

# HB

## The Hoofbeat

J.W. Mitchell High School's Student Newspaper  
2323 Little Road, New Port Richey, FL 34655

Volume No. 14 | Issue 6 | April 2016

# NATIONAL CHAMPS



Katy White  
*Staff Reporter*

Since the beginning of the season the schools hockey team found a way to win no matter whom they played against. The road to Nationals held many long hours of hard work, culminating in the tournament on March 17th in Ashburn, Virginia. The team's biggest challenge for this season was putting a team together made up of many different types of players and to have those players, be willing to play more as a team and less as individuals.

"It was definitely exciting [to go to Nationals since] we worked hard all year and were undefeated [in the regular season]," Tim Lynch ('16) said.

After the team won States they had a little more than three weeks to get in shape for the National Championships.

When Nationals came closer, that was when they knew it was time to get themselves physically and mentally prepared. In game one at Nationals, Mitchell played the Dayton Stealth from Ohio and defeated them 13-5. They continued to dominate in their second game at Nationals against McKinney, Texas winning 11-1.

"We had to come out strong [for the first game], no one was expecting a Florida team to be [at Nationals] and to make it as far as we did," Dave Hawkins ('17) said.

For their third game they played the defending National Champs, Cherry Creek from Colorado. Zack Rehm ('16) scored first and they ended up winning their third game of pool play 5-2. With the win

against Cherry Creek, they moved on to the single game elimination round and took on Sandra Day O'Connor, the State Champs from Arizona. The boys dominated the entire game, scoring nine points and goalie Jacob Serpe ('17) only letting in two, giving him a .929 save percentage. With this win and the Manatees' win against Frisco, both Florida teams would play each other in the semifinals. Mitchell limited Manatee to only four goals to keep their two goal lead in the third period. Mitchell beat Manatee 6-4, which would take them to the National Championship game.

"It was relieving [to play Manatee again] because we knew we could beat them. It made it an easy semifinal game, so that we could make it to the

final [game]," Lynch said.

The next day Boulder brought their hardest fight. In the first period, Mitchell trailed 3-0. A few penalties were called on Mitchell but Boulder never did score a power play goal. Boulder still found ways to put the puck in the net in the first period. After the second period started Lucas Sowder ('17) scored the first goal of the game for Mitchell. By the end of the second period, Mitchell gained a 7-4 lead and showed that they had a shot at winning. During the third period, Boulder tied Mitchell and took the game into overtime. After back and forth scoring chances between both teams, Mitchell got on the power play from a tripping call on Boulder. Nate Smith ('17) shot

the puck at the net and it was deflected off Zach Harrison's ('17) stick and landed in the net giving Harrison the game-winning goal, which secured the National Championship, earning the team a place in history.

"I was so shocked, I didn't think that shot was really going to go in. I saw Nate [Smith] celebrate and start skating [down the ice]. It was just a rush of pure joy," Lynch said.

The boys all jumped up from the bench and skated onto the ice, tackling Serpe. The Mustangs became the first Florida hockey team to have ever won a National Championship. These players overcame all odds and fought their hardest to be the best in the nation.

# Stepping off the plane at LAX

Sophie Sajecki

*Sports Reporter*

Los Angeles: The city of angels and of opportunity, the school yearbook is headed to L.A. for that very reason. The yearbook plans to attend a workshop for aspiring high school journalists that offers awards and what seems like limitless chances for learning.

"The NSPA is the National Scholastic Press Association, they sponsor a big convention for high school students that offers learning sessions, workshops, contests and opportunities to win awards. We're going to NSPA in Los Angeles because we are in competition for an award from the NSPA for our 2015 yearbook, Zero In," Sports editor Rebecca Roberson (\*18) said.

The large-scale environment of the NSPA convention attracts excitement; students are able to participate in numerous unique experiences while learning from professionals.

"This will be different from other journalism programs I have attended. Since it is across the country, rather than in Florida, we will get to see everything from a new perspective. Also, with it being in L.A, there's tons of cool, huge journalism based corporations that we get to visit. The convention in particular is different because although I have gotten the chance to watch and interact with many professionals in the journalism business, this

convention will have Pulitzer Prize winning speakers, which is amazing to me," Campus Life editor Jessie Colegrove (\*17) said.

The fact that the Stampede Yearbook is known to be so prestigious and to have won so many awards is an honor. It portrays an image to others schools around the world.

"We win a lot of national awards for our book anyway, so winning one of the top national yearbook awards in the country is a huge honor, I think we're one of the top ten yearbooks in the state of Florida's Pasco/Tampa Bay area to win this award so it's a really big deal," Editor-in-Chief Alexa Rosenberg (\*16) said.

The amount of work put into the yearbook in pursuit of perfection takes dedication and late hours in room 517.

"I think I spent more hours in the yearbook room than in my own house, [while finishing one of our deadlines,] we stayed until 10 o'clock or 12 o'clock at night, and some of the editors stayed until 5 in the morning the next day, so we have definitely spent a lot of hours making this book as good as it could possibly be," Rosenberg said.

The Stampede Yearbook's staff remains determined that the tradition of excellence will continue, creating lasting memories for future students.



Photo by Sophie Sajecki  
The Stampede staff celebrates the finish of this year's yearbook with ice cream and other treats during class on Monday, April 11th.

# Casting light on autism awareness

Alyssa Magilligan

*Staff Reporter*

The month of April marks the start of Autism Awareness Month. This month represents an opportunity to promote autism awareness, the acceptance of it, and to draw attention to the hundreds of people diagnosed with it everyday. The Autism Society released a nationwide effort to promote awareness, inclusion in public schools and self-determination, and to ensure that each person with autism holds the ability to achieve the highest possible quality of life, according to [www.autism-society.org](http://www.autism-society.org).

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a term for a group of complex disorders of brain development. This disorder includes difficulties in social, verbal and nonverbal communications, and repetitive behaviors. It may also cause problem with being intellectual, attention spans, and physical health.

Symptoms of autism typically begin to show at the early ages of two and three years old. These symptoms include poor eye

contact, delays in speech, anxiety, sensitivity to loud noises, and change in voice.

"To me, autism awareness can be as simple as getting to know what the disorder actually is. Understanding how the disorder affects your peers will provide students as well as staff with the knowledge and power to promote acceptance and inclusion," Ms. Adrianna Petrie (FAC) said.

For Autism Awareness month, students and faculty members find ways to spread awareness about the disorder by wearing shirts,



Photo by Alyssa Magilligan

Ms. Adrianna Petrie poses with staff members in the ESE department during Autism Awareness Week.

pins, and even putting a sticker on their cars.

"Many people show support by wearing shirts with the Autism Awareness symbol, a puzzle piece ribbon," Ms. Petrie said.

The significance of the puzzle piece symbolizes the complexity

of the disorder. The design involves different colors and shapes which reflect the diversity of the people with Autism.

To find out more about autism and the different ways to spread awareness about the disorder, go to [www.autismspeaks.org](http://www.autismspeaks.org).

## Editorial Policy

Published six times a school year, the student newspaper of J.W. Mitchell High School is a public forum with its student editorial board making all the decisions concerning its contents. Unsigned editorials express the views of the majority of the editorial board.

Letters to the editor are welcomed and will be published as space allows. Letters must be signed, although the staff may withhold the name upon request. The paper reserves the right to edit letters for grammar and clarity, and all letters are subject to laws governing obscenity, libel, privacy and disruption of the school process, as are all contents of the paper.

