WDHS CHRONICLES

## Night at the Oscars; WDHS Prom 2015

### ByMatt Gergyek

LIUNA STATION, HAMILTON- The unofficial pinnacle of high school, yearned for virtually since the first day of Grade 9, finally arrived on Friday, May 22nd; Prom. The day's festivities began with Pre-Prom, hosted seamlessly by Victoria Houston and her family. In a flurry of camera flashes and excitement, Waterdown District High School's Class of 2015 collected into a mosaic of colourful dresses and tailored suits, making for an unforgettable night. The students, dates, and families had the chance to take photos across Victoria's spacious property, the sky a perfect tone of blue and the sun just warm enough to ward off the cool wind.

After what seemed like only minutes, the party buses and limos began lining up across the street to take the students and dates to the Night at the Oscars. After a final round of photographs, the students boarded the vehicles, excitement mounting as the students were carried towards Hamilton's Liuna Station, the site of WDHS's Prom 2015. The Prom

takeover was in



Students arriving at Prom

full swing as the students and dates arrived, red carpet and all. The students were even met by a professional team of paparazzi, composed of Waterdown's photography and digital arts teacher, Ms. Chupa and her talented pupils. The graduates were photographed across the well-tended gardens, gathering around the property's intricately carved fountain surrounded by symmetrical flowerbeds and gardens.

After another array of photographs, the students and dates finally entered Liuna Station. The interior of the building was breathtaking. The students were greeted by cool glasses of sparkling apple juice, while marvelling

> the exotic marble and dark oak architecture of the venue. *Continued on next page*

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LIUNA Station transformed into a Night at the Oscars

Polished photographers waited eagerly to capture the students photographs, along with a Photo Booth equipped with costumes and props.

The red carpet continued into the depths of the building, leading the party-goers into the vast ballroom, the heart of Prom. Gold tinted balloons and warmly lit chandeliers filled the air, the soft light reflecting across the tiled marble. Tables wrapped in white and dressed neatly with golden painted china surrounded the central dance floor and stage. Soft music beckoned the students to their seats. Prom was officially in full swing.

A tasteful dinner prepared impeccably by the staff of Liuna Station was served, mingling with laughter and hearty conversation. After dining on Caesar salad and fresh baked bread, tortellini, spiced chicken, oven roasted potatoes, vegetables and ice cream filled crepes, Waterdown's adored history and genocide teacher Mr. Flosman took the mic as MC for the night. Mr. Flosman revealed his obvious side job as a comedian, creating a sea of laughter across the ballroom, while also maintaining his role as a mentor. In between firing playful shots at teachers and students, Mr. Flosman gave powerful advice to the students, encouraging Waterdown's future graduates to enjoy every second of the last month of high school, and to honour the past four years of development, adventure and friendship.

Mr. Flosman then dove into the awards ceremony, highlighting the talent, potent character and personality of Waterdown District High School's Class of 2015. A few of the winners included Social Media Queen Krista Poroszlay, Dancing King Christian Golfetto, Future Reality TV Star Gary Keith Holmes, and Sassy Sally Emily Carter. Finally, the esteemed awards of the night arrived; best dressed, and Prom King and Queen. Pat Pettigrew and his well-cut suit took best dressed male, while Victoria Houston and



her flowing blue gown earned best dressed female. One of Waterdown's favourite couples, Macey Faith and Luc Chhina, rightfully took best dressed couple for their signature cream coloured attire. The time to crown Prom King and Queen arrived, tension and excitement building in the ballroom. After painstakingly opening the confidential letter, Mr. Flosman excitedly revealed the winners to be Justin Harrison and Katie Mckenzie! In a storm of applause and even a standing ovation, the winners accepted their titles with warm smiles.

Mr. Flosman greeted the students and dates a wonderful night, and the infamous Prom slideshow began, designed flawlessly by Sabrina Elewa and Maddie Stam. Over a memorable soundtrack, students, dates and teachers ventured nostalgically to Grade Nine and back. The slideshow concluded and music began, students and dates swarming the dance floor. After an hour of humorous attempts at dancing, the majority of the students headed back to Waterdown and then Belleville for the nights afterprom, thrown by Talon Bayer. After-prom was a huge success, with a set of gifted DJs, a party tent, a bonfire and of course, a feast of fifty large pizzas. With the moon bright overhead, sparks dancing from the roaring fire and laughter in the air, every graduate was sure that Waterdown District High School's Prom 2015 was definitely one for the books.

