

The Falcon Report

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DPUSFD

Special points of interest:

- *Breaking Dawn Part 1*
- Interview with Varsity Boys Basketball team
- The Challenge

Teachers New to Deer Park High School

Written by Alicia Legland, Amanda Giglio, and Lindsay Cassillo

The 2011-2012 school year has brought several new faces to Deer Park High School. Although some are familiar faces, there are a few that are brand new to all of us. Some of the teachers that are new this year have previously worked in our school district; some in Robert Frost and some from the elementary schools. This fresh group of teachers work in a variety of subjects.

From the middle school, we received five teachers: Mr. Johntry teaching Special Education, Mr. Newman teaching English, Ms. Held teaching math, Ms. Pullman teaching Italian, and Mr. Canarozzo as the new band teacher and the director of the marching/pep band. Another music teacher, taking over the second orchestra, is Mr. Nicolosi from J.F.K. Also from the elementary schools are our two new librarians: Ms. Doitsh and Ms. Libretti.

Our two newest teachers, from out of district, are Mr. Sepe and Ms. McKennett, both teaching math. We were able to catch up with them to discuss their previous endeavors and talk about the year to come. First up is Ms. McKennett.

Talon: Is this your first teaching job? If not, where have you taught before?

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Teachers new to Deer Park High School (cont.)

“Can’t wait to shape the future minds of America.”

McKennett: It is my first teaching job. I previously worked in banking as I had a degree in business when I graduated from Boston College. However, in May, I finished grad school and did part time subbing last year.”

Talon: “What made you want to become a math teacher?”

McKennett: I didn’t enjoy the banking aspect of being pushy and having to sell the products; I preferred to teach the customer how the products were used, helpful, etc. I always loved math and working with the youth so I wanted to transfer my knowledge to them. I also wanted to be a coach. I played soccer and lacrosse in high school and continued lacrosse in college. I’m now the Assistant Coach for the Girls Varsity Lacrosse Team.

Talon: Have you adjusted well to Deer Park High School and what are your thoughts about the new school year?

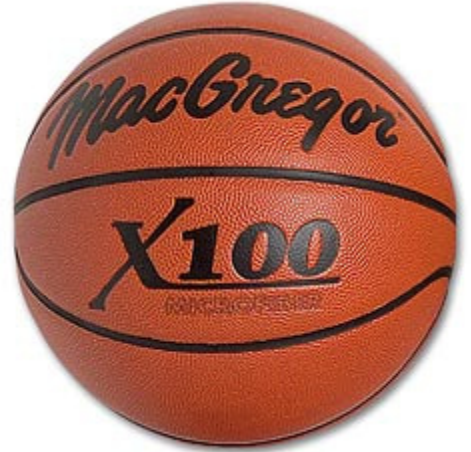
McKennett: There are many helpful people who work here and they have helped me adjust. I’m definitely excited for all the new experiences to come this year. I’m particularly eager to see my current students’ progress, especially during midterms and regents exams.

We then spoke to the Mr. Sepe about his career as well. Previously working as a student teacher in Wyandanch, Mr. Sepe has started his first official teaching job here at Deer Park High School. He is currently teaching Pre-Algebra and Introduction to College Algebra. We asked if he had adjusted to our school and he replied with a “yes.” Looking forward into the new school year, Mr. Sepe, “Can’t wait to shape the future minds of America.” He’s very excited to work with his new students and watch their skills develop. As we ventured onto the topic of professional aspirations other than teaching, he shared a personal anecdote of the three careers he’d want if teaching was not an option: 1) a competitive eater 2) a synchronized swimmer or 3) the guy who makes the blue lines on the paper. Much like Ms. McKennett, he too, has a passion for sports. This year he will be taking the position as JV Wrestling Coach.

Varsity Boys Basketball

Written by Nashay Kornegay

Deer Park Falcons' Varsity Boys Basketball team has many skilled players and an excellent coach. This season is looking good for the Falcons. The team is comprised of Kaleb Bradford (Junior), Kyle Bradford (Junior), Aaron Edmead (Sophomore), Rome Jenkins (Junior), Carrel Joseph (Junior), Kahwahn Nipper (Sophomore), Sean Scott (Senior), and Keith Williams (Junior). The coach is Mr. McCaffrey.