Opinions of letters are not necessarily those of the staff nor should any opinion expressed in a public forum be constructed as the opinion or policy of the school administration, unless attributed.

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*Kim and Tom White*

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*Alyssa Magilligan*

*Katy White*

# The battle to legalize marijuana

Bella Smith

*Staff Reporter*

While some people seem to think that medical marijuana should not be legalized, a lot of people in America are starting to recognize the benefits. Medical marijuana has been proven to have a vast array of health benefits. These benefits include, but are not limited to the ability to stop cancer cells from growing, slow the progression of Alzheimer's and control the frequency of seizures in patients suffering with epilepsy.

There have been case studies of both children and adults that have found success while using marijuana for medicinal reason. People don't realize that marijuana contains certain cannabinoids that do not have the ability to get the consumer high. However, they do have the ability to work miracles by working against lots of diseases and illnesses. Marijuana contains certain components that have major health benefits therefore, legalizing it for medicinal purposes could be

positive.

A six-year-old Colorado girl, Charlotte Figi, used to experience debilitating seizures, Figi's parents tried every single medication that the doctors suggested in hopes of reducing the number of seizures that their daughter experienced. According to Huffington Post, "after the family tried just about every treatment available, they had no other option but to explore cannabis oil -- an unconventional treatment, to say the least -- but they told KIDVR (the local news station) it worked immediately."

Huffington Post stated that Charlotte's mom, Paige, posted that her daughter's seizures "fell from 300 a week to around 3 over an 8 month period." The blog also stated that, "Charlotte is consistently eating and drinking on her own for the first time in years. She sleeps soundly through the night. Her severe autism-like behaviors of self-injury, crying, violence, no eye contact, zero sleep and lack of social contact

are a thing of the past." Charlotte Figi is not the only child that has tried using marijuana as a form of medicine.

Children across the world are using medical marijuana to reduce their seizures. Furthermore, epilepsy not only affects children but also adults. According to the CDC, Epilepsy affects 2.3 million adults in the United States.

Charlotte Figi's success using the form of cannabis oil inspired others across America to use the same strain. The strain has now been called Charlotte's Web, which is legal in Florida.

In addition, marijuana has been scientifically proven to positively affect both cancer and tumors. Components in marijuana have been found to have the ability to stop cancerous cells from spreading throughout the body. Other components have also been found that have the ability to possibly fight against tumors. Not only could marijuana save the patient's life, but it could also be

used to ease the pain of receiving chemotherapy.

When patients undergo chemotherapy, they experience loss of appetite. Marijuana has the ability to stimulate their appetite, causing them to eat. In states without medical marijuana, people suffering with cancer cannot be given these forms of treatment because it is illegal. If laws were passed, marijuana could help these patients win the life or death battle that they fight against cancer every single day. Medical marijuana has been proven to help ease the symptoms of many mental disorders including anxiety, depression, bipolar, insomnia and even post-traumatic stress disorder.

According to Huffington Post, "A new group in Colorado, Operation Grow4Vets (OG4V), plans on providing cannabis to U.S. Military vets as an alternative to using narcotics to treat physical or mental illness sustained during military service."

OG4V intends to give away free marijuana, cannabis-infused oils and tinctures, as well as marijuana plant growing equipment, to qualified veterans. "By providing veterans with free marijuana, related products, and other assistance we hope to help them reduce or eliminate the number and amount of prescription medications they are taking," Roger Martin, executive director of OG4V, told Huffington Post. "Thus, allowing them to lead productive lives."

Last year 58% of Florida voted in favor of legalizing a general medical marijuana bill. The vote needed to be 6%, so the bill did not pass. States around the country are taking medical marijuana into consideration and legalizing it. People need to understand the medical benefits that marijuana has to offer in order to make an informed decision on Election Day.

# The new Shoppes at Trinity Lakes

Emily Fowler

*Staff Reporter*

Coming soon! A brand-new 65,000 square foot shopping center along State Road 54 nears completion. Known as "The Shoppes at Trinity Lakes," this plaza includes a Publix, China Wok, Nail Dior Lounge, Orange Theory Fitness, Moes, Majik Touch Cleaners, Mathnasium, Heartland Dental, GNC, and a Hair Cuttery. With the new neighborhoods and apartment complexes built all around Trinity, this plaza benefits the community. The new Publix serves as an advantage as it creates a short trip to the store to those who live nearby.

"People who live closer to the Odessa area do not have to drive

farther away to get food and groceries, which could help save some gas," Talia Diaz ('18) said.

The Shoppes at Trinity Lakes introduces a variety of available part-time jobs students may want to apply to.

"The reason I chose to apply for a job at the new Publix is because of the newness of it and the availability of jobs. The location is part of it as well," Alec Burchick ('17) said.

The popular range of places being built in this shopping center grabs students' attention.

"I like getting my nails done so I am specifically excited about the new nail salon. Also, the Moes and China Wok because their food is

so good," Diaz said.

The new development may cause an increase in traffic to the area, especially along SR 54.

"I think it will end up being both convenient and inconvenient but I believe it will be more convenient than not. The new plaza will have enough parking room and space that will help to avoid too much traffic and disruptions for the next door neighborhoods," Justin Rivas ('18) said.

With popular stores being built, residents no longer need to drive out of their way. The Shoppes at Trinity Lakes opens soon, and it brings benefits and excitement to the community of Trinity.

Photo provided by tampabaynewswire.com



An aerial shot shows the future development of the Shoppes at Trinity Lakes which will include stores like Publix, Hot Wok, and Orange Theory Fitness.

# Wesley Chapel skating to new heights

Alyssa Magilligan

*Staff Reporter*

Florida Hospital Center Ice is a new ice forum currently under construction for about \$20 million in Wesley Chapel. This new sports complex offers all types of programs to those who want to play different sports on and off the ice, including hockey, basketball, and volleyball. It will be the largest ice rink facility and complex in Florida, according to lightning.nhl.com.

Plans for the new complex include one Olympic-sized ice rink, three NHL sized-ice rinks, one kid sized rink, rinks that convert to turf, and includes hockey leagues and skating programs for all ages.

People of all ages may learn the art of figure skating, the game of hockey, and other sports.

In addition to multiple ice rinks, the complex plans on offering

other programs such as camps, clinics and multisport training programs, as well as full summer camp programs, a full restaurant, a pro sports shop, and performance and off-ice training facilities. An on-site sports medicine specialist will also be available. Other training facilities include a gym and an off-ice training area.

Another program planned for the complex involves helping

to "Build the Thunder". The Tampa Bay Lightning plan to collaborate on a five-year plan to help develop hockey players and to teach life skills lessons to youth in the Tampa Bay area. They will offer 10,000 hours of training opportunities to coaches and players. The Lightning shows interest in participating in the sport of hockey in every level, according to Jay Feaster, the

Executive Director of Community Hockey Development.

To find out more information about Florida Hospital Center Ice, go to their website [www.floridahospitalcenterice.com](http://www.floridahospitalcenterice.com) and sign up for their monthly newsletters. These newsletters give updates on construction and programs to those who show interest in attending sporting events at the facility.



## Most popular places to purchase prom dresses

### Nikki's Glitz and Glam Boutique

- ◆ Dresses in this store are name brand and designer dresses. This Boutique has people helping you get into your dresses and provides great service.
- ◆ How much she spent: \$425
- ◆ "They are so easy to buy from because they had a lot of options and will help you find the perfect dress. The girls were so nice there and I walked out with a beautiful royal blue dress," Melody Marone ('18) said.

