

COLUMBUS HIGH SCHOOL

The Clarion



November 2011

Interview with State Cross Country Runner: Madeline Tompach

By Brett Bousquet

Madeline Tompach is an average high school kid except for her incredible ability to travel long distance on foot. This skill helps her in cross country in which she qualified to state and placed 50th out of 300. State is not a strange experience for Madeline. Madeline went to state for track in the 100M, 200M, and 400M (the maximum number of events possible). I sat down with Madeline for a quick interview:

BB: So what's up with the super Madeline shirts?

Madeline: (Laughs) what can I say: I'm just that awesome and finally someone noticed it. No, my team just wanted to make shirts to support me. I appreciated the thought behind them.

BB: Do you have a strict training schedule during the season?

Madeline: I mostly just go to practice and don't eat junk food and don't drink soda.

BB: So what are you doing now that state is over?

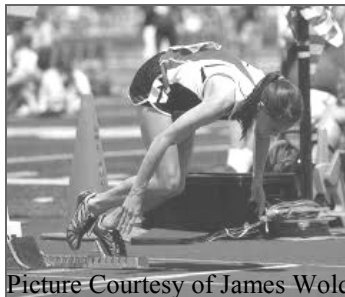
Madeline: I have already started training for track. I run every day and do leg exercises to get ready for track and hopefully another shot at state. I'm not as strict as I am during cross country because it is in between seasons, but I am still working very hard.

BB: So is it reasonable to say you have replaced Garrett Patrick and it

is now "your" team?

Madeline: No, I'm just another part of the team. Everyone tries very hard and is just as valuable as anyone else.

BB: What did you think about when you are running?



Picture Courtesy of James Wold

Madeline: I just focus on a point and pretend it is the finish line like in track.

BB: What is the hardest part about the cross country season?

Madeline: The mental stresses of trying to do my best, eat right, and win during cross country while still trying to maintain my grades and doing all my homework. It is really stressful trying to be the best that I can be in both categories at the same time.

BB: What was the best moment for you during the cross country season?

Madeline: Definitely when I broke the school record.

BB: Well, Madeline congratulations on a great season from all the stu-

dents of CHS. I am sure many are excited to see what she will do next.

Dig Pink!

By Sarah Rowe

With the end of October comes the end of Breast Cancer awareness month. The Columbus Volleyball Team once again took a stand against this deadly disease with their annual "Dig Pink" game. This year however, the color lime was inter-mixed with the shades of magenta, rose, and fuchsia as well as a personal attachment to the cause. The Lady Cards fought not only for Breast Cancer but also for Hotchkins Lymphoma and their own middle hitter, Jessica Breunig. The festivities began with an extensive decorating of the varsity gym with ribbons, balloons, and posters bearing various sayings. The predominant poster in the gym (Varsity's) read "Dig Pink 2011-We are a team because we won't fight alone." This powerful saying was printed on t-shirts sold by the Columbus Community Hospital to benefit their cancer programs. Raffle tickets were also sold. These sales raised a whopping \$1,178 for the Community Hospital. Everybody was happy to partake in such an amazing event as well as watching the Lady Cards dominate Poynette in a 3-0 shutout.

Marching Cardinals Finished Strong

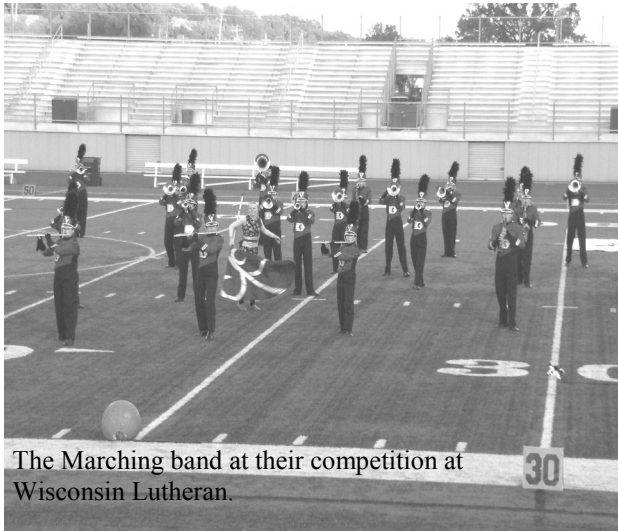
By Ariel Baseman

Throughout the summer, band students came in to learn, practice, and rep their 2011 show over and over again. The incredible effort this year from the band showed at the State Marching competition held in Whitewater on October 15th. "The Far East" was an interesting and attention grabbing show for competition that included a dragon that was hand made by many parents and carried by many volunteers from CHS.