WDHS's Class of 2015 would like to thank everyone who had a part in making our Prom an unforgettable one, including the hardworking Prom Committee, the hosts of all Prom events, the Parent Council, the staff, DJ and security of Liuna Station, the devoted teacher supervisors, Mr. Flosman- the nights awesome MC- our supportive and helpful parents, and finally the buses, limos and parent drivers who ensured everyone made it to Prom. Thank you all so much for an awesome night!



All the girls dressed up for prom at Pre-Prom

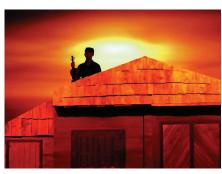
The boys dressed up for prom.

## Fiddler on the Roof

#### By Mackenzie Boers

WATERDOWN-"Wonderfully entertaining." "FANTASTIC." "Great story, talented cast." "Incredible."

Waterdown District's artsy Warriors put on an amazing performance for the enjoyment of the Waterdown community. The Musical Theatre class worked hard after school for the whole of semester



two to prepare Fiddler on the Roof written by Joseph Stein.

A classic tale, set in the early 1900's, Fiddler on the Roof tells the story of a poor Jewish family living in Russia

The Fiddler on the Roof.

in a small village called Anatevka. Tevye, a married peasant, begins looking for a match for three of his five daughters. The local matchmaker finds a man for his oldest daughter Tzeitel, but she is in love with the poor tailor Motel. They receive Tevye's approval to marry. Meanwhile, the second oldest daughter, Hodel, falls in love with Perchik, a radical student, and they decide to marry, forcing Tevye to accept. When Perchik is arrested for revolutionary action Hodel decides to travel to Siberia to be with him. Tevye's third daughter, Chava, falls in love with a Russian, Fyedka, and her father orders her to never see him again. They elope, causing Chava's father to disown her, until, when the Jews are being evicted from Russia due to anti-semitic views, he acknowledges her briefly. As they leave Anatekva, the Fiddler begins to play.

The play has the ability to connect to every man, woman and child. The stories of all the characters in Fiddler show the true meaning of bonds between family

members, between neighbours and friends, and even between our foes. The audience is taught the significance of tradition to communities, and how it is always changing through the



Tzeitel's wedding ceremony.

generations. Comedic, historic, emotional: Fiddler on the Roof offers something for the whole family to enjoy. As Cynthia Carey, the Director of Fiddler, says, this show "is timeless".

Through learning lines, songs and dance moves, through creating sets, costumes and props, through perfecting lighting, sound and set changes, it was clear that the cast and crew put in much effort to make this performance one to be remembered. The musical was full of talent, showcasing Waterdown's amazing performing arts course. Cynthia Carey and Keith Robson, musical theatre partners, feel Musical Theatre teaches the young



performers so much; it was only fit to put on a play that has so many of its own lessons!

The Musical Theatre class performed on four nights, each

Motel's new sewing machine being awed over

performance having large audiences and receiving great feedback from everyone who saw it. Congratulations to the cast and crew of Fiddler on the Roof and thank you for giving us an amazing and entertaining performance.



The cast of Fiddler on the Roof after their performance on closing night

## Grade 12 Farewell

#### By Matt Gergyek

Beyond the static world of dying writing utensils, blurry projectors, ancient movie clips and twelve page essays, there exists a hidden realm in high school, a dimension of fantastical discovery, friendship, development and most importantly, wisdom. In this world, no back to back tests, no group projects which quickly turn into individual projects when group members refuse to do any work, nor any three hour homework assignments exist. Don't get me wrong teachers, the educational aspects of high school are essential for students, but I believe the deeper aspect of high school, the social side of education, deserves appreciation and recognition.

High school is often associated with the idea of obtaining knowledge through learning, but we fail to praise high school for teaching wisdom. Wisdom is special, because this character trait requires true experience to obtain. Unlike knowledge, which is painstakingly learned from memorization, obedience and relentless practice, knowledge is conceived from meaningful events, wild adventures, and enlightening relationships. Wisdom is brave and wisdom is powerful. While true knowledge may allow you to flourish in post-secondary education, where will knowledge take you when the time to obtain a job arrives? The time to start a family? The time to explore and understand the world? Knowledge's real potential quickly disintegrates after one leaves the education system behind. However, the power of wisdom never weakens, carving a well-defined, always interesting path through life.

