

Sophie Sajecki Staff Reporter

Art can be found not only around the world, but also around campus. There are numerous ways to create art through different mediums such as acrylic, watercolor, colored pencils, pastel and ink, just to name a few. Different art classes are offered as well, like 2D art, 3D art and digital design.

Students strive to do good for others through the production of their art. Jordan Bunker, a freshman, recently won Best Artistic Expression for her entry in the 2016 "Art of Recycling" contest with her art project of a fox made from salvaged

materials titled, *Pollution* Knows No Borders.

"When my art was entered into the competition I was not really expecting to win any prize for my art. I knew that there were many other talented students who also entered their projects as well. When I found out I won I didn't think it was true. When I went to the office and was told that I had won, I felt really proud for what I accomplished for myself, as well as my school," Bunker said.

Students discover their potential in art by taking an art class or even by doodling

or drawing on their own.
Ms. Donna Fulton (FAC)
and Ms. Trudy Stugard
(FAC) sponsor the Art Club
for students interested in
exploring their potential.

"I joined art club this year because my art teacher suggested it based off my work. I have taken four art classes and am currently in 3D art honors. My favorite part is being able to express myself in my art, let go of everything else and just concentrate on my work. My artwork is very clean, and always has a specific meaning behind it," Katelyn Henderson ('16) said.

Famous artists discovered their future career while still in high school. For example, Walt Disney drew political cartoons for his very own school newspaper. Creativity varies between each artist.

"My favorite part in creating art is being able to be creative and being able to use my hands to construct a project," Ashley Campbell ('17) said.

With students' art skills strengthening over time, success in an art career is reachable.

"I honestly love art so much because I really love to put my thoughts and feelings on paper, and also I think it's really fun. I hope that someday I can get a job in designing and digital design," Devin Delao ('19) said.

By taking advantage of the schools' art programs such as 3D art, 2D art, digital design and art club, students prepare themselves for creative opportunities.

Artists' work above from top left:
Olivia Oddo, Devie Conway, Jamie
Sauvyer, Van Uk, Alexis Zegan,
Theresa Garrison, Brianne Seaberg,
Blake Kelly, Ashley Campbell, Josh
Cooney, Katelyn Henderson, Emily
Mitchell, Breanna Spangenberg,
Tova Soderlund, Meghan Bertig,
Anastasiya Zagonenko.

Built up and torn down

Sports Editor

When athletes sit on top of the world due to their accomplishments, they feel untouchable, until someone takes them down. Then the crushing blow of defeat brings a swarm of media attention and attacks from fans around the globe. Celebrity athletes consistently deal with negative social media, but when they lose, the negativity increases.

One recent example of an athlete being torn down is Ronda Rousey. Rousey entered a fight at UFC 193 against Holly Holm with an undefeated 12-0 record. Rousev verbally attacked Holm saving, "She's an act," and that she would once again reign supreme.

Holm knocked Rousey out in the second round and the world came crashing down on Rousey.

"[Ronda] is an amazing fighter, but her trash talk finally caught up to her," Aaron Bruegger (17) said.

TMZ ended up capturing footage of Rousey exiting a hospital days later after the fight with her covering her face in embarrassment, Recently on Ellen Degeneres' show Rousey admitted to contemplating suicide because of the devastation she had experienced from losing.

Another athlete that received an enormous amount of negative publicity is Cam Newton. Leading the Carolina Panthers

to a 17-1 record into Super Bowl 50, the media could not get enough of Newton's victorious dabbing. The Panthers lost 24-10 in a decimation of the Panthers' offense, as the internet destroyed Newton for not diving for a fumble and then leaving early from a post-game press conference.

"It's funny how one loss can define your career." Dillon Johnson (17) said.

Newton went on to say, "I'm sore loser," but felt they didn't lose the game off of his fumble when he didn't dive for the ball.

"Cam can be arrogant like



Panthers quarterback Cam Newton sits dejectedly at an interview after the

should be attacks towards them because they carry themselves differently than other athletes," Bruegger said.

