

# THE SPECTRUM

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“The Maroon and Gold in Black and White”

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## Golden days ahead for aspiring AL actress

By Rachel Sapola  
The Spectrum Staff Writer

For ALHS senior Abby Golden, being in the spotlight is nothing new. After her theatrical awakening in first grade, Abby has become quite an accomplished actress over the years.

Soon after her first semi-professional production in the sixth grade, Golden realized that theater was quickly becoming a significant part of her and that it would soon become the passion that she would follow for the rest of her life. Through the support of her parents, friends, and the ALHS Drama Club, Abby is on her way to becoming very successful in the theater.

Since getting to portray Pooh in a production of Winnie the Pooh in the first grade, Abby has been in approximately 30 productions and has gotten to play a wide variety of characters, one

of those being Junie B. in the Cleveland Play House production of Junie B. Jones: The Musical.

Abby explained, “I always grew up reading Junie B. Jones books, so I felt like I had to do it. It was really fun and high energy, and it was cool because we got to go backstage and we saw other actors from different shows.” Experiences like these have helped to give Abby many opportunities and exposure, leading to plenty of accomplishments; however, the theater has impacted Abby’s life in many other ways. It has taught her priceless lessons over the years.



Abby enjoying summer before school starts photo courtesy of Abby Golden

“Theater and arts have impacted my life every single place, it’s definitely made me more of a social person, it’s allowed me to be me for me, that you don’t have to succeed in everything and that you don’t have to be perfect in every way.” She continues to add that theater has taught her to accept herself and that with hard work, good things will happen.

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What’s the deal with college interviews?  
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Ask the Students and Senior Spotlights Inside

## Robotics club aims high heading into state competition

By Madeline Thomas  
The Spectrum Staff Writer

The ALHS Robotics Club is working hard to beat out their rivals in the upcoming state championship.

Two of the five teams in the club now qualify to compete in the state championships after their most recent win in Toledo. If the teams are successful in their endeavours at states then they will advance to the World Competition, which will be located in Louisville, Kentucky.

The event will host teams from over 40 countries and will run over a course of 3 days. Only time will tell if our robots will be able to fight their way to the top, but the odds certainly seem to be in their favor this year.

Gregory Svec, the supervisor for Robotics Club, said that it is free for any students to join Robotics Club, but it may cost money to participate in the matches.

At least 30 students are a part of the organization, and everyone else is encouraged to attend if they have an interest in getting more familiar with coding, computers, and mechanics.

“We are in a league this year, which is something new for us,” said Svec. However, just because ALHS is new to this unfamiliar territory does not mean that Svec is concerned. It’s quite the opposite, really; he has total faith in his students and their abilities (along with their robots’ abilities, of course).

It is unclear whether or not ALHS will help pay for the club to attend the World Championship if they qualify for it in the following months, but Mr. Svec is hoping the school will endorse the trip so they have a chance at attaining the title of 2019 VEX Robotics World Champions.

“Hopefully next year we’ll host a

competition here,” said Svec, as he wants to continue to supervise the club and expand on its activities. It would be a lot of work to host a match, but Svec is confident that his students are up for the challenge. To learn more about the ALHS Robotics Club, see Mr. Svec in room 191 or email him at gregory.svec@avonlakeschools.



Students celebrating after winning several awards photo courtesy of @ALHSRobotics Twitter



by Mary Shabab

## Environmental impacts of 2019

As the year comes to a close, it is always beneficial to look back and reminisce on what 2019 has brought into our lives. For many, happy memories stand out and mark this year as a positive one. For some, this year may not have been the best, but 2020 has potential. But with the new year we must also reflect on those we left behind. Specifically, those with whom we share our Earth.

In 2019, we saw a dramatic increase in the rate of extinction and additions to the endangered species list. The loss of species today is over 1,000 times higher than the natural extinction rate. This has posed a serious biodiversity threat within our ecosystems.

Unfortunately, the credit is all ours. Some scientists have even started labeling our impact as the 6th extinction crisis, after the 5 waves of extinction in history.

Some of the largest culprits towards the extinction of species can be credited to acts of poaching, trafficking, and deforestation. The Sumatran elephant is now critically endangered after Asia experienced one of the highest rates of deforestation in history.

