

# MAROON TRIBUNE

DWIGHT MORROW & ACADEMIES @ ENGLEWOOD VOL. 17.2

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date, Food Drive and more



Students listen to representative at the recent Career Fair held in the Common Area.

## THE TRUTH As See It

### HIGH SCHOOL ROYALTY

By Sakthi Sundaram

It might be a weird concept to kids that don't live in America, but for many students that do, homecoming is quite the anticipated date. It's a topic you might find being discussed in one of those BuzzFeed posts titled, "Fifteen Questions Foreigners Have about American High Schools," and if it had not been for all the cable television shows that put the roaring enthusiasm of homecoming on display, I might have been among the answer seekers. The truth is, I never really questioned the idea of Homecoming. It's just been one of those constants about growing up here in America.

Homecoming has something for everyone and for anyone looking to have fun. Though the more I thought about how ingrained it is in our school life, I also realized that this event might not be for everyone. Along with the football game and marching band, one of the best parts of Homecoming is when

the Homecoming King and Queen are announced. The whole ordeal is a moment of fun and simple competition for high schoolers. Days prior, couples contesting for this title would make their rounds on social media, urging students to vote for them. Then, on

Homecoming, the most voted for couple is named King and

Queen. The thing missing? The possibility for two Queens or two Kings.

It's like one of those old traditions that has been more or less great, but could be improved as time goes on. The problem with situations like these is that people sometimes struggle to break from tradition. Though the great thing is, the change is happening. This is where I become so thankful for the students who are growing up in this time. They see a problem? They work to get it fixed. A majority of kids these days are so open-minded and accepting, allowing for change to occur quickly and for the better.

This was especially clear to me when I learned that Milford High School in Ohio *dethroned* the idea of a King and Queen,

### **The thing missing? The possibility for two Queens or two Kings and recognizing sexual preference.**

and in place of it used Homecoming Royalty to promote gender neutrality for its Homecoming event. And this gender-neutral titling allows for anyone to run as a couple and win the title.

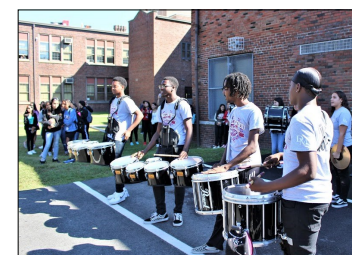
I would hope that we as a campus take this situation as a challenge of growth. Our student body is one of the most accepting ones I know, and the most diverse, and I know the use of King and Queen at our homecoming is in no way meant to be negative, but we could make this a point from which we can grow. We can be all-inclusive for our Homecoming just as we are on our Diversity Day, and more and more so on the campus grounds of our ... well, *queendom* if you will! It might just be around time to pass on the crown.



2019 DMAE "Royalty": I to r, seniors April Yoo and Hyunsoo Kim, and underclassmen Herbert Brown and Flora Cho.



Top left and clockwise: Members of the Cheer Team Jennifer Rompich, Orquidea Agullo, Victoria Galette, and Samma Hassan; Pep Rally moments with runway, Girls Tennis Team, Cheer Squad getting ready, and Drum Line; and seniors Dekyi Tsotsong and Natalia Krol break through the Volleyball banner. Below, seniors Klaudia Spahiu, Lynaisha Smith, and Gianna Scarpa.



## High Spirits at Pep Rally

By Dekyi Tsotsong

The DMAE Pep Rally on September 27, 2019, was one of the best in recent years with high spirits, enthusiastic participation and team cooperation.

"The 2019 fall Pep Rally did not disappoint! Excellent weather,

great school spirit, and enthusiastic student body and athletes made it an enjoyable event," Athletic Director Richard Suchanski said.

Student athletes who participated in a fall athletic program, the cheer squad and drum line members all couldn't wait to get the Rally started and reported to the gym at the end of 7th period with high expectations ready to prepare. They wore uniforms along with wide smiles.

Soccer, volleyball, football, cross country and tennis athletes prepared to run out with their respective teams.

Each sport had painted its own banner to run through to enter the Rally. Members of the cheer team held onto these banner as the sports teams broke through

them with spirit and pride once the Rally began. The rest of the student body waited in excitement in the senior parking lot near a small stage as Mr. Suchanski announced each team.

"It's great to see how the Pep Rally has evolved over the years. I see a lot more school spirit as a senior," senior Lynaisha Smith said.

The coaches of each team introduced senior players and gave short speeches about them. Varsity players stood on the stage while junior varsity players supported from the sides. The Pep Rally meant the most for the senior athletes because most of them had invested years into their sports. All told, approximately 36 seniors were recognized by their coaches: 11 for football, 5 for girls soccer, 6 for girls volleyball, 10 for boys soccer, and 4 for girls tennis.

"It brought us together as a community," senior Damian Orłowski exclaimed.

"Since it's my senior year, this Pep Rally meant the most to me. It was nice and everyone had fun."

Not only were students pepped for the rally, they were also excited for the Homecoming game which took place that night.

"The excitement of the event carried into the evening for the Homecoming Game. A large crowd filled Winton White Stadium, which included alumni from the class of 1979 and 1993. With everyone's support cheering on the football team, the Maroon Raiders were victorious," Mr. Suchanski said.

Mr. Suchanski also commented on the high spirits and performances of the marching band and cheer squad.

"It truly was a very special night and memorable event for this fall season," Mr. Suchanski said.