I guess what I'm trying to say is that high school is not all about learning to derive the quadratic equation, or to balance a chemical equation, or to conceive an impeccable thesis. The message I'm preaching to my fellow graduates, and all grades in fact, is that the social side of high school will always be the most important part of your four year journey. Look past dreaded exams or sinister EQAOs and remember high school as a place of exposure and experience. Honour the friendships you have conceived and the memories made. As Waterdown District High School's Class of 2015, remember how we found a way to make dodgeball an illegal sport on school property, the excursions some of us have taken to amazing places like Switzerland, France, Costa Rica and beyond, or the teams and clubs we have become a part of. High school is so much more than just an educational institution.

With graduation looming on the horizon, continue to put the social world first. Although the task may be extremely difficult, put down your calculators, take your fingers off the keyboard, drop your pencils and look around. These next few years will be among the best of our lives, and I beg you not to let these moments pass by while you remain entranced by a grade. In the near future, we will finally be released into the world, given the chance to experiment with careers, to tend to our passions and motivations, and to really get to know the world around us. Do not spend these years with numbers and letters, but with people and the world instead. Build new relationships, traverse unknown places, and become involved with the world. While the world moves forward at insanely fast speeds, make sure that you are not left in the dust, with nothing but a pencil and paper in your hand.

If high school has taught you anything, please let it be the importance of the social world. These past four years have been some of the best of my life, and I hope the same goes for the rest of my classmates. We have been through an abundance of both good and bad experiences, but either way these experiences have allowed us to develop and grow. The world awaits us, and I am proud to say that our days at WDHS have done an awesome job at preparing us for the bright future ahead. Journey into the world with an open mind, but never forget the intricate role the social world of high school has played in your development as an individual. Thank you for an awesome four years, Waterdown!



All the Grade 12's take a group photo after Grad Breakfast.



## May Day, Fun Day!

#### By Selah Bishop and Jenny Fu

WATERDOWN- This past May 15th, Waterdown High School hosted its annual May Day festival. With all the students and staff thrilled for the return of this event, your Student Parliament, as well as teachers and staff, worked tirelessly to create the most active, fun and entertaining day possible.

Highlights of the day included inflatables, cotton candy, snow cones, popcorn, face painting, tie-dye, bouncy castles and so much more! "There wasn't much for me to do but the inflatables were



Students jousting

fun!", commented Ty Shilliday. This year, however, brought something new. Two incredible tournaments were created to make May Day more interactive than ever.

This year, teams were able to sign up for an insanely fun bubble soccer tournament. Hosted on the field, bubble soccer put our warriors into giant inflatable balls with the common goal of scoring against their opponent. Of course, this involved lots of bumping, jumping, falling, and rolling on the floor. In the end, our champions were team "The White Boys," composed of players Andrew Begley, Mike Howlett, Sam Hewick, Brennen Evo and Scott Ackerl. Science teacher, Mrs. O'Connor-Spark said, "May Day was really fun. The students really seemed to enjoy it. I really liked watching the students play bubble soccer."

The Hunger Games tournament was the second new addition. It consisted of twenty-four contestants who were



Tug of war in the Hunger Games.

reaped from their entries and competed in a series of exciting challenges. These challenges included, The Double District Dodge, Tracker Jacker Recovery, Hunger Games Trivia, Obstacle Course of Panem, Tug-owar, and more! One by one the tributes were eliminated until only one victor remained. "The Hunger Games were so fun to



Adrenaline Rush in the gym

watch! I hope that we do something like it again next year," says a Waterdown student. Congratulations to our 2015 Hunger Games Victor, Holly Uloth! The odds were really in her favour!

Students walked around all day with sticks of cotton candy and bright tie-dyed shirts. They fought one another with giant foam sticks and were able to eat at the food truck! Others bounced in the castles and had tigers and butterflies painted on their faces. But none of this could have been possible without the tremendous hard work and dedication of your Student Parliament, Staff and volunteers. Prime Minister, Michael Arnason commented, "May Day was a huge success this year, we had so much fun with it and I'm incredibly proud of the contributions of student parliament, not just on May Day, but throughout the whole year."

