



The Devil's Advocate

Hot Topics:

- The College Fair
- NWEA Testing
- The Pep Rally
- Homecoming Dance Game Pep Rally
- Anniversary of 9/11

C o l l e g e F a i r

The 2nd Annual College Fair was held at Wood-Ridge High School for students in grades 11 and 12. Some colleges and universities that attended were: Centenary College, College of St. Elizabeth, East Stroudsburg University, Farleigh Dickinson University, Johnson & Wales, Kean University, Manhattan College, Monmouth University, Montclair State University, NJIT, Rider University, Rutgers University, Seton Hall University, St John's University, and University of Scranton. Students attended the college fair to see what each school has to offer. Senior, Ally Aitkens, stated, "I wanted to ask the college representatives questions that will later help me decide which school is best for me."

Jessica Cygan stated, "I wanted to learn about all the colleges that attended the fair." There are so many choices for each student when it comes down to choosing a college that is best for everyone. Guidance Counselor, Mrs. Kurzweil said,



"This program was organized for the students because the college fair will make it easier for students to interact and ask questions about the colleges. Also, the students will have more information and knowledge about some of the schools that are at the college fair, even if the schools aren't in consideration." There are so many factors to consider when selecting a college and seeing what they have to offer, but the best thing to do is to choose the best and most comfortable for each individual. Be sure to attend next year's 3rd Annual College Fair.

-Marianne Lim

Back to School

September arrived quickly, and with it came a new school year. With summer's quick close, students came back to Wood-Ridge High School with new goals for the upcoming year. Wood-Ridge High School has welcomed new freshmen from both Gretta R. Ostrowski and Robert L. Craig in Moonachie. The class of 2012 has kicked off their senior year. College applications and SAT scores have been the main focus for the class of 2012. Wood-Ridge has also welcomed a new Principal, Dr. DeNobile, who is very excited to be part of the Wood-Ridge family. Everyone is excited to welcome her to Wood-Ridge High School. Dr. Ebler has replaced Dr. Giuliano, who retired last year, as the Superintendent. Though it is only the beginning of the year, things have already started off at a fast pace. Freshmen are now acquainted with their new surroundings, where they will experience their next four years. The sophomores continue to work hard, while the juniors have begun to explore SAT's and colleges. For seniors, the time to mail out the college applications and SAT scores is sooner than later because deadlines need to be met. Summer is definitely over, and students have gotten back to studying and working harder than ever!

-Jessica Cygan

Student Life

Editorial Disclaimer: Editorials are strictly the opinion of the writer. The Devil's Advocate stands as a high school newspaper for both information and entertainment.

Editor's Corner

One would expect students to strictly learn and discuss school matters in school. However, that is an unrealistic expectation. A large topic of conversation among the students is drug and alcohol abuse. Adolescents twelve to seventeen years of age are very likely to abuse drugs and alcohol. It becomes a competition following the philosophy, the more you drink and do drugs, the cooler you are. Most teens start the unrelenting cycle of drug and alcohol abuse because of peer pressure. Peer pressure is one of the greatest evils influencing teens today.

How is it that others are oblivious to such illegal behavior? The teenagers are not subtle about it. They often brag about it in a school environment. How do people not notice underage children getting intoxicated to the point that they pass out in strangers' homes? Somehow it is only when the police or some sort of authority get involved do others become aware of the illegal alcohol and drug abuse with which teenagers are involved. This has become an epidemic that is ignored by most Americans. What does this say about America's next generation? How can this "new generation" be trusted to one day run the country if people are too busy getting high and drunk?

Certain individuals do not even attempt to hide their substance abuse. They post pictures of it on Facebook, Twitter, and other social networks, or talk about it in their classrooms and other public environments. So one must ask, why is no one getting reprimanded for binge drinking and drug abuse? There are children in America who are coming into school drunk and/or high. Why doesn't anyone do anything about it? Is it possible that people around them are unaware?

Based on a 2009 survey, 9.7% of youth aged twelve to seventeen had used an illicit drug within the thirty days prior to taking the survey (www.adolescent-substance-abuse.com/national-drug-statistics.html). In our society, almost one in five persons aged twelve to twenty was a binge drinker, drinking five or more drinks on the same occasion. Almost half of Americans aged twelve and older reported being current drinkers of alcohol. Parents may not realize how available illicit drugs are to their children. They also may not realize how easily influenced young children really are when they begin to experiment with alcohol and drugs. Statistics can shock and alert parents, exposing the need to communicate with their children about the dangers of substance abuse and help them develop a plan on how to cope with peer pressure.

