

RAIDER NEWS

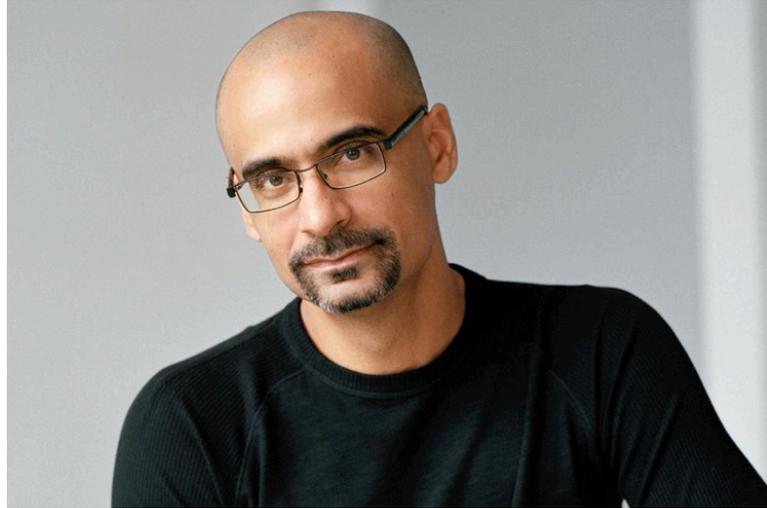
Vol. I, Issue I

West Roxbury Academy

November 2015

Unscripted: A Conversation with Writer Junot Diaz

by Khyaire Mack and Ramirelys Martinez



Courtesy Google Images

Junot Diaz is a Pulitzer Prize-winning author from the Dominican Republic. Diaz is the author of *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao* and the short story collection, *Drown*, among other stories.

Presently, Diaz is a creative writing professor at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in Cambridge, Mass.

Through his short stories and novels, he inspires young people to push themselves to reach their goal. His message is that anyone can succeed no matter their background.

Khyaire Mack and Ramirelys Martinez, 10th graders at WRA, had the opportunity to interview Mr. Diaz over the phone the last week of September. Below, is their 30-minute interview with this literary celebrity:

Q: Have you ever felt like giving up? If so, what made you keep going?

Junot Diaz: I feel like giving up all the ... time. I feel like I give up more than anyone should. When you are poor and have a crazy family like me, giving up comes naturally. What sort

of woke me up and kept me going--renewed my hope--is that you are not going to get anywhere lying on the ground. It's just not going to happen. You can quit for a little while, but eventually you have to get up ... or you are going to rot. Every time I gave up, I figured out that rotting was a lot worse than trying again. You can't kick yourself too much for giving up--that's natural. You can give up, but you gotta try again.

Q: How does it feel to know there are people out there who are inspired by your stories and who look up to you?

Diaz: It's an honor to inspire people. It's the same way it was for me as someone who reads. I mean the thing about being a reader is that you are a part of a community of gratitude, that there are always books and writers that live in your heart. I do the work because it needs to be done. Sometimes it's okay if you write a piece of work and people don't like it, as long as people are having conversations about it.

Q: If you weren't a writer, what

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In Memory of Mason Raymond

"Hope is the thing with feathers that perches in the soul, and sings the tune without the words, and never stops at all."

-Emily Dickinson

In honor of our friend,
Mason Raymond.
WRA misses you.
You will not be
forgotten.



Headmaster's Corner

By Esther Bobo, with help from Kamii "Kay" Parker, Deanna Morrow, Nick Cetoute, Carlos de los Santos



In October, we interviewed WRA Headmaster, Mr. Weekes. We asked him a series of questions. Here what's on the mind of the headmaster this month:

Q: What do you think about the new field and how do you think it's going to benefit West Roxbury High School?

Mr. Weekes: I think that it's a beautiful facility, and it came around at the perfect time. I also think that it has a great role in the West Roxbury Community.

Q: How do you feel about this new school year and the incoming freshmen?

Weekes: I love the freshmen. They have a special place in my heart...a lot of them went to the summer program [for freshmen] and go to the afterschool program [for freshmen].

Q: What do you hope for, and what are your goals for this year?

Weekes: To stay competitive... Our school can be nothing but better and stay a valuable option for families.

Q: How do you help athletes with doing their work?

