

Apple's Pros/cons

Michael Ambrose
Reporter

It's that time of the year again where Apple releases their new phone product.

The new phones include; the iPhone 6, and the iPhone Plus.

They have also released a new software update, which is called iOS 8.

Previously, Apple users complained how short their battery life would be, as sometimes for people it would last for only a few hours.

Sophomore Adam Coomes said, "Sometimes my battery would only last for a few hours. It really frustrated me, but I'm glad the battery life is improved on the iPhone 6."

The new iPhone 6's battery life is great according to Apple.

Also, users like the new screen display.

"Now the new iPhone has a 5.5 inch screen and is absolutely gorgeous while reading ebooks and watching movies," said blogger Adrian Kingsley-Hughes

Apple said the new phone is more durable than their previous ones.

Senior Travis Wise said, "I like how the new iPhone 6 is more durable than the old phones. I feel like it's harder to get scratches and scrapes like before."

Before, Apple's old phones would obtain scrapes and scratches, and the screen would crack easily.

Apple states that the new phone is more durable than the old phones. Now, the screen resists scratches, and scrapes better than before.

But, now there are a lot of people that do not like the new iPhone 6 Plus.

One of the major problems people are having is that the phone is large in size and width, and that the phone has the ability to bend.

During the first week of the release of the iPhone 6, Apple claimed that about nine people's iPhones broke because of the bending ability.

Kingsley said, "I really like the new iPhone, but sometimes I have a lot of trouble putting the phone in my pocket because of the size. I wish they would've made the phone a little smaller."

Additionally, customers dislike how long the battery takes to charge.

Apple also released their new software update for the year, iOS 8.

One positive thing people are liking about the new update is the new QuickType keyboard.

The QuickType keyboard is a shortcut when typing or texting, and gives users options of words and sentences based on their past conversations and writing style.

Another major feature iOS 8 users like about the new update is the new speech to text feature.

This new feature gives users the ability to talk to their iPhone hands-free and the phone will type the message for the user.

Another new addition to iOS 8 is the Health app. Sophomore Jack Whitt said, "I really haven't used the new Health App. I feel like it's a pointless app and should be removed."

The new health app gives users an easy to read dashboard of their health and fitness data.

Apple also created a new app called HealthKit, which allows all the incredible health and fitness apps to work together, and work harder for users.

Wise said, "I really enjoy the new HealthKit app. It's something different, and I enjoy it a lot.

Then, there are also negatives about the new update iOS 8.

Sophomore Andrew Arocho said, "I really don't like the new iOS 8 update. It shuts off my phone at random times, and when I send text messages they will not send until ten to fifteen minutes later."

Another reason users are not liking the new update is because it requires about 5 gigabytes of free space to download.



Photo by: Chance Shipley

An instructor from Johnson Controls fills an air cannon with air from a fog maker, and tries to shoot cups off of students' heads.



Photo by: Chance Shipley

Students use uncooked spaghetti noodles and masking tape to try to see how high they can build a sturdy tower.

STEM Summit excites

Chance Shipley
Reporter

On November 5, sophomores spent their school day taking part in the third annual Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Summit.

STEM is a national movement to engage students in educational opportunities connecting the STEM fields.

Our school participates in the STEM Summit to try to interest sophomores in careers in the STEM career fields.

Junior Achievement of Central Pennsylvania provides the STEM Summit.

Junior Achievement of Central Pennsylvania is an organization that supports student's success in all fields and a variety of different ways, such as JA Biztown

In sixth grade, student attended a field trip to JA Biztown which allowed students to have a full time job and their own checkbook for a day.

In addition to being hosted by Junior Achievement, various corporate and private donations sponsor the STEM Summit such as Peach Bottom Atomic Power and Johnson Controls.

The program exposes high school students to STEM topics through hands-on activities.

A committee of teachers along with principal Heather Venne made up the planning group for the STEM Summit.

This planning committee is made up of math teacher Timothy Johanning, shop teacher James Waltermeyer, technology teacher Manda Meese, science teacher Beverly Whiteford, and learning support teacher Dyan Hulslander.

On the day of the Summit, more teachers were involved as leaders for the nine groups of students.

Students were placed into nine different groups and started the day in the auditorium for the introduction of the Junior Achievement Coordinators.

"I thought that the STEM Summit was a really great experience. My favorite part of the STEM Summit was using the a chemical reaction to make a foam hand and participating in the STEM relay," said sophomore Savannah Broadway.

The activities and competitions that the sophomores participated in were varied.

There were two career panel discussions, which discussed careers at WellSpan Health, Harley Davidson Motorcycle company, Peach Bottom Atomic Powerplant, and Johnson Controls.

Another activity was a robotics relay which involved a variety of STEM-themed events; a marshmallow tower building challenge; an 80/20 engineering challenge which required students to build a glass screen; a polymer experiment where students could make foam hands.

Students also participated in a wind and air experiment with an air cannon; an electrical challenge which required students to put together a junction box, and a math challenge with a variety of math related games.

After all nine groups completed every activity, everyone gathered in the auditorium for a demonstration.