As of 2019, roughly 2,000 still live in the wild. Sea turtles have also found themselves on the endangered species list. Pollution from the fishing industry threatens their ability to reproduce, but an even larger threat is illegal trade. Turtle meat and eggs are a source of food for many people around the world. With the rise of multiple threats in the marine environment, the population of sea turtles is at risk.

Another animal that found itself on the critically endangered species list is the Amur leopard. Amur leopards, native mostly to Russia, are poached at extremely high rates because of their beautiful spotted fur. In the last few years, attempts have been made to protect these stunning animals, but unfortunately the population currently stands

at just 84 individuals in the wild. So why is it so important that we protect these animals that most of us will never even get to see in our lives?



Nicole Duvall

Well, as it goes, the ecosystem has balance. The loss of one species could mean the loss of a food source to another, thus a decline in that species as well. It could also mean the loss of a predator, and thus a dramatic increase in another species. Everything on Earth balances out, and we have found a way to throw off this naturally constructed hierarchy.

Efforts like saving endangered species seem difficult to face because they aren't as hands on, but I guarantee that every little effort you make goes full circle to help these species. We are all connected, we all share one Earth, and it is important that we all find a way to keep the peace.

Consider donating to organizations working specifically to save certain animals, or maybe even consider trying to get hands on experience with it. For me, my trip to Trinidad and encounters with leatherback sea turtles showed me just how helpless these creatures can be in the face of threats as big as humankind.

For your 2020 resolutions, consider not only the wellness of yourself, but the wellness of the world around you. Make next year the year that you make changes to better the environment.

Understand that if we continue to live as we did in 2019 and prior, we may come to a day where there won't be a new year to be celebrated. As always, every little thing makes a difference, and there's no time like a fresh new year to start making those changes!

## There is no War on Christmas

As seen with midterm reviews and ridiculously excessive fragrance ads, the holiday season is finally upon us. This should be universally celebrated as relief from work and a time of rest and relaxation with loved ones; however, there is always something for people to be fighting about. The simple shift in pop culture toward a more inclusive holiday greeting has many people upset, leading them to declare a "War on Christmas".

Throughout my life, I have most commonly heard "Merry Christmas" as a greeting during the holiday season. This makes sense—the majority of people in the United States are Christian, and even more celebrate Christmas for non-religious reasons. But these days, there is an increasing amount of "Happy Holidays" or "Season's Greetings" being thrown around, and somehow an argument has been created over this change.

Those upset over the shift argue that "Happy Holidays" is offensive to those who practice Christianity. As stated by conservative radio host and author Dennis Prager, "Of course it's a war

on Christianity — or, more precisely, a war on the religious nature of America."

The first problem I have with this statement is one that has

become incredibly standard in American culture: greatly exaggerating a disagreement into a vicious Twitter fight. There is no War on Christmas. No one is physically inhibiting you from practicing your religion, or from celebrating the holidays. Just because people disagree on a simple greeting to others during what is supposed to be a peaceful holiday season does not mean a war between cultures is being declared. People should be allowed to disagree over something as meaningless as a greeting, then get right back to chatting about their kids over coffee. Trivial disagreements should not break up friends, let alone start cultural "wars".



Livie Crimaldi

See Accepting page 8

# College interviews: the final frontier of college applications

At this point in the year, we seniors are only about halfway through the college process. While many of us have applied and are just now hearing decisions, a large number still have some work to do. I applied early to five of my seven colleges, which means the other two won't give me an answer until the end of March.



Marguerite Smith

Even with all applications and honors college forms submitted, there is no down time. Certain colleges and programs require a little bit of extra work. In my case, that meant three college interviews in early November. Each of my college interviews was unique and for very different colleges.

Penn State asked me to either travel 4 hours to Pittsburg or have my interview conducted online. I chose the online option. For each of my interviews, I prepared by wearing a nice sweater and a skirt - they each said that the interviews were casual, but better to be safe than sorry. My Penn State interviewer was an engineering professor on Penn State's main campus. I was his first interview of the year

and he mentioned that he was particularly excited because I will be an engineering student.