Kaleb Bradford is a guard however, he is currently out recovering from an ACL tear. Kyle Bradford is a guard and he averaged 18 points per game last year and finished the season with 43 three point field goals. Aaron Edmead is a guard also and he was the starting point guard last year as a freshman. Rome Jenkins is a center and was a backup center last year. Jenkins was named the SCBCA Top 40 All Star and Alzheimer All Star Team. Carrel Joseph is a center and was the starting center on the JV . Carrel is fast and has a tremendous vertical leap. Kahwahn Nipper is a guard and was a starting center on the JV team last season. Sean Scott is a forward and was also named the SCBCA Top 40 All Stars, the SCBCA Coaches for a Cure Suffolk All Star Team, and the Suffolk County Alzheimer All Star Team. Keith Williams is a guard and is a transfer from St. John the Baptist was also named to the SCBCA Top 40 All Star this fall along with the Suffolk County Alzheimer All Star Team.

Coach McCaffrey, who has been coaching for sixteen total seasons, twelve of which have been at Deer Park, has said that he believes the team has great potential this year.

The Challenge

Written by Jordan Rios, Assistant to the Assistant Editor

Lights, camera, challenge! Yes, it's once again that time of year in which our school takes part in the televised event known as *The Challenge*. The competition, held annually, pits together two high schools from the tri-state area in a battle of both wits and knowledge. Similar to quiz shows like *Jeopardy*, the host, Jared Cotter, presents teams of representatives from each school with questions from a variety of categories. The team that is able to answer the most questions, thereby obtaining the most points, moves on to the next round, where a new team and a medley of new questions await it. The competition goes on until a single school stands above the rest.

This year, our promising team hopes to go the distance and crush the competition. Representing Deer Park is John Pfundstein (Captain), Kevin Tresselt, Tyler Doogan, Jessica Curry, and Valerie Gerig. The team meets weekly under the guidance of Mr. Murphy to practice everything from rigorous academic questions to essential buzzer skills. With every practice, the team comes one step closer to victory.

The challenge first aired this year on October 31st and premieres a new episode every Monday at 6:30pm. Our school can be seen on January 30th competing against St. John the Baptist High School. You can follow other schools on MSG Varsity's website: <http://www.msgvarsity.com/thechallenge>

Be sure to follow the team as they attempt to beat all!

Holiday Recipe: Apple Pie

Written by Lateefah Hawthorne, Editor-in-Chief

Filling:

6-7 apples (any variety, depending on taste)

2/3 cup sugar

1/2 cup water

1 teaspoon cinnamon

1 teaspoon nutmeg or vanilla extract

1 teaspoon cornstarch

Crust:

1 stick Crisco, butter flavor

Flour

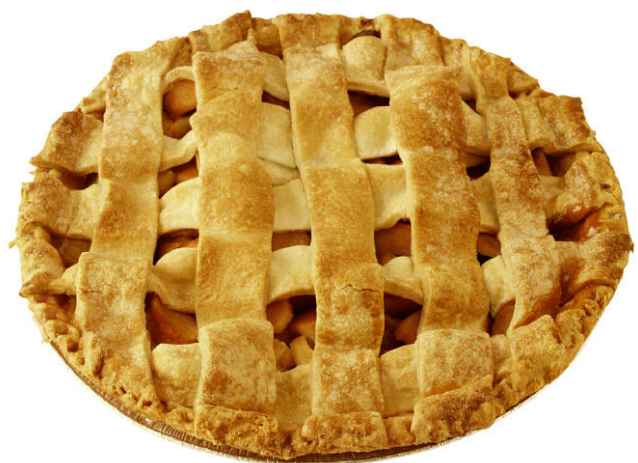
Water

Directions:

Peel apples and place in pot. Add sugar, spices, and corn starch/water mixture. Cook until apples are tender, but are not quite done.

In a separate bowl, mash Crisco. Add flour until it looks like coarse corn meal, adding a little water at a time until mixture doesn't stick to your hands. Roll out dough and place it in pie pan.

