

BROADSIDE

HANOVER HIGH SCHOOL



The Boys Bathroom behind the pit remains closed while the girls bathroom is open. Photo: Caleb Benjamin ('19)

Senior Boys Outraged by Closing of Pit Bathroom

By: Caleb Benjamin ('19)

The boys bathroom behind the senior pit has been closed for the last two weeks. Principal Campbell stated that he decided to close the bathroom due to repeated instances of vaping in the bathroom by students of all classes. This comes as the first time the bathroom has been closed this year. For the most part, the bathrooms behind the pit have been open for the past three to four years, though before that they were almost never open.

The closing also comes just as new data released from the National Institute on Drug Abuse indicated that approximately 37% of High School Seniors in a survey of over 45,000 students responded they had used an e-cigarette in the previous year, a 9 percent increase from 2017.

In an interview, Principal Campbell discussed why the bathroom was closed. He stated that staff and students had reported people vaping in the bathroom and that so far the reports had for the most part been confirmed. What has caught people's attention is students going in and out of the bathroom repeatedly within a short period of time and

in large groups. Principal Campbell added that this has been a persistent problem all year and that "Running repeatedly to bathrooms to deal with people vaping is something we [the administration] have neither the time or interest in doing." Principal Campbell also noted that vaping is illegal for most of the student population and can't occur on school grounds and that his goal is just to have safe school and bathrooms. Ms. Stevenson, the Dean of Students, added that the administration just can't look the other way in this scenario.

Nonetheless, many Senior boys have taken issue with the closing of the bathroom because it is the most convenient bathroom for them. Senior Deveon Martin said that he thinks it should be reopened because he doesn't want to walk all the way to the gym to go to the bathroom. Senior Sam Gallimore echoed a similar sentiment when discussing the issue and added that he feared retribution for leaving class for too long: "I actually just have to pee and I think a number of people at HHS are experiencing the same problem. I'm going to have to leave the woodshop to go to the

Upcoming Events

December 24 - January 1: Holiday Break

Exam Week Schedule:
Monday 1/14 - Social Studies
Tuesday 1/15 - Math
Wednesday 1/16 - English
Thursday 1/17 - Foreign Language
Friday 1/18 - Science

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Compost Committee Switches Compost Companies

By: Alice Rodi ('21)

Hanover High School's eco-friendly nature has driven the establishment of the Environmental Club -- a student run group which meets on Mondays during activity period, and which was initiated with the intent of spreading awareness of environment-related issues.

The club created a subsection known as the compost committee, headed by Trevor Siegel ('20), Matt Bonner ('20), and Leila Trummel ('19). The Broadside interviewed Siegel via email, and gathered insight on this group of 25 students that meet every Tuesday and Friday.

The committee "is another part of the Environmental Club", which "runs both the recycling and composting programs at HHS," explained Siegel. The original compost company the subsection began working with "about 5 years ago" was "an independent company out of Bradford." Recently, however, the group made the switch to "Grow Compost of Vermont, out of Waterbury."

Recently, around Hanover high school, there has been lots of discussion surrounding this change.

Council Addresses Returning Issues of DSB/CPP Bylaw Revision and Religious Holidays Ad Hoc Motion (Council Update - 12/12/2018)

By: Caleb Benjamin ('19)

This past week's Council meeting was headlined by the return of the DSB/CPP Bylaw Revision and the Religious Holidays Ad Hoc Motion. The first of these two issues to be discussed was the bylaw revision.

Teacher Representative Mr. Bourne began the discussion by saying that he thought that both jobs are actually pretty big commitments and so the two positions shouldn't be combined but that the idea of opening up CPP Rep. to election is a good idea. He also noted that in past years there have been problems with attendance for CPP Rep. so it might be a good idea to keep them accountable through elections. Freshman Rep. James Kirkpatrick then moved to refer it back to Curriculum committee, reasoning that Curriculum committee could probably handle it and the motion would benefit from some re-working as the add on CPP election seemed more popular than the plan of merging the two positions. The motion passed and the motion was referred back to Curriculum committee.

Sophomore Rep. Noah Phipps explained the Religious Holidays Ad Hoc Motion as one of the chairs of Curriculum Committee. Rep. Phipps explained that Curriculum committee

is very busy so the committee wouldn't be able to discuss the religious holidays motion until at least after break. He also added that the committee believes the issue should be open to the entire school. DSB Rep. Oliver Minshall added to this that they considered giving it to another committee but determined that an ad hoc committee would be more effective. Rep. Minshall also stated that the committee wanted people to be involved in this from council, the community, the staff, administration, and the high school. The motion passed and an ad hoc committee will be created.