The interview was approximately an hour in length and consisted of my interviewer asking all the questions. He asked me things like "What do you expect to get out of Penn State Engineering?" or "How would your friends describe you?." Every question was relatively normal - nothing very difficult to answer. He told me that my answers to his prompts were unlike any he had seen before, and I wasn't sure if that was good or bad. I only had a few questions prepared to ask my interviewer, but they ended up being unnecessary. The online call was a great way to ease into the college interviewing process, because up next was Princeton.

Princeton and Duke interviewers came to our area, meeting me in person at Panera for my interview. I was fifteen minutes early, of course, but he showed up right on time. My Princeton interviewer was a NASA scientist who attended Princeton for graduate school. He mentioned that I was his first interview of the year, and,

once again, the only aspiring STEM student. He also made it known that of all the student interviews he has conducted over the years, only two have been accepted. My hands were so sweaty that I hid them under the table of the booth we were sitting in.

Although I was nervous, my interviewer made the entire process incredibly comfortable. Unlike the Penn State interview, he was working with me rather than simply questioning me. He had a blank sheet of computer paper and a pen. He said that we were going to work together to create a story about me to send to the admissions office.

They didn't care about my grades or test scores since every other applicant also has a good-looking academic record. What they really wanted to know is what I do outside of school, in my free time. Club activities and in-school leadership positions were unimportant to them. I talked about my Girl Scout Gold Award project but they didn't care about that either because there are other Girl Scouts applying to the school.

See Finalizing page 8

## Senior Spotlight

### Liv Johnson



- **What is your job during drama productions?**
- I am on stage crew
- **Best part about drama club?**
- Behind the scenes in the productions
- **Favorite production you've put on so far?**
- *The Addams Family*
- **Plans for the future?**
- ROTC in college and then I'm going into the military
- **Favorite Christmas song?**
- "Jingle Bell Rock"
- **Best Christmas present you've ever received?**
- A certificate from my dad to go pick out some crazy socks
- **Worst Christmas present you've ever received?**
- I haven't gotten a bad present yet
- **What do you want for Christmas this year?**
- Time with my grandma

### Devin McCain



- **What is your job during drama productions?**
- Stage Manager
- **Best part about drama club?**
- The satisfaction you get from seeing a show come together
- **Favorite production you've put on so far?**
- *The Addams Family*
- **Plans for the future?**
- Unknown
- **Favorite Christmas song?**
- "The Season's Upon Us" by Dropkick Murphys
- **Best Christmas present you've ever received?**
- A set of all the *Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* books
- **Worst Christmas present you've ever received?**
- An ugly flannel shirt
- **What do you want for Christmas this year?**
- Something cool from one of my aunt's stays in a foreign country

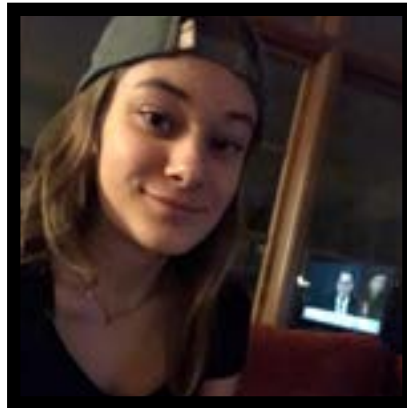
ASK the Students:

# What is the WORST CHRISTMAS SONG?



**EMMA S & Mary D:**  
Christmas Conga

I Want a Hippopotamus for Christmas



**Jaryn L:**

Frosty the Snowman



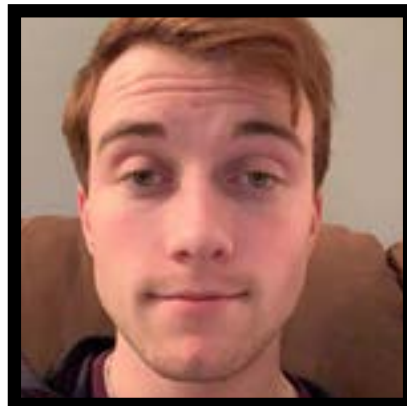
**SAMMY R:**

Blue Christmas



**AUGUST R:**

I Want a Hippopotamus for Christmas



**DANNY G:**

All I Want for Christmas Is My Two Front Teeth



**Karlee C:**

Mistletoe



**Robert S:**

Let it Snow



**Drew F:**

I Want a Hippopotamus for Christmas



**Ben P:**

I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus



# The Spectrum Sports



## Shoregal swim team dives into the new season

By Marcy Allen

The Spectrum Sports Editor

The Avon Lake High School Girls Swimming and Diving team have high hopes for a successful season after winning the SWC title last year.