### Windsor

- ◆ Most Windsor stores have less expensive dresses than most boutiques and dress shops. They sell regular clothes, homecoming and designer prom dresses for less than most locations.
- ◆ How much she spent: \$200
- ◆ "I went to Windsor because I was at the mall at the time and the store was right there and it was cheaper than most other places," Madison Hueholt ('17) said.

### Maria's Bridal

- ◆ Maria's Bridal has bridal gowns, bridesmaid dresses, and prom dresses. Professional bridal consultants are assigned to each customer and are committed to providing personal service every step of the way. The alterations done here is an aspect that sets them apart from other bridal shops and boutiques.
- ◆ How much she spent: \$400
- ◆ "I've gone to that store in the past so I went back for my prom dress this year," Hanna Cavallaro ('17) said.

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### JAMES L. DELMOLINO Senior Underwriter

Direct: (813) 960-6843  
Main: (877) 264-2010  
Toll Free: (866) 208-1277  
Fax: (813) 264-6918  
jdelmolino@scui.com

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# How to get the perfect promposal

Lexi Clark

Staff Reporter

Prom season, a time when students anxiously wait everyday to see which brave soul decided to step up to the plate and ask a girl to prom. For some, ideas on how to ask may come easy, yet others struggle to find a unique way of asking. The execution of the promposal varies as well, some may spend days planning and putting their idea together while others put it together the night before or day of. However, planning last minute is not necessarily a bad thing.

"[The night before] I was thinking about it and I didn't have anything really planned like an hour and a half before I met up with some friends and thought it up. I went to Publix, bought some posters, some flowers, and a bunch of markers, and I went to my friend's house and we all worked on it so it didn't take too long because I had four girls helping me," Luke Salm ('17) said.

A major key in asking a girl to prom is to be different and personable. Find something that

hasn't been done before and figure out what her interests and hobbies include and incorporate them. If one asks their significant girlfriend, think about including significant milestones or fun reminders of the relationship. For example, Salm used the places where his girlfriend, Jennifer Lima (ELHS), and he first met, first kissed, and then met her at a final location for their "next first," asking her to prom.

"Be creative. Don't do the same thing you see other guys on

Twitter doing. If you have a friend who's crafty, ask them for help. And if it's someone [you] like in secret, ask in front of a bunch of people. Nobody can say no in front of a group," Cale Boggess ('16) said.

Boggess had no issue in the creativity department, asking Kelly Mehan ('17) with a trip to the beach, candy jars with beach related sayings on top, and a bottle with paper holding the question inside.

"The main thought behind it

was doing something that a bunch of other guys haven't already done, no tacky posters or anything like that. Going with a theme seemed smart too, so I figured going to the beach went hand in hand with a message in a bottle. I wanted her to be speechless and just feel surprised and feel special," Boggess said.

When asking a girl to prom, the most important things to remember are to be cool, confident, and creative to secure a 'yes.'

## Are you ready for prom(posals)?



Ashley Campbell ('17) and Slade Stafford ('17) showing their chemistry, outside the classroom.

Outside of their Chemistry class Slade asked Ashley Stafford by holding a sign that said, "Hey I heard we had chemistry. Will you go to prom with me?" He used pictures of them together to spell out prom on the poster.



Zach Harrison ('17) asks Katie Fitzpatrick ('18) to prom and a Lightning game.

Zach had his friends hold up posters that said, "Will you bolt to prom with me? And then catch a Tampa Bay Lightning game with me later? Yes/No," with the tickets stuck to the sign.



Devontay Taylor ('16) asks Mackenzie Scheu ('16) to prom in front of an audience.

Devontay asked Mackenzie during the Lip Sync Battle at school and had the Step Team ask her as he walked out with a poster board that said, "Will you STEP to prom with me?"



Anthony Connor ('16) asking Angelica Stege ('16) to prom in a cute and creative way.

Anthony held a sign that said, "It's my goal to go to prom w/ you!" And had a small soccer net set up with a sign saying "score for yes, miss for no." Behind the net he set up lights that spelled out "Prom?"



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# Taking the restaurant home with you

Bailey Sassatelli  
Opinions Editor

If you have ever been to BJ's Brewhouse, you will know what a pizookie is right a way. This recipe come from the mouth of one of the head chef's at the wonderful restaurant. This recipe is different from others. How much of each ingredient is dependent upon you. You can put more of one thing in the dessert if you want that flavor to stand out more. For a real "s'mores" flavor, you should even out each ingredient and not make one flavor more prominent than another.



## Homemade BJ's Peanut Butter S'mores Pizookie

### STEPS:

1. Spray your cake or skillet pan with nonstick spray or use olive oil.
2. Preheat your oven to 325 degrees.
3. Lay down a layer of chocolate. If you are using bar chocolate, the chocolate does not need to cover the whole bottom because it will melt and flow over the bottom of the pan.
4. Place a layer of peanut butter cookie dough on top of the chocolate. You can add a very small layer of peanut butter on top of the dough and then place more cookie dough over the peanut butter if you like gooey cookies.
5. Next, top the layer of cookie dough with fluff. Make sure that you cannot see any of the cookie dough beneath it.
6. Once the oven is ready, place the pan in and set a timer for 5 minutes.
7. After 5 minutes, carefully take out the pan and place it on a cleared stove top surface. DO NOT LET THE CONTENTS COOL.
8. Place marshmallows on top of the fluff and arranged around the pan. Leave an open area in the middle, uncovered by marshmallows.
9. Put the pan back in the oven for an additional 5 minutes.
10. Once the timer goes off, take the pan out and let it sit for 1-2 minutes. DO NOT LET IT SIT TOO LONG.
11. Once the cooling is done, take 2 large scoops of your flavor ice cream and place them on top of each other in the center of the pan where you left uncovered by marshmallows. You can top the ice cream with melted peanut butter or melted chocolate if desired.
12. Serve on a plate and place in the center of the table for everyone to enjoy

### Ingredients:

- Peanut Butter Cookie Dough
- Your favorite type of chocolate
- Fluff
- Large bag of marshmallows
- Peanut butter
- Chocolate or Vanilla Ice cream
- 1 layer cake pan (for large size) or skillet pan (for small size)

# Dorm Must-Haves for college students

Bella Smith  
Staff Reporter

When it comes to college, one of the places you will spend the most time is your dorm. For this reason, what you put inside of it and how you decorate it is important. These are some items that can make your dorm look and feel better.



#### 1. Bedding

It is important to get bedding that you feel good about. Dorms tend to be small, making the bed the centerpiece of the room. Your bedding is what brings everything together.



#### 2. Door/Wall Organizer

Since dorm rooms do not have a lot of space, getting creative and hanging organizers on the walls helps provide you with extra room. Organizers also keep things in the same place. Knowing where everything is will cause you to feel less stressed.



#### 3. Mini-Fridge

If you are staying in on-campus housing, it is likely that you will not have a full-sized kitchen in your dorm. A mini-fridge is necessary for those situations.



#### 4. Desk Organizer

This is extremely important, considering studying should consume a large portion of your time. Remaining organized is crucial and will cause you to be less stressed and make it easier for you to study right inside of your dorm.



#### 5. Pictures or Wall Art

These can be anything that you want them to be. The stuff you hang on your walls is a great way to show off your personality. It can also make your dorm feel more like home.

# Out with the old, in with the new

Jaclyn Moser  
Lifestyles Editor

Change, a fundamental part of society, occurs every day. Everything changes; people, animals and materialistic objects. Sometimes these changes are for improvement. This year, the SAT was completely redesigned. It now features a new scoring scale, a shorter test time and a few other key features.