Pour apples over dough. With the remaining dough, cut strip and arrange in crisscross pattern



Breaking Dawn Part 1: Overview Editorial

Written by Alicia Legland, Amanda Giglio, and Lindsay Cassillo



With *Breaking Dawn Part 1* coming out, fans are excited not only for the beginning of the final movie, but for the soundtrack. Recently released by Bruno Mars, “It Will Rain”, has sky rocketed to popularity. It was released as the theme song to this movie; something that not all fans of the song know. What most fans do know, however, is that this particular song symbolizes Bella and Edward’s romance from the saga perfectly. The strong dependence on each other and intense love that they’ve developed from the start has grown to its peak. These emotions are conveyed through this song with immense accuracy. There are other great songs on the soundtrack as well including “Like A Drug” by Hard-Fi and “Northern Lights” by Cider Sky.

Part one of the fourth installment of this movie franchise came out on November 18th. It began with the lavish wedding of Bella Swan and Edward Cullen. As they tied the knot, they agreed to deal with the repercussions of this decision; setting up the plot, which displays many twists, turns, adventure, destruction, and love. There are many things to look forward to that will be included in this movie, for both avid Twilight readers and complete newcomers. For those of you who are not entirely familiar with the storyline, you’ll enjoy the film for its action, intense plot, and witty humor in some scenes. For those of you who have been faithful followers, we can only hope that it will live up to the amazing precedent set by the Breaking Dawn novel. Part one introduces the audience members to new vampires, new fantasy creatures, and a beginning to the end. Now the only, and most imperative question, that remains is this: ***Are you Team Edward or Team Jacob?***

***“There
will be no
sunlight,
if I lose
you baby”***

***-Bruno
Mars***

Breaking Dawn part 1: Main Cast and Details

Compiled by Lateefah Hawthorne, Editor-in-Chief

Bella Swan Cullen — Kristen Stewart

Edward Cullen — Robert Pattinson

Jacob Black — Taylor Lautner

Alice Cullen — Ashley Greene

Jasper Hale — Jackson Rathbone

Emmett Cullen — Kellan Lutz

Rosalie Hale — Nikki Reed

Rated PG-13 for disturbing images, violence, sexuality/partial nudity and some thematic elements.

Runtime is 117 minutes.

Written by Stephenie Meyer (novel) and Melissa Rosenberg (screenplay).

Trivia:

1. According to Bella and Edward's wedding invitations, the address of the Cullen residence is listed as 420 Woodcroft Ave Forks, WA.
2. Robert Pattinson went through a strict diet and exercise regime for six months in preparation before filming. He stopped his routine after filming the much-talked-about honeymoon scene.

Quote:

“No measure of time with you will be long enough. But we'll start with forever.” - Edward Cullen



**“Forever
is only
the
beginning”**

English Premier League Editorial

Written and organized by Jonathan Hurtado, Billy Keller, and Dan Keller

The English Premier League is considered by some, to be the most elite soccer league in the world. Many of the world's top players play in the league. Players like Wayne Rooney, Frank Lampard, Steven Gerrard, Robin van Persie, Gareth Bale, and Sergio Aguero are just a few of the world's most elite that play for their respective teams in the English Premier League. Throughout the first eleven weeks of league play, there have been many shocks, many disappointments, and many ordinary displays. Manchester City, long time and current cross town rival to Manchester United, have

shocked the world with its impressive start to the season. Yet to be beaten, City defeated United, 6-1, in an absolute landslide on October 23, 2011. City was led by Sergio Aguero, Edin Dzeko, Mario Balotelli, David Silva, Vincent Kompany, and star keeper, Joe Hart. Despite its lackluster performance, Manchester United was also off to a professional start to its high class caliber, as were Chelsea, Tottenham, and Liverpool.