Weekes: For us, it is a combination of using Boston Scholar Athletes (BSA) to provide students with tutorials and their homework and coach support. They [BSA] want to see where you're struggling...they help you manage to get it done.

Q: Do you think sports are why students come to school?

Weekes: ... I'm going to say a good 80% of my students come to school because they know it will qualify them for their future. They believe in the quality education they're receiving; they know it's going take them to their dreams--whatever that next step may be. I don't think

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Junot Diaz

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would you be?

Junot Diaz: I would be a history teacher! I really love history. And you know, I don't mind teaching young people no matter how difficult young people can be. I don't know... I'm very motivated by y'all young people, so I'd probably end up being a history teacher.

Q: You teach college students creative writing at MIT. What do you think it takes to be a successful college student?

Diaz: You need to have a group of skills. I was a kid of color, an immigrant and poor. I went to

a predominantly white college. You gotta, in some ways, fight different kinds of battles. For me, certainly, and generally, I think being great at budgeting your time [is a skill you need]. The ability to focus and concentrate. These seem like really simple things, but you'd be surprised how many young people struggle with this. Can you resist temptation? Let me tell you, if you have a paper due, and if every little thing can tempt you from doing that paper, you might be in trouble in college. I do think that being curious and open is really, really important. You go to college to have your

life transformed. If you are open, and you are curious, that will help enormously, man.

After reading and analyzing his essay, "The Dreamer" in our ELA class, and interviewing him, here's our take on Mr. Diaz: He is a very mellow and down-to-earth type of guy.

The way he approached obstacles that came his way was extraordinary and prestigious. The way he acts is motivating to people of all ages and proves that you can be from the gutter and still shine like a diamond in the sky.

Headmaster

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that it's sports-related, I think that it's internally [driven]. You know students want to graduate. They have dreams, aspirations for something in life after high school.

Q: How can students help to make WRA the best it can be?

Weekes: School pride and ownership. Less trash on the floor and no graffiti. Also more commitment to their academics.

Q: What's your view on parents and their children's education?

Weekes: It depends on the parents' backgrounds, but all parents want their kids to be more successful than they themselves are.

Q: What would you like to see done differently at this school?

Weekes: What I want students to learn is when you leave high school, you're going to make mistakes. But if you learn to ask questions in high school, you are going to have a better life out there.

Features

Rock Climbing Field Trip

By Doudly Rene

On Friday, October 2, 2015, Ms. Grady, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Genatossio, and Ms. Evans took the Juniors rock climbing at Rock Spot in Hyde Park. Rock Spot is an enormous place with 9,000 square feet of climbing, 35 top rope walls, belaying, and 90 to 100 difficult boulder problems. Students seemed to like bouldering more because they thought it was easier and required less equipment.

There were also games that students and staff enjoyed playing. Logan, one of the staff members we interviewed, thought that we were one of the best groups that he had to work with since he started working there and that he had so much fun playing the games with us. Students thought that



the rock climbing field trip was the best yet because it was challenging and food was provided. Students get to compete against teachers to see who's faster and can reach to the very top. A few students reached to the top but the rest of us preferred using the ropes and having the staffs

there pull the rope and help us to the top. Rock climbing was mostly challenging for us because we didn't have the right climbing shoes and some of us had to take off our shoes. After that, everything went well, and we had so much fun. Overall, it was the best field trip yet!

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Members of the Raider News Editorial Board made significant contributions to the November 2015 issue of Raider News by attending weekly meetings, contributing content ideas and leading the direction of the paper.

Want to join the Raider News Editorial Board? Come by room 429 on Monday's after school or Friday's during Advisory.

Contact Raider News: Go-RaiderNews@gmail.com

Thank you to Ms. Grillo for help with editing and Mr. Nozea for assistance with photography.

A very special thank you to Allison Traylor, Aneri Patani and Prasanna Rajasekaran, our sponsors from the Northeastern University Scholars Program. This paper would not be possible without their vision and support.

Roslindale Day Parade

By Ashley Gomez and Franchesca Sosa Baez



The Roslindale Day Parade is a parade that occurs on the first or second Sunday of October every year. This parade is a neighborhood tradition. This year's parade happened to be the 40th annual Roslindale Day Parade, and it took place on Oc-

tober 4th, 2015.

Elizabeth Swanson, Board Member of Roslindale Village Main Streets and Owner of Birch St. House & Garden, commented on how the parade is a tradition in the community. "I look forward to the parade

every year. It's fun to look for friends and fellow business owners who are marching in the parade. It's also a chance to see our local youth perform in marching bands and dance troupes."

