

## *Kristine M. Ensign. . . .her positivity lives on*

By guest columnist Andrew Downing

I had been putting *IT* off for a couple of days, because I was nervous. What do I say? How do I say what I am feeling, thinking? What if I run out of things to talk about? I struggled dialing the phone but I finally did *IT*. No answer. I called 2 weeks later. Still no answer.

Fast forward two weeks. I got the phone call early in the morning. I was still asleep, resting up from the night before. I turned over and saw that it was my mom. To be honest, if it hadn't been her, I probably wouldn't have answered—I was that tired. I tapped the phone and said, "Hello." My mom didn't say "good morning" or any other type of appropriate greeting. Instead, she presented a question to me, "Have you heard the news?" I had no clue what she was talking about. Then she explained. Through the other end of the phone, my mom told me that Miss Ensign had passed away. Silence. *1 second. 2 seconds. 3 seconds.* I was speechless. I asked her *WHEN*; of course, I knew *HOW*, but I still couldn't answer *WHY*.

A couple of days later I received another call, informing me that I was requested to be a pallbearer. My mom was worried that the responsibility would interfere with my studying for final exams, but there was no way I would say "no"—I was honored. Unfortunately, I had been a pallbearer before, but, fortunately, I knew how humbling it was. Without hesitation, I said, "Yes."

The Saturday of the funeral was a beautiful day; blue skies blanketed the funeral home as we all arrived. The sun shined down as if it was Miss Ensign's smile itself. As the day went on, us eight students, acting as pallbearers, were approached multiple times by family and friends of the Ensigns. They introduced themselves as aunts, uncles, sisters, brothers,

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## FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS



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cousins, former classmates and teammates of Miss Ensign. They thanked us for being there, but none of us needed to hear those words. We were all there because we all had a special connection to Miss Ensign. Whether she was a coach, a teacher, or a mentor, she changed our lives.

A year ago, when I was given the chance to sit down with Miss Ensign and interview her for the school newspaper, she told me something that I will never forget. I asked her about the statistics of Angiosarcoma, and she explained to me that only about 30 percent of the people who are diagnosed live as long as five years. As I sit here and write this, I can picture in my mind the way she looked at me, as she vowed to be in that minority. "I plan on being in that 30 percent."

With all the lessons that she had taught students, one lesson in particular resonated with me. When the spotlight was on her, Miss Ensign stepped back and looked at our lives, instead of hers, through a lens as she snapped pictures at many school events. She was never a professional photographer, but that didn't stop her love and passion for photography. I often find myself wondering where I'm going to be in the future. My passion is writing; I like to think I'm fairly good at it, but the job market is dwindling for writers in today's economy. The lesson I learned from Miss Ensign, however, is that I don't need to give up my passion. She showed me that as long as I keep at it and practice it, I'll be happy.

When I laid my hand on the casket to guide it toward the hearse, I realized that she had reached her goal. The people who surrounded me, the seven other hands on the casket, were all living testaments of Miss Ensign's dedication to those around her. The way she cared for people, loved her job, and most of all how she made people smile—this spirit will live on vicariously through many of the hearts she touched. She'll go on to coach many more softball games, take many more photos, and teach plenty more kids.

She never answered my phone call in the weeks before her passing, but I have since come to an understanding. The words I would have spoken and the laughs we would have had did not need to be heard. She already knew she was angel.

Dr. Seuss wrote a poem titled *Oh, the Places You'll Go!* that illustrates the journeys we will embark on as we live our life. It's quite funny though that this book does not pertain to Miss Ensign entirely, for she is so special she will go places long after she is gone anyway. If I had one last chance to call her in heaven, I imagine I would start our conversation like this: "Congratulations! Today is your day! You're off to Great Places! You're off and away!"





