
THE 'ROCK REPORT

Bishop Feehan High School, Attleboro, MA, 02703 — December 2016

Inside this issue of The 'Rock Report:

Page 2: Celtics

Page 3: 2016

Page 4: The Holidays

Page 5: Mr. Demers

Page 6: Mr. Demers

Page 7: Dear Lucky

Page 8: Word Search

Page 9: Continued Page

Page 10: Back Page

Upcoming Events:

2/9- STAND Coffeehouse

2/15- Senior Retreat Day

2/18- Start February Break

2/26- End February Break

3/2- Ash Wednesday

3/3- 11:15 Dismissal

3/10- TAG Day

3/12- Mother/Son Brunch

3/15- Wellness Day

3/15- Combined Honor So-
ciety Inductions

3/17- ECHO

Fitness Center has Grand Opening

By Sean Gray '17

The Christopher E. Servant Fitness Center became open to the students about the center's success. Mr. Bru- and staff of Bishop Feehan after re- schi, after meeting Mr. L'Homme while turning from winter break. Featuring coaching football, became interested great new equipment and workout in the center and now volunteers his space, it will surely be a great place to time. Attendance has been consistent- train and prepare for athletics. *The ly good- around 40 kids on the average 'Rock Report* was able to get inside day. "Our morning program is just and talk to two of Feehan's best, Mr. starting to catch *(Cont'd on pg. 9)*

Winter Sports Recap

By Juliana Desimone '17

It truly is the most wonderful time of "Anne [last name not disclosed for the year. It's the time of the year that confidentiality] is really good," elo- puts the "mental toughness" in mental quently noted Garrity.

toughness, the "lit" in literally every- "There are people who run track and one's favorite sports season: the sea- then there's everyone else' -Coach son of track has begun. For the first Paul Powell" -Abby Long" -me right time in Feehan history, both the boys' now in this article.

and girls' track teams are undefeated The hockey team had a very emotional in the Eastern Athletic Conference. victory over Coyle-Cassidy recently, making them undefeated in the EAC. I sat down for a recent interview with There was also a major tilt on Satur- track specialists Kelly Garrity and Ab- day, January 28 against Medfield. The by Long. While most of the interview crowd there was noted to be mainly was confidential and entirely made up, wearing "timbs" and hoodies. the two revealed some insider infor- mation about Feehan's favorite sports There is still confusion regarding team. whether the *(Cont'd on pg. 10)*

The Celtics and Miterms

Celtics Midseason Review

By Brendan Donoghue '18

The Boston Celtics are a little less than halfway through their season, with a record of 20-14 through the month of December. After what was nothing short of a disappointing beginning to a season with great expectations, the Celtics have bounced back in a big way thanks to health, improved defense, rebounding, and, of course, the play of 5' 9" point guard Isaiah Thomas. As of January 3rd, the Celtics currently sit in third place in the Eastern Conference, a reasonable 6.5 games behind the first place Cleveland Cavaliers. Newcomer Al Horford has mostly lived up to expectations with his defensive prowess (he has already recorded 49 blocks, averaging two per game) while Isaiah Thomas, in his first season as the de facto leader of the team has lead the Celtics in scoring for the majority of the season. He recently recorded a 52-point game in a win against the Miami Heat. Aside from Horford and Thomas, Avery Bradley has added rebounding and interior shooting to his already astounding defensive game to become a much more all around player. Marcus Smart has improved his three-point shooting, and Jae Crowder has emerged as not only a great defender, but one of the better small forwards in the league. There is still room for large improvement, as they have allowed teams to score over 100 points far too often for a supposedly "defensive-minded" team, but after a slow start, the Celtics have started putting together quality games and recording wins. They are still looking to come away from hard fought games against teams such as the Cavaliers, Raptors, Rockets, and Warriors with wins. However, after 34 games the Celtics have put themselves in a solid position for the second half of the season and the playoffs.

Midterms

By Tyler McNeil '17

January is a sign that the school year is half over and that means one thing: Midterm Exams. Students spent countless hours and all-nighters studying for their exams in hopes to get good grades. A great thing about the end of midterms is the fresh start. With a new semester, new classes, new teachers it is great opportunity to work on academic related resolutions you've created for the new year.