Ms. Rackette, West Roxbury Academy Art Teacher and Cheerleading Coach, demonstrates how participation in the community is important for WRA. She has participated in the parade for three years with her students to show pride. "The school and faculty can...work together to uplift the school and show their pride. And to show the rest of the communities around us that we have pride. I'm proud of the resiliency that I've seen within the WRA com-

munity."

Mr. Abelard, West Roxbury Academy Director of Community Partnerships, has been running the parade for three years and shared his view on the parade's benefits. "People outside of the community get to see the students' pride. The students get to decorate the float, ride the float, and represent the float. And it's great for students to be a representative for our school." Mr. Abelard believes that students' voices should be heard at community events. "Their [students'] voices are needed to continue setting an example for our school despite the negative."

New Year, New Life

By Winda Durand

On Sept. 8, 2015 many new freshmen started high school at West Roxbury Academy. These students were meeting new teachers and going to a new school. Many of the new freshmen didn't have their old friends to start off the school year together.

Some students couldn't wait to start high school because they wanted to move forward. Vidaly Cabral was one freshmen excited to start high school.

"I'm very excited to start high school because it is a big step of my life," she said. She said it shows that she is growing up, and she also couldn't wait to go to college.

Even though she was enthusiastic, Cabral said she was also sad because she had to leave

her second family behind. She had to leave her home at Rogers Middle School behind. Cabral found it hard to believe that she had to leave her friends and her teachers, who had been part of her life for three years.

Freshman Quavante Granberry was sad to leave middle school. In fact, he was scared to start high school. He didn't want to leave his friends, his teachers, and all the other people he cared about. Granberry said the people that he misses the most are his soccer players.

"They're my boys, I've always been with them," he said.

But overall, both Cabral and Granberry said they are happy to be moving forward rather than staying in the past, and they look forward to being part of WRA.

For the Sake of Arguments

By Gloralfi Victorino & Terence Oliver

A debate team uses a specific style of argument in order to debate gripping topics in a competition. In debate, there is an emphasis on persuasion and perspective. Each of the speakers finishes with a strong closing argument, and debaters speak in succession to each other. It trains one's analytical, critical, and quick thinking, as well as note taking, speed reading, and much more.

Debate not only shows a person how to win an argument, but it also teaches the person a great deal about life. Public speaking is a great skill to have in life for several reasons.

Freshman Katie Martinez is a member of the Raider Debate Team. She states, "Students ...love it because we learn to analyze issues and come up with solutions by talking to one another. Debate

is a wonderful thing in my opinion, because it helps us improve and present our arguments."

Martinez believes that the Debate Team is a good club to join because it helps with confidence-building when arguing. In addition, being on the Debate Team is good for college applications and resume.

Currently, the Debate Team is developing arguments about immigration surveillance for its upcoming tournament.

What do you get besides solid experience? If you attend three Debate Team tournaments, you get a Debate Team hoodie and a t-shirt, if you attend two tournaments.

The Debate Team meets Mondays and Wednesdays at 1:45 p.m. on the Urban Science Academy side in room 101. For more information, contact Ms. Grady in room 222.

Westie Chefs

By Lequan Davis

Each Thursday morning in room 128, five microwaves, an oven/cook top, a multitude of toasters, a full-sized refrigerator, a kitchen sink and a washer and dryer are put to use by the members of ACT, Westies' Accessing Career Training program.

This exciting culinary program teaches students the life skills they need to potentially get hired in the foodservice industry. Through "Westie Chefs", the teachers and staff of WRA now have the opportunity to enjoy a delicious lunch prepared for them on Thursdays.

So far this year, 25-30

staff members/week have been served lunches such as spicy grilled cheese and chicken Caesar wraps at the reasonable price of \$5/meal. They even offer a vegetarian option, which once featured ricotta and spinach "meatball" subs.

Oyoshi Santos, a classically trained chef who attended Cordon Bleu in Cambridge is the head chef and leader of this program. After receiving her degree in culinary arts, Ms. Santos worked for two years as a professional chef at Be Good, often putting in 80 hours/week. She ultimately decided to pursue a more personally fulfilling career and has now been working

for BPS for the past four years, three of which have been spent at WRA.