## 2013-2014 GM Student Council

**Head Boy:** Isaac England

**Head Girl:** Emilee Downing

**Senior Class President:** Morgan Clark

**Junior Class President:** Alyssa Grant

**Sophomore Class President:** Aaron Evans

**Seniors:** Na'Omi Beane, Zaria Brinkley, Khalil Davis, Michael Edwards, Jasmine English, Amari Gamble, Harley Garvin, Alexandria Goodwin, Victoria Hockehull, Jazzmond Jackson, Breanna Keese, Hayley McKinley, Danielle Moore, Mouniratou Nikema, Cameron Oshadi, Nate Parsons, Brittany Selk, and Te'Wana Smiley

**Juniors:** Caleb Conners, Dakota Merz, Alysa Phillips, Pacia Rinthara, Blake Snyder, and Stacie Snyder

**Sophomores:** Bianca Tanksley, Maiya Beane, Jordyn Harp, Victor Haynes, Jacey Mayes, Alexis Polisen, Betheny Shenefield, Jordan Walton, Kuuchanda Brown, Brittney Hahn and Faith Nimely.

**Freshmen:** Elisha Stauffer, Beti Perez, Cierra Beck, Jasmine Stewart, and Tionna Hodges

# SPORTS

## BASEBALL

Ending the season with an 8-15 record, the Cruisers improved on last year's record. Junior Isaac England said, "We doubled our wins this year. We had better attitudes and played well as a team."

In the first round of the district tournament, the Cruisers played New Albany, losing 3-2 in what was described a "hard fought" by England.

England led the team with a .381 batting average, and Jake Seipel garnered the team's highest ERA average. Logan Mavromatis had the team's best in RBI's with 25. The Cruisers held a banquet on May 21 when the team honored Coach Noble for his impending retirement.

## TRACK & FIELD 2013

The Cruisers head into the regional competition with a team full of people ready to peak and run their best performances all year.

The girls track team is led by senior Eva Jerkins. She runs the 100m dash, 4x100m relay, 4x200m relay and the 4x400m relay. The girls 4x100 team, comprised of Sharde Bumper, Jaliyah Atkinson, Atyuana Jones and Jerkins qualified for the regional meet on Wednesday, May 29. The 4x200m relay team, comprised of Atyuana Jones, Jaliyah Atkinson, Lillie Brown-Walker and Eva Jerkins, has already run 1:46.5 and is positioned to go even faster as they enter the regional competition. The 4x400m relay team dropped 13 seconds recently, but barely missed the cut off

time to qualify for regionals. The team is made up of Brown-Walker, Jones, Atkinson and Jerkins.

Head Coach Kelli Del-Guzzo said, "We have strong core



group of sprinters who I expect to advance to the Regional finals and maybe even State meet. I am excited to see our times drop as our training pays off."

The boys team is anchored by senior Eddie Wilson and junior Da'Marious Napier in high jump. Wilson has jumped 6'6" and Napier 6'4". Wil-



son broke the school record in the 400m dash by running 50.8 second at OCC championships. Junior Mecca Swain leads the team in the 100m dash and 200m dash, qualified for regionals in the 200 and three relays. The boys 4x400m relay broke the school record at Districts, running a 3:21.74. The 4x400 is Da'Marious Napier, Mecca Swain, Eddie Wilson and Ryan Robinette. The boys 4x100, 4x200 and 4x400 as well as Wilson in the 400 qualified for regionals. Both Wilson and Robinette will attend Indiana Tech to run track & field this fall.

# SPORTS

## SOFTBALL

Finishing third place in the OCC Ohio division, the softball team ended the season with an overall record of 16-9. The team's league record was 9-5.



The girls won their first two tournament games. The first game was a 6-2 success over Watkins Memorial, and the second was a 4-3 win against Thomas Worthington. The team lost their district semi-final game to Grove City 0-6 on Tuesday night.

Coach Steve Cunningham said, "Amy Castle played the best defensive third base in the league as well as batting fourth with a .420 average. Katie Fellure had the second best hitting average with a .449 and had only 2 errors in 145 chances. Courtney Husch played second and turned some outstanding plays in the field. Paige Shoemaker was a backup at third and performed well when we had injuries that moved Amy to shortstop.