With midterms over and everyone is caught up on their sleep it is time to start the second semester. A

The Holiday Season

Christmas at Feehan

By Brian Rea '17

For the entirety of December, Bishop Feehan was decked with more than simply boughs of holly. The Christmas spirit was alive and sweeping across campus. Classrooms were decorated like Santa's Workshop, teachers and students alike sported festive accessories, and lit garland filled the halls (no pun intended). The Christmas season at Feehan kicked off with the annual Tree Lighting and STAND Coffeehouse. As Christmas day slowly but surely approached, each class created and decorated its own tree! The class trees were a spirited and refreshing greeting on the way into the cafeteria. On December 15th, the various music ensembles and band put on the annual Christmas Concert, filling audience members with Christmas joy through song. Perhaps Feehan's most famous way of spreading holiday cheer is through Santa's Shop, which occurred on December 16th. On December 22nd, the last day before Christmas Break, students and teachers dressed in their most festive ties, tights, and sweaters. Also, the Feehan halls echoed Christmas songs in-between each class. At the end of the day, everyone was ready for Christmas after the Christmas Assembly. The Christmas spirit was very much alive and well for the month of December here at Bishop Feehan!

2016: One Wild Ride

By Kelly Garrity '17 and Juliana Desimone '17

(Warning: This article may contain alternative facts.) The year of our lord 2016 A.D. was, like most years, one year long—despite the fact that at times (November) it felt endless. Like all years, there were ups (completion of the Christopher E. Servant Fitness Center) and there were downs (November). Here are some of the highlights of the year that undoubtedly will be remembered solely for the revival of the Bee Movie:

Losses and Deaths

2016 was a year of many losses—some catastrophic, some sad, and some that we had to pretend were sad but really weren't, because we were never super invested in *Stars Wars*. Yes, there were many, many losses. More losses than you think. (Remember Merle Harrgard? Yeah, neither did we.)

There were gorilla-sized losses include Harambe (we ask at this time you pause for a 30 second moment of silence). Antonin Scalia will most likely be the most missed celebrity in the coming year, followed closely by Snape and Fidel Castro. Princess Leia and her husband, Prince, departed from the world but not our hearts. Brangelina and Brad Pitt broke up and Big Papi retired. Amongst the many celebrity deaths was a suspicious string of Feehan teachers' sudden departures: Desi Chem, Mr. Schmidt, Mr. Kirkland, Mr. Servant and Ms. Sprankle. Also, we will miss Vine, David Bowie, Cecil the Lion, and Carrie Fisher's mom.

Entertainment

This year was a whirlwind for the entertainment "biz." *(Cont'd on pg. 8)*

The Holiday Season

Christmas Concert Spreads Cheer to All

By Kelly Garrity '17

Like every year, this year's Christmas Concert was a smashing success when it hit the Feehan auditorium stage just before vacation. There was a sharp increase in attendance this year, due to the strategic placement of the concert on the Tuesday before vacation instead of the Friday. This was probably a bit of a let down for all students hoping to start vacation a smidge early by skipping the concert because they had "an appointment." I don't know for sure, just heard from a friend.

This year's line up was better, or at least just as good as previous years. There were several dance teams and even more acapella groups; all of them had dazzling performances. Chorus also sang beautifully and led the school in a couple of sing-along carols. The band was wicked good and everyone was still amazed by it, even though they're wicked

good every year.

Let's devote a moment of reflection to the String Ensemble. It was arguably one of the coolest things to ever happen at the Christmas Concert. However, it did leave some of us with questions such as: Who was that lady performing with the students? How did she become a performer in the String Ensemble at the Bishop Feehan High School Christmas Concert? Was that actually Jamenard?

One new addition to the concert was a brief intermission between each song, during which one poor victim- I mean lucky member of chorus- got to go up and tell a joke any dad would be proud of.

In conclusion, the Christmas Concert was, yet again, a success.

Happy Holidays!

By Nicole Tiberio '17

Though 2016 may not have been the best year for everyone, especially Mariah Carey, the Christmas season was full of joy and merriment. As lights, trees, and decorations went up, the animated and enthusiastic atmosphere around the Feehan campus was undeniable. Events such as the annual student council Christmas tree lighting and student concert made the season all the more fun and exciting for students. I hope that Santa treated everyone well and that everyone received lots of awesome presents. I also hope that you were able to spend

time with your friends and family, for that is what the holidays are truly about. Make sure to thank the generous people who gave you gifts and expressed their appreciation of you in 2016. Before long, Christmas turned to New Year's, and the excitement was palpable as the ball was dropped in Times Square. Several television channels reporting on the event featured performances from diverse artists and various entertainment segments. Sadly, the holidays are now over, but as we enter 2017, I pray that this year will be even better than the last. Here at the *'Rock Report* we hope that everyone had a happy, safe, exciting, and fun holiday, and we wish you the best of luck with your New Year's resolutions.