Another big shocker is the impressive current form of Newcastle United. Led by Demba Ba, Yohan Cabaye, Leon Best, and Steven Taylor, United are destined for a season far better than anticipated. Also in current red hot form is Arsenal striker, Robin Van Persie. Van Persie has scored nearly a striking 50% of Arsenal's goals this year. This in form striker has linked up with fellow striker, Theo Walcott. The two have lead Arsenal from early lackluster performances, to a spot in the top 7. Chelsea, a team usually fighting for first place in the league, has been off to a rough start. Despite this, midfielder and Chelsea legend, Frank Lampard, has been heating up. With a hat trick a few weeks ago and the loan goal at its win over the weekend at Blackburn, the midfielder is surely going to help Chelsea pick up its performance in crucial matches. Classic title contender, Manchester United, has started slipping despite its early success in the league. However with the return of crucial, young talent in Danny Welbeck, Nemanja Vidic, and Tom Cleverley, United should be back on its way to regaining the first position on the table.

With such an entertaining first eleven weeks of soccer in the English Premier League, it will help prove for an even better middle, and end to the 2011-2012 Premier League season. Who will win the league?

English Premier League: Charts



N	Team	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	+/-	PTS	HOME	AWAY
1	Manchester City	11	10	1	0	39	10	29	31	5-0-0	5-1-0
2	Manchester United	11	8	2	1	28	12	16	26	5-0-1	3-2-0
3	Newcastle	11	7	4	0	17	8	9	25	4-2-0	3-2-0
4	Chelsea	11	7	1	3	24	15	9	22	4-0-1	3-1-2
5	Tottenham Hotspur	10	7	1	2	21	15	6	22	3-0-1	4-1-1
6	Liverpool	11	5	4	2	14	10	4	19	2-4-0	3-0-2
7	Arsenal	11	6	1	4	23	21	2	19	5-0-1	1-1-3
8	Aston Villa	11	3	6	2	16	15	1	15	3-2-1	0-4-1
9	Norwich City	11	3	4	4	16	18	-2	13	2-2-1	1-2-3
10	Swansea City	11	3	4	4	12	15	-3	13	3-2-0	0-2-4
11	Queens Park Rangers	11	3	3	5	10	20	-10	12	1-3-2	2-0-3
12	Stoke City	11	3	3	5	8	19	-11	12	2-2-1	1-1-4
13	Wolverhampton	11	3	2	6	12	18	-6	11	2-1-3	1-1-3
14	West Brom	11	3	2	6	9	16	-7	11	1-1-3	2-1-3
15	Sunderland	11	2	4	5	14	13	1	10	1-2-2	1-2-3
16	Fulham	11	2	4	5	14	15	-1	10	1-3-2	1-1-3
17	Everton	10	3	1	6	11	15	-4	10	1-1-3	2-0-3
18	Bolton Wanderers	11	3	0	8	18	27	-9	9	1-0-5	2-0-3
19	Blackburn Rovers	11	1	3	7	13	24	-11	6	1-0-5	0-3-2
20	Wigan Athletic	11	1	2	8	7	20	-13	5	1-1-3	0-1-5

RANK	PLAYER	TEAM	GOALS
1	Robin Van Persie	Arsenal	11
2	Edin Dzeko	Manchester City	10
3(T)	Sergio Aguero	Manchester City	9
4	Wayne Rooney	Manchester United	9
5	Demba Ba	Newcastle	8
6(T)	Frank Lampard	Chelsea	6
7	Rafael Van der Vaart	Tottenham Hotspur	6
8(T)	Gabriel Agbonlahor	Aston Villa	5
9	Mario Balotelli	Manchester City	5
10	Darren Bent	Manchester City	5

2011 AL Rookie of the Year Editorial

Written by Thomas Santiago

At the end of each season in baseball, there are numerous awards given out. The first award given out this year was the American League Rookie Of The Year. This honor is given to the best rookie in the American League as voted on by "Baseball America." Rays starter Jeremy Hellickson went 13-10 with an earned run average of 2.95(8th in AL), 1.15 WHIP (13th in AL) and 117 strikeouts in 189 innings pitched. To be eligible for this award, as a pitcher, a player must average one inning pitched per game played by the team. In a season there are 162 games, since Jeremy Hellickson pitched 189 innings, he was well on his way to ROY. Over these 189 innings, Jeremy played in 29 games, starting all 29 of them. Two of those 29 games were complete games(Tied-15th in AL) and one of them was even a complete game shutout(Tied-8th in AL)!