Molly Fraley and Brooklyn Bartok were part time players in the outfield and at first."

Coach Cunningham added, "Brittany Kern and Kaysea Smith had good seasons as first year starters and showed great improvement at the plate. The outfield of Destiny Bishop in left, Tisha Lane in center and Shianne Curry in right improved as the year went on. Emilee Downing turned in some great pitching efforts with shutouts against Gahanna and Lancaster as well as



the two tournament

wins."



behind

Coach Cunningham said the rally come-from-win against Thomas Worthington was a turning point for the season. "The focus and intensity during that game was what kept our season going," Cunningham said.

**Groveport Madison  
2013  
Valedictorians  
Amy Castle  
Shirley Tang  
Cassidy Tigner  
Kyle Sherrets**



**Student of the Month**



*Senior  
Amanuel Alemu*

*Junior  
Danielle Moore*



*Sophomore  
Shianne Curry*



*Freshman  
Carlisa Hayes*



**Teacher of the Month— March  
Linda Miller**



After 20 years in the classroom, Linda Miller is retiring and already planning her bucket list. In her many years in education, this West Virginia native has taught a wide variety of subjects, starting with business and technology moving onto Tech Prep and, finally, finishing up her career in special education for 10 years—all at GMHS.

“The two years I taught Tech Prep were my happiest years at GMHS. I was privileged to teach a dynamic, career-focused curriculum to students who were excited about the program and focused on making career choices. I enjoyed working with a team of master teachers on blocked schedules and participating in many fun, relevant projects. This was education at its finest,” explained Miller, who worked for 12 years in accounting before becoming a teacher.

Although retiring was a hard decision to make, Miller and her husband want to travel as well as spend time at their vacation home in Hocking Hills. Miller is not out of the education game totally; she plans to continue tutoring in a volunteer position at the library or her grandson’s elementary school.

“Thank you to all the wonderful students and dedicated teachers for letting me share in your adventures for the last 20 years. Best wishes to all of you!” said Miller.

# Student of the Month



*Senior*

*Abrham Fantaye*

*Junior*

*Jennifer Reeve*



*Sophomore*

*Emilee Downing*

*Freshman*

*Connor Seipel*



## Teacher of the Month– April Kelly Robinson



Good teachers bring their real world experiences to the classroom and marketing teacher Kelly Robinson is no exception.

After 16 years in the transportation industry, this Ohio State University accounting major brought his expertise into the schools. Robinson started the DECA program and then put Cruiser Corner, the school store, in place.

The DECA program has had a number of successes. “We took second in the state in Quiz Bowl our first year entering the competition. We lost by two points to Cincinnati Baden who went on to take fifth in the nation that year,” said Robinson. An “equal success” was when the school store was recognized nationally in Orlando, Florida, giving four GMHS students the honor of carrying the Ohio flag across the stage.

This Circleville native has been very influential any many ways to his students. Senior Tierra Thomas said, “He is like the father I never had. I am glad I met him. He helped me so much.”

Like his students, Robinson appreciates a positive working environment: “I would like to thank all the teachers at GMHS because the people that you work with can make or break the work environment. Most people do not want to work in a bad environment.”

## 2013 Special Athletic Department Awards

Army Reserve National Scholar Athlete Award: Tommy O’Diam and Brittany Morgan

US Marines Excellence Award: Matt Ater and Katie Fellure.

Agonis Award: Cassidy Tigner, Forrest Baldwin

Archie Griffin Sportsmanship Award and the Columbus Dispatch Scholar/Athlete Award: Tyler Mehl

Archie Griffin for Girls: Paige Shoemaker

OHSAA Scholar Athlete: Forrest Baldwin

Female OHSAA Scholar/Athlete and Dispatch Scholar/Athlete Award: Amy Castle

The Lucinda Doersom Award: Amy Castle

Mac Sims: Durrell Wood

## **Teacher of the Month– May Kelli DelGuzzo**



Being recognized as teacher of the month for the second year in a row is no surprise in the case of Kelli DelGuzzo. “Mrs. D”, as she is affectionately known by her students, wears many hats at GMHS—teacher, student council advisor, and coach.