Interview with Mr. Demers

Mr. Demers: Feehan Legend

By Shane Sullivan '17

Mr. Dustin Demers is the Renaissance man of Bishop Feehan High School. Whether he is coaching tennis, making videos for Feehan TV, or leading his students to a 5 on the AP exam, he is one of Feehan's finest. Led by Shane Sullivan, the 'Rock Report sat down and asked him the tough questions.

RR: To begin, how has Feehan changed since you were a student here?

DD: I'd say the biggest way it's changed is obviously technology wise. When I was here in the '97-98 school year, nobody even had cell phones. If you had to call your parents you'd go to the main office or something like that, it was a huge difference. As I went through, cell phones became commonplace, but in my freshman year, I took a class in typing on a typewriter, to put that in perspective. But really, infrastructure has changed too, just looking at Mercy Hall and all the innovations that have taken place is just unbelievable.

RR: As a high school student, what was your dream job?

Actually, I wanted to be a history teacher, since the time I was 12 years old. So, my dream job in high school was to come back and teach at Feehan. The dream is real. I was always upset that I didn't win "Most Likely to Come Back and Teach" in my senior superlatives, but look at me now.

RR: When did you finally decide you wanted to teach?

DD: History was always my favorite subject, and I wasn't really good at anything else, so I figured it

was my calling.

RR: What's your favorite class/subject to teach?

DD: I would say, honestly, I love to teach AP Gov. But, I say I have a really awesome schedule. I get to teach ancient history and government, which are two of my favorite subjects. I would definitely say I am passionate about government, but I am probably just as passionate about ancient history, so I really have a sweet schedule.

RR: What, in your eyes, makes teaching truly worth it?

DD: In a way, it can be a hard job, a very hard job. I work until 2:30, I go home, I lesson plan, I make dinner, I correct...it's a lot more work than just what we do at school. I think that it's worthwhile when you see those kids walk across the stage at graduation who were complete messes as freshmen. But now you're watching them as mature people and you realize what you truly get done as teachers and educators. Then when you hear about your former students doing great things, I like to think I had at least something to do with that. Teaching lets me create a social legacy that will live beyond my years as a teacher and myself in general, and I think that's what makes teaching great.

RR: What is the funniest experience you have had during your time at Feehan?

DD: One time I went to the Red Sox vs. Tampa Bay Rays Game 6 at Fenway. It was a super late night and I had laid out all my clothes before I left because I knew I'd have no motivation the next morning. I got in really late, I normally go to bed at nine o'clock, and so, I woke up and was like, "I don't want to go to work today." But I got up and threw my clothes on and went out the door. Halfway

Interview with Mr. Demers

through the day, a girl raised her hand and was like, "Why are you wearing two different pairs of shoes?" And I realized, it was just a bad day. So I would say that was really funny.

RR: If you could move on to one dream job now after your days as a teacher, what would it be and why?

DD: I want to work at a ski mountain. My dream would be to be that person at the lift to just check your passes. What a job! You probably get to ski for free when you're off and you literally go "let me see your ski pass." After years of lesson planning and such, how great would that be? Then, you just get to shred the gnar the rest of the day.

RR: Let's pretend the entire senior class is listening right now, what would you say to them as they move onto the next chapter of their lives?

DD: I would say that you need to follow your passion. Society will tell you a lot of things that you should be or want to be, but at the end of the day, I can tell you from my own career, if you don't love what you do, even if you make a ton of money, you will be miserable. You need to follow your dreams, I know that sounds corny, but you want to be able to wake up and love what you do.

RR: Who is the coolest historical figure in your mind?

DD: I would have to go with Alexander the Great, simply because as someone who is turning 34, seeing him as someone who conquered the entire western world by 33 is pretty impressive. Meanwhile, I'm just stoked if my lunch is made in the morning.

RR: LEAST cool historical figure?