At the first competition this year held at Wisconsin Lutheran, the band received a score of 58.9 out of 100 which was a shock to many band members. The score encouraged the students to push harder as they had only two weeks from their first competition to State. As the band pushed through the school year, students came in early on Friday mornings at seven o'clock.

The following week, the students' effort had pulled through. They did not receive first place at the Cudahy invitational, but had brought their score up seven points to a 66. This kind of

improvement was due to the hard work that was put into the program. Because they were still not satisfied with their score, the band members had voted overwhelmingly to come at seven on Thursday as well as Friday the week of



The Marching band at their competition at Wisconsin Lutheran.

8:00 am, as with all competition dates, it was imperative for the students to maintain their focus throughout the day. At Whitewater, the Marching Cardinals placed fourth, with Wisconsin Lutheran in 3rd, Baldwin-

Woodville in 2nd, and Cumberland placing 1st. Although many band members were disappointed with the placing, they had achieved the second highest score that the Marching Cardinals had ever received at State. The band received a 75.55 and had im-

proved nearly 17 points in two weeks. That is the mark of a season that ended well. Congrats to the band students!

State. At the football game that Friday night, the band found themselves playing at several different tempos.

When students came to school the Saturday of State at

Just Sayin'!

By Leah Clark

Dear Leah,
I lose my shoe. Can you help me find it? -<3 Ian.

Dear Leah,
I lost my shoe, can you help me find it? -Shoeless.

Dear Shoeless and Ian,
Well, it seems that you both have the same problem. Now, did one of you take the other one's shoe? If

so, give it back! Just sayin'. If not, well, Shoeless give your shoe to Ian so he has two shoes and Shoeless... good luck with that.

Dear Leah,
I was told two different stories by two different people. I don't know what to believe and I can't confront them otherwise I could get into trouble. What should I do? -

Anonymous

Dear Anonymous,
Ugh, that is a problem. First off, by confronting them you would get into trouble, is this something that needs help from an adult? (VERY serious). If it isn't that kind of issue, then you have some options. You could keep to yourself about it, that way you don't get into trouble by confronting them.

Columbus Halloween

By: Brittany Grafton

Every year new costumes come out according to what is happening. While most people go with the basic costumes of witch and wannabe ghost sheet, this year's costumes got creative.

Last year the leading sellers of costumes were Mad Hatter, wolves, boxer, and the ever so famous, red riding hood. While these are all good costumes, they only fit certain people. Not everyone would look good as the all too "showy" red riding hood, and not everyone could pull off the macho boxer look. This year, for more variety, the costumes featured ideas for all ages. This year's popular costumes were:

- Angry Birds
- iPod/iPhone
- Zombies
- Steve Jobs
- Osama bin Laden
- Charlie Sheen

Just Sayin' continued...

You could ask someone else about the problem and see what they know or what they believe. In the end, you might have to take the risk and talk to them about it. But I'm just sayin', this is a very difficult situation, so do what you think is best.

Dear Leah,
Leah HELP! So I had my first kiss yesterday and it was perfect! Until my mom jumped out of the closet! What do I say to her!? -First Kiss

Dear First Kiss,
Ask her what the heck she was do-

- The Black Swan
- Morph Suit

CHS had a three-day weekend, as everyone knows, and how you filled it was your choice. When interviewing some students, it seemed as the movie, Paranormal Activity 3 was a great hit. One freshmen girl said, "best one so far, don't think I will sleep", after seeing the movie. One sophomore guy asked, "how far do you think they will drag this on?" Turns out if you haven't seen the third one, better see it soon because the fourth is already being planned. If you have already seen one and two, you must be wondering what happened to Hunter and Katie. Next October is when they plan on releasing the fourth movie to the sequel. Another thing mentioned was the Fall River haunted house. The Haunted house is located just out of Fall River and has been running for years. While in the haunted house, don't be surprised if your name is

called out because Fall River and Columbus high school students volunteer to work at scaring people. It costs nine dollars to go through the haunted house and corn maze, but they help the Brayton Park and Salvation Army. "It really is a fun time working here", said the giant monkey. I also asked the guy with the zapping stick what was the best reaction, he said "I scared one girl by pretending to zap her and she fell over and scrambled up and ran to her car." It really is a fun time and you can spend it with your friends or clinging onto that special someone. On Monday, CHS had dress up day for Halloween. The theme was black and orange, but some students dressed up in their costumes. During classes, you could see several students eating the candy they got on Sunday during the Columbus trick or treating. Whether you like Halloween or not, I hope you filled it with some fun and some scares.

ing in your closet! It's rather creepy that she would randomly be in there.. unless she was spying on you, which is still creepy, just sayin'.

