with each other and meet people who share the same interests as they do.

"We warmed up with kids from Falmouth and they were nice. I hope to make friends with them in the future," said freshman choral student Megan Mendenhall.

Typically, students who participate in All Cape form friendships over their enthusiasm to be sharing something they truly love to do.

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