Obviously everyone wants to say Hitler. But I want to be unique....just put on the record that he stinks. In the regard of least cool, I'm going to go with James Buchanon because he was just....just so bad. He literally did nothing to solve the issues that led to the Civil War. When you think of Buchanon, you just think "meh."

RR: New England loses all sports teams but one, you get to pick....who stays?

I hate to say this, but it has to be the Bruins. I bleed black and gold even though they break my heart. I don't think I could make it through the winter without hockey to watch.

DD: Best Boston sports legend of all time?

Bobby Orr. Easily. *Sean Gray shakes head* Orr absolutely transformed the idea and popularity of hockey around here.

RR: Would you ever run for office?

I would if the opportunity presented itself. If I ever got the chance to make the world better through my own ideas, I would probably do so.

RR: Even if your entire staff was made up of your Gov. period E class?

laughs I would probably still run for office. We have some luminaries in that class. If we kept everything in proper decorum, I think we would do well. In the end, I think it would be silly, but work would get done.

The 'Rock Report Staff would like to thank Mr. Demers for taking the time to do this interview.

Dear Lucky

Dear Lucky,

My mom told me that I must audition for Feehan's Got Talent this year. I guess this is my fault —I told her that I have a winning act prepared. Clearly, adults do not understand sarcasm. Anyhow, can you help me come up with a talent?

Thanks,

Talentless Todd

Hello Todd!

Picture this: a wide, dark stage. A single spotlight. A moment of silence... "zyxwvutsrqponmlkjihgfedcba." The awe of the audience results in a standing ovation. Need I say more?

If the backwards alphabet proves to be too much of a gargantuan task, I have another suggestion for you: synchronized swimming. Get a group together that looks great in swim caps. Then, show us your best moves! Who needs a pool? This is always a crowd pleaser!

If you don't feel like burning calories, simply kick back and relax by binge watching Netflix on stage. This is a skill few teenagers possess these days. Even better, this act only requires a comfortable place to sit and your iPad.

If none of these ideas strike your attention, try yodeling, juggling balloons, lassoing chipmunks, or hula hooping while simultaneously beatboxing. But always remember that the only way to end a successful talent show act is by walking out with a mic drop.

Good luck,

Lucky

Word Search

Fitness Center (cont'd from pg. 1)

on. It's called the Shamrock Breakfast Club, where we work out on a regular basis before school," said Coach L'Homme. "You should come, if you want to get after it,"

added Mr. Bruschi. To newcomers of the weight room, Mr. Bruschi says that it is a no pressure environment. "Come up and tell us 'this is my first time', and we will walk you through everything." Mr. L'Homme added that no students have felt pressured so far. "Coach Bruschi was getting the Lamar Hunt trophy on the stage at Gillette on Sunday night, but on Monday morning, he was still here bright and early, working with four freshman girls. "That's pretty cool," he said. In conclusion, if you want to get in shape for sports or just want to work out, come find Mr. L'Homme and Mr. Bruschi down at the new fitness center.

Superbowl Preview

By Cole Firth '17

I expected this to happen. Wholeheartedly. I knew the Patriots were going to get the job done. By the time some of you have read this article, Tom Brady will have his fifth Super Bowl ring. If not, insert the crying Michael Jordan meme upon the face of my hopes and dreams. As a quick recap, the Patriots started off beating the Houston Texans in the second round of the playoffs. The game really freaked

me out for the first half. Insert "they had us in the first half" meme. There were noticeable differences between the first time and the second time the Pats and Texans met. The first being no color rush jerseys in the second game. The lack of color rush was disappointing and the main reason I believe the Pats didn't seem to do as well as in the prior game. As well, I believe it was part of the strategy to be up a possession at halftime. Bill just wanted a challenge in the second half. The Pats obviously ended up winning. The game against the Steelers was interesting, largely because of the lead up to the

word search *By Iris Neubecker '18*

E	E	S	S	F	L	J	C	E	L	V	E	S	G	SHAMROCKS
Y	T	F	I	C	S	H	P	E	S	O	J	Y	R	ELVES
V	R	S	M	Y	R	T	A	A	E	T	S	E	E	SANTA
L	E	A	O	E	C	H	R	I	S	T	D	C	P	GIFTS
A	Y	T	M	R	G	I	S	E	A	F	F	R	W	TOYS
H	Y	E	F	A	I	E	H	R	E	F	S	I	R	WRAPPING
F	E	L	D	R	F	M	A	S	A	N	T	A	A	HELPERS
A	M	L	O	E	T	E	M	T	P	O	P	Y	P	JOY
M	D	S	P	V	S	R	R	G	G	E	S	O	P	CHRIST
I	F	U	I	E	E	C	O	R	R	I	A	J	I	MERCY
L	O	S	S	V	R	Y	C	C	V	E	A	O	N	LOVE
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														RED
														MARY
														JOSEPH
														TREE
														STAR