The Shoregals recently defeated Westlake, North Olmsted, Amherst, and placed 3rd at the Oberlin Invitational. The swimmers credit their achievements to their hard work. "We are training hard to hopefully be conference champions again. While it was

a pleasure to be on the winning team last year, I'd really like the Fresh-

men to have experience the excitement of being champions," said senior captain Emma Okuma.

The Avon Lake Swim squad has practice 4 days a week at Oberlin College, and an additional

to ensure they are victorious. "Our dedication at practices ensured that we had the team do well and beat the person next to them. Practices allow us to find out how to race and who to race against," said Okuma.

Last year, the Shoregals snatched the SWC title from rival Avon. The swim team faces Avon on January 16th for Avon Lake's Swimming and Diving senior night. "We are training hard to beat Avon. The Eagles are our biggest competitor," said Senior captain Emily Wysong.

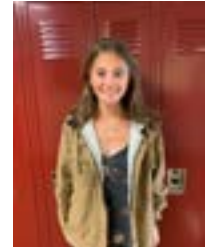


Photo courtesy of Emma Okuma

The Shoregal swim team is excited for the 2019-2020 season.

practice at ALHS's weight room

## Marcy's Mindset



### Rivalries

By Marcy Allen

The Spectrum Sports Writer

From having The University of Michigan toilet paper, to being an Ohio State cheerleader for my first Halloween costume, I have always taken interest in the great rivalry of the Buckeyes versus the Wolverines.

Watching the OSU versus Michigan game this past November made me realize the importance of having a rival. Rivals push teams beyond their limits to conquer their worst enemy.

I will never forget when the 2016-2017 Shoremen varsity football team upset rival Avon in the first round of playoffs on the Eagle's own turf. Avon was a powerhouse that year and were supposed to defeat the Shoremen squad who were the underdogs. With motivation to beat their rival, Avon Lake defied the pregame predictions and exiled Avon by one point.

The closeness of the Avon Lake student body as we stormed Avon's field to cheer on the Shoremen was an unforgettable sight. Seniors cheered with freshmen and mathematicians celebrated with jocks. The high school hierarchy was abolished because of the pure excitement of beating of the Avon Eagles!

College bound, I am excited for new rivalries. I look forward to cheering on my college team and more importantly creating new bonds with peers who dislike the opposition just as much as I do.

## Gymnastics team flips back to ALHS

By Morgan Hughes

The Spectrum Sports Writer

The Avon Lake High School Gymnastics team is preparing for a great season this year after the team being reformed only a few months ago. They are looking forward to an exciting meet season and a fun rest of their season.

"The season has been the perfect combination of fun and hardcore," junior Brooke Mangano said. "We work super hard at practice to gear up for our first meets but there's always tons of time to be crazy and laugh."

The meet season has not yet fully began, but there are still people that have stood out as important members of the team.

"It's our inaugu-

ral season," sophomore Elly Rauch said. "Anna Molina does gymnastics for Great Lakes also so we anticipate her to be a standout."

Some gymnasts have made their return to gymnas-



Photo by Brooke Mangano

Avon Lake gymnastics squad posing for the camera.

tics after a several year long break look easy.

"As far as I can tell, senior captain Maddy West has totally stood out on bars," Mangano said. "It's like she never left!"

However, one mem-

ber of the team is out because of an injury before the meets even started.

"Hannah Lengel is out with a hip injury," Rauch said. "She is having surgery soon and will be out for at least 8 months sadly."

Lengel continues to have a positive impact on the team as a whole, despite her season-ending injury.

"Hannah continues to come to practice and condition despite her injury which shows how much perseverance she has," Rauch said. "Watching her helps us to be more determined like her."

The gymnastics team has their first meet coming up, where they will be up against several schools such as Avon and Westlake.