-Casey Walsh

Hit Songs of October 2011

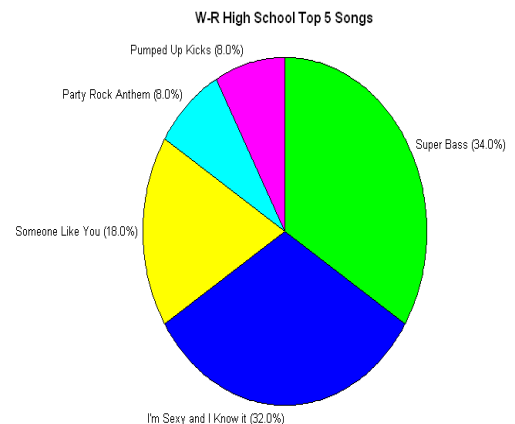
- Moves Like Jagger- Maroon 5 (Featuring Christina Aguilera)
- Someone Like You- Adele
- I'm So Sexy and I Know it- LMFAO
- Pumped Up Kicks- Foster the People
- What Makes You Beautiful- One Direction
- Party Rock Anthem-LMAFAO (Featuring Lauren Bennett & Goon Rock)
- Lighters-Bad Meets Evil (Featuring Bruno Mars)
- Super Bass- Nicki Minaj
- All About Tonight- Pixie Lott
- Heart Skips a Beat- Olly Murs (Featuring Rizzle Kicks)
- All Fired Up- The Saturdays
- Last Friday Night- Katy Perry

Albums to Look Forward to...

- "Believe" Justin Bieber (Nov.15)
- "Talk That Talk" Rihanna (Nov.22)
- "The Dream, The Believer" (Nov 29)

Top Songs of November at Wood-Ridge High School

- Super Bass- Nicki Minaj - 17
- I'm So Sexy and I Know it- LMFAO - 16
- Someone Like You- Adele - 9
- Party Rock Anthem-LMAFAO (Featuring Lauren Bennett & Goon Rock) - 4
- Pumped Up Kicks- Foster the People - 4



WRHS News

NWEA Testing

Students at Wood-Ridge High School will once again be taking the Measures of Academic Progress, or MAP, tests this year. The MAP tests consist of two different subjects: Mathematics and English. The English is comprised of both a Reading and Language skills section. Students will take the English MAP test during their English period and the Mathematics MAP during their Math period. The test will be taken three times throughout the school year, once in the fall, once in winter, and once in early spring. The English will be taken in September, December, and March. The math will be taken in October, December, and April. The scores will strictly be used to assist teachers when planning individual instruction for students. Once teachers see each individual student's scores, they will have a clear indicator of what level a student is at academically. The fall tests are a baseline of that data. The scores are relative to each student and show where he/she may need to further develop specific skills. MAP testing helps teachers look at weak areas and drive instruction targeted to those areas during their classes in order to hone in on a student's academic level. The test won't be overly difficult because it stays on the level at which the student is successfully answering the questions. It's not a test one can study for and isn't for a pass/fail grade. It really assists the teachers in creating a relevant curriculum to help each student excel. MAP testing will benefit everyone in the long run.

-Shannon Lacey



S.A.T. Testing

Beware! The worst nightmare for stressed out juniors and maybe some seniors has arrived-SAT's! This test is one of the major determining factors in college admissions. The remaining test dates for the 2012 are:

January 28, 2012

March 10, 2012

May 5, 2012

June 2, 2012.

The test consists of three sections: Critical Reading, Writing, and Mathematics. Studying for the test requires much stamina and determination. Preparing in advance is highly recommended. Going on the very helpful website collegeboard.org, one can find everything and anything one needs to know about the SAT. Study hard and arrive prepared to take the test with a number two pencil, a working calculator you are comfortable with, and even a small snack to keep your brain functioning for 3 to 4 hours worth of concentration. Good luck to all of those who are taking the test.

-Marianne Lim

One Down, Three to Go...

The end of the first marking period has come and gone. Students finished the first marking period off strong with exceptional grades. These first couple months have been crazy. Students came back to school after a wonderful summer break ready to start a new school year. A lot has been accomplished over these past couple of months. Seniors are preparing for college and other students are trying their best to do well in all their classes. Students who also participate in fall sports are preparing to end their seasons. Everyone is excited and relieved that the first marking period is finally over and now they can all look forward to the upcoming holidays, the second marking period, and midterms that are quickly approaching.