game. Going into the game, the Steelers' players, media, and fans could be heard saying "Cash me outside how-bow dah?" to the whole of the Patriots. Chris Hogan heard this, took it literally, and caught nine passes for 180 yards and 2 touchdowns, en route to a Patriots' victory. "Drip, drop, drip, drop..." That wasn't just the use of onomatopoeia as an enhancing literary device, but also the sweet sound of Steeler fans' tears hitting the floor. To end, Patriots will beat the chickens 31-24. I love you, Tom Brady.

Continued Articles

Sports Recap (continued from pg. 1)

newly combined swim team is the Girls' Swim Team ft. Boys or the Boys' Swim Team ft. Girls. Tim Swim has yet to weigh in.

The boys' basketball team has both won games and lost some, but they have done one of these things more than others. As of February 4th, their record is 5-8. "After a slow start, the basketball team has played great recently and has a great chance of competing in this year's tournament", commented manager Joe Zaarour.

Under the gentle, shepherd-like guidance of Mr. Deady, Coach of the Year, and Kathryn Sach's often inconspicuous play at center, the girls' basketball team is probably doing pretty well, too.

*Both Garrity and Long will be majoring in Track Studies next year at college on a Pre-Track Track. They would like to thank the masses of fans that tirelessly come out and support both track teams in rain or shine and in sickness or health.

2016: A Wild Ride (continued from pg. 3)

Leo finally won an Oscar, Yonce dropped Lemonade and called out Becky with the good hair, while Hamilton enraptured Broadway, with star Ian McCarthy-Kelly winning the Tony for Best Rapping Performance in a Musical About America's First Secretary of the Treasury Who Lost in a Dual to Aaron Burr Which Did Not Actually Occur on Broadway but Should Have.

Legislation and Politics

The presidential election happened later in the year, pitting Ken Bone against Hillary Duff, Hillary Swank or some other lady, we don't really remember. They all lost, as did the American people as a whole. Unemployment hit its lowest level in 2k16 since the recession, but it was also the hottest year on record. The Nineteenth Amendment was finally

passed giving women the right to freedom of the press, but Prohibition was unfortunately eradicated. Still waiting to see Harriet Tubman on the \$20.

Other Things We Think Happened in 2016 But Aren't Really Sure About:

- Mr. Deady won Coach of the Year (this one we're sure about)
- Invention of the cotton gin by Whitney Houston
- Watergate
- Chicago White Sox won their second ever World Series
- War of 1812
- Giant panda no longer extinct

The Back Page

Student Spotlight: Kelsey McNulty

By *Chloe Burke '21 and Kendahl Nye '21*



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Join the 'Rock Report!
Thursday mornings at 7:15 in
Room 219.

Starting her journey at Bishop Feehan in the 2016-17 school year, freshman student, Kelsey McNulty is looking forward to participating in each of the three leaves of the shamrock: sanctity, scholarship, and sportsmanship. Kelsey demonstrates sanctity through her positive attitude both on and off campus. You never know when she's going to stop you in the hallway and say hello or ask about your day. Kelsey takes high-level classes and puts effort into all of her work and assignments. Feehan's rigorous, challenging curriculum and scholarship portion of the shamrock will help Kelsey achieve her dream of becoming a future lawyer. After her career at Bishop Feehan, Kelsey wants to attend the University of Notre Dame. As for sportsmanship,

she is a dedicated athlete who has been a member of a softball team since she was four years old. She belongs to Rhode Island Thunder Gold organization right now and hopes to get a college scholarship from her time on the field. Setting her standards high, Kelsey aspires to make the varsity softball team at Feehan in the spring. Both her mom and her sister have attended Feehan and have had only positive feedback, so Kelsey also decided to attend. As Kelsey says, "hard work and dedication pays off if you have the right mindset." Kelsey's enthusiastic attitude and positive outlook on life will ensure future success.