Dear Leah,
Oh my goodness. So I went trick-or-treating and got a ton of candy (410 pieces to be exact). I ate half of all of it in one day! I gained more than 25 pounds! How can I lose the weight and get rid of my sugar tooth? - Candy Craver

Dear Candy Craver,
Stop eating candy right now! You need to get rid of the rest of the candy ASAP. Just sayin'. Then,

you should start working out and eating right. You can go to the weight or cardio room after school and eat good foods like fruits, lean meats, and vegetables. You'll get your regular weight back to normal soon enough. Just don't eat that much candy anymore!

Got a question? Just write your question on a piece of paper and put it into the question box located in the library. Make sure it is school appropriate!

Updates at CHS



By Ariel Baeseman This year, our new principal, Mr. Mastin, has made some updates to CHS' rules. One rule that many students oppose has actually been a rule for "decades" as Mr. Mastin had said. It is actually a state law that is just being enforced more than previous years. "It was brought to my attention that there are a lot of kids in the halls that are getting to class late which is causing disruptions and keeping students from learning and teachers from teaching. Teachers felt that students have time to make it to class and asked for this rule to be enforced so we said we would." As for student's with 1A and 1B classes, Mr. Mastin has recommended taking materials for your first two classes to their 1A class. He also says that he is "always open to suggestions" but thus far there have been no complaints to him about lack of time between 1A and 1B classes.

Another update this year is when a student has an appointment, it is highly encouraged that students get a note from where they came from, whether it is their doctor, dentist, etc. Mr. Mastin said, "Brining notes when

visiting a dentist or doctor helps us count that as a medical absence and it doesn't count against [the students'] nine days. It helps for when you'd actually like to use them and benefits the absent students." Once again, this is not a new change, it is just recommended and emphasized more this year.

There is also a change that is very controversial in the eyes of most students, especially the upperclassmen. This would be the new lunch line. Many students have strong opinions about the new lunch line and most are not kind reactions, such as Senior Ray Steger who said, "I just don't get the point. ... I think it's stupid," though there are some people that approached the new change like Senior Ryan Goodinson. "I think the first attempt was completely incompetent, however I like the one they did today. It seemed to be more organized," Ryan had made this comment on September 24th, when the ropes for the lunch line were moved inside the lunchroom. One thing about the new lunch routines that students are unaware of is that these were students' suggestions.

The final thing that students have been whispering around is that there will be closed campus for lunch starting at any time. Thankfully, Mr. Mastin told me, "We have no need to change

the open campus. It's working fine. We solve problems, we don't change things for the sake of change, there has to be a good reason."

Clarion Policy

The Clarion is published, written and edited by students of Columbus High School. Information reported is accurate and factual to the best of our knowledge and ability. Anybody wishing to submit letters to the editor may do so understanding that it is up to *The Clarion* editors to determine whether or not a letter will be printed. No letter will be printed unless it is signed. Names can be withheld upon valid request to be determined by the staff. All letters to the editor should be submitted to Ms. Porter in room 133 or the office. Letters or articles may be withheld or censored at the discretion of the editors, advisors or administrators. *The Clarion* is published on a monthly basis.

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Editor-in-Chief: J.T. Cestkowski
Editorial Editor: Brett Bousquet
Sports/Activities Editor: Sarah Rowe
 Ariel Baeseman
 Logan Wescott
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Six Reasons Why

By Brett Bousquet &
JT Cestkowski
Packer's Vs. Lions

Hello readers, to start the year off I, Brett Bousquet, agreed to debate JT over who is the better football team, the Packers or the Lions. JT the Lions are such a joke I don't know how you can personally defend them and still show your face in public. Let's remember what team went completely winless in the '08 season: The Detroit Lions. While the Lions are in a competition with the Panthers to see who can lose the most games this year the Packers will be penetrating deep into the play-offs and possibly winning a Super Bowl. Here are the reasons the Packers will prevail:

- 1) The Packers' passing game, the word dominating comes to mind.
- 2) The Packers have one of the best defensive coordinators in football, Dom Capers.
- 3) The Packers also have a star studded defense led by the veteran sack king, he finished second last year in the defensive player of the year standings to the best player ever (which is understandable), Clay Matthews. Also, although Calvin Johnson is one of the best receivers at flying to the ball he will not be successful while entering Lambeau Field, Charles Woodson's no fly zone. The Packers also have a defensive tackle similar to Ndamukong Suh in BJ Raji.
- 4) The Packers have an experienced, Super Bowl tested team, as oppose to the Lions roster with many players that were around for the 0-16 season plus a few stars.

5) The Lions also have no chance at victory because they can't keep Matthew Stafford healthy. Jim Shwartz might as well save some time and put him on the injured reserve list right now.

6) In the end the Lions have a few stars that are fun to watch, but that isn't a good football team. A good football team has some stars, yes, but has many decent, hardworking players that make plays.