Council also dealt with some other smaller issues during the meeting. Secretary Iroha Shirai announced that she is graduating early to do volunteer work in Japan during the spring so nominations for the Secretary position for the spring are open. During the meeting, eight students were nominated and elections are going to be held at the coming meeting.

The last item on the agenda was a quick discussion surrounding the Council election process. Sophomore Rep. Ellie Stannard explained the subject of the discussion. Brought by the Organizational Engineering Committee(OEC),

Rep. Stannard discussed how in the past few years Council had to run extra elections for alternates because classes were electing so many at-large representatives. Sophomore Rep. Sage McGinley-Smith explained that she thinks the issue this year was that so many people ran from the same class that the Junior class' votes were divided more than the Sophomore class which had fewer candidates so the Sophomores got more votes. Rep. McGinley-Smith then suggested maybe dividing it so each class has a certain number of at-large members. DSB Rep. Minshall disagreed, arguing that taking spots away from at-large and adding them to classes would have the practical effect of decreasing the number of staff that could participate in council. Junior Rep. Hayden Christensen suggested that Council might change the meaning of at-large so people would run either for schoolwide positions or just for the class representative positions. Co-Treasurer Tessa Stewart agreed, saying that it is impossible for students to both represent their class and the school, so maybe separate elections for schoolwide positions and class representative positions is a good idea.

Dr. Badams Explains Snow Day Protocol and Board Discusses Drainage Project (DSB Report - November 2018)

By: Oliver Minshall ('19)

The Dresden School Board met for their November meeting on November 27th, 2018. The first item on the agenda was to accept three exceedingly generous gifts from the Byrne foundation. Totalling \$47,000, the gift included funding for March Intensives at HHS, RMS to attend a national Quiz Bowl tournament. and funding for Model United Nations.

Next, the board reviewed a request for quotation for some work at HHS. Quotes were solicited for planning, civil engineering, permitting, fiscal assistance, geotechnical evaluation, and design and energy consulting. Many firms responded including some of the largest in the country such as Johnson Controls and Siemens. No final decision has been made as to which will get the contract (or contracts).

Next, the board discussed an ongoing drainage project which would involve several stages. The ultimate result will be a new drain pipe being installed under the turf field. Construction for this project is already underway

and Principal Campbell assured the board there will be minimal disruption to athletics.

The board chose not to discuss a proposed community service graduation requirement pending review of the jurisdictional issues raised by the motion. Graduation requirements are the purview of the DSB and are only subject to recommendations from the HHS Council. The Board will continue to study the issue on some level with council involvement.

Stan Wawrzyniak and Mr. Lavigne gave a presentation on our maker space and all the great work going on in CAPPS and engineering classes. The presentation featured a video showcasing some of the projects being assembled and tested by the classes. Lavigne explained the possible collaborations with Dartmouth's engineering program and other exciting opportunities that could happen in the future. CAPPS and engineering students are making tremendous progress and the future of the program looks promising.

New graduation requirements were

discussed as well, including mandatory civics and computer science courses. Passing a civics exam will soon be required to graduate high school in New Hampshire.

Superintendent Badams then explained the protocol used when deciding whether or not to have a snow day. Administration officials keep in touch with town officials and continually check the official weather report from the observatories in Burlington and in Gray, Maine. Dr. Badams stressed that weather conditions can change quickly and that larger snow falls are likely. He stressed the fact that snow days would be better saved for the 12 inch snow falls we all know are coming. Lastly, the school board discussed preliminary budget documents. More details on the budget will be shared during the next meeting.

PIT BATHROOM cont. from page 1

athletic hallway to pee and probably get yelled at by Stan.”

Senior boys have also complained about the fact that only the boys bathroom was closed. Senior Hans Williams commented on the issue, “It’s not like boys are vaping any more than girls are in the school.” Hans added that he has been doing his own silent protest on the issue by using the staff bathroom near the pit as a substitute. Senior Thomas Madden equated the situation to one from elementary school, “They didn’t let boys go on the playspace in elementary school just because only boys were running but it doesn’t work like that, like, girls were running on the playspace and girls are ripping stig in the bathroom.” Multiple Senior girls were asked to comment on the issue, but they all said the issue wasn’t important to them as the closing doesn’t affect them. Principal Campbell argued that though this may be the case, the issues they are aware of are coming from the boys bathroom.