Of course, because teaching is her “passion”, DelGuzzo finds ways to enhance the curriculum. For example, she became an adjunct professor at Central Ohio Technical College so she could offer a criminal justice elective which provides both high school credit as well as four semester hours of college credit. Over 100 students have completed it and a few even have gone into a career in the field. “I believe the course brings the criminal justice system into the classroom, allowing for hands-on involvement. I also believe the rigor of the course prepares the students for what they will experience in college,” she explained.

Another “real pleasure is working with the leaders in our school through Student Council,” said DelGuzzo. The council’s development of Mission Ensign is truly the feather in her cap. DelGuzzo’s close friendship with Kris Ensign inspired her and the organization she advises to move ahead to fulfill what the late teacher wanted—a scholarship and a way to provide pay-to-participate support for students. “Kris also asked that we add to the spirit rocks, to make a rock garden, because she really wanted larger rocks,” explained DelGuzzo. The organization will also continue to raise money for Angiosarcoma research, making a yearly donation in Ensign’s name.

Coaching basketball and track & field “has always given me a reason to set goals and reach them,” which is another characteristic she works to instill in the students she mentors. “I want them to learn by example and in turn hold themselves to a higher standard. Whether I coach state champions or kids who break their own personal records, I really love the growth and competition,” she said.

Her many positions have led to her really loving her job at GMHS. “Teaching is my passion. Whether I am in the classroom, on the court or advising a student...I am teaching. I am very lucky woman.”

## **SENIOR WEEK 2013**

*Pick up information from the senior bulletin board outside of room 113.*

*Senior Week May 27-31*

*Mandatory Graduation rehearsal 8:30 a.m.*

*Thursday, May 30*

*Graduation June 2, 2013 2 p.m.*

## **Scholarship Award Winners 2013**

Paul William Glendening Scholarship: Maggie Hutson

The GMLEA Buckley Scholarship: Amy Castle and Maggie Hutson

Kristine M. Ensign Memorial Scholarship: Amy Castle

Honda-OSU Partnership Math Medal: Shirley Tang 2013, Larry Parsons 2014

Southeast Suburban Realtors : Katelyn Gilmore

Association Scholarship: Maya Dandridge

Caltrider Scholarship: Maria Mendoza

Vermeer Scholarship: Kyle Sherrets, Abraham Fantaye, Shirely Tang

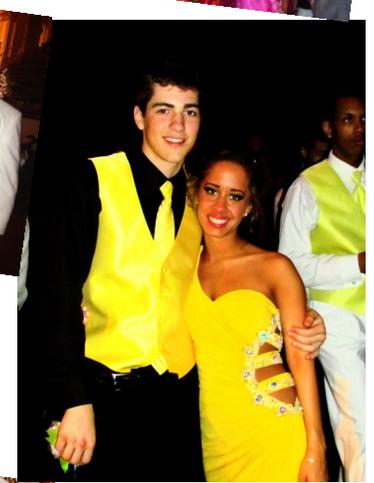
National Achievement Scholarship: Amanuel Alemu

Boys State Representatives: Isaac England and Nate Parsons (alternate)

# PROM 2013



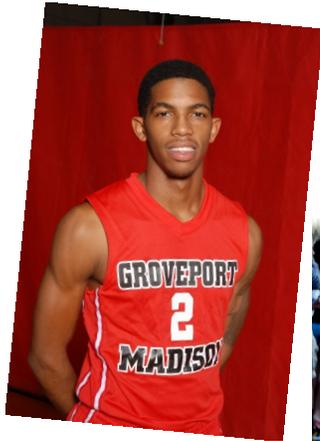
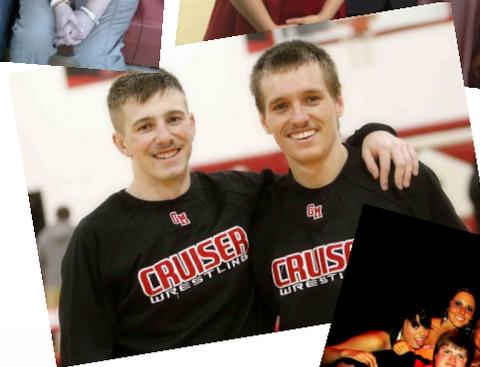
Queen Cassidy Tigner  
King Durrell Wood