-Cynthia Vicioso

Ghouls and Goblins Invade Wood-Ridge

Halloween at Wood-Ridge High School is a special day to dress up and be anyone for a day. This year the senior class of 2012 had many creative costumes. There were many funny costumes that stood out and a lot of groups had very unique ideas. The seniors were able to attend a delicious Halloween breakfast where they got to eat lots of food. The costume winners were announced during the breakfast. In third place was the Super Mario Brothers group: Tyler Wyrostek, Lucas Boettcher, Eddie Cox, Josh Buscema, Todd Muio, Chris D' Angelico, Anthony Cirincione, and Shannon McMullin. In second place were the Siamese twins: Vinoli Goonetilleke and Sahara Amin. The first place winners were the sailors: Kevin Acosta, Michelle Camacho, Hailey Muller, Clarissa Martinez, and Bishoy Awadalla. After the winners were announced, it was time for the annual senior Halloween parade. The seniors were able to walk through the hallways in both the middle and high school to show off their costumes. Halloween was a success thanks to everyone who participated and once again congratulations to all the winners!

-Cynthia Vicioso

World News

The Anniversary of 9/11

Ten years ago, on September 11, 2001, our world changed forever. We remember the 2,968 men and women who were lost. On 9/11/2011, the Wood-Ridge community held a service to commemorate September 11th to honor the promise that we will always remember. People of all generations gathered to remember and respect those who lost their lives in the tragedy. The service started at 10pm and ended at 10:30pm. Wood-Ridge wasn't the only town remembering 9/11. Memorials and services were held all over the country. The public was able to set foot on the World Trade Center for the first time in ten years. There is now a National September 11th Memorial & Museum Center in Manhattan at 1 Liberty Plaza. It opened 9/11/11 and visitors can reserve free passes online at www.911memorial.org. People from all fifty states and more than seventy countries have already reserved passes. September 11th will



always be in the minds of Americans. The tragedy has created a united, stronger nation. The impact 9/11 had on America has been a tremendous one. The tragedy of September 11th has changed the world. People are more wary and less trusting. Airplane travel has forever been changed. America has learned from 9/11 and on the 10th Anniversary of it we realize how much we have grown because of it.

-Casey Walsh

Think Pink!

The student body of Wood-Ridge High School raised awareness of breast cancer throughout the month of October, Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Most of the athletic teams participated by wearing pink during their games. The volleyball team showed their support by wearing pink t-shirts and pink hair bows and using a pink volleyball at their home games. The girls also collected money at the home games to donate to the breast cancer foundation. The football players took part by wearing pink socks, gloves, and shoe laces and using pink tape and pre-wrap. The soccer teams also used pink tape and pre-wrap during their games. Many students in the high school raised awareness by dying their hair pink or putting a pink hair extension in their hair. About one in every eight women in the United States (12%) will develop invasive breast cancer over the course of her lifetime. Some precautions to take to decrease your risk of breast cancer are to eat healthy and exercise regularly to maintain a healthy weight. Studies show that drinking alcohol and smoking cigarettes increase one's risk of being diagnosed (www.BreastCancer.org). Thank you to all of those who supported the cause. Continue to THINK PINK not only in October, but throughout the year in hopes of one day finding a cure.

-Ally Aitkens



The Devil's Advocate

258 Hackensack Street
Wood-Ridge, NJ 07075

Advisor: Ms. Kimberly Millar

Editor: Casey Walsh

Writers: Alyssa Aitkens

Mina Morcos,

Emilio Rivera

Marianne Lim

Jessica Cygan

Cynthia Viscioso

Casey Walsh

Shannon Lacey

Stephanie Guarino

Homecoming 2011



We've Got Spirit, How 'Bout You?

"Spirit Week" took place at WRHS from October 11-14 in preparation for the big homecoming football game on Saturday, October 15. Throughout the week, the Student Council selected different themes for each day of the week for the students to dress up and show their school spirit. Students kicked off the week on Tuesday by dressing up as hippies. The Wild West came to Wood-Ridge on Wednesday when students dressed up as cowboys. On Thursday, the Student Council assigned each grade a different city from around the world. Freshman were assigned Paris, France; sophomores had Egypt; juniors were given Rome, Italy; seniors had Mexico City, Mexico. Students also decorated the all-purpose room to represent the various cities around the world. The students ended the week on Friday by showing their true Blue Devil pride by wearing Wood-Ridge High School colors.

-Stephanie Guarino
Alysa Aitkens

And the WRHS King and Queen are...