Ms. Santos' favorite part of the cooking program is seeing her students develop and learn new skills while becoming more independent along the way. For example, the kids learned new skills by working together in an assembly line rolling meatballs in order to make meatball subs. The students learned the process one step at a time, with hands on tasks at different stations. They also practiced multitasking with cooking and cleaning, learning about the importance of cleanliness when handling food.

Some of the students who are chefs in this program are Kavon Perry, Ashley Barbour, Philip Colon and Julie Peterson. The clean-up crew includes Garvin Alexis, Julie Peterson and Joe Dejesus.

The team gladly welcomes suggestions having to do with the menu from their customers in order to better serve them and hope to add even more WRA employees to their customer base in the coming weeks.

It is evident that the participating teachers and staff are thankful and thrilled to receive such amazing meals from these students each Thursday.

Sports

Friday Night Lights: First Home Game

By Vicky Nguyen & Gianna Horne

At the West Roxbury Educational Complex, Friday, Sept. 18, 2015, was a day of pride for many current students and alumni. The school's \$18 million field, which is the most expensive athletic field in Boston Public Schools' history, was finally put to use for the first game of the Raiders' 2015-2016 home season.

Coach Leo Sybertz, whom the field is named after and dedicated to, is a former West Roxbury coach and teacher of over 30 years. He attended the game, illustrating his joy when proclaiming, "We finally have an athletic facility that is worthy of our students."

Many teachers came out after a long day of teaching to support their students.

Dr. Jones, a WRA Humanities 4 Teacher, believes that the sports program at WRA promotes students' excellence and achievement because it "fosters the idea of team."

She hopes that the new field will



bring out more students and families so athletes feel more supported.

Mr. G., an AP Government teacher and advisor, felt that the game was a "phenomenal exhibition of a competitive energy."

He loves the new field and can't wait to get his team on the track.

Mr. Avery Esdaile, the Director of Athletics for Boston Public Schools, also came out to watch the Raiders' first home game. Mr. Esdaile envisions that a sense of community will be strengthened through the field's events.

He stated, "From a district [BPS] perspective, it gives us

another opportunity to have the ability to do special events like National City Championships in all of our sports."

He is excited that all BPS students will be able to have more of an opportunity to play on a state-of-the-art facility.

Similarly, Mr. Rudy Weekes, the headmaster at WRA, points out that the field increases a sense of pride and community and makes for a better climate for all. Mr. Weekes refers to the field as a "shining beacon" that will raise expectations and strengthen students' academic values.

The Leo Sybertz Field seems to have inspired the idea of solidarity in the community.

Intramurals Hotline Bling

By Messiah Sincere Murchison and Ronaldo Cameron

In this first edition of Intramurals Hotline Bling we're going to look at our All-Star player of the week: senior Adrian Phillips.

Phillips is an aggressive guard who gets to the bucket with authority, and who dropped a cool 22 points against the Rockets during Halloween week.

The Rockets' superstar is sophomore Montez LaCombe, who plays forward. LaCombe dropped a quick 18 buckets against the Spurs, catching the dub.

Although Phillips clutched the title of Player of the Week at the end of October, his team was defeated 63-57.

Stay tuned for November and December's Intramurals Hotline Bling in the next edition of Raider News.

A View from Two Generations of Westie

By Derek Bertucci

The Bertucci name runs throughout West Roxbury Academy. This is because two generations of my family have gone to this school. You'll often hear my father, David Bertucci, say, "We bleed green." My father, brother, and I have all gone to Westie, and we all have played Raider football -- my dad has even coached my brother and me on the field. Football has been a special way for my family to connect. As a family, we all share our Friday night experiences with each other.

Although playing the sport is becoming a family tradition, my father often asks me if I want to play football, or if I'm doing it for someone or something else. He will often ask me this question to see if the game brings me joy (which

it does). When my brother played for the team his freshman year, he played line, but when he was a sophomore, the starting quarterback got hurt and my brother David stepped up to fill the position. From then on he played quarterback for the rest of his high school football days. And it was his sophomore year when he earned the name "Tebow." Some of the other players on the team called him Tebow because he resembled a play style of NFL player, Tim Tebow (he also looks like him).

My father went to our school from 1980-1983. Back then, it was just West Roxbury High School. In his senior year, the football team won the state championship with an undefeated record. This was the first City football team to win state.



He played defensive tackle on defense and on offense he played right tackle.