The final act was when the demonstrator filled a trash can with liquid nitrogen, then poured a bucket of water into the trash can, which then reacted with liquid nitrogen and exploded.

Almost, Maine: Love, but not quite

Lily Riale
Reporter

Almost, Maine is a town that is so far north it's almost in Canada, but not quite. Its residents never got around to organizing it into an official town, so it's just... almost.

The cast included: sophomore Melanie Borgal, junior Eleanor Cromwell, freshman Emma Kreiss, senior Christopher Rice, senior Hannah Snider, freshman Noah Tart, and sophomore Cierra Wecker.

The directors of fall play this year were alumni AJ D'Alfonso and Alexander Dickson. High school music teacher and Drama Club advisor James Craley served as the technical director this year and the production stage manager (PSM) was senior Alexander Powell.

The play is comprised of seven scenes that tell the stories of the town residents of the town with three "logues" (*Prologue*, *Interlogue* and *Epilogue*) included throughout.

The play begins with two teenagers, Ginette and Pete, played by Wecker and Rice. *Prologue*, begins with Ginette and Pete sitting on opposite ends of a bench clad in winter clothing.

Ginette nervously tells Pete that she loves him, and although Pete reciprocates the feeling, he is concerned that he does



Photo by: Mark Fisher

The cast and crew of *Almost, Maine* pose for a quick group picture.

not feel close to her. Ginette, believing he has rejected her, walks away.

The play then ensues with four scenes detailing the love stories that are occurring in the small town.

The first scene featuring Wecker and Rice is *Her Heart*, the story of a woman who loses her husband.

Sad and Glad, introduced Rice, Snider and Cromwell, and tells the story of two former lovers, Sandrine and Jimmy who meet again in a bar on the night of Sandrine's (Snider's) bachelorette party.

Cromwell who played Villi-

an, still sitting on the bench looking miserable and lonely. Ginette is nowhere in sight.

Where It Went tells the story of Marci, played by Borgal, and Phil, played by Tart. The two are a married couple that struggles with a lack of communication.

Cromwell and Rice star in the *Story of Hope*, the tale of a young woman, Hope who panics when her beau, Danny asks her to marry him and runs away. When she returns to admit her mistake, she finds out that Danny has married someone else.

Senior Chris Rice who played five characters said, "It's a lot of work, but it's all worth the friends I made and the good times I had."

In the final scene, *Seeing the Thing*: Snider and Tart play Rhonda and Dave, two individuals who awkwardly come to the realization that they have feelings for each other.

The play closes with *Epilogue* in which Ginette and Pete reunite and close the play with a kiss beneath falling snow.

AEVIDUM: I've got your back

Lily Riale
Reporter

On October 29, four students from the high school attended a conference in Lancaster called "Let's Talk Pennsylvania", sponsored by an organization called Aavidum.

Aavidum is a made-up word, but it carries great meaning. The phrase is derived from the Latin word vid that means "I've got your back."

In 2004, after the death of one of his students due to suicide, English teacher John Volupas established the program in order to raise awareness about teen suicide and mental health issues.

The goal of Aavidum is to create a safe community where individuals are encouraged to be themselves.

In October, the high school hosted a diversity conference for the entire faculty of the school district. Among the presentations of the day, was the program Aavidum. Volupas gave a powerful presentation that

discussed the nature of the program and its mission.

Along with Volupas's presentation, up-and-coming country music singer Stephanie Grace took the stage to perform her original song "Loser", written specifically for the program.

The song addresses bullying in and outside of school, and provides a message of empowerment for those who face bullying.

The singer has teamed up with Aavidum and writes songs specifically for the program. Along with this, she has released one self-titled album and an EP titled "Life's Okay".

The song's chorus states: "So call me a loser if you want to, but I know who I am. You don't have to like me, you don't have to be my friend, just know that sometimes losers turn into winners in the end."

After seeing the presentation, administration decided to imple-

ment Aavidum into a community movement.

Social service coordinator Kara Vojcsik is in charge of introducing the program to our district.

"I feel a very strong connection with the program. I think Aavidum will provide an environment that encourages positive choices," Vojcsik remarked.

Two hundred students and staff from 34 different middle and high schools in Lancaster, Lebanon, Berks and York counties attended the event.

The representatives from the high school--freshman Katelyn Golden, sophomore Megan Gereny, junior Brittany Wolf and senior Elisa Bickford traveled to Lancaster and participated in a promotion parade for the program.

The participants also held a press conference in Penn Square, and moreover presented

Senator Brubaker with the first ever Golden Banana Award for his commitment to Aavidum.

The representatives from both schools discussed different ways the district could establish the presence of Aavidum.

Ideas discussed were: making and selling T-shirts, creating a club, putting encouraging notes on lockers and potential fundraisers.

Bickford said, "It was a meaningful experience to be a part of such an awesome group of people all fighting for the same thing-to feel loved and accepted."

The students will work with social studies and psychology teacher Jennifer Adams, principal Heather Venne, district social services coordinator Kara Vojcsik, and assistant superintendent Anna Bickford to present the information to the community and school district.

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