Many of the students interviewed agreed that it was the underclassmen who cause the majority of the problems in the bathroom. Hans and Erik both commented that teachers really only get skeptical when Freshmen go into the bathroom. They both, along with Deveon, recommended that underclassmen be banned from the bathroom as a solution.

Principal Campbell noted in his interview that the issue has grown because nicotine addiction has resurfaced as a result of vaping, a problem he said wasn’t around for the first few years when he was principal. Erik agreed but said that for exactly that reason closing the bathroom was a useless measure as he said “most of the people who are vaping have an addiction at this point and so they’re not thinking, oh, I can’t go to the bathroom that is most convenient maybe I should just stop vaping, no, that’s not how it works.” Hans added that it is just so hard to enforce because juuls are so small, and once someone has it in the school they will find a place to do it.

To try and solve the issue at hand, Principal Campbell said he will likely be asking teachers to use the public bathrooms rather than the private single bathrooms and might increase monitoring of bathrooms around the school if the problem worsens. He added that a potential use of some of the new security cameras being implemented may be to monitor vaping, though most of these new cameras will be located around the outside of the school. In addition, Principal Campbell said he is “willing to entertain a plan to reopen the bathroom” and doesn’t “see people who vape as evil doers or anything” and wants to work with them to try and fix the vaping problem at the school, concluding with the fact that he is “Confident we [him and the student body] can work together to get vaping under control.”

FDA Posters Aim to Discourage Vaping in Bathrooms

By: Alice Rodi and Julia Horan (‘21)

The Food and Drug Administration recently launched a wide-reaching campaign aimed at educating teens about the dangers of e-cigarettes. You may have noticed several posters that have been put up in bathrooms around HHS, supposedly to deter vaping as well as the use of other drugs commonly seen throughout high schools. The posters display a variety of sayings, from “Some people come here to put crap into their bodies,” to “The grossest thing in this bathroom is that vape.” The posters are part of a campaign sponsored by an organization whose slogan is “The Real Cost”.

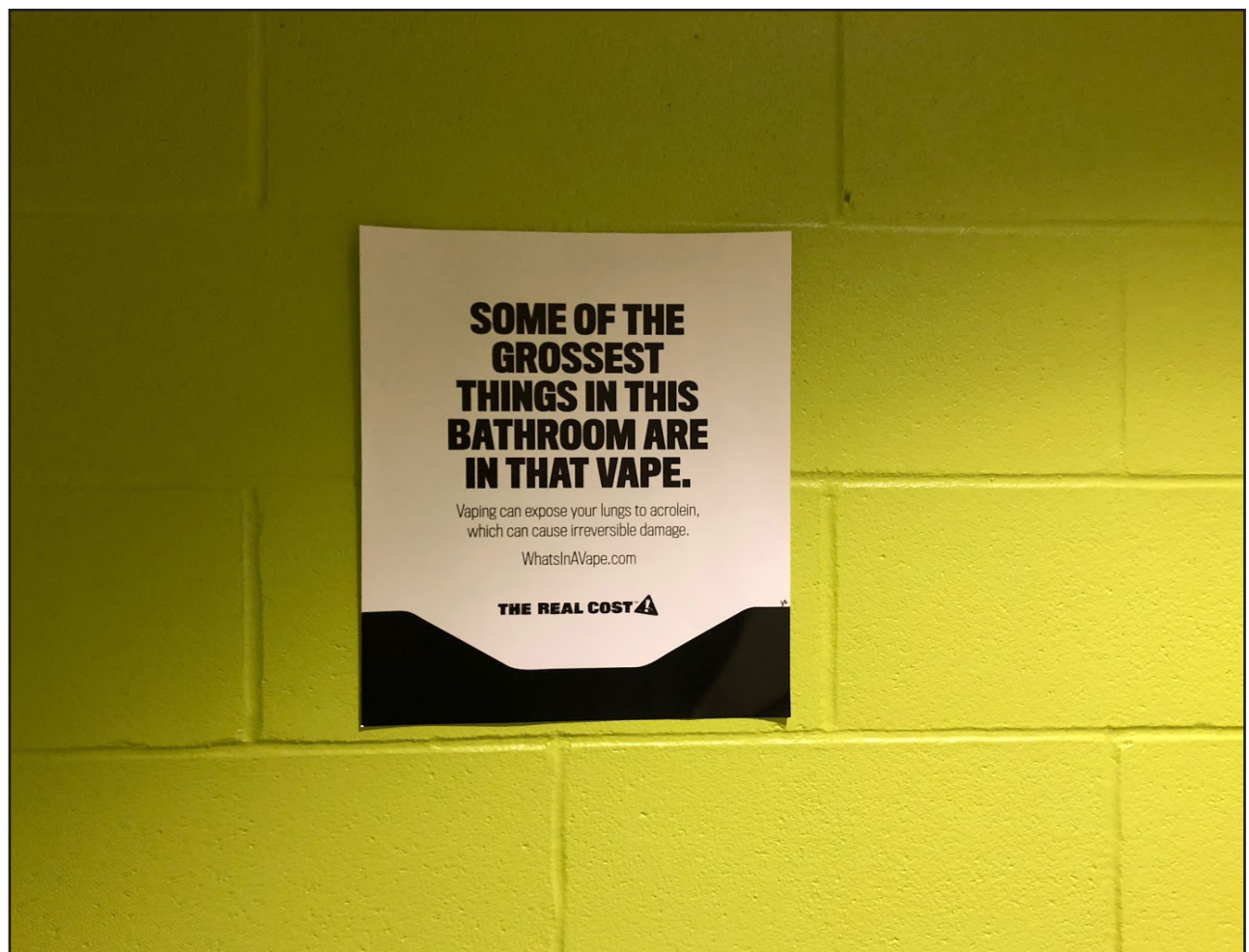
“The Real Cost” has imposed many advertisements to deter alcohol, drug, dip, and cigarette use around the United States, and, in high schools, they are focusing on preventing the use of vape.