The pressure of being a celebrity requires a lot of restraint to avoid tarnishing one's social image. People think the amount of money athletes make validates

the criticism they receive.

'When you make the money these athletes make, there's an expectation to deal with heavy criticism from the fans and media." Johnson said.

While being a star in sports has an immense upside, it also can

Changing views one event at a time

Staff Reporter

Schools from around Pasco County gathered on Thursday, February 25th at River Ridge High School to participate in the 40th annual Special Olympics. More than 10 schools, family, and friends watched and cheered from the bleachers as their Olympians participated in a number of sporting events, such as relay races, archery, and soccer.

"As I watched Brandi [Barber (16)] play tennis, I was cheering her on, and as I did she would

look at me throughout the match so I could tell she was listening to my motivation," Demi Asensio ('17) said.

To kick off the event Olympians took a walk around the track. allowing the introduction of the participating schools. Then the Olympians split up with their partners to participate in the fun activities that were offered.

"My partner was Sam, she's nonverbal but very intelligent. She went around the village

and danced in the middle with everybody, and she went around eating food," Mya Campbell ('17)

In the Olympic Village, organizations and clubs from the different schools volunteered to set up booths with games for the Olympians. The booths offered a variety of games like bowling, corn-hole, ring toss, and magnet fishing. Other booths featured face painting, photo booths with colorful props, and music

for participants to dance or sing along. Many offered candy prizes.

"I help with special Olympics annually, usually on individual sports, but this year volunteering through NHS at the table seemed like a good opportunity to work with and interact with some of the younger participants, which I really enjoyed doing," Jillian

Kirkpatrick (17) said. The Special Olympics work towards creating a healthier more welcoming world for all, allowing athletes to inspire others to open their hearts to human talents and potential. These events are hosted in over 170 countries, according to specialolypmics.org, with 94,000 events a year.

The organization works to open doors to better health care for those affected by intellectual disabilities. Students are encouraged to donate to the cause on the Special Olympics official

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

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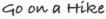
Sun Tattoo

When tanning over Spring
Break, take any shaped object
and place it on the part of your
body that you desire the tattoo
to be. Keep it there during your
tan session until the shape is
distinct when the object is
removed. This is an easy and
temporary way to experiment
with tattoos, while getting a tan
at the same time!



Paper Lanterns

Releasing paper lanterns is a fun and easy thing to do with your friends or family over Spring Break. Paper lanterns can be found at stores and websites like Party City and Oriental Trading. This is a great activity to take up some time, and get a few pictures of in the process! Environmentally friendly paper lanterns can be found at Amazon.com



Going on a hike is a great way to get outside and exercise, while also having fun and taking photos with friends. Download the app AllTrails to easily locate some highly-rated trails near you.



Henna

Henna is a 3D art form that can most commonly be done at shops or tourist areas. Locally, henna can be done at Pier 60 at Clearwater Beach and Busch Gardens. Or, if preferred, henna can be made. Go to this website for easy to follow instructions. hennacaravan.com/how/mix.html





X

Things to dye green

- Beards. Much like the flower beard trend all over social media, men are likely to dye their beards green as a fun way to celebrate St. Patrick's Day.
- Rivers. Chicago celebrates St. Patrick's Day in a unique way by dying a portion of the Chicago River bright green. The river in downtown Tampa will be dyed green on Saturday, March 19, 2016, with a celebration from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Curtis Hixon Waterfront Park
- Food. There are many delectable delights that can be dyed green for a fun and festive party, such as cupcakes, cookies, or even masched potatoes.
- Pets. Pets can join in on the festivities, too! Animal safe dye is purchasable at different stores.





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60 years of the famous Disney magic

Allison Kaelin
Staff Reporter

Millions of people tuned into ABC's "The Wonderful World of Disney: Disneyland 60" to celebrate the 60th anniversary of Disneyland in California. The 2-hour special that aired on February 21, 2016, showcased the influences that Walt Disney himself and the parks have had over the last six decades.