Friday evening, October 14th, the student body and parents attended the pep rally where the homecoming court was announced. The first two members of the court were Julie Lapa and Carlo Autino. Runners up were Nicole Fleck and Anthony Rispoli. Daniela Pedulla was crowned WRHS 2011 Homecoming Queen and was escorted by her 2011 Homecoming King, Mark Fratterelli.

-Stephanie Guarino
Alysa Aitkens



Dance the Night Away

Following the Homecoming game, the senior class came together for a dinner held in the All-Purpose room followed by the Homecoming Dance. The students brought all different types of foods and desserts for everyone to enjoy. The 2011 Homecoming dance was a formal event and it was extremely successful. Overall, Spirit Week and Homecoming was a huge success.

-Stephanie Guarino
Alysa Aitkens



Go Blue Devils!!!

On Saturday, October 15, the Wood-Ridge Blue Devils took on the Lyndhurst Bears for the 2011 Homecoming football game. The boys fought through the entire game coming back from a shut out at the half. Senior, Michael Melber, and sophomore, Stephan Barat, scored during the third quarter to put the Blue Devils back in the game. The boys came up short of a victory and lost 33-13.

-Stephanie Guarino
Alyssa Aitkens



Senior Spotlights

Heyli Perez



What are some of your interests?

I have enjoyed singing in the chorale for two years. I love performing in the concerts and going on the trips we take throughout the year.

How have you enjoyed your high school experience?

I have had a great time going to class and joking around with my friends.

Do you have any favorite teachers?

I enjoy Mr. Porter, Mr. Bischoff, Mrs. Gaven, and Mrs. Graziano's classes because they teach my favorite subjects.

What are your plans for college?

I want to go to the Arcadia University to study psychology.

What do you enjoy doing outside of school?

I enjoy walking around town with my friends.

Are you involved in any sports or clubs?

I'm involved with the chorale and the art club because I enjoy singing and the arts.

Have you lived in Wood-Ridge/Moonachie your whole life?

No, I have also lived in New York and Florida.

What will you miss most about Wood-Ridge High School?

I will miss my friends and my favorite teachers.

Kevin Acosta



What are some of your goals for this year?

Some of my goals are to do well in school so that I can get in to college.

Which senior event are you most excited about attending?

I am most excited for prom because it's my last high school dance and, of course, graduation.

What is going to be your major in college?

I plan on majoring in pastry arts.

What are you going to miss most about high school?

I am going to miss seeing my teachers and friends everyday in school.

What is one thing you will never forget about high school?

I will never forget Ms. Cermak's French class.

Where do you see yourself in ten years?

I see myself either in New York City or in Paris opening my own bakery or cafe.

Amanda Silvesteri



What colleges are you planning to attend?

I'm looking into William Paterson, Ramapo, and Stockton because they all have good nursing programs and I want to pursue a nursing career.

What will you miss most and least about WRHS?

I'll miss teenage life, like not really having any responsibilities. I definitely won't miss waking up so early, dealing with the drama, and seeing the same people year after year.

What are your favorite hobbies?

I love taking pictures, hanging out with my friends, doing arts and crafts, and planning parties.

What activities have you been involved in during high school?

I've been involved in Interact Club, Student Council, Drama Club, TIGS, the Art Club, and tennis. The bus rides to tennis matches will always be some of the best memories I have from WRHS.

What's one thing you would change about the school?

I would make it so seniors could go out to lunch everyday.

Who will you miss most once you graduate?

I'll miss the friends I don't really hang out with outside of school.

What's a piece of advice you'd give incoming freshmen?

Don't mess up your freshman year; you'll regret it.

BLUE DEVIL SPORTS

Bump, Set, Spike...

It seems like no one can stop the Wood-Ridge volleyball team. They went 18-7 over a glorious season, leading them to the state tournament. With captain, Alyssa Aitkens, leading her team these girls could do no wrong. On November 1st they played in the first round in the state tournament against the Hawthorne Bears. They won their first match, but lost the second. In their third and final match they came from behind to achieve victory. The season came to an end after losing to Rutherford in the state tournament.

-Emilio Rivera

Game, Set, Match.

The Wood-Ridge tennis program is one of the best and brightest. The team trains every day of the week to maintain its undefeated streak! With such talented players like Marianne Lim, Shannon McMullin, and Megan Sharkey, it is easy to see why the team is such a success. They are a talented team. Everyone should catch a match and come out to support the team. They're definitely the team to watch! Perhaps you will see these players at Wimbledon one day!

- Mina Morcos

Girl Power!