Both my father's and brother's legacies at this school have truly impacted my decision to come to WRA. I wanted to live up to the "Bertucci" name. Since both my brother

and father have attended the school, I strive to be the best student and athlete of the three of us. We Bertucci's have been known to be quite competitive. The term "bleed green" is something that pushes me to be at my best on the field and in the classroom.

College

The College Bound Experience

By **Ismael Aristilde**

College Bound is a college readiness program with West Roxbury Academy, Urban Science Academy and Brighton High School. The purpose of College Bound is to help inform students about how to be engaged in the community and have a more like-ly chance to go to college.

Mr. Kemp, WRA Dean of Discipline and College Bound's liaison, is the contact for College Bound at WRA. According to Mr. Kemp, "It is a good opportunity for kids to be exposed to the college life and to be on a college campus, which hopefully inspires students or builds on their aspiration to go to college."

The benefits students get from College Bound are abundant. Students have the chance to get aid from a college mentor, receive up to a \$300 stipend over the school year, and if they complete College Bound, they may put this program on their college resume.

Additionally, College Bound exposes students to Science

Technology Engineering Math (STEM) college-based courses and careers.

College Bound is a great opportunity for most high school students to get an early college experience and to help ensure their chances of attending.

If you're interested in being in college Bound talk to Mr.

How to Get a Full Scholarship

By **Ismael Aristilde & Mynerline Dumornay**

What would you do to get a quarter of a million dollars to attend college? Northeastern University, along with other area colleges and universities, offers Boston Public High School students full scholarships worth \$250,000 to attend college.

What you might not realize is that scholarships depend upon your own personal history. Many scholarships, such as the full-ride Torch Scholarship at Northeastern, want students who demonstrate responsibility and improvement.

I interviewed Mr. Shannon Pittman, Associate Director of Northeastern's Opportunity Scholarships and Outreach Programs, to understand what type of qualities colleges look for in a scholarship application. Below is advice directly from Mr. Pittman.

Q: What do you look for in a Torch scholar's ability to be a successful college student vs. a Boston Public High School scholar?

A: As a Torch candidate we are looking for students who possess academic interest and the will/want to learn. We understand that the Torch candidate might not be a 4.0- straight A student, but should show some care/interest in their academic growth. We look for students who might have struggled in high school their first year or in certain courses (math, science), but has taken responsibility and their grades have increased over time. A Torch candidate should also show interest in their personal/social well-being. They should have committed some of their time in giving back to their community whether that is in their school, church or community organizations. Hopefully they have tried to take a leadership role in those projects or

efforts. So you might be on the executive board of a club, or assisted in creating a neighborhood partnership or program. I would also consider a personal story you can share about your life. I would consider working with someone, such as a guidance counselor and/or teacher, to work on your college essay, which would help you gather your thoughts on an experience that has helped you persevere in life!

Q: What advice do you have to students in high school about scholarships and which would you say is easier to obtain for the average high schooler?

A: I would say do your research! You have to look for scholarships and opportunities that cater to you and your abilities, interests and/or experiences. I would look at schools you are applying and see if they have offer scholarships. In terms of the average high school student, you might want to look up scholarships that

cater to your personal history. There might be scholarships that cater to you being from a single household, first generation, student of color, etc.

Northeastern offers the Torch Scholarship, the Boston Public High School Scholarship, the Valedictorian Scholarship for BPS students, and the Boston Housing Authority (BHA) Scholarship.

The BHA is a scholarship for students who live in BHA residences at the time of making their application to Northeastern. Students should email Rachel Goodman, Director of Community Service at BHA to apply to this scholarship - rachel.goodman@bostonhousingauthority.org.

Visit Northeastern's websites on Torch and BPHS Scholarships to find out more information: www.neu.edu/torch.

ATTENTION ALL SENIORS!

Start the application now...attend application workshops every Wednesday at 1:45 in room 429. See Ms. McCarthy in room 429 for more information and to get started!

What would you do for a full ride to college? Apply to the GATES MILLENNIUM SCHOLARS PROGRAM. This is a program that gives a 10-year scholarship through undergraduate and graduate school.

Arts and Reviews

Why not Read More?

By Quavante Granberry

Have you ever had a long day at school that seems to last forever? When you come home, would you rather watch some TV and play video games, or would you rather pick up an interesting book? Statistics from Nielsen book data show that only 32 percent of teens still read books for pleasure, while 36 percent would rather watch TV. The rest of teens use social networks such as Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, etc.