JT once again I have destroyed you with ease. I have systematically dismantled your reputation once again. This time it was easier than usually because the Packers are far more skilled than the Lions just as I am far more skilled than you. What a winning combination.

Brett, I briefly held out hope that this year you might see the light and finally agree with every word uttered from my God-like lips, but apparently you're still clinging to your stubborn, incorrect views. This year the Detroit Lions are twice the team that the Packers could ever hope to be. On every side of the ball we have more speed, more strength, and more intelligence. I'm shocked at your inability to recognize the superior skill that Jim Shwartz (head coach) brings to this already incredibly talented team of football-playing machines. If you really insist upon making this clearly one-sided argument, here are but a few reasons as to why your team has no chance against the beasts of Ford field on Thanksgiving.

1) The Lions are still starting the

20-year-veteran kicker Jason Hanson, who is the most prolific and accurate kicker from beyond the 50-yard line.

2) On our blind side, we have left tackle, Jeff Backus who started numerous seasons for the Lions and can take on any blitz package or defensive end you throw at him. I heard a rumor that he eats scorpions for breakfast and wipes himself with a cactus.

3) Calvin Johnson, a 6' 5" receiver who only has to look at the ball and it's caught.... 'nough said.

4) At running back there is the quick footed Jahvid Best. Our coach, Jim Shwartz, said when Best was drafted that "Some people watch adult movies to become aroused, but I watch highlight clips of Jahvid Best."

5) Defensive end, NdamukongSuh was the rookie player of the year last year. Oh yeah, that's right, and now the Lions have added Nick Fairly at D-tackle which will create a D-line that cannot be stopped.

6) Matthew Stafford, our QB, has cannon for an arm, not to mention the fact that he has his own theme song on youtube called "Matthew Stafford is a Man," and is far and away more of a man than Aaron Rogers.

So, Brett I guess we will have to continue to agree to... Ah screw it! Admit that I once again bested your arguments and made you see the folly of your ways!

Liked what you just read? Feel free to give suggestions to either Brett or JT as to what they should debate in the future.

Brett's Top Five TV Shows You Shouldn't Miss

By: Brett Bousquet

- 1) Castle- Clearly the best show on television. This show is about the hot detective Kate Beckett and famous writer Richard Castle who work together to solve strange murder mysteries in New York City's underworld. The only dramatic show to make my top five for good reason. It is very action packed with humorous little gems every so often to lighten the mood delivered by Nathan Fillion as Richard Castle. The show also keeps you on your toes and to find the killer you have to be paying attention. A true winner. I have no criticism and hope you enjoy it.
- 2) Parks and Recreation-A show about a parks department in a rural Indiana town. Stars include Amy Poehler as star Leslie Knope, the progressive parks and rec director that hopes to be president and often ends up in sticky predicaments. The best performances, though, are by Chris Pratt, Leslie's idiotic secretary Andy Dwyer. Andy was only supposed to be a season one character, but due to his stunning performance he became a regular cast member. The funniest member of the cast is Nick Offerman as the hysterical Ron Swanson. Ron Swanson, Leslie's boss, hates government. Ron tries to limit his branch of government to be as counter effective as possible. Ron does such odd things as give a third grader a claymore land mine to, "Protect her family and property," and purposely call co-workers who are getting too friendly by the wrong name

to let them know he doesn't care about them. Poehler has gotten two nominations for her performance and the show has recently been nominated for an Emmy for Outstanding Comedy Series. All in all some of the episodes are dull, but most are winners, and it is by far the best comedy on television.

- 3) Modern Family- The second best comedy on television. A comical representation of a "modern family" which includes an average family with three kids, a gay uncle and his life partner, and a grandfather with a hot young wife and a mature stepson. The show is carried by Ty Burrell, the hilarious idiot dad of the "average family". The other characters of the program are occasionally funny, but Ty Burrell makes this "one man show" work.
- 4) Happy Endings- This show is about a group of friends who are in a complicated position because the couple in the group who brought everyone together broke off their relationship on their wedding day. The group faces many problems throughout the episodes. This show is one of the best on television but is relatively new. The funniest actors on the show are Adam Pally (Max Blum) and Damon Wayans Jr. (Brad Williams).
- 5) The Office- Robert California (James Spader) is an admirable replacement for Michael Scott (Steve Carrell). California's wise humor is almost funnier than Scott's idiotic humor. The show is

suffering because of bad show ideas. The show no longer has the feel of a documentary of a normal office it more reminds me of a Bob Saget sitcom. The writing is unoriginal and atrocious, the jokes are predictable and no longer have the same awkward feel that made the office famous in the first few seasons. The episodes are completely pointless and boring. The only glimmer of hope is Rainn Wilson as Dwight Schrute (our savior). In short the show barely can make my top five and will soon be passed by many budding shows if the writers don't change writing styles.