Although Hellickson had played in The Bigs before, this was his first full season in the Major Leagues. In 2010, during the September call ups, Jeremy had started four games going 4-0 and making six bullpen appearances. During this time period, he posted an ERA of 3.47, a WHIP of 1.10 and struck out 33 batters in just 36.1 innings. During this season in the minor leagues, Jeremy had won numerous honors. For the weeks of 4/19/10 and 6/1/10, he won Minor League Pitcher of the Week. Then, he was selected to the futures game. The players selected to this game are the rising stars that will one day, hopefully, have a successful career at the Major League level. He was then awarded with the Minor League Most Valuable Pitcher award, along with post-season all-star, Minor League Player Of The Year, Baseball America Minor League All-Star, USA Today Minor League Player Of The Year, and TOPPS Triple-A All-star. With all of these awards under his belt, there was no limit for the 2011 season, knowing that he would have a spot in a weakened Tampa Bay starting rotation.

Hellickson also had another tough challenge to face. He was pitching the toughest division out there: the American League East. In this division, there are the Yankees with the likes of Robinson Cano and Mark Teixeira, the Blue Jays with Jose Bautista,

2011 AL Rookie of the Year (cont.)

the Orioles with Vladimir Guerrero, and The Boston Red Sox with former Tampa Bay Ray Carl Crawford; those are just a minor fraction of the great power hitters in the AL East, so it was quite the challenge for a young guy like Hellickson to come in and hold down those hitters as much as he could.

In the month of May, he won Rookie Of The Month and Pitcher Of The Month. Around this time, the Rays were hanging in contention at top of the division, but towards the end of the year its wins started to deteriorate, as the losses began to increase at a rapid rate. However, a late surge by the Rays, and a huge speed bump hit by the Bo' Sox, wound up ending up with a dramatic finish, on game 162 with the Rays winning the AL Wild Card. If it weren't for Hellickson stepping up big in place for Matt Garza the outcome might not have been the same.

Jeremy Hellickson didn't win the ROY, he demolished the other contenders. He earned 102 overall points with 17 first place votes, 5 second place votes, and 2 third place votes. Mark Trumbo of the Angels received only 63 overall points 5 of them being first place, 11 second and 5 third.

2011 NL Rookie of the Year Editorial

Written by Thomas Santiago

Being Rookie Of The Year is one of the greatest honors a rookie can receive. There are two given out at the end of each season, one to the best rookie in the American League and one given to the most outstanding rookie in the National League. At the end of this season, Atlanta Brave's young closer, Craig Kimbrel, was able to stand out the most among all NL rookies. With Billy Wagner retiring at the end of the 2010, the Braves were left without a closer. But they were not worried because they had a young, right-handed pitcher to dominate the league. This man was Craig Kimbrel. He had appeared in 21 games in 2010 for the Braves, going 4-0 with an ERA of 0.44 saving one game, while just giving up 19 hits in 20.2 innings. He also gave up two runs (one of them earned) struck out 40 batters and helped his WHIP at 1.21.

What mattered most to Atlanta was how Craig could help them in the 2011 season. He exceeded all expectations. In 2011, he still only won four games, but also lost 3. In 77 innings pitched, he was able to strikeout 127 batters, which is absolutely astounding; starting pitchers didn't even have that many strikeouts! Kimbrel appeared in 79 games, out of those 79 games, 54 of them were save opportunities, he was able to convert 46 of those saves. The batters that faced him overall hit .178 and his WHIP (walks plus hits divided by innings pitched) was at 1.04.

Craig Kimbrel won numerous accolades during the regular season that would foreshadow the honor of Rookie Of The Year. In the month of August, he won the DHL Delivery Man Of The Month Award along with Rookie Of The Month Award. Two months prior to that he had also won the Rookie Of The Month Award. Out of all these honors during the regular season, the greatest he had received was being selected to the 82nd All-Star game in baseball history. Going into the 2011 season, only 10 relief pitchers had won ROY, five in the AL and 5 in the NL. The most recent being Neftali Feliz, the Ranger's rookie closer in 2010 was able to snatch the prize with his 40 save season.