Why not read more, or if you do read a lot, why are you so interested in reading books? I asked this question to 128 students at WRA. A response from

a person whose name did not want to be disclosed said, "I'm just not interested in reading a book that could not benefit me in the future...It seems stupid to be reading a book." A response from Arianna, a freshman at WRA, stated that she likes to read books. "I like to imagine stuff." At the beginning of the school year in Ms. McCarthy's English classes, freshmen are reading *A Raisin in the Sun*, a play by Lorraine Hansberry, and sophomores are reading *Antigone*, a play by Sophocles. Ms. Grady's junior classes are reading *Macbeth* by William Shakespeare and Ms. Timilty's freshmen are reading poetry from many eras before they start

a short story unit. The seniors in Ms. Saia's classes just finished reading poems and stories of British Literature. Ms. Woods' 10 honors classes read *Les Miserables* by Victor Hugo in Term 1.

After interviewing students at WRA, a lot of students shared that they love fiction because they can relate stories back to their imaginations. Some students even said that they appreciate reading romance novels or factual stories such as biographies and autobiographies. Here are some books I recommend for people looking for an outstanding book to read for fun: *Before I Fall* by Lauren Oliver, *The End* by G. Michael Hopf, *Asylum* by Madeleine Roux Barry, *The*

Catcher in the Rye by J.D. Salinger, *The Accidental Billionaires* by Ben Mezrich, *Lord of the Flies* by William Golding, *Invisible Man* by Ralph Ellison, *The Other Wes Moore* by Wes Moore, *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao* by Junot Diaz, and *Killer on the Road* by James Ellroy.

So, would you rather go home to watch TV or read an interesting story? And if you would still watch tv then why not consider this: reading allows you to learn new things. Even if you read on electronic devices such as a Kindle, iPad, Nook, or Mac, it doesn't matter, so long as you're reading a book. You gain the power of knowledge and learn something in the process.

Among the Unspoken: My Life in an All-Female, Post-Hardcore Rock Band

By Anna Marrero

My name is Anna. I play lead guitar in a band called Among the Unspoken. We are an all-female, post-hardcore rock band.

Post-hardcore bands play generally any type of rock music: punk, metal, classic rock.

All of the band members, including myself, listen to different types of music from the majority of other people at school. Sometimes, we feel very different in crowds at school, especially when people assume everyone likes the same kind of music. It's also unfair that people judge our kind of music and believe it's some type of "dark" music.

Honestly, we don't care about anyone else's opinion about what we listen to because it's what gets us through the day when we feel full of stress. It's what keeps us going.

We started our band because of our love for the music we listen to, but also because normally when you listen to bands, you hear mainly male musicians. Some guys that are in bands or listen to rock don't think that girls should be in

bands or can sing rock music. Not all guys believe this, but a lot do. We felt it wasn't right that guys think girls can't be in bands, so we decided to start an all-girl band to prove that girls can do just as good as any other typical guy band.

It was difficult at first because we only had a singer and a guitarist, and we weren't sure if we really wanted to be in a band. Then we actually found two people willing to play piano and learn bass for us. So we officially started our band.

Then, we only needed a drummer. It was a long process to find a drummer. We put up ads on the internet and different websites. We asked around to see if anyone knew anybody who actually had experience with drums. We even put up posters around Boston for drummers. After a few months, we finally found an awesome drummer, and the band was pretty much complete.

It's been somewhat hard for us so far. Over the summer, it was a lot easier for us to put in time, but now that we're in school, we have to balance band practice with all the homework and projects from school. Not to mention that we work, too. It's also difficult

because we need good equipment, and we don't really have the money for it. We need better recording equipment and a studio.

Being in a band is a lot more than just making music - it's a long, stressful process that takes a lot of commitment, dedication and practice. It's something we love to do, though, so it's worth it in the end. We just really hope to make it far with music careers in the future.

Being in a band does feel somewhat empowering. Not many people our age can say that they can play an instrument, so being able to say that I'm in a band is great.

Also playing an instrument is amazing because you get to let out all of the emotions you're feeling at once. Depending on what type of song I'm playing, I would start to feel the emotions being displayed in the song. It's really good for releasing stress and tension. I think being in a band is good for your emotional and mental health because it keeps you happy by being able to do what you love and helps you to put out your emotions in so many different ways. It's both hard work and great fun. It's what keeps us going.