The week leading up to the Rally was Spirit Week: jersey day, superhero day, wacky tacky fun day, twin day, and, of course, Raider Pride day for the Rally.



Seniors Dekyi Tsotsong and Natalia Krol breaking through the Volleyball banner.



# Sports

## Close-Up

### MEET DMAE'S NEWEST PRINCIPAL

#### Benjamin Suro

By Sarah Yang

Following what seems to be almost a tradition, with another new school year hails DMAE's newest principal.

An educator for 16 years, Benjamin Suro is well versed in adapting to various educational environments, with DMAE being his latest one. He is passionate about the school and believes in the idea of community. He emphasizes that while the DMAE community is fractured in various ways, it certainly is not irreparable due to the breadth of ethnic diversity present.

"I feel that DMAE is the best of both worlds. You have such a diversity of students here and such a wealth of resources that we can use to promote the school in various ways. I fell in love with the building, the staff, the community. It just felt right," he reflected.

In his quest to redefine the image and influence of DMAE, Mr. Suro believes in what DMAE *could* be rather than what it has been. He is devoted to improving school culture, and making it collaborative with open communication.

"Unfortunately, there have been things that happened here in the past, and people have been focused on the negativity that resulted from them. I want to be able to introduce to everyone the DMAE that has so many great qualities," he explained.

Perhaps Mr. Suro's optimism is in part due

to the fact that he and his wife are expecting a baby. However, it is clear from his empathy and compassion that he is dedicated to improving DMAE by setting high standards for everyone, including himself, and that he tries to listen to as many people as he can.

"I have been a science teacher at an Honors and AP level, a dean, a supervisor, a vice principal, and now a principal. I've been able to work in really big schools and helped develop a school in Stamford, CT.

All of those things have made me a really good fit for this campus," Mr. Suro explained. "I think those who know me can say that Mr. Suro supports me and wants what's best for the school," he added.

The principal explained that communication is really big and it is why he spends time tweeting about the school and posting things on our live feed. He wants to make everybody feel supported and he wants what is best for the school; in short, Mr. Suro wishes to highlight his unwavering commitment to the school and its students.

"I try my best to extend the great things about DMAE outside of school grounds. I want people to realize that this high school is exceptional and, most importantly, that we have exceptional kids. I want people to know that," he said.

With our newest principal steadfast in his goals, people *will know that*.



Harlem Wizards join teachers at DMHS to put on a show for a community fundraiser.

## Harlem Wizards Spread Some Magic

By Sid Somashekar

On October 13, the Harlem Wizards visited Dwight Morrow, ready to put on a show for the Englewood community. A casual pickup game to 40, the faculty and the Wizards weren't afraid to have some fun and mix up the teams, putting some Wizards with the faculty and some faculty with the Wizards. The fundraising event was facilitated with numerous DMAE student volunteers, and the community's turnout matched their spirit.

"It was an exciting way to bring the community together and a worthwhile tra-

dition," junior Kayla Simons said.

As mentioned on their flyer, there were high flying dunks from beautifully tossed alley oops, with

**"It was exciting, energetic and totally worth your time."**

smooth handles and trick plays you would not normally see in a basketball game. But of course, this shouldn't be a surprise coming from the world-renowned Harlem Wizards. Established in

1962, the Harlem Wizards have grown as a brand, and added new talent to their roster over the years to continue the brand and its fun demeanor. Members of the team have a lot more to offer than just your average basketball player.

"It was exciting, energetic and totally worth your time," junior Veron Garrison said.

At the end of the day, everyone of all ages in attendance enjoyed the magic. The fundraising was considered a success among those in attendance.

## Low Turnout at Career Fair

By Anne Guo

On October 13, 2019, DMAE's Guidance Department hosted its newly implemented tradition, the Career Fair, for all interested students. Staff members invited representatives from various branches of the military, trade schools, and beauty institutions to promote their respective programs and help seniors navigate the future.

"All the guidance counselors contributed to the Career Fair -- Rachel Cohen even reached out to her father, a chiropractor, to come in and present," event organizer Denise Astuto said.

Despite their collective efforts and optimistic expectations, the guidance counselors were unfortunately met with general disinterest from students, resulting in a considerably low turnout.

The students who did attend the Career Fair however, enjoyed the experience and were able to gather more information on schools and military divisions that had

previously piqued their interest. Speakers from institutions such as the Parisian Beauty Academy in Hackensack, and Lincoln Tech in Paramus were present, as well as officers from the Navy, Army, and Airforce.

"The Fair provided helpful insight for my future," senior Hyunsoo Kim said.

Each representative provided interested onlookers with information pamphlets, school forms, and even small knick knacks such as pens. The Lincoln Tech spokesperson distributed stickers with their university logo, hoping to leave a lasting impression on the students.

"The reps clarified any questions I had about their campus, and were enthusiastic all throughout the event," senior Brian Lee said.

Although the attendance was sparse, various organizers are still hopeful that the Career Fair will maintain its status as an annual activity on campus.



### September Athletes of the Month

Senior Marianna Quinchia and junior VeRon Garrison. Marianna: Captain of Varsity Girls Soccer, led team to 5 wins, made 16 goals. VeRon: Captain of Varsity Football, led team to 2 wins and as defensive tackle. Both students earned top grades in their classes.



### Top October Athletes

Freshman Gavin Lam and senior Alexis Robinson. Gavin: ran personal best times in the 2800 meter for CX and placed at the top in four Meets. Alexis: won against two Divisional opponents for Girls Tennis. Both students maintained top grades in their classes.