# June 2013 Film Releases

Name	Type of Movie	Date Release	Rating	Synopsis	Cast
<i>The Purge</i>	Thriller	6/7/13	R	A family has to survive the national holiday, "The Purge". On this night, every possible crime is completely legal.	Ethan Hawke and Lena Headey
<i>The Internship</i>	Comedy	6/7/13	PG-13	Two men take on internships at Google when their watch company goes out of business. Will they have what it takes to make it big?	Vince Vaughn, Owen Wilson, Rose Byrne, John Goodman, Max Minghella, Aasif Mandvi and Josh Gad
<i>Man of Steel</i>	Action/Adventure	6/14/13	PG-13	Superman has to deal with the struggles of social acceptance after he does everything he can to save the world.	Henry Cavill, Amy Adams, Michael Shannon, Kevin Costner, Diane Lane, Laurence Fishburne, Ayelet Zurer, Russell Crowe, Christopher Meloni and Julia Ormond
<i>Monsters University</i>	Animation	6/21/13	G	This adventure is the back story before Monsters Inc. This animation shows how Mike and Sully became friends and co-workers.	Voices of Billy Crystal, John Goodman, Steve Buscemi, Helen Mirren, Alfred Molina, Sean Hayes, Charlie Day, Nathan Fillion, Aubrey Plaza, Tyler Labine, John Krasinski, Bonnie Hunt and John Ratzenberger
<i>World War Z</i>	Action Horror	6/21/13	PG-13	A man leaves his family to save the world from complete annihilation after a disease spreads throughout.	Brad Pitt, Mireille Enos and David Morse
<i>The Heat</i>	Comedy	6/28/13	R	An investigator is sent to Boston on a case to work with her new partner, but it is not what she expected.	Sandra Bullock and Melissa McCarthy
<i>White House Down</i>	Action Drama	6/28/13	Not Yet Rated	After the president of the United States is captured, a brand new secret service agent has to rescue him.	Channing Tatum, Jamie Foxx, Maggie Gyllenhaal, James Woods, Richard Jenkins, Jason Clarke and Joey King

# THE CLASS OF 2013



# THE CLASS OF 2013



# THE CLASS OF 2013



## Living Life

The sun is as bright as the future you have ahead of you. Life is as short as the time of day, but goes faster than the speed of light. Live everyday as if it's your last, but don't ever live in the past.

Dylan Hacker

Johnathan Robinson

## Tick Tock

I hear the clock tick as I wait patiently, as I wait for the day to catch-up with me. I sit in my seat and wait, wait for the day to end. Time seems to stop even though I can hear the ticking of the clock "Tick tock tick tock." I don't see the hands move, even though the sounds are surrounding me. I wait fixated on the sounds "Tick tock tick tock." As I sit and wait, I think of what I'm doing, what am I going to do? I see no movement. I hear no sounds except "Tick tock tick tock." Time resumes. The big hand strikes 10. The bell rings, and class is out again. In one second time seems to fly, I can no longer hear the ticking of the clock.

## Last Fight

A face that is always on my mind, a smile I have seen a thousand times. Two eyes that would light up the night skies. One last battle you could not fight. That night was long, then morning, then day. I knew that you would soon be gone. I clasped your hand. It was cold in mine. I feared that soon we would be out of time. To stay with us, you fought so hard. A million pieces went my heart. Now a photo I look at to see your smile. I keep your number on speed dial. A video I watch to hear your voice. This I do, I have no choice. But great memories I will always keep with me, your love in my heart for eternity.