2011 NL MVP Award Winner Editorial

Written by Thomas Santiago

The final award of the 2011 baseball season has been given out. This year, it was the National League Most Valuable Player Award. It wasn't an easy choice, but Baseball America choose Milwaukee Brewer's left fielder, Ryan Braun, as the most outstanding player in the National League this season. A lot of people thought that the award would go to the Dodger's outfielder, Matt Kemp, who just fell short of winning the triple crown. To win the triple crown, as an offensive player, a player must lead the league in home runs, runs batted in and batting average. However, in the end, Braun wound up with 388 points, while Kemp collected 332. Ryan received 20 first place votes, and 12 second place votes. Opposed to Kemp who received only 10 first place votes, six second place votes, and six third place votes. Braun's teammate, Prince Fielder, finished third in the voting with 229 total points.

The Brewer's slugger did indeed have a monstrous season; the numbers can back it all up. Braun played in 150 out of 162 games giving him 563 at-bats. In these 563 at-bats, he was able to collect 336 total bases, and average of .332, which was second best in the NL, 187 hits, 6 being triples, 38 of them were doubles and 33 of them were home runs. There was one game when he almost had an inside-the-park home run, but a stumble around third base, followed by a tumble down the baseline, resulted in him being tagged out and given just a triple. Braun's 33 home runs was sixth in the National League, 38 doubles was fourth in the league, his 6 triples were twelfth best among National League players. Braun was also able to drive in 111 runs, that was good for fourth in the league. In his season to remember, Braun lead the league with an OPS of .994, he was also the best slugger in the league with a slugging percentage of .597.

Leading up to his illustrious award, Braun was given a

2011 NL MVP Award Winner (cont.)

honors throughout the season. He was named player of the week on April 25th and also won player of the month in April and September. Mid-way through the season he was selected to the 82nd annual all-star game. Just a few days after the World Series ended, Braun was named the Silver Slugger of All National League Left Fielders. Finally, he was named the Brewer's 2011 Heart And Soul Award winner.

Sometimes people say a season couldn't have went a certain way without a certain player, however, the Brewer's season really could not have ended the way it did if Ryan Braun hadn't single-handedly done what he had done at the plate with his bat, when the Brewer's magic number was down to one. When the magic number is down to one, that means the team just needs one more win to clinch the division. In the bottom of the eighth, with one man out, two men on base, the score tied at one, the count was three balls to one strike. Florida Marlin's Clay Hensley delivered an 81 MPH hanger right over the heart of the plate. Braun did not let him get away with it. As soon as he made contact, he lifted his bat out, fully extended his right arm and saluted to the crowd. Once the ball landed way over the fence, the Brewer's knew they were just three outs away from returning to the postseason for the first time since 2008. In 2008 they were facing the Chicago Cubs, who had already won the NL Central, so the Brewer's were trying to get into the playoffs via the Wild Card. Once again, in the bottom of the eighth, with one out, this time one man on base, Braun lifted Bob Howry's first pitch of the at-bat, a 93 MPH fastball, to deep left-center field, into the upper deck. This once again, gave "The Brew Crew" a chance to advance to the playoffs, with just three more outs left to be made.

Once the postseason started, Braun kept on rolling along. During the NLDS, Braun played in five games, went 9-for-18, hitting .500 with one home run and four runs batted in.

2011 NL MVP Award Winner (cont.)

In the NLCS, Braun hit .333 after going 8-for-24 with one home run and six runs batted in. His overall postseason average was .405, with two home runs and 10 runs batted in. He also had nine extra-base hits, slugged .714, had an OPS of 1.182 and walked four times.

An argument about the definition of “most valuable player” has arose in recent years. People are debating whether or not a player who can bring his team to the playoffs should matter. This year for example, Matt Kemp had a slight edge over Braun in the 2011 regular season in most categories, and played a more demanding position and also played injury-free, which meant Kemp played more games. However, his team finished 11.5 games out of first place. The Brewer's won its division, and even went on to play for the pennant, but lost to the Cardinals in six games. One can only wait to see what happens.

Deer Park High School's The Falcon Report

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