

Boko Haram Abduction of Nigerian Girls Sparks Worldwide Outrage

By Emily Goldson '16

On April 14, 2014, as many as 300 teenage girls were abducted from their school in Chibok, Nigeria by the Islamic militant terrorist organization, Boko Haram. As the search and attempts to rescue these girls continue to move forward, the world supports and prays for the Nigerian girls to be returned home.

Videos released by Boko Haram show about 100 of the girls wearing hijabs and reciting the Koran. Abubakar Shekau, the group's leader, says he hopes to exchange the girls for imprisoned Boko Haram militants.

In recent months, the president of Nigeria, Goodluck Jonathan, has been criticized for waiting weeks to ask for international assistance to recover the girls. He now says the government is doing all it can to find them and bring them home alive.

The abductions have resulted in worldwide outrage directed at the terror group and an influx of Western counterterrorism and law enforcement experts to help Nigeria fight the Boko Haram.

U.S. Secretary of State John

Kerry announced that a team of US experts, consisting of law enforcement, intelligence, and military forces, has been sent to Nigeria to assist the government in trying to rescue the girls.

rently imprisoned. Sani said the fact that Boko Haram threatened to sell the girls rather than kill them is "a positive sign" that they are open to negotiations.

The kidnapping has also



Nigerians holding signs protesting the abduction wail in anguish. Image source: Muslimvillage.com.

Meanwhile, Nigerian negotiator Shehu Sani told ABC News that he has proposed a formal negotiation between Nigerian Islamic clerics and Boko Haram that would see the girls returned in exchange for insurgents cur-

caused a wide frenzy linked with the slogan, "Bring Back Our Girls." Various rallies have been organized, with the purpose of not only raising awareness about the Nigerian girls, but about the treatment of women and girls around the world.

New Social Media Laws Ensure Privacy at Work and in Schools

By Rebecca Schneider '15

As social media grows in importance in American lives, states are tackling various privacy intrusions, which may help to create communities in work and at home.

In 2012, six states passed laws preventing employers, schools, or both from demanding access to social media accounts, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures. In 2013, seven more states joined their ranks, while lawmakers in 25 states without laws in place considered similar legislation.

Action is being taken in schools as well. The New Jersey School Boards Association revised its model policy for social media, first developed in 2012, to comply with the state's new law, signed on April 24, on social media use in schools. The policy is intended to help local school boards, which can adopt the model or create their own.

"A policy designed to prevent inappropriate communications between students and staff is critical in helping schools to ensure child safety and guide instructional staff," said NJSBA president John Bulina.

Supreme Court Hears Case that Could Change Broadcasting Forever

By Matt Ryan '14

The Supreme Court recently heard a case questioning the legitimacy of technology company Aereo, which takes television signals from popular broadcasters and allows access through computers or tablets at a low, monthly cost.

At face value, it appears what Aereo is doing--intercepting signals broadcast by major networks and allowing unrestricted access to individuals that are not directly paying the broadcasters themselves--is blatantly illegal; however, the Supreme Court is being careful not to establish a precedent that could hamper future enterprises that utilize cloud computing or streaming in a innovative ways from development.

The ramifications for this case are significant for every American who watches cable television, as they dictate the implications should television become a-la-carte, allowing each person to choose channels individually. Though many like this

idea, such a system would reduce the total number of channels from hundreds to two dozen, as smaller networks lack interest to gather substantial funding from the public.

For years, the Supreme Court has refused to hear multiple lawsuits regarding an a-la-carte model being adopted by multiple cable providers. Any decision would potentially endanger the future of companies such as Comcast, Verizon, and Time Warner that provide such services.

In a piece for the Guardian, Emily Bell stated her position on the issue by raising a unique perspective: "What happens when you knowingly or accidentally create a society where only those who have money and power can distribute or access information?"

No matter the court's decision, Ms. Bell posits, it is important to remember that broadcasting and the internet were first devised so they "would be for everybody".

Israeli-Palestinian Conflict Logs Online

By Faly Stempler '16

With the collapse of peace talks between Israel and the Palestinians, hundreds of thousands of young people across the Middle East are discussing appeasement via a social media site.

Uri Savir, an ex-peace negotiator between Israel and the Palestinians and founder of YaLa Young Leaders, said the massive response of his group shows young people in the Middle East are striving for peace and will be unsettled until they get it. As Savir stated, "the peace process continues online."