The show started off with a massive dance number in the middle of Main Street U.S.A. performed by "Dancing With the Stars" Derek Hough and Whitney Carson. Their performance preceded musical performances

from Elton John, Idina Menzel, Jessie J, Tori Kelly, Fall Out Boy and many more.

Along with performances by various artists, Star Wars actor Harrison Ford gave an inside look at the new Star Wars land coming to Disney parks in both California and Florida over the next few years. Other Disney stars included Ginnifer Goodwin, Jason Bateman, and Bryce Dallas Howard, all of whom talked about their upcoming projects and movies that will be released later this year.

During the T.V. special, host

Derek Hough took the stage with a performance to Step in time from the classic 1964 movie Marry Poppins. Joining him on stage, 90-year-old actor, Dick Van Dyke closed out the dance number showing off his moves.

"The best part of the T.V. special was Dick Van Dyke coming out and dancing during step in time and watching the crowd experience such an amazing thing," Kaylee Strobel ('18) said.

Later in the show Neil Patrick Harris took a selfie in a pair of gold Mickey ears. He went on to explain that Disney would donate \$5 to Make-A-Wish, up to \$1 million, every time a picture was posted on social media of someone wearing Mickey ears with #Sharevourears.

Since the T.V. special on February 21, 2016, Disney has donated over \$1 million to the Make-a-Wish Foundation. Disneyland has made a major impact on the world in the last 60 years. The most magical place on Earth allows people of all ages to forget about the outside world and feel like a kid again.



Kaylee Strobel ('18) poses in front of the Cinderella castle during Disney's 60th anniversary.

Things I wish I knew as a freshman

Bella Smith

Staff Reporter

I remember my first day of high school. I was so worried and nervous about what people would think of me.

1

Being popular in high school is not everything. It is one thing to be involved in school and have a few close friends. However, it is a whole other thing to act against your morals to feel cool, and have a bunch of friends you cannot count on.

DO NOT underestimate the wisdom that your parents can provide. DO NOT take your relationship with them for granted. You will meet many people throughout the next four years. You may remain close with a few, but you are likely to lose a very wide majority of them. You never know how tangible a friendship really is. When your mom and dad ask you if you want to watch that T.V. show (that you have no interest in) for the 5th day in a row, WATCH IT.

2

I had so many questions about the next 4 years of my life. These are the years some people claimed to be the best, while others claimed that they were the worst.

Everything that I went through, both good and bad, shaped me into who I am today.

3

Life in unpredictable. A lot of things can change in 4 years, let alone, a single year. At some point, it may seem like everything is going wrong and you won't understand why. But just know, everything happens for a reason. In the end, you will look back and understand each event a little more than you did before. Whether it taught you a lesson or provided a memory, it was meant to happen.

Focus on yourself. Time will fly by faster than you realize. Make sure that you push yourself to your full potential. Do not have the attitude that you can always do something next year. You never know where you will be a year from now. You are lucky enough to get an opportunity once, so don't take anything for granted. Take risks and step out of your comfort zone. Fall in love or go on an adventure. Stop daydreaming about tomorrow and live in TODAY.

4

Now I am a senior and I will be graduating in June. Looking back at my 4 years in high school, I realize the drastic changes that have occurred in me as a person.

If I could go back to my first day of high school and tell myself the things that I know now, I would.

5

Try with all of your power to agree to that Starbucks date with your best friend. I know you think you spend too many pointless days sitting on that patio, but believe me, those chats on the patio hold so much underlying value. You will look back and regret all of the added up time that you wasted sitting in your room with your door closed.

Changes in the Language

Kaitlyn Klein

Staff Reporter

Every year, hundreds of new words and phrases that come from internet slang get added to the dictionary. Oxford Dictionaries Online and Merriam Webster Dictionary added a slew of words that only recently came into general usage, many driven by fast-moving trends in technology and culture. These words emerged as people adapt their language to new technologies. For example, the word selfie came about through the constant use of

Instagram.

Most of the modern day slang terms become more frequently used due to social media websites like Twitter or Facebook.