"Our first meet is Sunday December 22 at Xtreme Gymnastics," Mangano said. "We can't wait!"

# Boys bowling makes their mark

By Alexis Miller  
The Spectrum Sports

The boys bowling team is off to a great start. They've won against Brookside High School on November 20th, Wellington High School on November 25th, and Rival Avon High School on December 2nd.

The team's best victory yet was when they faced Avon. The top scorers for Avon Lake were Junior Brandon Nieding with a high series score of 470, Freshman JJ Toth with a series score of 449, and senior captain Connor Gallagher with a series score of 436. Sophomore Evan Molloy scored a 393 and Senior Brandon Holton scored a 356. The team's biggest competitor this year is Berea-Midpark. Team Captain Connor Gallagher said, "They have a solid team this year."

Since being captain, Connor said that every member of the team has impressed him this year. "Evan Molloy is very motivated this year on improv-

ing his game. Brandon Holton has been doing great on challenging himself this year. JJ Toth is a sniper. He has been hitting splits like crazy. You should watch out for him on the upcoming years," said Gallagher.

One person who has been excelling this year is Junior Brandon Nieding. "He's spot on with his accuracy and learning new ways on how to roll the ball more down the lanes," Gallagher said.

Having good leadership helps build a great team. Coach Williams said that it is important to have a captain that motivates the team, supports the coaches and sticks with the team during all practices, physical exercises, and workouts. Gallagher said, "The leadership I bring to the table is how serious I take the game of bowling. I'm always asking everyone what mark did you hit or ask and see if they felt light or heavy on the ball," said Gallagher.

# DIVISION I BOUND

## Abby Schillinger

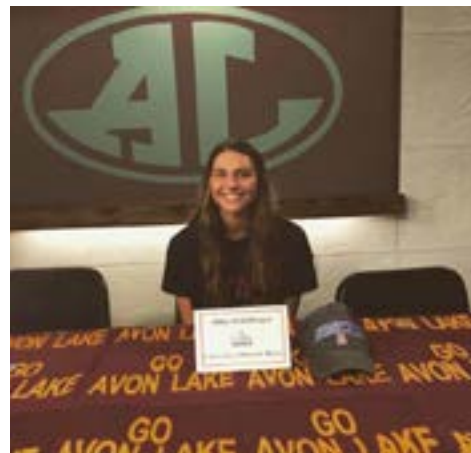


Photo courtesy of Abby Schillinger  
Abby Schillinger signing to University of Detroit Mercy

# Shoregals shoot for success

Anna Haberstro  
The Spectrum Sports

Starting off the season with a 2-1 record, the Shoregals basketball team is hopeful for a successful season.

The Shoregals work together to be victorious. "There is no selfishness on the court and our defense always has

ball team is focusing on shooting during practices to make themselves more lethal.

"Something that

because of the hard work we have put in," Negron said.

The Shoregals recently beat rival Avon with a score of 53 - 59. They will play the Eagles again on January 15th at home.

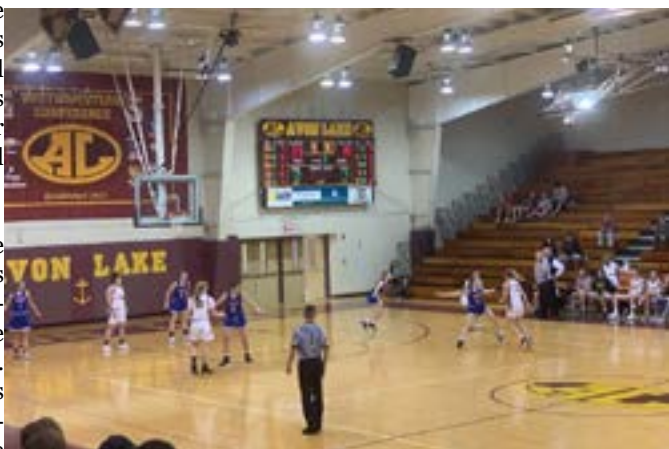


Photo by @AvonLakeSports

The Shoregals beat Bay Village 47-37 on November 25th.