In January of 2016, the old SAT was administered for the final time. March 2016 marks the beginning of a new standardized test for juniors, sophomores and freshmen. The new scoring scale

for this SAT differs from the last one greatly. While the previous test had a scale of 600 to 2400, this new one's scale only ranges from 400 to 1600. Additionally, while the old test took around three hours and 45-minutes, the new one clocks in at three hours with an additional 50-minute optional essay.

Fortunately for future test takers, the new SAT does not carry a penalty for guessing, where as the prior one carried a one-fourth penalty. To really usher the newest version of the

SAT into the 21st century, it will now be offered in the traditional print as well as online. Even the various sections of the SAT faced revision.

The SAT consisted of three subsections with an essay included into the writing score. However, the new SAT offers two sections and the optional essay is scored separately. Where as the old test was separated into Critical Reading (200-800), Writing (200-800), and Math (200-800), the new one separates into Evidence-Based Reading

and Writing (200-800), Math (200-800), and the optional essay which will be scored under its own category.

The sections also faced a slim down. The Evidence-Based Reading and Writing portion broke down into a 65-minute Reading section and a 35-minute Writing and Language section. The Reading portion featured 52 questions while the Writing and Language consisted of 44. The Math section includes a 25-minute No Calculator section and a 55-minute section where

calculators are permitted. The No Calculator portion has 20 questions while the portion allowing calculators has 38.

So while the SAT was revised to better suit the new testing requirements, it is still important to remember to prepare for the test.

Free SAT prep resources can be found online at khanacademy.org, ineedapencil.ck12.org, and other sites.

# Throwing back to a fuller house

Amanda Garcia  
Staff Reporter

As teens grow old, and begin to conquer the real world, sometimes they may forget where their childhood experience went. Some may remember the good days of Silly Bands, or the dreamy basketball player, Troy Bolton.

Remember when "You got it dude," was the catch phrase everyone was saying? Old childhood shows such as "The Suite Life of Zach and Cody," "Lizzie McGuire," and "That's so Raven" formed some young adults into the people they are today.

"My favorite childhood tv shows were 'Drake & Josh' and

'Full House'. These light-hearted shows impacted my life by showing me the importance of family through life lessons," Brianna Acevedo ('16) said.

For Katelyn Henderson ('16), "Full House" taught her the value of friendship and family.

"Full House" showed in every episode that there was many problems in their lives and not everything works out how you want, but in the long run your close friends and your family will always be there. Unfortunately, I don't still watch it due to school and work," Henderson said.

Back in 2006, Troy Bolton

became every eleven-year-old girls' heartthrob with his floppy hair, basketball skills, and voice.

"High School Musical [was my] favorite childhood movie for sure and I am still obsessed with it today, not only because Zac Efron was the love of my life, but because it was a musical and relatable and just amazing," Payton Murchie ('16) said.

Not only did Murchie love High School Musical, but throughout elementary school some of her fashion choices were modeled after some of the characters from the movie.

"The worst thing I ever wore

growing up was the 'dress and jeans' look. I have so many pictures of me wearing a dress over jeans. I thought it was so cute because Ashley Tisdale would wear it. Worst decision ever," Murchie said.

While High School Musical made a splash in Murchie's life, Tyler Zimmerman loved the story line of Star Wars.

"My favorite childhood movies were the Star Wars trilogies, especially the older films. They sought to expand one's thoughts and become exposed to more ways of life. They were also action-packed and told a

long but adventurous story of a battle between good and evil," Zimmerman said.

As teens grow up and enter the adult world, they still remember those childhood movies and shows that shaped them to be who they are today. These student learned from fashion trends that they regret, and life lessons from their favorite uncle Jessie on "Full House".

# Europe will be tripping without you

Raleigh Illig  
Staff Reporter

Teachers around campus have all started organizing trips across the ocean in locations such as London, China, Paris, Rome, Whales, and Switzerland. These trips are presented to the school and advertised to the students to go on and have foreign experiences.

Mrs. Illig is a teacher that is hosting a trip to Europe. Her

trip is a 15 day trip to London, Paris, Switzerland, and Rome. This trip will be taking place this upcoming summer in July from the 7-25.

"I'm most excited to just see new places and of course, go sopping. Also for Paris, because I have an old friends that was an exchange student I was going to meet up with," Mia Seibert ('18)

said.

These trips are designed to help widen students cultural experiences and education. All these trips are set up through EF Tours and are education based trips. Once a student signs up and the trip draws near, they will get their itinerary for the extent of their trip. Each day in the country that the trip is in there

are multiple tours set up for the students to experience.

"I'm looking forward to seeing the variety of cultures that Europe has to offer in comparison to America, I've been doing research on the countries that were going to visit," Christian Pauls ('17) said.

Other trips taking place are hosted by Mrs. Fulton, to Ireland,

Whales, Scotland, and England this upcoming June from the 16th- 30th. Mrs. Oreggo is going to Italy and Greece, in June of 2017. Ms. Konrad is going on a trip to Japan, on June 12-22, 2017. If anyone is interested in signing up for any of these trips just go to one of these teachers rooms for more details and sign up information.

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# M memories...

Seniors may be leaving but their high school memories remain

“My favorite senior memories consist of attending tailgates, screaming at football games, and storming fields with the Stang Gang,” Chris Lang ('16) said.



“My favorite high school memory is going to states for volleyball because the team has never done that before so that was really fun,” Kayla Widera ('16) said.



“I don't have one memory in particular, It's just looking back and seeing the evolution of yourself from freshman to senior year and watching the changes that have happened,” Jackie Freitas ('16) said.





"Winning a district championship,"  
Devontay Taylor ('16) said.



"Water wars was definitely one of my best memories during high school. The best part was the intense rescue missions my team put together to save me from the other teams trying to attack me whenever I would leave work," Ross Cooper ('16) said.

"My favorite memory is probably from the soccer games my sophomore year. I will never forget the way Amanda Hayes faked out the goalie and scored a goal, it was the coolest thing ever," Savannah Burke ('16) said.



"One of my best memories was when the whole school came together during homecoming week," Axel Muñoz ('16) said.



# Are they the best of all time?

Lexi Clark

Staff Reporter

Close to erasing the legendary 1995 Chicago Bulls 72-10 record, the Golden State Warriors look to make history by winning the most games in a season. The Warriors ended last year defeating the Cleveland Cavaliers in game six of the NBA Finals, and swung that momentum into this season.

The Warriors won their 72nd game against the San Antonio Spurs to not only tie the 1995 Bulls, but snap the undefeated home record of the Spurs.

Stephen Curry helped lead the team to an all time best 24-0 start to this season. The Milwaukee Bucks snapped the streak, but the Warriors stayed strong and kept playing incredible basketball. With only nine losses this season, the Warriors are the best three point shooting team in NBA history. The team is the first to make over 1,000 three pointers in one season with more games to play. Curry already made 392 threes and looks to obliterate his own record of 286 threes in a season by trying to hit 400.

The fame of the Warriors' record setting season comes with questions along the way. On the

path to history, the team has often been compared to the 1995 Bulls' historic team. Players like Scottie Pippen, Dennis Rodman, Toni Kucok, and Michael Jordan played under one of the greatest coaches of all time, Phil Jackson, ran through the league during their quest to 72 wins.

One connection between both the Warriors and Bulls teams is Steve Kerr. Kerr played for the 1995 Bulls and now is the head coach of the Warriors.