The Hasbrouck Heights/Wood-Ridge Aviator soccer team was off to a strong start at 16-2-1. They are an amazing team with phenomenal talent. The three seniors on the team include Captain, Johnna Trotter, Emily Batcho, and Kiersten Larsen. In the game against Immaculate Peace the girls were winning 3-0 at the half and ended the game in a shut out 7-0! Although, Johnna Trotter could not play in this game due to an injury, that didn't get the team down. In fact, they came back stronger than ever and had a sensational victory over Immaculate Peace. The team has committed players, and the games are very entertaining. A girls' soccer game is definitely one event you should check out!

- Mina Morcos



Blue Devils Rally....



Wood-Ridge High School football is most notably known for its team pride, and that resides nowhere more than on the football field. The 2011 football season got off to a very rocky start with an 0-6 record, but they Blue Devils did not give up. It didn't matter what had happened, rather the team focused on what could happen. Things turned around during week 7 when the team faced off against Harrison, destroying them, 35-0. The shut out streak continued, beating Emerson 13-0, knocking them out of playoff contention. Winning two in a row would not satisfy the Blue Devils, who continued the winning streak against North Arlington 21-8. Wrapping up the season, the Blue Devils would not succumb to Whippany Park in their last high school game. The team beat Whippany Park 21-14. Although they got off to a tough start, the pride driven Blue Devils would come back in the second half of the season to tally four straight impressive wins! Congratulations to the team on a hard fought season and upholding Blue Devil pride!

- Mina Morcos

Halftime Show Hypes Crowd

The WRHS band and color guard put on one of the best halftime shows in the area. About 80% of the band is new due to the welcome addition of 8th graders. Band members are really looking forward to playing new music and going on the Six Flag's trip! In addition to the band, the color guard is to be just as celebrated. The club has made a return after a two year absence. Ms. Baumgartner is proud of the band and color guard for all they have accomplished in such a short time. They learned all the marching as well as new music, and the guards learned the flag routine. They have both been incredible features at this year's football games. Be sure to congratulate the band and flag on a successful season!

- Mina Morcos

Senior Spotlights

Mina Morcos



Who has been your favorite teacher so far?

My favorite has been Mr. Schneidman because he made his class fun, even though I often got into trouble.

How do you feel about leaving high school?

I'm excited to do something different and meet new people.

What is your favorite class? Why?

My favorite class was Chemistry with Mr. Falco because it was awesome.

What do you enjoy doing when you're not in school?

I enjoy playing video games, being on the computer, and playing basketball.

Did you meet someone in high school who changed your life?

Everyone who is currently in my life is in my life for a reason. The ones who change it for the better are meant to stay.

Where do you want to go to college?

I would like to go to Montclair State to pursue computer engineering. I'm not completely sure though; I can always change my mind.

Tyler Wyrostek



You've been a key player on the Aviator soccer team, do you plan to stay and help after you graduate?

Absolutely, soccer is my passion. I love the sport as well as my team. If I ever get a chance to help them out, whether it be coaching, reffing, or anything else, I'd jump at the chance.

Who has been your favorite teacher?

My favorite teacher is Ms. Minervini, because she has a great way of explaining things. It is easy to learn from her and math is generally much better when you have a teacher like Ms. Minervini.

What do you like to do outside of school?

When I'm not at school, I like to hang out with my friends. Whether we are at a friend's house watching the football game or just out and about enjoying what Wood-Ridge has to offer, there is always something fun to do.

Where do you like to hang out?

Besides friends' houses, I like to go to McDonald's and visit my friends who work there. There's something that's just funny when I go there and see them.

What do you plan to do after you graduate?

I plan to go to college. I follow the motto, "work hard, play hard." I'm going to do a lot of work in college, but I'm going to have a lot of fun too!

Todd Muoio



What is the most charitable thing you have done in high school?

I volunteer my time to help Wood-Ridge sports programs, like the football team. Also I helped my friends with their classes.

Did you work while in high school?

I was a summer recreation counselor. It was a fun easy going job. I worked weekday mornings with kids and had the weekends and nights to myself. It's not bad if you think about it.

Did you find it difficult to balance work and school?

No, because I only worked during the summer. I made money in the summer and now focus on school during the school year. It's a good job for a student.

What do you do when you're not in school or at work?

I like to hang out with my friends, go out and have a good time. I do the usual thing kids do in high school when they are bored. Just hang around.

Do you have any regrets or is there anything you would change about your high school experience?

I regret not wrestling junior year; wrestling was enjoyable and a good way to stay active. I feel as if I missed out by not participating last year.