high energy," senior captain Arianna Negron said. The Avon Lake High School girls basket-

has improved over the past month is how we finish at the basket. We have been able to score more

- • • • •
- **Sport:** Lacrosse •
- **Favorite After Sport** •
- **Snack:** Spaghetti •
- **Future College:** Uni-
- **versity of Detroit Mercy** •
- **Favorite Athlete:** •
- **Taylor Cummings** •
- **Powerade or Gato-**
- **rade:** Gatorade •
- **Pregame Rituals:** •
- **Jamming to music.** •
- **What are you most** •
- **exctied for as a fu-** •
- **ture college ath-** •
- **lete?:** The environ- •
- **ment I'm going to be in.** •
- • • • •

## Boys Swimming & Diving makes a splash

By Emma Okuma

The Spectrum Sports Writer

The boys swimming and diving team is ready to take on another season. The team has grown successfully because of participation from underclassmen, as well as hard work.

Senior captain Will Moses is confident in

leading the team to victory, alongside junior captain Nate Thain. "A few of our standout underclassmen are Joe Swain and Nick Haven."

Some upperclassmen to watch out for are Riley King, Jack Fazio, Owen Bornhorst, Micheal Slaughter," Moses said.

The leaders have many ideas that will make them victorious. Thain wants to

make sure everyone feels in control of their events and ensure people do their best.

"I'm going to lead our team by pushing the other swimmers at practice to constantly get better at by motivating them before their races. I will be supportive to guide the team through the season," said Moses.

The team has achieved a lot in the past couple of years, being third in the conference for two years in a row. This 2019-2020 season they hope to beat teams that are ahead of them in the rankings.

Going into Christmas break, the team has high hopes for training. "I think we need to look back on our past meets to go over what we missed and work on that.

During this time in the season, every practice counts," said Thain.



Photo courtesy of @AvonLakesports

The Shoremen Swimming and Diving team against Bay Village on November 13th.

## Shoremen basketball looks to improve season

By Kyle Chandler

The Spectrum Sports Writer

The Avon Lake Boys Basketball team starts off the season with a 1-1 record, as they were defeated by the Westlake Demons on December 13th.

Senior captain Tanner Russell reflected on how his team has played so far. "Our defense has been good, but our offense has been a little shaky," said Russell.

After the Westlake game, Russell talked about what needs to improve in order to correct their mistakes. "We need to work on moving the ball to create more opportunities to score," said Russell.

Although Russell isn't happy with starting off the season with a 1-1 record, he is still confident with the basketball program.

One key player who has stepped up for the team is Ryan Shinko. A "He is a key role for this team," Russell said.

With a hopeful future ahead, Avon Lake is still looking to win the conference and go deep into the playoffs.

## Girls bowling rolls into a new season

By Morgan Hughes

The Spectrum Sports Editor

The Avon Lake High School Girls Bowling team is off to a great start, with only one loss in the season so far. They recently played in a tournament, and were able to score well and place well.

"The season has been going super good; we just have one loss so far," junior and captain Chloe Smith said. "We competed in the Eagles challenge and placed 7th in the whole tournament and 3rd in the SWC."

Many girls have had an excellent season so far and have been great assets to the team.

"Amber Watherman, Rayana Meyers, and Phoebe Hood have done super well this year, and improving their averages by a lot," Smith said.

Their coaches have also helped them to improve immensely and keep their focus in check.

"Our coaches for the girls team are Bill Gallagher and Matt Collier," Smith said. "They help us a lot mentally and statistically

during matches and tournaments, and they make sure we're improving and doing our best ability everyday."

Since the bowling team went to States last year, they have big hopes and expectations this year.

"Our team's goal this year is to make it to States again, as we did last year," Smith said.



by Anna Haberstro

## Continuing acting after ALHS

### From Golden page 1

Throughout her career, Abby's love of theater has been cultivated through the encouragement of her family, friends, and idols who have supported her passion. She appreciates that she is able to tell a story through theater to reach out and move people. Above all, she believes that theater is important because she can change people's lives in ways that they may not have expected to change through the profound and powerful stories that she tells while in character.