"It is literally impossible to even compare, because the rules are so different and the eras are so different," Kerr said in an ESPN interview.

Another person agrees with Kerr when it comes to the debate of which team is better.

"That question can truly be argued only if they [Warriors] win the championship this season, and even then it's an argument," Trent Nardin ('17) said.

Another former player from the 1995 Bulls, Scottie Pippen had a bold prediction for the NBA and it's fans.

"Bulls in four [games]. I think that my size and length would

Michael Jordan



Stephen Curry



Photos by New York Times

both [Curry] a little bit," Pippen said at a event in Houston.

Kerr added a statement recently that shocked reporters and fans after their 71st win.

"I probably shouldn't say this, but I don't care about the record, but the players do," Kerr said after a win against the Memphis Grizzlies.

However, one person thinks there is a method to his madness.

"He's probably trying to keep his players focused on winning

the championship and not about the record," Nardin said.

The Bulls played in an era that was physical, where you could hand check on defense, while today's game is more spread out and increasingly perimeter based. Both teams effectively took advantage of the circumstances with either physicality or incredible perimeter shooting.

The Warriors feature more than one star. They have Klay Thompson, Draymond Green,

Harrison Barnes, and Andre Iguodala supporting Curry in their historic season. Although the Warriors shoot the ball very well, players like Green and Iguodala provide a defensive versatility that gives teams a tough time keeping up with the historic Warriors offense.

Who knows who would win a best of seven series between the two, but one thing is for sure, both teams dominated in their respective seasons.

## 2016 NFL Mock Draft



Laremy Tunsil



Shaq Lawson



Darron Lee



Karl Joseph



Carson Wentz



Ezekiel Elliott



Noah Spence



Jason Spriggs



Jalen Ramsey



Leonard Floyd



Kevin Dodd



Jonathan Bullard



Joey Bosa



A'Shawn Robinson



Taylor Decker



Jaylon Smith



Myles Jack



Ronnie Stanley



Mack Alexander



Andrew Billings



DeForest Buckner



William Jackson



Josh Doctson



Jack Conklin



Jared Goff



Corey Coleman



Michael Thomas



Paxton Lynch



Vernon Hargreaves



Sheldon Rankins



Laquon Treadwell

Patriots lost pick  
due to deflategate



# Running down the tunnel of success

Sophie Sajeki

Staff Reporter

As the first boys' lacrosse season approaches its end, players reached new goals and realized their love for the sport. Last year the girls introduced the sport, and the boys looked to continue that momentum into their first season. The team reflected on how this sport compares to others.

"I enjoy playing lacrosse because it's new to me and I enjoy trying new sports. Lacrosse is such a unique sport because it has the best of all sports all in one. It has the physicality of football, but the speed of games like hockey. I would best compare lacrosse to hockey because they're both extremely physical but yet very fast paced games," Zac Armstrong ('16) said.

With Native American roots, the earliest history of the sport dates back to the 1630's, being played in the eastern half of North America, according to US Lacrosse. Some tribes even played a double stick version of the game.

"Lacrosse can be compared to basketball and soccer. Basketball in the way the offense is set up in a ring, and you pass around waiting for an opportunity for a shot. Soccer can be similar in the way the players are spread around the field, being three attack, three middle, three defense, with the middle players being able to go crossfield," Ryan Penland ('16) said.

The uniqueness of the

sport attracts new players and spectators. The special aspects also help the players perform well during games.

"The most unique part of lacrosse would be the sticks we use. Everyone has a different stick, and no two sticks are strung the same way, given the different ways you can form pockets for the ball to rest. There's hundreds of different heads and shafts to combine too, so it's always fun seeing when everyone changes up what they use on the field," Penland said.

Players on the team make a name for themselves, working together and accomplishing greatness during the season.

"As an individual on our



Colton Page ('16) and Ryan Penland ('16) run through the pregame tunnel before their lacrosse game.



Photos by Sophie Sajeki

lacrosse team, being in the top two highest scorers of the whole league as a freshman is a great accomplishment. I have made 41 goals during this season," Nick Ferrini ('19) said.

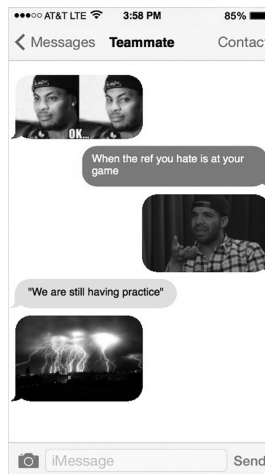
The lacrosse season for Mustang boys has concluded, however,

multiple summer lacrosse programs are offered around the Tampa Bay area for any players interested in joining the team in upcoming seasons. Experience is a key in being successful through lacrosse.

# The complicated life of an athlete

Shyanne Dove

Lifestyles Editor



# Moving forward to next year

Sam Burchick

Staff Reporter

As one school year ends, the fall sports and clubs start to get a jump on informing students about their teams for the next year. By informing as many students possible about tryouts, the team can improve their preparation for the upcoming season.

The cheerleading team last year excelled at their competitions and made it all they way to states, placing fourth. For anyone interested, in trying out for next years cheer team, there will be a

meeting on April 19th. The coach will hand out tryout packets and talk about what it takes to make the team. The official tryouts take place on June 11th in the gym. For more information, contact the Varsity Coach Smith at pastorjeremiahsmith@gmail.com.

The swim and dive team celebrated having a freshman go to States this season, and they look to improve upon that this coming season. For people who are interested and missed the

informational meeting, the team will be having tryouts during the first two weeks of school in the fall. For more information, look on the team's Twitter and Instagram @MHSSwim\_Dive.

For any girls interested in joining the golf team, there will be a meeting during the third week of May. Practices for golf start on the first day of school next year.

For any boys interested in football, there are no tryouts. They start spring football on April

25th, and go until May 19th. They will have their first spring game on May 19th.

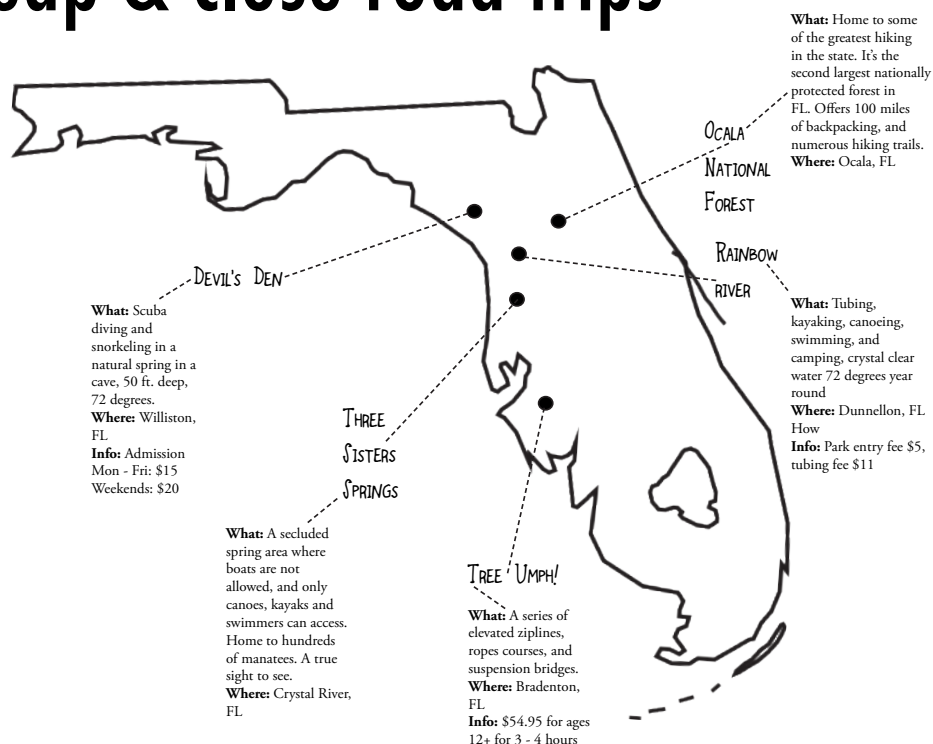
Cross-country will hold an informational meeting on Thursday May 19th, after school in front of the cafeteria. This sport welcomes all and does not cut kids who want to run.