This is your
space.
Use it!

Raider News needs
you.

Tell your story.
We want to hear what
you have to say.

Join the Raider News
Editorial Board.
We meet Monday's @
1:45p.m. in room 429.

Meetings are also held
during the Raider
News Advisory on
Friday's in room 429.

Contact Ms. McCarthy
in room 429, or email
GoRaiderNews@gmail.
com for more info.

Teacher by Day...Spoken Word Artist by Night

By Thalya Streeter and Nateyah Summers

Spoken word is a way of combining poetry with real life scenarios, using word play and storytelling through performance.

Spoken word evolved during the Civil Rights movement in the 1960s, and originated from the poetry of African Americans from Harlem, New York.

Spoken word is a way for people to express their feelings towards the things they see or the things they've personally experienced.

The performance form of this type of expression was demonstrated by famous icons including Gil Scott-Heron, The Watts Poets, and the Last Poets. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Sojourner Truth, Booker T. Wash-

ington, Langston Hughes and other great speakers and poets used the written and spoken word to convey their ideals.

Mr. Hegeman, a teacher at West Roxbury Academy, is involved in the spoken word community in the Boston area.

Mr. Hegeman grew up in California, where his interest in Hip-Hop and poetry emerged at the age of eight. His mother influenced him to start writing poetry at a young age, and he was also inspired by MC's and Hip-Hop and R&B music he listened to as a boy.

Mr. Hegeman started writing because he felt as if it was an outlet for him and also a way for him to express himself. He believes that you should use poetry to reveal your feelings on the things you see and go through on a daily basis.

Corner direktè lekòl la

Translated by Nick Cetoute and Esther Bobo

Nan mwa Oktòb, nou fè antrevi direktè lekòl nou an, Mesye Weekes. Nou mande l'yon seri de kesyon

Q: Ki jan ou santi ou sou ane sa a lekòl la nouvo ak elèv premye ane yo fèk ap rantre?

Mesye Weekes: Mwen renmen elèv premye ane yo. Yo gen yon plas espesyal nan kè m'... anpil nan yo te ale nan pwogram nan epi [pou elèv premye ane] epi ale nan pwogram nan gadri [pou elèv premye ane].

Weekes: Pou rete konpetitif ... Lekòl nou kapab pa gen anyen men pi bon epi rete yon opsyon ki gen anpil valè pou fanmi yo.

Q: Ki sa ou panse fè yon elèv at-lèt fò?

Weekes: Yon elèv at-lèt se yon elèv ki se youn ki kapab jwe espò men kenbe yon 2.0 ak akademik yo.

Q: Ki jan ou ka ede at-lèt ak fè travay yo?

Weekes: Pou nou, li se yon konbinezon de lè l sèvi avèk Boston Scholar At-lèt (BSA) bay elèv ki gen tutoryèl ak devwa yo. Yo [BSA] vle wè kote w ap gen difikilte ... yo ede ou jere yo jwenn li fè.

TV Show Reviews

By Deanna Morrow

If you are looking for something to do after school, why not catch up on all of the shows everyone is talking about?

If you're in the mood for some action and suspense, you should watch *Limitless*, which is a new series this fall.

If you are in the mood to get scared, you should watch *Scream* and *Scream Queens*! *Scream* is filled with so much suspense and thrill you'll jump right out of your seat, while *Scream Queens* is more of a horror/comedy show.

Esquina del Director

Traducido al español por

Ramirleys Martínez

En octubre, entrevistamos WRA Director, el Sr. Weekes. Le pedimos una serie de preguntas. Aquí lo que está en la mente del director de este mes:

Q: ¿Qué piensa usted sobre el nuevo campo y cómo piensa usted que va a beneficiar a West Roxbury High School secundaria?

Sr. Weekes: creo que es una hermosa instalación, y se dio la vuelta en el momento perfecto. También creo que tiene un gran parte en el Roxbury Community West.

Q: ¿Cómo te sientes acerca de este nuevo año escolar y los estudiantes de nuevo ingreso?

Sr. Weekes: Me encantan los estudiantes de primer año. Ellos tienen un lugar especial en mi corazón ... un montón de ellos fue al programa de verano [para los estudiantes de primer año] y van al programa después de la escuela [para estudiantes de primer año].