The Facebook group, which includes celebrities like Bill Clinton, Tony Blair and Sharon Stone, has attracted almost 500,000 followers from around the region, including youths in the Palestinian territories, Egypt and Muslim countries that have no relations with Israel.

The group held an annual virtual peace conference Sunday, May 25, that included video presentations by Nobel Peace laureates

Israeli President Shimon Peres and Desmond Tutu, as well as Senior EU, U.S., and Palestinian officials. Letters written by Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas and former U.S. president Bill Clinton will be published on the site.

"The young generation in the Middle East is sick of the decisions of their leaders and are very disappointed that the talks stopped," Savir said. "They have a say in this because it is the young people who are sent to the front lines if there is a war."

"Young people in the Middle East want peace talks to succeed," Savir added. He said his site is an "innovative public diplomacy tool that will in time influence governments."

The Yala Young Leaders group has an online university that teaches peace and reconciliation studies with lectures by officials with real experience in negotiating conflicts in Northern Ireland, South Africa, Rwanda, and the Balkans as well as between Israel and the Palestinians and elsewhere.

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From the Desk of the Editors-in-Chief

On the streets of London, metal studs have been placed outside a luxury high-rise building to prevent homeless people from sleeping on the streets. In Honolulu, plastic benches have been replaced with metal stools to prevent people from sleeping there. In San Francisco, managers of a civic auditorium blasted the sounds of jackhammers, motorcycles and chainsaws to clear away the homeless.

Living in an affluent society, we are sheltered from the struggles of the underprivileged. Society places great stigma on homelessness and fails to understand the adversities

that homeless people face every day.

As a society that places great value on wealth, we need an attitude change. Many stereotypes exist about homelessness, including that homeless people are lazy, don't work hard enough, didn't take the opportunities that were given to them, and that they choose to be on welfare.

New York Stock Exchange Euronext Managing Director Todd Wilemon, for instance, advised "If you're poor, stop being poor." Representative Paul Ryan blamed American poverty on low work ethic in inner cities, claiming, "We

have got this tailspin of culture, in our inner cities in particular, of ... just generations of men not even thinking about working or learning to value the culture of work."

So much of our culture is focused on dehumanizing the underprivileged. It is the responsibility of each of us to focus not on the state of a population as impoverished but rather on our ability to do what we can to improve their conditions. Let's turn away from widespread victimization and toward solutions to build a better world.

Morgan and Oriana

features

Pop-Rock British Band Rixton Performs a Free Concert for LHS

By Gina Riccardi '15 & Lily Scher '16

After winning a radio contest with Z100 New York, the Do Something Club of LHS received the chance to have a private concert

from the British band Rixton.

The doors of the Fitness and Wellness Center were opened at four o'clock on May 30 as over a hundred students flooded into



the gym. The up-and-coming band, whose hit single "Me and My Broken Heart" has been climbing the charts, lit up the gym as students sang along. Some students stayed for a meet and greet with the attractive foursome, whose pictures are on the school website.

The band's fame grew through viral videos on YouTube of the band covering mainstream pop artists. Popular radio stations now play their music; Rixton could be the next One Direction.

The Do Something Club used the opportunity to collect cans for Community Hunger Outreach Warehouse (CHOW). According to President Samantha Spencer, the club received over a hundred donations.

Left: The members of Rixton gather for a selfie in the Fitness and Wellness Center. Image source: The Alternative Press.

"Food With Integrity" Headlines Chipotle's Rapid Breakthrough

By Brendan Myers '16

Up until about 2007, Chipotle Mexican Grill was a remote fast food chain that relatively few outside of Denver, Colorado, had heard of. Now, established all over the country, the grill has gained immense popularity due to what consumers describe as the fresh taste of food.

What separates this food from a place like Qdoba or Taco Bell is what The Chipotle Corporation describes the difference in one phrase. "Food with Integrity."

On Chipotle's website, "Food with Integrity" is defined as "our commitment to find the very best ingredients, raised with respect for the animals, the environment, and the farmers."

Chipotle owner Steven Ells, upon learning how most food is made in the U.S., was appalled by some of the methods. Describing it as "pretty grim," Ells sought a way to one-up other restaurants by simply demanding a higher quality of food.

In a world that is justifiably concerned about what is in the food they are eating, Chipotle provides an alternative from other fast food chains as the food is fresher.