Messages from “The Real Cost” are found on popular social media platforms such as Instagram, Youtube, and Facebook. These advertisements utilize gruesome images of people with post-addiction health effects. “The Real Cost” is

owned and sponsored by the FDA’s Center for Tobacco Products. Similar campaigns, such as “Truth” can be found advertising to teens, as their motto aims to “be the generation that ends smoking.” Companies like “Truth” and “The Real Cost” attempt to expose the inner workings of the Tobacco industry and give the information to teens who are most susceptible to addiction. The FDA has stated that they believe education is the first step to preventing teen nicotine abuse.

Students have many dissenting opinions on these posters, as some believe they are helpful, while other seem to be less sure they are effective.

An anonymous sophomore claims, “these posters really won’t change anything.” Lizzy Fisher, a sophomore, says, “I haven’t even seen the posters yet, so I’m not sure students even notice them.” Sophomore Momoka Schmidt believes that, though the posters do have “good intentions,” “the students who already vape won’t be stopped by a poster.”



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Above: One of the many “The Real Cost” posters located in school bathrooms around the school. This one reads: “Some of the grossest things in this bathroom are in that vape. Vaping can expose your lungs to acrolein, which can cause irreversible damage.” Photo: Alice Rodi(‘21)

COMPOST cont. from page 1

been lots of discussion surrounding this change. Trevor Siegel cleared this confusion up, writing, “the owner of the company [Grow Compost], Lisa Ransom, has a son who is a student at HHS and she offered to pick up our compost more regularly than the other company.” The committee “started with this company last year and got a \$500 gift from Council to purchase 30 classroom [compost] buckets.” These bins, along with 8 others the club purchased with their own funds, were distributed to numerous locations around the school, which in-

clude many classrooms as well as Resource and Media Centers.

Each Wednesday and Friday, select-students gather compostable food waste from the rooms to which they are assigned (you can view these assignments on a public Google sheet), and dump these recyclable brown-paper bags into a large bin in the atrium or Cafe. These bins are then sent to Grow Compost of Vermont, where they are officially composted.

A seemingly common misconception in the student body is that the original com-

post company chose not to work with the compost committee due to collections by students occurring later than agreed upon. However, the switch occurred out of necessity for HHS’s frequent composting, and the new company seems to have things running smoothly thus far.

Left: Casey McGuire ('21) and Catherine Bregou ('21), of HHS Environmental Club, taking out the compost.

Right: Catherine Bregou with science wing compost. Photos: Sophie Caulfield ('21)



Turf Undergoes Repairs for Broken Drainage Pipe

By: Zane Schiffman ('22)

As you likely have noticed the turf is undergoing some major repairs. Principal Campbell was able to assure me in his explanation that there is nothing severely wrong with the turf. This explanation was confirmed by Megan Sobel. Apparently, the turf has a drainage pipe below the turf that is currently failing.

The plan is to replace the drainage pipe with another one above ground instead. The new pipe will run along the far sideline, so they are removing part of the turf to repipe. After the job is done, the turf will be put back together. The goal is currently to have the turf ready for all of the spring sports. Although the turf they will be relaying will still be the old turf.