Overall, the students had an amazing day participating in all the fun activities and watching the tournaments. Next year's May Day now has a lot to live up to.



Students playing Bubble Soccer



**Editors:** Mackenzie Boers Sabrina Elewa

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**Printer:** The Printing Korner

**Issue:** May/June 2015

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"We would like to thank you for your generous donation and support in helping us continue to publish our monthly school newspaper. It helped us tremendously and will continue to do so next school year. So thank you very much for your support."

Delease recycle this newspaper. #savetheworld

Editorial

## Moving On From Home: The Reality and the Hardships

By Sara Binnie

Moving away from home is something that many of us know all too well. Whether we are going to move out of the house and into residence in post-secondary, or we have a home of our own to take care of and pay the bills. Moving away from home is a scary thought to many because they do not have that security of their parents and siblings anymore. Moving does not have to be seen as scary; it can be seen as moving on into another chapter of our life, and into, of course, freedom.

As a grade 12 student going onto post-secondary next year, I find many of my peers moving away from home, not just for the experience, but because they feel they need to move far away from their parents. They don't need to rely so much on them anymore. Along with post-secondary is residence. Many believe that residence is something that everyone must experience in their post-secondary life or else they will not make any friends first year. Not being in residence does not mean that one will not make any friends; one could live in student housing and still be able to socialize with others. A house is definitely a hardship that comes with moving out. Most of us are used to our parent(s) paying the bills and driving us to work and friend's houses and so on. Moving away changes all that, responsibility becomes a large part of your life that comes along with school work. However, freedom is a nice package that comes along with moving out.

A former WDHS student says, "[moving out] gives you freedom that helps you grow as a person in ways you would never expect [and] you have to put yourself in other people's shoes more often..." Moving out does not just consist of looking out for yourself, however, but to take a good look at the world and the people in it. Roommates allow you to "put yourself in other people's shoes" and see what their needs are as well. Living with others also prepares you for life later on where you may have a partner that you have to live with and you will have to accommodate their rules with your own. It is different living with your family because most likely, they have the same habits as you.

Overall, moving out is a great experience to have coming out of high school. However, you do not have to if you do not want to. Many universities and colleges that people go to are not local, and residence may be the only option. The important thing is to receive a great education while still achieving great partnership skills and social skills with the people around you and in your new home.

## Together We Create Change

#### By Kaitlin Devine

HAMILTON- Justice. Justice is what SOLID created last month with the international food festival, "A Taste of Culture." At the beginning of May, four students, Kaitlin Devine, Mackenzie Boers, Stef Lewitzky, Brigitte Cotton, and Mr. Smith all traveled to Hamilton for a social justice convention.

The SOLID students spent the day walking around the convention and listening to what other schools around HWDSB were doing in their own school environment. The students around the school board prepared creative boards to go along with their inspirational presentations.

"It was neat seeing what other schools were doing within their community and it was nice to see that students were so energetic about their ideas," Mackenzie Boers, one of the SOLID representatives, commented.

Waterdown's SOLID group had the chance to share what SOLID did with the food festival and spoke of their plans for the next year. They received much positive feedback from interested teachers and students.

At the convention, a guest speaker came to give a motivational speech to the social justice school groups. The guest speaker spoke about how she raised much money for a charity in Africa. She would set goals, achieve them and then set higher goals. She told us how determined she was to make a positive change in the world. One detail that set this guest speaker apart from everyone else was the fact that she was blind. The guest speaker taught everyone that if you're really determined to complete a goal, despite all the challenges life may throw at you, you can achieve it, if you really try.

In the end, everyone had a great time talking to fellow students of the social justice community and learning new ideas to bring back to their own school.



SOLID members were WDHS representatives at the convention

## **History Museum**

#### By Mackenzie Boers

WATERDOWN- The History Museum at WDHS grows incredibly more impressive every time it is displayed. With new additions, with new stories, this unique display grabs the attention of Warriors and people all around the Waterdown community. Through the efforts of the amazing history department and the history classes, the History Museum came back to WDHS second semester with even more to offer.