Route 10 Construction Hurting Business and Angering Locals

By Jamie Aronson '14

The Department of Transportation has begun a project to replace the Route 10 bridge over the Passaic River connecting East Hanover with Livingston.

The existing bridge is "structurally deficient and functionally obsolete," according to Nj.com. A \$3.5 million federally funded project will replace it with a new concrete structure including deck, beams, bearings, and parapets. Temporary traffic signals are planned at the intersection of River Road and Old Mount Pleasant Avenue and at Old Mount Pleasant Avenue and Okner Parkway to improve traffic flow during construction, the DOT said.

LHS seniors are not thrilled, however, as it affects their lunch routines. "I usually go up Route 10 for lunch for Chipotle or Smashburger, but now it's too risky because of all those detours," a senior said.

Construction will continue for months, so the real question is, "Will businesses survive?"

Citizens have expressed clear dissatisfaction and limited patience, but once construction is over, perhaps they will think differently.

Humans of New York Captures a City of Faces

By Emma Kane '15

After being laid off from his trading job in Chicago three years ago, Brandon Stanton wrote on his blog that his mom "wasn't too happy about [his] decision" to move to New York City to pursue one of his many hobbies—photography.

A self-taught photographer, Stanton's initial plan was to photograph 10,000 people and plot their points on a map of where he took the photographs. However, his plan evolved into what is now known as Humans of New York (HONY), a photo blog and a #1 *New York Times* bestselling book.

With Humans of New York, Stanton grasps the essence of New York City by highlighting the many personalities and individuals that are scattered throughout the city.

Instead of just capturing images of people, Stanton began interviewing them as well; creating captions for each photograph he took. These captions developed into personal stories that give viewers a glimpse into individual lives.

Humans of New York glorifies and celebrates the simple individual that the busy world today has forgotten.

Snapchat: Worth the Controversy?

By Sydney Becker '16

Ever since its introduction in the app market, Snapchat, an app that allows users to send pictures and videos with simple captions and drawing features, has become one of the most controversial.

The app's most attractive and unique feature is the limited time frame that pictures can be viewed for, before they "disappear". Snapchat has been attacked for its intention, which can be assumed as a platform for sexual photo sharing.

Recently, Snapchat implemented an update that allows users to have one-on-one texting conversations and make video calls. Of 30 surveyed high school students, 28 reported that they dislike it.

However, the update has not stopped users from using the app. Out of the 28 high schoolers who disliked it, all 28 reported that they still use the app on regularly.

LHS junior Samantha said, "It's a much easier way to have conversations. The actual writing is quick, so it forces conversations to be brief." The brevity of Snapchat is what makes the app so popular.

Hopefully, Snapchat's next update make the app safer for users.

opinion

Why Schools Should Start Later

By Gina Riccardi '15

I roll out of bed at 6:30 A.M. and walk to my mirror, where I see a distressed, baggy-eyed, unrecognizable me, who went to sleep only two and a half hours ago.

Studying takes up most of my time, and track the rest. Both are incredibly stressful, especially with SATs and AP exams coupled with the recruiting process at the end of my junior year. Usually, I arrive home after five. Homework takes hours, leaving no time to watch TV or talk to my friends.

So having to wake up at 6:30 A.M. in order to be at school before 8 A.M. is the straw that is breaking my back. School's early start is why I am a baggy-eyed, stressed loser.

Studies show 60% of teens agree they are tired during the day, evidence that schools' starting time

is not synced with a teen's biological make-up. On the other hand, students in schools conducting an experiment where school began later had overall better attendance, enrollment, and alertness.

Extracurricular activities such as sports and interschool academic competition make it necessary to correspond times each school begins and ends in order to coordinate for games and meetings.

The change therefore needs to be even bigger—statewide. Since the times schools begin and end differ throughout each state now, mandating one time, such as 8:40, could actually help schools coordinate with one another.

Help the generation of sleep deprived, stressed, depressed, and tired students. Help me! Help all of us be more successful and happier.

The Biggest Joke

By Lily Scher '16

Hey, want to hear a joke? Women's rights.

You probably think I'm being satirical when I say that, but sadly, I'm not. As we progress into the 21st century, women continue to be treated remarkably differently from men. Every day, there are cases proving that women are treated unequally that we take for granted.

As we approach 2016, another presidential election gets closer. Last week in the *New York Times* an article highlighted the possibility of a woman running for president with a female vice president. Many people were against it, and do you know

what their main argument was? They said that having two women wouldn't be proper representation of the American people.