The plan to replace the turf is in motion though, so this turf after it has been relayed may only be there for the spring. A bond will be put to the voters regarding the new turf this spring.

If the voters say yes to the plan it will set forth action to replace the turf. The turf would be replaced this summer if the bond passes. Although the only part of the turf that will be replaced is the “rug.”



Part of the Turf is rolled up as a drainage pipe below the field is repaired. Photo: Caleb Benjamin

Holiday Break is for Resting, Not Studying: The Case for Having Midterms Before Break

By: Sachin Rampersaud ('20)

Making students take midterms after holiday break is an illogical decision by the school. One of the most stressful periods of the entire school year is winter exams. Finals are set to be taken in late January, after holiday break.

Having students take finals for a month after vacation affects students negatively, because students can forget information over that period of time. Forgetting information about a whole semester's worth of work builds stress for students. Taking finals before break would relieve students of the pressures and worries of the anticipation of taking their finals a month after vacation. Winter vacation is supposed to be a time to relax and de-stress from school, but students must study over break and worry about finals in order to not forget a whole semester's worth of information for multiple classes.

Holiday break is also a hindrance to students because students do not have the ability to

talk with teachers face to face and ask questions about the course material. Asking questions about the content the students don't feel confident about is a quintessential part of studying for finals, and this is not an option during break.

Vacation is also a long period of time, which means there is more time for students to procrastinate and put off doing work. This can result in getting bad grades. If finals were set to be taken before vacation, students would be more likely to study because they are already in the school mindset, and will be more prepared to take finals. Teachers reminding students to study during school would also increase the chances that students would take the initiative to study for finals.

Holiday break is meant to be a time of rest for students, and it is a well deserved time for rest after a long semester. Studying for ex-

ams over break is not how students should be rewarded for their hard and arduous work over the first semester.

Holiday break is an opportunity for students to rejuvenate and refocus themselves for the new semester, but studying for finals takes this opportunity away from students.

Moving finals before break would resemble a collegiate schedule that the majority of students will benefit from after they graduate from high school; it would get them accustomed to the way colleges operate.

If both students and teachers want a time to relax and breathe, vacation is vital, and students not stressing, studying, and cramming information for numerous classes will only set them up for success on finals. For all these reasons, finals should be taken before the holiday break.

School Lacks One Key Element: Seating

By: Alice Rodi ('21)

It's been about two weeks since I've sat down in the atrium during activity period.

Recently, instead, I have been drifting aimlessly around the "sophomore tables", where students lucky (or, more appropriately, quick) enough to grab a seat cram three hours worth of studying into roughly thirty minutes, while others scroll miles and miles through their instagram feed, hoping with each new "refresh" the school's Wifi will magically accelerate.

Alas, I have been subject to standing behind these fortunate seated-students, or, even, avoiding the atrium all together.

Although not being in the atrium actually has given me the chance to more thoroughly study for tests in quiet, controlled environments (and even go to clubs that I have neglected to go to for roughly two months), I miss sitting.

Yes, I miss sitting.

There is an easy fix, however, and I believe measures should be taken to solve the seating problem throughout the school.

To address the freshmen spilling out of the Cafe, whose bright pink and yellow walls seem to almost burst open with underclassmen no longer able to find a seat, the school administration should look to adding more tables in the school's hallways.

Just outside the Cafe, where a consistently empty vending machine lies, there is plenty room for a small, rectangular table.

Yes, this table, if implemented, would be physically outside of the Cafe, making it harder for freshmen to interact with their kind, possibly isolating them from their peers, but, as the HHS environment proves time and time again, underclassmen are invariably isolated (from each other and the rest of the school), regardless of their seating arrangements.

Additionally, my freshman year, as I walked through the atrium towards my classes, avoiding the pit like my life depended on it (because, frankly, I thought it just might), I remember seeing tables on both sides of the entrance-area.

This year, however, only one side is lined with circular tables (aside from one of the "junior tables" that sits underneath the

bridge).

By adding more tables and chairs to either side of the atrium, far fewer students would be forced to seek refuge in Monsieur Cochran's or Mr. Concilio's classrooms during activity period or before school, thus allowing HHS students to connect with one another, face-to-face.

Broadside Staff

Editor-in-Chief: Caleb Benjamin('19)

Managing Editors: Claire Austin-Washburn('19), Stephen Wang('20)

Advisor: ...