During her time in high school, Abby has been given a number of opportunities through the ALHS Drama Club, including her experience in the ALHS production of *The Addams Family*. During her sophomore year, she had the opportunity to play the role of Wednesday Addams. Abby was able to embrace the challenge of playing Wednesday, who she described as being her polar opposite. Chances like these have helped to push Abby to progress in her passion.

Although the stage is the biggest part of her life, Abby excels in areas outside of the theater. Along with being a cellist with the ALHS Chamber Orchestra, she participates in choirs outside of school and is a proud Girl Scout and

self-proclaimed bubble tea addict. Not only that, through extracurricular programs she is able to teach in schools, helping to foster her long-term goals in theater education. Golden strives to encourage others to look into the arts as well. She reiterates, "Just try it out, I know so many people who didn't even start doing theater until sophomore year and are now on Broadway, you just don't know, so just try it. Don't judge a book by its cover, give everything a chance. You never know where your life's going to take you."

In the fall, Abby plans to attend college and major in Musical Theater with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree. She would like to eventually work on touring shows and work towards more inclusion of theater, music, and dance education in schools.

"I definitely want to be able to do shows and tour around the US and the world. In ten years, I don't know if I'll be acting, I don't know if I'll be in New York. My life goals are to just be happy and to live my life; you only live once," she says. In the meantime, however, Abby is looking forward to her graduation and working on her applications to continue reaching for her ambitions.

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polls, and more!



## Accepting "Happy Holidays"

### From Christmas page 2

My second issue with Mr. Prager's statement is the counterintuitive "war on the religious nature of America." In actuality, shifting from "Merry Christmas" to "Happy Holidays" expands the greeting to every religion in America. Just because the religious nature of the United States isn't completely Christian does not mean the country has lost all spiritual connection. If anything, it is *more* American to have a diverse mix of holiday traditions, given the melting-pot nature of our country.

Believe me, I understand the confusion and stress behind this simple holiday tradition. I don't want to offend anyone, yet I also don't want to stop wishing everyone well during their holiday season. That is the common thread between the two greetings, after all. Both are used in good faith, yet cause such animosity when disagreed upon.

At the end of the day, we can find solace in the fact that that 80% of Americans really don't care how they are greeted during the holiday season. And since it is every American's constitutional right to say whatever they please, there is no point in trying to force someone into a different greeting. This is just another example of a pointless argument that has gone too far, so let's everyone just drop it and embrace the spirit of the holiday season: spreading peace and love to our friends and community.

## Finalizing college applications with alumni interviews

### From College page 3

My interviewer eventually decided to run with SCUBA diving and athletics. Apparently, there are not many certified SCUBA divers that apply to Princeton, this year or ever. While I understood that SCUBA is a pretty unique hobby, I had a hard time understanding why he also wanted to know about volleyball. I definitely wasn't going to be playing a Division I college sport, but he didn't care. He said it was important to my application because it's one of my longest continued activities. By the end of the hour, his paper was filled front and back with details of shipwreck diving and springtime volleyball tournaments.

My Duke interview was about a week later at the same Panera. My interviewer was a well-dressed businessman who works in downtown Cleveland. This

interview was almost the opposite of the other two interviews. It was only a twenty-five-minute interview where I asked almost every question. The few questions that he asked me were odd and unrelated to my academics, athletics, or hobbies.

I had a difficult time with "Name two people who are no longer living that you would like to speak to or have lunch with." I was at a loss. I had never thought about questions that were even remotely like the questions that my Duke interviewer asked me. The rest of the short interview went smoothly because I came prepared with a notebook full of questions. Even so, it was not my finest moment.

Each of my interviewers was very reassuring and personable. It was almost like they were rooting for me. They each wanted me to email them when I found

out if I was accepted or not and if I end up choosing their school since they have no way of knowing the admission office's final decision. Of the three I have only been accepted to Penn State, with the other two schools letting me know in February or March.

For those who have college interviews this year or will in the future, my advice to you would be to dress nice, bring lots of interesting questions, and show up at least fifteen minutes early. Be yourself and answer all questions honestly, not just how you think they'd like you to answer. Finally, don't forget that interviews are a pretty small part of the admissions process. A good interview won't take you out of the 'no' pile of applications. If you aren't accepted, then it just wasn't meant to be.