Clearly evident in the senate elections, headlines described how "women took over the senate." Out of 100 people in the senate, only 20 of them are women. Twenty percent of people in the senate are women. That is significantly under half. Representation should be equal and while this may not sit well with the general population, I believe there should be a man and a woman for each state.

America, as a whole, is somewhat at a standstill as far as gender equality. Women are settling for what they have.

A False Promise: Holistic College Admissions

By Bhoomi Bhuptani '14

Overcome with anxiety, a teenage boy comes into his living room and sees an envelope containing his college decision from his top choice school. With a growing pit in his stomach, he opens the letter to read, "We regret to inform you..."

Almost everyone in the college process has read those words before. Yet, regardless of the number of times that one has seen them, they cut afresh every time.

As pompously boasted on MIT's admissions website, holistic admissions include "looking at you, not your numbers." Likewise, Yale claims that its admissions criteria focuses on a student's ability to have a "concern for something larger than themselves."

While the concept may be misleading, holistic admissions enables colleges to make any decisions that they see fit, without questioning from guidance counselors or parents as to why one student got in over another.

But at the end of the day, with the rejection letter that a student receives comes a deluge of self-doubt, induced only because colleges make students believe that the whole process is personable, leading students to take such bad news personally.

The college admissions process is illusory and dishonest. Colleges should stop promising inclusive and well-rounded admissions if don't intend on upholding that vow.

The Nag Stops Here

By Annie Werner '15

There comes a time in everyone's high school sports career where he or she asks: Why in the Hell am I doing this?

Whether it is the long hours and hectic schedule, the constant exhaustion and fatigue, the ebbing amount of time we have to complete meaningless homework assignments or what we perceive to be the lack of a social life, there is always something to complain about.

Although spending a ridiculous amount of time working out instead of studying will eventually diminish ones grades, according to ABC News, studies conducted internationally prove that "regular physical activity seems to be linked to better brain function."

In addition to the other "nagging" questions or comments persistently asked by your parents, have these ever come up: You're spending too much time with your friends and not enough time at home.

According to the *New York Times*, sociologist James Coleman found through extensive research that "social capitol" is extremely predictive of academic success. In addition, "success in sports programs actually facilitates or reflects greater social capitol within a school's community."

We are humans after all; the desire for contact and dependence on one another is essential.

So the next time your parents command you to buckle down until you finish an assignment, show them this and take a break.

entertainment

"A Grand Farewell" for a Grand Conductor

By Deanna Moschella '16

After thirty years of dedication to the LSO (Livingston Symphony Orchestra), Maestro Istvan Jaray will step down from being the music director and principal conductor for the organization on May 31, at 7:30pm at Livingston High School.

"As a conductor, Maestro Jaray has shared his life experience with orchestra members and audiences a journey which began in a Soviet occupied Hungary," said Jilda Sidebottom. "His passion and communication through music has taken the LSO to a level respected by surrounding communities and audiences alike."

The selected works for Jaray's final performance, "A Grand Farewell", will include Gustav Mahler's Symphony #1, "Titan", and F. Joseph Haydn's Symphony #45, "Farewell."

"Programme music, the idea

first introduced by Franz Liszt, is music that aims to tell a story or paint a picture through melodies and instruments," added Sidebottom. "Following this theme, the symphony's first movement, slow and restrained, evokes images of nature and includes some folk song elements, embodying the rural lifestyle of Mahler's youth."

"Titan," an animated waltz, symbolizes an unnamed "Titan" of a man roaming the world as rough, strong, and fit for life.

During the final movement, "Farewell," each musician, not including the concertmaster and director, leave the stage before the song has ended. The peculiarity of the piece comprises the balance of the program.

The tickets for this event are \$25 for adults; \$15 for seniors and students; and free for children 12 and under. (They must be accompanied by an adult).

Livingston's "Divorce Diva" Gets Own Reality TV Series

By Dani Weidner '15

Divorce attorney Vikki S. Ziegler, founder of the Livingston law firm Ziegler and Zemsky LLC., will premiere on the channel Bravo on June 3rd with her upcoming reality series entitled "Untying the Knot."

According to the Ziegler and Zemsky site, the firm is a boutique law firm (attorneys organized in a limited partnership that specializes in a niche area of law practice) that concentrates on matrimonial matters and domestic relations. Her show will zero in on "de-stigmatizing divorce by allowing its empowering aspects to triumph with her team of experts."