Assistant Editors: Jasmine Lou('19), Sophie Caulfield('21)

Staff Reporters and Contributors: Abby Feyrer('19), Oliver Minshall('19), Colm Seigne('19) Sachin Rampersaud('20), Justin Zhou('20), Alice Rodi('21), Julia Horan('21), Indigo Coylewright('21), Lauren Brock('21), Zane Schiffman('22), Eleanor Press('22), Skyler Tompkins('22), John Crandell('22)

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Join Us at Our Weekly Meetings in the Guidance Conference Room Monday

Sports Updates: Winter Sports Teams Find Success in Early Season Matchups

By: Caleb Benjamin and Colm Seigne ('19)

Boys Basketball

So far, so good for the boys basketball team. The team played in three preseason scrimmages in which they played surprisingly well. The games were against St. Johnsbury, Milford, and Concord-Carlisle. The game against Milford was especially important as the two teams will meet again in the regular season. The Marauders look to be especially explosive this year as they're playing a new 'run and gun' style of offense where they press the whole game and try to run teams into the ground. Unfortunately for the Marauders, the style seemed to not be working out in the first half of their season opener against Bishop Brady. The Marauders were down a lot to a little at half, but somehow came roaring back to win the game 74-71. A thrilling start to a new season and a good showing for the new 'run and gun' offense.

Girls Basketball

The girls basketball team looks to make a statement this year, and so far they haven't fared too poorly. In the season opener, the girls blew out Milford 76-11 at home. Next, the Marauders travelled to rivals Lebanon to play a team that had just beaten the defending state champion by 36 points. The Marauders put up a good fight, going on a 10-0 run in the fourth quarter to fight back

from a 13 point deficit, but in the end fell just short as they couldn't convert three game winning chances, losing by a final score of 43-42. Despite the close loss, the Marauders put up a good fight against a great team and look to improve on the performance as the season progresses.

Boys Hockey

The boys ice hockey team began their Division 1 title defense with a bang. The team won their first game against Manchester Central/West by a score of 12-1 and then handled Division 1 newcomer Bow by a score of 6-1. As the score lines indicate, neither of the games tested the Marauders but they did allow time for the lines to gel. The team has been aided by solid goaltending from Freshman starter Ben Plottner who has only let in two goals thus far. The team will look to prove themselves in the coming weeks of the seasons as the competition becomes more difficult.

Girls Hockey

The girls ice hockey team began their hunt for the ten-peat with two solid performances. In their season opener, the Marauders handled St. Thomas Aquinas - Winnacunnet by a score of 8-1. The defense suffocated the attack of St. Thomas while the offense took care of business. In their second game of the season the Marauders headed north for a matchup against

a highly-touted Berlin-Gorham team. Nonetheless, the Marauders created chance after chance on offense and came away with a solid 3-0 win, with goals coming from the three captains; Bryn Kable, Emma Tysinger, and Clara Boland. The Marauders look to continue their good start with a stretch of home games coming up, including the Holiday Tournament.

Indoor Track & Field

As the indoor track team moves into their fourth week of training, they have just entered meet-season. On the 15th, the day of the holiday dance, the marauders qualified over 10 athletes individually for states and showed themselves to be a team with lots of depth from just their first day of competition. Jack Lynch and Daniel Frost both ran the 3k placing 3rd and 5th, respectively, with times of 9:24 and 9:30 (Automatic State Qualifiers). Ella Maclean placed 1st in the 55m dash in 7.68s (Provisional State Qualifier), and Abby Feyrer placed 9th. In the 1k, Colm Seigne placed 4th in 2:43.60 (A) and Matt Bonner placed 7th in a time of 2:51.42 (P). In the 600m, Christine Aman placed second with a time of 1:44.33 (A). Kyle Doucette won the 300 in a time of 37.07 (A) and Deveon Martin placed 7th in a time of 39.60 (P). The Boys and Girls each won their relays in 3:41.29 and 4:25.51. The Marauders hope to improve in their upcoming meet this Saturday.



HHS Swimming and Diving Team members cheer on fellow swimmer Mark Ralston-Daniel at a meet on December 7th at the CCBA. Photo: Caleb Benjamin

Next Week In Sports

Saturday 12/22:

Indoor Track Meet @ 12

Girls Hockey vs. Bishop Brady Trinity West @ 2

Boys Hockey at Bishop Guertin @ 4

Wednesday 12/26

Boys Hockey at Concord @ 2

Thursday 12/27

Boys Hockey at Bedford @ 4

Friday 12/28

Indoor Track Meet @ 12

Girls Hockey vs. Bellows Free Academy HS - St. Albans @ 1:40

Boys Hockey at Trinity High School @ 2

Girls Hockey vs. Essex @ 3:40

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Student Essay: Tuck Stocking: The Man Behind the Dojo

By: Hans Williams ('19)

Note: This Essay was originally written in the English Advanced Prose Writing class.