The volleyball team trounced their way to a great season and is looking for new athletes to add. They are still finalizing dates, but tryouts take place August 1st and

camp the week before.

Sports are a great way to get involved in school. Joining a sport in the beginning of the year helps the athlete get accustomed to a hectic schedule early and helps them make friends.

# Cheap & close road trips



## Booming business

Amanda Garcia  
*Staff Reporter*

BurgerFi and Bahama Bucks have become some of students' go-to restaurants for food. With BurgerFi's recent opening, and Bahama Bucks' shaved ice becoming everyone's favorite sweet treat, these two have become the hang out spot for teens.

"I really like both of their vibes and I think they're a lot more fun to go to than the normal places. I also think they both have a better taste than other places," Natalie Phanco ('17) said.

One thing that makes BurgerFi's burgers so juicy is their beef is hormone and antibiotic free, causing their prices to be a little more on the expensive side than most burger joints.

"BurgerFi should improve by lowering the prices, they're a bit expensive for a burger, and redoing the outside of Bahama Bucks to make it look as cute as the inside," Phanco said.

Jessie Mooney ('18) doesn't believe BurgerFi's burgers need any improvements.

"BurgerFi is different because they brand their burgers, made an original BurgerFi sauce, and have french fries that aren't the typical drive through fries. I like how you can make build your own burger and when you walk in their atmosphere is welcoming," Mooney said.

Mooney is a big fan of Bahama Bucks as well, and thinks it would be beneficial to expand the size of the place to improve business.

"Bahama Bucks is different because it's shaved ice instead of regular ice cream, they have huge portions, and have a ton of different flavors. I like how you can taste test the flavors before you order, and get a tiny umbrella in your cup," Mooney said.

Bahama Bucks has over twenty flavors of shaved ice to choose from, and BurgerFi has a "create your own burger" menu.

Locations near Trinity:  
 BurgerFi - Mitchell Ranch Plaza  
 Bahama Bucks - Odessa on Gunn

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# Entertainment The Hoofbeat | April 2016

## Summer movies coming to a theater near you



**Me Before You**  
June 3rd



**Now You See Me 2**  
June 10th



**Finding Dory**  
June 17th



**Central Intelligence**  
June 17th



**The Legend of Tarzan**  
July 1st



**Star Trek Beyond**  
July 22nd

## Anything Goes on the high C's

Ally Palmer

Guest Reporter

The Drama Department prepares to climb aboard the stage for their production of "Anything Goes!"

Forbidden love, crazy antics, and over-the-top dance numbers are all included in the musical on the high seas, all of which combine to create a serious undertaking for the cast. They spent 80 to 125 hours throughout the eight weeks of practice on the production, perfecting every detail to the best of the cast's ability.

"The work ethic that everyone has in the musical is very inspiring because everyone wants to make everyone else and themselves better. The rehearsals are my favorite part because everyone is working their hardest to succeed and it made the cast closer as a sort-of family," Huy Nguyen ('17) said.

The cast practiced during rehearsals almost every day and even came into school during

spring break to work on their production. The show required this amount of practice because it included many different dance numbers. "The dancing in the jazz and tap numbers are killer and they are Broadway worthy. Those numbers are one of my favorite parts of the show," Peyton Midthun ('16) said.

The performers that repeatedly chose to submit to the long hours and seemingly endless number of lines to learn, do it because they are passionate about what they do, and believe that these productions play an important role in student's lives.

"I am a strong supporter of the arts in schools. There is a lot of good can come from being involved in different arts programs in high school. Theater and performing helps people form leadership skills, problem solving skills, and form good relationships with the people they work with," Midthun said.

Over the time that the cast and crew spent together, the members of the production bonded to create a relationship that made acting friendly and happy on stage easier.

"Performers come together when doing productions because they have similar interests.

A musical is really fun to work on with a lot of people. You work hard for months and in the end you do your performance and everyone is really happy of what they did together. Everyone is bonding together as a family during all of the hard work," Xuan Tran ('16) said.

A love for hard work and high payoff bonded the cast of "Anything Goes!" The musical runs from April 28th-May 1st. Come out and support the drama department and the cast of characters that made the show happen.

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# ANYTHING GOES

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Graphic and info provided by the Drama Dept.

## Summertime concerts

**May 28 and 29**  
**Sunset Music Festival**  
Various artists  
Raymond James Stadium  
Tampa, FL

**Wednesday, June 8**  
**X Ambassadors**  
House of Blues  
Lake Buena Vista, FL

**Friday, June 10**  
**Selena Gomez**  
Amway Center  
Orlando, FL

**Wednesday, June 15**  
**Weezer and**  
**Panic! At The Disco**  
MidFlorida Credit Union  
Amphitheatre  
Tampa, FL

**Friday, June 17**  
**Keith Urban**  
MidFlorida Credit Union  
Amphitheatre  
Tampa, FL

**Saturday, June 25**  
**Demi Lovato and**  
**Nick Jonas**  
Amway Center  
Orlando, FL

**Thursday, June 30**  
**Justin Bieber**  
Amway Center  
Orlando, FL

**Friday, July 1**  
**Twenty One Pilots**  
Amway Center  
Orlando, FL

**Wednesday, July 6**  
**Halsey**  
CFE Arena  
Orlando, FL

**Saturday, July 16**  
**Dierks Bently**  
MidFlorida Credit Union  
Amphitheatre  
Tampa, FL



# Breaking the piggy bank for prom

Jaclyn Moser  
Lifestyles Editor

One of the most highly awaited times of the year, prom season, brings about a certain frenzy to obtain perfection. Purchase the perfect dress, impress with the best hairstyle, and amaze others with gorgeous makeup. However, prom season comes with a hefty price, the one on the tag for the dress and the one that builds up for additional accessories.

This begs the question, how much is too much to spend on prom? The "perfect" dress does not need to cost a thousand dollars. In fact, places like Ross and Goodwill may hide beautiful gems among all of their overstock or gently used clothing. Expensive salon hairstyles can easily be accomplished at home after some practice, and makeup can be perfectly applied by oneself or friends. The approximate suitable cost for prom varies by person

and how much they are willing to spend.

"I think a good price for a prom dress is \$200 at the most, but it all depends how much you're willing to pay. For some, spending \$2,000 isn't that hard. But for people like me, I reused my aunt's wedding dress last year and modified it to fit my body, which cost \$60 dollars. And this year I got my dress on sale for \$70. I don't think the cost of the dress matters as long as you feel beautiful in it that night," Hannah Bruner ('16) said.

However, a dress is not the only cost for prom. Some choose to go and get their hair and makeup done at outside sources and additional costs also factor in.

"I would rather get my hair done just because I'm not very good at that (doing hair), but I'll probably do it myself or ask a friend to save myself some money.