From World War One to the Cold War to Residential Schools, the History Museum covered every decade. Old objects, such as knifes, medals, uniforms and documents that have been collected from families and community archives and have survived over so many years are placed carefully in display cases. Stories heard from grandparents, aunts and uncles, and parents, are passed on to patrons. In some way the History Museum and the exhibits have found a way to connect with each of its viewers.

This semester, the History Museum had schools from all around the community come to visit. Students, or curators, of the History Museum had the pleasure of teaching younger grades, as well as those of us who visited during class. They held activities for the younger grades, for instance a Boot Camp outside on the football field. Students were sent through obstacle courses meant to recreate an experience of what it was like for soldiers during World War One and Two in training. Online, students were shown the Anne Frank house, learning her incredible story as they toured the small rooms and steep stairs.

The History Museum was open to students of WDHS to read interesting and informative display boards, examine faded images, admire fragile objects, and simply appreciate history. Ron Flosman says, "The museum is an opportunity for Waterdown students to have a 'hands-on' historical experience while being the keepers of their communities' history."

We can find so much of the past in Waterdown through our family trees, and much of it is still being uncovered. The Wall of Heroes continues to grow with every newly discovered story. We just have to put forth the effort to look under the dusty sheets and find the stories that will not be forgotten.



## Girls Soccer Team Semi-Final Game

#### By Selah Bishop

WATERDOWN- Our Waterdown girls varsity soccer team really kept their eye on the ball during this fantastic season. On Wednesday, May 14, Waterdown girls ended their season in second place, battling against the seventh place team, Westmount, in a very long and tiring game held here at WDHS.

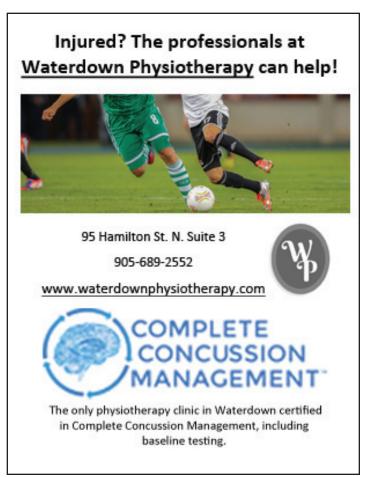
The first half of the game was rough for our warriors, "The first half we looked really sloppy and we weren't playing well. The second half, however, we played really, really well. We dominated," says the team's coach, Tracy Behiel.

After both halves, neither team had scored, forcing the game to go into ten minute overtime. Even with chance after chance, our girls just could not score! The girls were absolutely exhausted. At the beginning of the game, there were two subs; however, by this time both subs were unable to play, leaving the team without any substitutions! "Westmount only had one sub the whole time too, so the game wasn't unbalanced. There was good refs and we had linesman which was amazing. We played well in the second half and overtime, the conditions were beautiful so there was no excuse. "We could just not get that ball in the net," says Behiel.

After neither team could score in overtime, the game went into penalty kicks. The score was 3-3 and sadly, our Warriors did not make their shot. Westmount, however, did, which ended the long, frustrating game. "We played with heart and pushed until the end. We were happy with our great efforts, but the outcome was unfortunate," commented Freya Morrison, a member of the soccer team.

We are very proud of our Warriors for their continuous effort, determination, and sportsmanship throughout the season. Amazing work, girls! Just to prove how fantastic this season was, it should be mentioned that last year our Warriors placed seventh and this year we placed second! A huge congratulations to the girls who finished strong in their final game: Olivia Baker, Brittany Boutellier, Dana Bryan, Danielle Erb, Quinlan Grimbleby, Amanda Kong Quee, Sydney Leaman, Jessica Lewitzky, Riley Marshal, Emily Moffat, Freya Morrison, Mylissa Tom and Holly Uloth.

A special congratulations goes out to Emily Moffat who was goalie during the whole game despite not actually being a goalie. Emily really stepped up for the team by playing goalie in a semifinal game. Another very special thank you goes out to Kirby Bryan, the community coach who really helped guide the team to the semifinals this year! Of course, a huge thank you must be given to Mrs. Behiel, our Warrior's amazing coach! Keep on playing, Warriors!