I walked through the door to see Tuck running a band session. He pointed out a few inconsistencies in the twin lead solo between the two guitarists, and then proceeded to help the drummer, bassist, and pianist with their respective parts. All the while his five year old son, Jaden, scurried around the room looking on in awe. After fifteen minutes the band reset and tried the song again. "Chorus!" "Back to the verse!" "Bridge!" shouted Tuck as the band shifted parts. Tuck currently runs five bands and hundreds of lessons a month in his studio under the Etna Post Office.

Tuck Stocking started 'Tuck's Rock Dojo' in 2008 with his wife Kata Sasvari. The dojo provides lessons, a recording studio, and a place for young musicians to meet in the Upper Valley. I've been going to the dojo for band practice, recording, and guitar lessons for about eight years now, and owe most of my musical abilities to Tuck. He's changed my life through music, and I've watched him do the same with many other young musicians. I hope I can give you some insight into how he became the talented, humble mentor he is today.

Tuck grew up in Fairlee, Vermont, seven miles out of town. He began playing guitar around the age of twelve and never looked back. "It just took over" he says thirty years later, reflecting on how music has driven the course of his life. Tuck had little entertainment at home and was at least a forty five minute bike ride into town, so he spent his days memorizing the themes to video games and mastering scales. He was eager to learn, but didn't have access to a teacher or the internet. So he taught himself. He'd learn all of his favorite riffs, licks, and chords through various music books over the next few years. When Tuck started high school at Thetford Academy, music started opening up all sorts of new opportunities for him. He started teaching lessons, jamming with a few friends, and quickly started playing gigs around town. As high school wound down, Tuck knew he wanted to pursue a career in the music industry. His music teacher at the time told him to go to Berklee College of Music in Boston and so he did.

In the fall of 1998 Tuck began his first semester at Berklee. He stayed for one year. "I got opportunities to tour with bands and I was just so excited to see what that was like. I felt like that was me making it real. So I went with it," he recounted. Berklee gave him the tools to be successful as a recording and touring artist. He gained a greater terminology and framework with which to listen to songs, and developed his understanding of the world and industry surrounding music. However, Berklee's highly competitive environment was

suboptimal for Tuck. He admits the intense atmosphere made him admire the simplicity of music. "You like things because they feel good... if you find yourself bopping your head to it then it's working" he explains.

In the fall of 1999 Tuck began touring in Wisconsin with 'Victoria Styles and the Pink Bicycle Incident.' He jumped into a band with one acquaintance and three strangers. Immediately he started playing gigs, jamming, and spending every waking hour with the band. Naturally, they started gelling immediately. "Somehow when you're playing songs with somebody, especially improvising, at the end of a good jam you feel like you've spent a long time with them... Like you've been talking, just not in English" Tuck explained. I asked Tuck if there was anything he felt unprepared for after leaving Berklee. "Let's say that... sometimes life on the road is the best thing, and sometimes life on the road is you're living with four guys in a van and you spend more time with them than you ever felt possible. You might play a show, and then you have to unload, and then you are eight hours to the next place to load in and play." Tuck recalls a time he played a gig in Illinois, drove down to Tennessee and played a gig, and then drove back and played a show in Illinois the following night. Tuck toured on and off between 1999 and 2007 with several bands including 'Syd' and 'The Con-niption Fits' and opened for large acts like 'Hootie and the Blowfish' and 'Big Head Todd.'

In 2006, after touring with several bands for over half a decade, Tuck stepped back and re-evaluated his career. At the time he was playing in a rowdy bar band, and was looking for more financial security. He had been teaching in between tours since high school but never had the time or energy to develop his lessons into a full-time job. He decided he needed to start teaching more. Tuck looked back on a student complaining about having no one with whom to collaborate in the Upper Valley. "Well that's interesting" Tuck thought, "at the time I was teaching like seventy lessons a week. So I could tell that there's people to play with, but I don't think those people are seeing each other" he explained. Tuck understood how isolated many young musicians in this rural area can feel when everything revolves around their town and their high school. In fact he had the exact same phenomenon as a kid, and had always wished for a networking hub as the exchange of musical ideas and collaboration. More importantly, through his songwriting pursuits in between tours, Tuck had learned to play practically every instrument in rock band and had the skills to produce and master. It quickly became clear that Tuck needed to create this hub that he never had.