Q: ¿Qué esperas para, y cuáles son sus objetivos para este año?

Sr. Weekes: Para mantener la competitividad ... Nuestra escuela puede ser nada pero mejor y mantenerse una valiosa opción para las familias.

Q: ¿Qué crees que hace una fuerte estudiante atleta?

Sr. Weekes: Un estudiante atleta es un estudiante que es capaz de hacer deporte, pero mantener un 2.0 y sus académicos.

Q: ¿Cómo ayudar a los atletas con la realización de su trabajo?

Sr. Weekes: Para nosotros, es una combinación del uso de Atletas

Fear the Walking Dead is a spin-off show from *The Walking Dead*. *Fear The Walking the Dead* is an action-packed suspense and drama show about "Walkers." Curious about who or what a Walker is? Guess you'll have to watch the show!

Last but certainly not least: *Empire*. *Empire* is drama, drama, drama! But of course, there is some comedy added into it, too. The show just started its second season and it's one of the most talked about show around school. It's never too late to join in on the conversation!

Boston Scholar (BSA) para proporcionar a los estudiantes con clases particulares y los deberes. Ellos [BSA] quieren ver dónde usted está luchando ... que ayudan a manejar para hacerlo.

Q: ¿Cree que el deporte es por qué los estudiantes vienen a la escuela?

Sr. Weekes: ... voy a decir un buen 80% de mis estudiantes vienen a la escuela porque saben que va a calificar para su futuro. Ellos creen en la calidad de la educación que están recibiendo; ellos saben que va a llevarlos a sus sueños - lo que sea que el próximo paso. No creo que sea relacionado con el deporte, creo que es internamente [impulsado]. Ya sabes los estudiantes quieren graduarse. Ellos quieren seguir adelante, que tienen sueños, aspiraciones por algo en la vida después de la secundaria.

Q: ¿Cómo puede ayudar a los estudiantes para hacer WRA el mejor que puede ser?

Sr. Weekes: orgullo y propiedad School. Menos basura en el suelo y sin graffiti. También más orden en la escuela.

Q: ¿Cuál es su opinión sobre los padres y Educación de sus hijos?

Sr. Weekes: Depende de los fondos de los padres, pero todos los padres quieren que sus hijos tengan más éxito que ellos mismos.

Q: ¿Qué tu quieres ver mas diferente en esta escuela?

Sr. Weekes: Lo que quiero que los estudiantes aprendan es cuando salga de la escuela secundaria, vas a cometer errores. Pero si usted aprende a hacer preguntas en la escuela secundaria, usted va a tener una vida mejor.

Quotable Quotes

What makes a good student athlete?

By Ronaldo Cameron, Marvens Isidore & Messiah Murchison

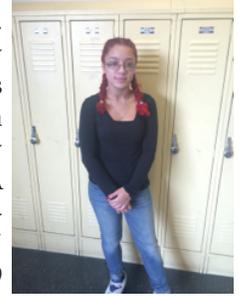


"Being a good student athlete is participating in class, doing homework, doing classwork, keeping up with your grades, having an average of a 3.0 or higher gpa, and helping other in needs."

– Esdras Rojas, Football Player, Baseball Player, Grade 12

"A good student athlete is respectful, never lets their teammates down, they are always on time, when someone is down they are there to instantly be a good friend and cheer them up. They are also there for anyone who help. A good student athlete sets a good example for everyone and anyone."

– Dyanna Vega, Soccer Player, Grade 9



"By becoming a good student athlete, you must be able to achieve your academic and athletic goals."

– Montez LaCombe, Basketball Player, Grade 11



"A good student athlete is someone that manages being a leader on the field AND in the classroom."

– Mr. James, Boston Scholar Athlete Zone Facilitator



"Well only someone that carries themselves good, but also someone who also sets a good example for the lower class. Whether it's from good grades to just being a great helping hand. Another thing that makes a good student athlete is a person that is dedicated to what they do and that is willing to make the changes they need to in order to improve."

– Zhasmeen Ortiz, Cheerleader, Basketball Player Grade 11

"What makes a student athlete is courage. You have to be willing to go above and beyond in the classroom and on the field."

– Derek Bertucci, Football Player



"A good student athlete is a leader, who takes control of his/her priorities and does what he/she needs to do to be excellent in school and on the field."

– Khyaire Mack, Football Player, Grade 10