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## Student Parliament

#### By Tiyana Hunter, Minister of Public Relations

Well Waterdown, it's been a crazy year, and Student Parliament wants to thank you sincerely from the bottom of our every-spirited hearts for making 2014-2015 a year to remember.

From our Spirit Days in September to our smash hit Homecoming Week in October, to our Charity Coffee House in Novemeber, and our Twelve Days of Christmas in Decemeber, first semester was truly incredible.

Second semester certainly didn't disappoint either, with our successful Spring Fling dance, Easter festivities, and even more recently our fantastic May Day!

A quick thanks goes out to everyone on Student Parliament, the boys' rugby team, and JUMP for helping bring May Day back this year with a bang. Congratulations to the Hunger Games winner Holly Uloth, and to the

## How to Find a Summer Job

#### By Sara Binnie

Summer is upon us once again and with this time comes exams and summer vacation! Instead of boring you with exam stuff, I think more students seem to be focusing on finding a job for the summer. When one thinks of a summer job, they think of working in a camp with kids. However, this is not your only option if you are not outdoorsy person. Other summer jobs include working on a farm, landscaping, babysitting, retail, restaurants and many more!

Summer camps are great summer jobs, not only for the money, but also for the great experiences one can receive from camp counselling. These experiences includes leadership skills that look great on a resume for other workplaces as well. There are so many summer camps in the area (Burlington, Milton, Hamilton, etc.). Many summer camps can be volunteer jobs so you will have to dig for information and contact camps to find out if they will pay you or not and if they are hiring a student for the summer.

Landscaping and working on a farm are great jobs for any person that likes to be outdoors in the summer while bubble soccer tournament winners "The White Boys": Scott Ackerl, Andrew Begley, Sam Hewick, Mike Howlett, and Brennen Evangelista. May Day was a highlight of this year for us all, and until next year, thanks for making this day so amazing! As the sneior members of STudent Parliament graduate and go off on the next stage of their lives, a new class of StuPar members prepare to take their place. Elections will take place Friday, June 12th, and for everyone who is running, good luch and get ready for a wild 2015-2016.

I can speak from personal experience when I say that being part of Student Parliament has been one of the best parts of my senior year here at WDHS. It's truly been a great ride, and a thanks goes out to every one of my fellow StuPar members who worked hard and played hard this year.

Stay wonderful Warriors and have a great summer! We'll see you next year.

Tips & Hacks

still getting a tan! Terra hires people for the summer and other garden centres in the Waterdown and Carlisle area. There are also many farms in the Carlisle and Flamborough area that hires people for the summer. However, many farms employ foreign workers meaning that it may be hard to receive a job at a farm.

As for babysitting, there are many parents who still work in the summer. Babysitting jobs usually have a rate of \$10 to \$15 per hour. There are always postings on the bulletin board at the Corner Store in Carlisle and Waterdown for babysitters. Usually babysitters will have to feed the children and entertain them and put kids to bed.

Retail and restaurant summer jobs are great finds because they could turn into part-time jobs throughout the school year as well if you do well and the store wants to keep you on. The minimum wage for students right now is \$10.30 and working full-time in the summer will add up over the course of two months! Having a summer job is great especially if you are planning on going on one of the school trips or getting your license and need a car. OYAP is a great site to check out if you are planning on doing an apprenticeship.

Good luck on finding a summer job, and do not forget to check out Student Services every once and a while to see if they have any jobs posted! Do not forget to save your money and remember to relax a little and have a fun summer!