Tuck started the 'Rock School' at the Up-

per Valley Events Center in 2007. He gave lessons, created bands, and hosted recording sessions for a couple years as the business grew under UVEC. Eventually, Tuck realized he could only do so much with limited resources and control over the Rock School. So after three years of running the school, Tuck and his future wife Kata Sasvari started their own school: Tuck's Rock Dojo.

Tuck carried over many of his lessons and bands from the Rock School, so he was able to hit the ground running at the Dojo. Furthermore, now that Tuck had full control, he invested money back into the space by buying more instruments, studio equipment, and stage time in order to take on more musicians. As the Dojo grew, Tuck acquired new students from all over the Upper Valley. In close towns such as Lebanon and Hanover, it was impossible for high school teachers not to notice. "For musicians it is critical to come together to learn and develop. What Tuck's Rock Dojo is doing is really unusual and really important." said Ford Daley, the Hanover Caf/Atrium supervisor. Suddenly, all the kids who were eager to share their passion for music had a community in which they could grow and learn with musicians their age. The Dojo provides everything musical collaborators could possibly need: quality equipment, a location, teaching, and logistical management. However, more importantly, the Dojo brings musicians together. It's hard enough to find a group of young musicians with the same musical tastes when you feel you're restricted to your high school. Tuck breaks down these barriers, creating links between young musicians from all over the area.

I started in a Dojo band in 2011 called 'Airborne' and my perception of music was immediately altered. I no longer needed to rely on myself for ideas and projects. I finally had a community of other young, likeminded, ambitious musicians to relay ideas off of and jam with. For the past several years I have relied on this community for musical inspiration and collaborators. Tuck's Rock Dojo has broadened my musical scope, brought my music to a level I could not have imagined a few years ago, and taught me what music is all about: connection. I'm lucky to have such a strong role model and musician in Tuck, and practically another family in the Stockings. Our musical community at Hanover high school and the Upper Valley music scene would not be the same without the Dojo.

Is Snot Really the Answer? – New SnotBot Looks to Monitor Whales Without Harm

By: John Crandell ('22)

Global warming has a huge effect on the Earth. More than 70% of Earth is the ocean, full of diverse species of animals and plant life that are becoming extinct. Whales as a species are dying off, and as of right now there are not many ways that we can monitor their health and how their lifestyles are without causing them stress. Except for the recent innovation of technology by Iain Kerr and the Ocean Alliance that allows humans to collect data on the wellbeing of the species without causing them harm. With the drone affectionately called the SnotBot scientists can now monitor different whales with newfound precision and accuracy.

The robot is a drone that can be remotely controlled to study the different whale specimens. On the SnotBot, there are five to six Petri dishes to collect whale snot! When the whales blow through their blowholes they release snot which will be caught by the bot and later examined. Dr. Kerr admits that although the SnotBot is the best way to examine whales, he has had trouble getting

snot the first try due to the wind.

Before the SnotBot, the only observations of whales that could be made from a boat had to be 15 feet away. Sometimes there would be a platform near the water to get a better view of the specimen. However, there was no way to monitor how healthy the whales were, or to get pictures of the whales themselves from above. With the invention of the SnotBot, all of this has changed.

Dr. Kerr said there were many issues in getting the SnotBot up and running. First, he had to get funds to build the drones in case there are accidents when using them, to buy permits for the drones, airfare for all the different countries they would have to travel to examine the whales and to actually examine the specimens. Luckily one of his colleagues knew Patrick Stewart, who filmed a commercial to promote the safe examination of whales. Another problem with inventing the robot was figuring out how to collect the snot. At first, the scientists from the Ocean Alliance, the program behind SnotBot, tried to collect the snot

with sponges. A problem with this method was that they weren't able to collect the snot after "catching" it. Eventually, they developed the system of using Petri dishes in order to consistently collect snot.

Now Iain Kerr and Ocean Alliance are working to develop different drones to monitor different things about the whales. For example, the newest version of the SnotBot will be able to measure the heat of a whale which they can use to check internal temperatures. This information will let them see if species are sick or need attention that they would not be able to administer before.

Overall, the SnotBot has opened a whole new path of innovation, and can hopefully be changed to help study other endangered species. This invention will change the study of whales drastically and help provide information on how global warming will affect different animals in our world.



Some photos of the the SnotBot in action.
Photos: Christian Miller