The TV series will be a unique and realistic approach to "divorce management" and will aid in "preventing emotional and financial devastation for couples facing the inevitable." Each episode will

focus on an array of divorcing couples that are struggling to divvy up their belongings that range from dazzling diamonds to family pets.

Ziegler practices matrimonial law in New York and New Jersey. Despite being the main star of the show, she will be accompanied by appraisal experts Mark and Michael Millea of Boonton--based Millea Bros. Ltd.

Ziegler also dabbles in motivational speaking, and teaches a pre-nuptial agreement and same sex marriage class at Fordham Law School as an Adjunct Professor.

Her bio on Bravotv.com also mentions that she has penned a series of legal articles and her newest book, *The Pre-Marital Planner: A Complete Legal Guide to a Perfect Marriage*.

Tune in to Bravo on June 3rd for intense reality drama, and heart-warming advice, as Vikki Ziegler smoothly guides couples through the strange world of divorce.

entertainment

George Clooney Puts a Ring On It

By Shelby Shankman '14

Hollywood's most eligible bachelor, George Clooney, is to be married to London-based humanitarian lawyer, Amal Alamuddin, come fall.

Clooney's representative broke the news to the public on April 27, which sent shock waves through Hollywood.

Clooney is notorious for schmoozing with women but has never settled down; he was married once, to actress Talia Balsam, from 1989 to 1993, but since then has dated women only at his leisure.

Although many are happy for Clooney, many have their doubts about how long the marriage to Alamuddin is going to last, considering that he is the ultimate sex icon.

In a recent poll, twelve out of twenty students at Livingston High School said that their marriage will last no more than five years, whereas some students feel strongly that the marriage will last.

"I truly think he's grown up as a person, and is not so worried about his image anymore, and is actually looking to settle down. I think he just wants to be happy and he's finally found happiness," says student Emma Silberman.

Another student, who prefers to remain anonymous, added, "I think he's done with the whole Hollywood thing. He's a dude who just wants to enjoy life, and he's found the person that he wants to enjoy it with."

Clooney's fellow actors of Hollywood are also overjoyed for him. Actor and friend of Clooney Matt Damon said, "I'm just thrilled that he met Amal and that they're as happy as they are. He deserves it."

As for Amal, friends say she is perfect for George and is a straight shooter.

Though everyone is ecstatic for George and Amal, one has to wonder how long this partnership is going to last.

Chelsea Handler to Leave E! Network

By Trevor Wood '16

Livingston native Chelsea Handler reportedly plans to leave E! Network and her popular late night TV show *Chelsea Lately* at the end of her contract.

In March 2014, Handler said on an interview with Howard Stern that E! is a sad, sad place to live ... They don't know what they're doing. They have no ideas. It's a failure."

Her sharp criticisms of the network hinted at a desire to leave and pursue other opportunities.

Handler gained fame because of her show, a late night comedy talk show that began in 2007 where Handler interviews various celebrities, and, along with three guests, discusses current events in pop culture. She has also been noted as being very critical of Livingston, her hometown, stating that she was bullied all through high school, and that she "just felt out of place."

With the show running for seven years Chelsea hinted at wish-

ing to move on from her show's current format in an Interview with USA Today when she said "I don't know if I want to be talking about Justin Bieber when I'm 40."

E! Network has refused to comment in regard to whether or not the show will be continued.

Currently, Chelsea is touring across the country in a comedy tour to present her new book *Uganda Be Kidding Me*. She is also acting as the executive producer for a different late night talk show for E!, that began in 2013, entitled Hello Ross.

If Chelsea leaves E! in the fall, as she plans to do, there have not been any confirmations on what her exact plan is. She has however indicated a desire to continue working on an entertainment show, but on her own terms. "I don't want to be on a regular network. If I do a show, I want to get away with what I get away with. I use language because that's how I am in real life," she told reporters.

sports

Donald Sterling's Racist Remarks Shake America

By Amanda Katz '14

After a suggestive conversation between Donald Sterling, owner of the LA Clippers, and a woman named V. Stiviano was leaked, Sterling is now banned from the NBA, forced to sell the team, and fined because of his racist remarks.

Whether you are interested in the world of sports or not, Donald Sterling's actions have become common knowledge. As Tim Noe said, the idea that everyone in our country is equal makes racism "big news and the whole country sees it."