I won't spend more than \$100 total just because that, combined with the ticket, is a lot of money. For people who have saved or have more money and are able to spend more, they should be able to do that if they want. I think spending more than \$250 total (including the ticket) is a little bit too much just because it is only one night. But I'm also a little more materialistic and prom is not very important to me, so, it all just depends on how much money you have and your views," Corryn Bernelle ('16) said.

Overall, the cost of prom is totally dependent upon the person. Some are willing to spend a lot of money and some are only willing to spend a little. However, the cost of prom is irrelevant as long as the night is amazing in the end.



## Outfit:

Cost of designer outfit- \$250-\$500  
Cost of department store dress- \$75-\$100



## Nails:

Cost of salon nails- \$40-\$65  
Cost of personal nails- \$15

## Professional Makeup:

Cost of professional makeover- \$30-\$40  
Cost of home makeover- \$0



## Hairstyling:

Cost of salon styling- \$50-\$60  
Cost of home styling- \$0

# Animal treatment- Editorial

Alexis Majorana  
Guest Author

Imagine you're locked inside a cage for hours at a time. Your entire day is spent shaking in fear, awaiting the next painstaking experiment to be performed on you. These inhumane experiments include inhaling toxic gases, skin being burned off, spinal cords being crushed, holes being drilled in your skull and countless more. If this procedure is not lethal, you go right back into the cage until you are needed again.

After this life of extreme fear, loneliness, and pain, your death goes like another passing day and it is almost certain that those

experiments you sacrificed your life for were meaningless.

More than 100 million animals a year suffer this psychological trauma. Their free lives are stolen from them with biology lessons, chemical and cosmetology testing, and purely curiosity-driven experimentation. The sad truth is that the majority of the procedures provide nothing to human health and are a waste of innocent animal lives.

Supporters of the barbaric and inhumane treatment of animals back their flimsy reasons with general evidence such as the fact

that research animals are cared for by veterinarians, husbandry specialists, and animal health technicians to ensure their wellbeing and more accurate findings. With actual videos of animals being thrown in and crushed in cages, having multiple liquids squirted in their eyes, and even more gruesome tests, some of which being carried out by people with no prior veterinary education. These veterinarians that supporters mention are not only scarcely present, but are also inhuman beings who are proven as having no care to the animals'

comfort, safety, or wellbeing in general.

Steps are already being taken towards a more humane way of science. Documented by PETA, non-animal research methods have been invented and are increasingly becoming available. Not only are these methods more ethical and moral than killing innocent animals, but, not shockingly, they have also been proven to be more accurate than testing on animals with a completely different biological makeup than humans.

Everyday people who want to lend a hand for a brighter future

for humans and animals alike can submit letters to research-funding industries to curtail animal experimentation habits. Almost all of their research is funded by America's tax dollars, so with each complaint they receive about funding being spent the wrong way a change can be made. As cliché as it is, one letter may save the lives of animals around the world.

Want to stop animal testing? Learn more at [www.pcrm.org/research/animaltestalt/taitox/what-you-can-do-to-stop-animal-testing](http://www.pcrm.org/research/animaltestalt/taitox/what-you-can-do-to-stop-animal-testing)

# Mustang Diaries DJ Lame on the tracks

Bailey Sassatelli  
Opinions Editor

This Mustang is having a rough couple of days! Check out our Twitter page for the video of the exclusive complete audio diary of this very sad Mustang.



Kelsey Williams  
News Editor

Students spend hours making sure that school events like homecoming and prom turn out to be perfect. They find the perfect dress, a beautiful hairstyle, and search for an amazing ride that will make them stand out from the rest. Yet sometimes the elements of the perfect dance are out of student's hands. Sometimes the decorations are perfect, the group of friends is ready to party, but the DJ is just not with the times.

"His music taste was less than enjoyable. I still had fun but it wasn't because of the DJ," John Winn ('16) said.

Music is an important component to creating the perfect atmosphere at a dance. Putting the wrong song in a playlist can make

or break the mood of an event. Student's want to get excited and dance to popular, high-energy songs, not travel back in time to group dancing activities from elementary school years.

"For the most part, I think he picks songs that are up to date, but sometimes he plays songs like Cotton Eye Joe in the middle of everyone dancing and it's kind of odd," Sabiha Mollah ('18) said.

When trying to please an audience it is important to remember the things that they enjoy. Students look for songs that feed into the excitement of the night and it is a DJ's job to read the reaction of the crowd.

"I mean don't get a new DJ that's the same level of not fun. Get a fun DJ, or just pass around

the AUX cord," Winn said.

Students know what kind of music they want to hear and if the DJ is not even close to being up to par, it takes away from the magic of the night. Students only get to enjoy high school once and it is important that everything about these memorable events is focused around those attending.

Students will be able to request songs at prom by contacting any member of Student Council. Also, if anyone would like to express a concern about prom, please contact the 2017 Class Sponsor.

Illustration by: Caroline Weyer



Schultzisms

Opening up about:  
Letting us go

Interview by: Bailey Sassatelli

**Q:** What does it feel like to watch groups of students grow up over the years they are here?

**A:** "Watching students go from scared 9th graders to confident 12th graders and all of those moments in between is why I so love working in a high school. It is going to be sad to see 2016 move on to the next chapter, but I am excited to see what happens next for them."

**Q:** How has this year's senior class affected you emotionally?

**A:** "Every graduating class is different. I am happy to see that this graduating class has worked hard to maintain their #MustangPRIDE and is still part of the school culture."

**Q:** Have you ever been so attached to a class that watching them graduate was extremely hard? What was that experience like?

**A:** "This year's class was the first class that I will graduate as the principal, so that will always be something that I'll remember. The Class of 2013 was the first class that I had for all four years. They are very special to me. I enjoyed them tremendously and still keep in touch with many of them."

**Q:** How hard will it be for you to let this senior class go at graduation?

**A:** "I always miss students when they leave. Over the course of four years, bonds are made and to let some very good people move on can be hard even for teachers who do it all the time. I hope that the seniors remember all of the things that they have learned while at JWMHS."

**Q:** If there was one thing you could say to this year's graduating class, what would it be?

**A:** "Dream big! Work hard! Stay humble! Remember your roots! Keep in contact with your family! The joy is in the journey and not the destination."

**Q:** Do you think it is important for students to remember the bonds they formed with previous teachers? Why or why not?

**A:** "Of course it is important to remember the teachers that you have had that have made a difference. One day you will look back on them and realize that they were so right about the things they said to you, as well as that they had your best interests at the heart of every decision."

**Q:** What, if anything, should the senior class remember about high school, or keep from high school?

**A:** "Cherish the friendships from high school that you have developed. But, most of the people that you are around right now you will not see again in the next four months. Also, this should not be the best time of your life. The best should be yet to come."

**Q:** Do you have anything you want to add?

**A:** Enjoy the last few weeks of high school. You are going to miss this...a lot...but you are ready to go forth and meet the world!

# Underclassmen, just stop.

Kaitlyn Klein  
Staff Reporter

For many, the extravagant dance called prom, becomes the most exciting part of their high school career. Since it was introduced, prom remains the designated event to attend for graduating class towards the end of their school career. Thus, the event should be exclusively and entirely devoted for seniors, juniors, and their respective dates.

"I don't think freshmen and sophomores should go to prom without a date. Prom is supposed to be a special time for juniors and seniors. I feel like you have to wait your turn. If underclassmen go, then it isn't much different than homecoming, and prom night is supposed to be much more

special than homecoming," Steven Morris ('16) said.