# Creative Corner



By Blake Davies, Grade 11



By Kassidy Avery, Grade 11



By Megan Flynn, Grade 11



By Bryce Gaymor, Grade 11



By Jessica Kempton, Grade 11



By Bronwyne Sawyer, Grade 11



By Kendra Gaspar, Grade 11



By Shannon Pot, Grade 11



By Katie Jones, Grade 11



By Will Richardson Grade 11



By Hailey Bentley, Grade 11



By Nira Harding, Grade 11





By Alexander Crowe, Grade 11



By Taylor Robinson, Grade 11



By Hayley Curran, Grade 11



By Hayden Brock, Grade 12



By Andrew Cookson, Grade 11



By Jarod Lewis, Grade 11



By Mackenzie Sime Wong, Grade 12





## CLASSIFIED Birthdays



Kendra Gaspar, June 8, 1998



Andrew Begley, June 9, 1997



Matthew Mosley, June 11, 1997



Johnni Lang, June 15, 1997



Connor Sweeney, June 17, 1997



Amy Goodbrand, June 25, 1997



Sarah Goodbrand, June 25, 1997



Megan Misner, July 3, 1997



Molly McCleary, July 4, 1997



Jake Hertel, July 7, 1997



Katie Martin, July 9, 1997



Kelly Foster, July 10, 1997



Chantelle Van Dalen, July 11, 1997



Naomi Chin, July 12, 1997



Meghan Soave, July 14, 1997



Lauren Soave, July 14, 1997



Cassandra Pearse, July 19, 1998



Sabrina Elewa, July 20, 1997



Rachel Quinn, July 21, 1997



Navkiren Ghag, July 23, 1997



Amber Webster, July 30, 1997



Kyra McCaffery, July 31, 1997



Erin Grady, August 1, 1997

Sam Small, August 7, 1997



Ali Bacon, August 8, 2000



Selah Bishop, August 15, 2000



Julia Haris, August 20, 1997



Brooke Morgan, August 30, 2000

## Warriors Take on the Climb For Cancer

#### By Jenny Fu

HAMILTON- This past May, twenty of your brave Waterdown Warriors took a stand in the battle against cancer at the Chedoke Stairs. With this year being the 9th annual "Climb for Cancer," these students were ready to raise some serious money for the Juravinski Hospital and Cancer centre. To them, this event meant more than just raising money or racing in the climb. It is true when they say cancer has affected every person in some way. In support of all those who have been through the struggle of living with cancer, many schools and students in the Hamilton Wentworth board have participated in this event with tremendous fundraising efforts.

Brian Humphrey, a fitness consultant, experienced first-hand what it was like to lose someone in his life to cancer. When one of his clients was diagnosed, he watched her go through all the stages of her sickness. He helped her through all the pain and suffering, but even then he could not save her. Her story and legacy was what inspired him to begin this project. Humphrey compared the battle against cancer to that of climbing a mountain. The vision and goal of the "Climb for Cancer" was to bring family and community members together to support those with cancer who are climbing their own mountains. Every year since 2007, Hamiltonians have gathered with determination, spirit and courage to climb the Chedoke Stairs, breaking records every year for money raised and steps climbed. Over the past eight years, a total of \$400,000 has been collected.

For weeks, these twenty students from grades nine to twelve tirelessly collected pledges from family members, friends and teachers to support this amazing cause. With a goal of \$2,000, they easily challenged that by raising a grand total of \$2,314. Come the day of the climb, the students were buzzing with anticipation. Arriving at the Chedoke stairs, they laced up their running shoes and put on faces of determination. As soon as the buzzer hit, they were off; for an entire hour they would climb 289 steps up the Niagara escarpment. At the end, the students were dripping with sweat with legs achingly numb and hearts pounding. All together the students climbed 46,241 steps. That would be the equivalent to scaling Mount Everest almost twice.

They day went on with more schools participating every hour. Waterdown's own Joey Braeden held the record for the day with 4,624 steps reached. The event not only brought awareness to the cause, but it also challenges people to push themselves and to support those around them affected by cancer. It was an inspirational experience for all those who participated and every contribution made a difference in the constant climb to beat cancer.



The WDHS Warriors who took on the Chedoke Stairs for the Climb for Cancer



## EXAMS

For Grade 12's, exams start on Monday, June 15 for Period 5 at 12:30. On Tuesday, exams for Period 3 and 4 start at 12:30. Wednesday holds Period 2 exams at 12:30. Period 1 exams for all grades begin at 9 on Thursday, June 18. For grades 9, 10 and 11 period 2 exams are on Friday at 9, Period 3 and 4 on Monday at 9 and Period 5 on Tuesday at 9.

## GRADUATION

Grad gowns can be picked up on Friday, June 19th from 11am to 1pm at the school. Graduation is on June 23rd, doors opening at 3:30. Graduates are to arrive at 3 at Hamilton Place. The ceremony begins at 4.

## END OF YEAR

Another year gone in a flurry of paper, pencils, and classes! Have a great summer, Warriors!