Sterling is one of the faces of the team and time could not be wasted when deciding on his punishment. When asked about possible punishments, Sterling said he thinks that "whatever they decide that has to be done, I think I should work with them and do it."

NBA Playoffs Analysis

By Jon Haspel '16

Finals:

(2) Heat vs. (2) Thunder

It's a rematch of the 2011-2012 NBA Finals. It's a battle of Kevin Durant vs. LeBron James. Clearly the Heat have shown great talent, but the Thunder have young and quick talent. This series would most likely be even, possibly reaching seven games. This is a tough pick, but Kevin Durant's hunger for a championship and dominance this season could pay off in the end with him hoisting the Larry O'Brien trophy.

Winner: Thunder

The Mayweather-Pacquiao Saga

By Ben Stark '16

Despite the reality that boxing's popularity is declining, the sports' version of the Super Bowl--the title of Mayweather vs. Pacquiao--has yet to be fought.

Talks of a bout between Floyd Mayweather Jr. and Manny Pacquiao first surfaced back in 2009, when ESPN reported that Pacquiao signed a contract to fight Mayweather in 2010. However, Pacquiao quickly denied ever signing a contract. Ever since then, the boxing world has wondered if and when this fight would happen.

People surrounding the sport of boxing claim that Mayweather's father is trying to influence his son in order to prevent the fight. Others believe Pacquiao is just reluctant to take a drug test before a fight. When this whole saga is dissected, however, money is easily pinpointed of the central problem.

When the money issue arises concerning this fight, Mayweather is usually the one that is blamed. As a boxer and a promoter for himself and other boxers, he can be looked at as too much of a businessman.

For boxing fans, promoters, business people, and me, just imagining this fight is mouth-watering. Given that Mayweather and Pacquiao rank first and third, respectively, in all-time Pay-Per-View revenue, the money that the two athletes could bring in is record breaking. Plus, the possibility of reviving boxing's popularity with one fight is also very attractive.

Pleading for Justice

By Jeff Stone '16

In all sports, racism towards Native Americans should not be tolerated. Although the National Congress of American Indians has been successful with reducing racial "Indian" references, some teams, most prominently the NFL Washington Redskins, continue to keep their offensive names and imagery. There is nothing ethical about a picture of a stereotypical Native American with his face painted red and feathers sticking out of his headband.

Some may wonder why the name of the team can be harmful. According to Dr. Lisa Thomas of the American Psychological Association, "Oppression, covert and overt racism, and perceived racism can have serious negative consequences for the mental health of American Indian and Alaska native people." Sports have a huge role in our culture and a profound effect on our youth. The Donald Sterling incident showed that racism towards blacks is immediately addressed. Why should this be any different for Native Americans?

This past month, 49 senators, all Democrats, wrote a letter insisting that NFL commissioner Roger Goodell act on the controversy and change the name of the Redskins team at once. The team's name is a racial slur and there is no way of denying that. The Redskins responded by making their own campaign to keep the team's name. Last May, team owner Daniel Snyder released a statement claiming he'd "never" change the name. We can only hope that Mr. Snyder will reconsider his position.

The World Unites for Thirty-Two Days

By Logan Grossman '14

Thirty-two teams will bring the world together for thirty-two days. Thirty-two days will determine the fate of thirty-two nations. There will be moments of triumph, heartbreak, and controversy, and only one will return home from Brazil as World Cup Champions.

As June 12 and the first match of the World Cup, featuring Brazil and Croatia, draws near, attention has shifted from the political and social grievances of the Brazilians, who have rioted in the streets, to the exhilarating four and a half weeks of soccer that lie ahead.

Here in the United States, many will take a hiatus from baseball, and quickly shift from the end of the NBA and NHL seasons to pay their fullest attention to the Red White and Blue's campaign in South America's largest country.

The turbulent tournament the U.S. played in South Africa is still fresh in everyone's mind. Many fondly reflect on Landon Donovan's goal against Algeria that gave the U.S. a one-nil victory and put them through to the elimination stage against Ghana, which the U.S. lost on an equaling thrilling goal in the ninety-third minute, and with it, failed to reach the quarterfinals.

Those who harp on this bitter memory are anxious for the World Cup to begin as the United States is set to play Ghana in their first match of the World Cup on June 16th. The match Ghana holds a much greater significance than being the first stop on a revenge tour.