In contrast, some upperclassmen feel indifferent about underclassmen going to prom.

"I don't think it matters if underclassmen go to prom or not. It shouldn't change anyone's prom experience and if they want to go they should be able to. If someone doesn't want them there, they can just dance where they aren't. I don't see why it's such a big deal," Ethan Felch ('17) said.

Though many agree that underclassmen should not attend prom, some say they can if they have a date.

"If an underclassmen went with a date, that was a junior or senior, then it

is fine because they have a reason to go. Without a date, they have no reason to be there," Morris said.

Some underclassmen agree that they do not have any place being at prom without a date.

"I would not personally want to go to prom as a freshman if I was not going with a date that was an upperclassman. I would most likely feel out of place and I would not have my friends there to have fun with," Brittney Mathis ('19) said.

The extravagant event of prom should only be attended by those who belong there, whether it is upperclassmen going alone or with their underclassmen dates. Regardless this fact remains: Alone, underclassmen should not attend prom.

# Stuck in the school hole

Bailey Sassatelli  
Opinions Editor

<p><b>If attending college in fall and living at home.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lock down a job</li> <li>• Make a savings plan</li> <li>• Establish some sort of independence</li> <li>• DO NOT rely on your parents for everything!</li> <li>• Study hard</li> <li>• Do not lose sight of your future aspirations</li> </ul>	<p><b>If taking a semester off before college.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Start saving</li> <li>• Set a plan and goals and stick to them</li> <li>• DO NOT take your freedom for granted</li> <li>• Stay focused</li> </ul>	<p><b>If going into the military or armed forces.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stay positive</li> <li>• Keep in contact with people at home</li> <li>• Take care of the important things in your life</li> <li>• Remember your training</li> <li>• Always keep something on you to remind you of home</li> </ul>
<p><b>If attending college in the fall and living in a dorm/apartment.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gather dorm/apt. necessities</li> <li>• Lock down a job</li> <li>• Make a savings plan</li> <li>• Develop rules/organization for your roommates</li> <li>• Make a detailed budget for each month</li> <li>• Party less than anyone else.</li> </ul>	<p><b>If spending the first semester studying abroad.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Always carry emergency cash/copy of ID/passport</li> <li>• Keep in contact with people at home</li> <li>• Know where you're going</li> <li>• Stay on track</li> <li>• Find a way to finance everything</li> </ul>	<p><b>If you have no idea what you are doing.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make a plan</li> <li>• Get a job</li> <li>• Start saving/investing</li> <li>• Once you set goals, stick to them</li> <li>• Never lose sight of what is possible in the future</li> </ul>

# And now, the Class of 2016

Shyanne Dove  
Lifestyles Editor

Dear every graduating senior,

The end of the year is now coming to a close. This is your last year in high school, and you wonder where the time went. It feels as if you started this year yesterday. You came into the year at the top, an upperclassman. The rest of the school looked up to you as you traveled throughout the year. You've made memories that you'll never forget.

This is the year of lasts. The last games with your teammates, the last time at dances, the last football game, the final pep rallies and other school events with friends. Senior board stress, final tests and some nights without rest come along with senior year. This is the last time you'll be with your 2016 class.

Many loud cheers, fears, and tears have been a part of this year. High school friends came and went.

You've failed tests, you've skipped class, but in the end, you met every requirement.

You'll be graduating with your class.

With a little less than a month of school left, you have fewer homework assignments, classes are winding down, and you might be studying for finals or finished with lessons. Your days here are limited, we counted down all year. It's time to say goodbye to your favorite teachers, thanking them for putting up with your multiple tardies and late assignments.

The countdown for graduation is almost up. All of your hard work is about to be rewarded with a piece of paper with your name on it saying that you did it! You have finally finished high school. Family will gather to congratulate you on your accomplishments.

Next year you will be a freshman all over again. Things will be different, but your memories remain with you, the right friends will be there for you, and you can always fall back on your family. Just remember that once you are a Mustang you are always a Mustang.

Sincerely,

A fellow departing Mustang



## Scene 6 Take 1 Director: Hoofbeat

Jess Mason  
Staff Reporter

Although the movie adaptation is often sequential to the book, there is no argument behind the fact that a movie is always better.

In addition to everything that a book provides, a movie adds a clear visual and audio for every scene and character in a book, bringing the story line even more to life.

By adding a face and voice to every name in the book, viewers develop a deep connection to the storyline. Where as in books, there is less of a connection due to the lack of clear character visual.

As well as providing a visual demonstration of the characters in the original novel, a movie also brings the scenery to life, which provides the

viewers with a more personal attachment to the storyline. By depicting the scenes, a movie gives the audience a clear and vivid understanding of the scenery as the author originally intended.

"The Hunger Games" series is an ideal example of how a movie is better than a book. Although "The Hunger Games" books were very detailed and successfully portrayed what the author wanted to get across, the movies brought the book to life by providing a clear visual demonstration of the characters and scenery.

"As a writer, and someone who is interested in film making and video production, I personally think movies are better than books. Although

a book describes in greater detail, you are able to actually experience a movie," Justin Seecharan ('18) said.

In addition to "The Hunger Games," students like Chandler Dempsey ('17) and Alexa Rosenberg ('16) felt that "The Great Gatsby" movie offered more than the book.

"I liked how the director incorporated all of the modern music to contrast with the 1920s era, and the acting of Leonardo DiCaprio and Toby Maguire make the movie stand out," Rosenberg said.

Thanks to visual images that movies provide, they remain better than books.

# Books vs. Movies

Sam Burchick  
Staff Reporter

Rarely a movie adaptation of a book meets the quality of the original novel. When authors write and publish, they leave their works open to different interpretations. The book provides a road map for a reader's imagination. When a book becomes a movie, all the creativity gets taken away from the reader.

"I like to read because I can travel the world and see so many things without the danger of leaving my home, and because I get to make my own settings and character designs," Abby Erickson ('18) said.

Once an author sells the rights to their book they give all control to the director. When people find out that

their favorite book is being made into a movie they may be excited, but they may wonder if it will include the parts that are essential to the plot.

While the easiest solution may be to not see the movie, it isn't that simple. All over social media and the Internet, advertisements and video clips pop up showing the reader that the movie may be different than the book.

"The worst part of a book being made into a movie is that I don't want them to change the important parts of the book because it ruins the whole story and people wouldn't know the real book," Jocelyn Espinoaz ('17) said.

When fans heard that Divergent was being made in to a movie they were excited to see their characters come alive on the big screen, until

they saw the movie. The people who read the book had high hopes for this film. When the movie came out fans noticed that important parts were taken out or under played. The character Uriah had a part in the first book, he helped with Tris's character growth, but gets left out of the first movie and magically appears in the second one.

"The worst part of books being made into movies is that they change scenes and characters into their own and don't follow the book," Espinoaz said.

While books that have been made into movies, directors have changed character's attributes and appearances. In the book "Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Lightning Thief" they changed the main female lead from a blond to a

brunette then changed her hair to blonde, the way the author had it, in the second movie of the series to please angry fans.

"The movie adaptation that made me mad was The Percy Jackson movies. The characters were wrong and there was a big reveal from the last book. You know a movie is bad when even the writer doesn't talk about it," Erickson said.

When directors and producers take on making a movie from books that millions of readers loved, they need to think about how the movie version of the book will grab the interest of the fans. As a reader, the way a character looks, walks, talks, and acts is all up to them. Though the movies hold a special place in the heart of the reader, the book will always reign superior.