"It is so weird how fast a word from a video on social media will turn from a joke into a new word that everyone uses and gets put in the dictionary," Abigail Peterson ('19) said.

Slang terms evolved through the years, and the words or phrases used change every year. "Slang that was around in the olden days doesn't make sense today. If you heard someone say something like 'far out' or 'radical' in today's society that would be so weird. Even more modern day old words, like 'swag' and 'YOLO' seem stupid to use," Justin Cooper ('18) said.

Others agree that slang changed drastically and quickly throughout time.

"One day everyone will be saying a word like 'savage' and within the week they will be so out of date. It changes so quickly as soon as a new word or phrase comes everyone seems to forget the old slang and stops using it. Swag was replaced by YOLO which was replaced by selfie and so on," Peterson said.

The terms and phrases people use change quickly. For example, because of DJ Khaled's snapchat story, people started to refer to things as 'key', going viral within a few days.

"Sometimes I feel a bit

old and out of date. I'll be talking to my friends and accidentally say something that's not relevant anymore, and then things just get awkward. It's hard to keep up with the slang," Trevor Farrell ('19) said.

Many terms and phrases that come from the Internet get added to the dictionary each year. Slang remains ever changing as social media websites allow new terms and phrases to emerge.

I ordered food from Dunkin Donuts and turned to my friend for money and BAM! Distracted disaster...I took out their tip jar with my side mirror. They just stared at me shocked as they handed me my order. I just wanted to leave.

Freshman year, I got inducted into Thespians. While it was totally worth it, we had to dress up in crazy outfits and say and do crazy things all day. Pretty embarrassing, but definitely worth it in the end.

When I was in the 7th grade, my teacher made us each write a mini newspaper full of events and such, and I decided to write out the horoscopes. So, my bestie and I were in the computer lab talking about who we liked, and I was talking about this kid from class, and typing out the horoscopes at the same time. Turns out that I typed everything I said to my friend about him in the paper on his birthday month! Everyone in class read their horoscopes and he read it out loud in front of his friends! Note to self-look when you type

Embarrassing

Moments

I was at practice on day and a girl was doing high kicks and thought I could do that I've done it before. But as soon as I kicked my leg up I fell smack down on my butt. I was in front of a huge window and everyone was watching. They all laughed but we're all concerned to know if I was ok. All I could do was laugh, I almost cried I was laughing so hard.

I was trying to be all smooth and park up behind my boyfriend's car to park in his driveway, accidentally miss judging the distance, I bumped his car. My friend laughed for like ten minutes before promising to keep it a secret. He still has no clue.

Job interviews

Interviews will come up in life whether for a job or a school. When getting ready for interviews make sure to choose an outfit that is appropriate and not offensive. Interviews require the interviewee to step up and display respect and maturity in order to get the job. Source: "So You've Got an Interview" by Rasmussen College

Do

How to dress

Men

Be sure to wear clean polished dress shoes Suits should be tailored and well fitting

Women

Should wear a conservative heel.
If wearing a skirt, always cross your legs at
the ankles.



Don't

What not to wear

Man

Don't wear jeans or tank tops.

Women

Short skirts are never appropriate for an interview nor are bare legs. Avoid overly revealing tops. As a rule, never wear a tank top unless under a jacket or cardigan.

What not to do

- 1-Begin and end the interview with a handshake.
- 2-Wear clean, polished shoes. Women should wear a conservative heel.
- 3-Arrive ten minutes early to the interview. This will allow time to complete any pre-interview paperwork and it demonstrates that you are prompt.

What to do

- 4-Display proper posture and remember to smile and make good eye contact.
- 5-Remember to bring copies of any resumes, references, and work samples.
- 6-Turn off cell phone before the interview.
- 7-Show enthusiasm in the position and the company.
- 8-Have confidence!

- 1-Don't slouch. Be conscious of the image your body language is projecting.
- 2-Don't wear excessive amounts of cologne or perfume.
- 3-Do not chew gum.
- 4-Don't use poor language such as slang and pause words such as, "like", "uh", and "um".
- 5-Do not inquire about salary, vacations, bonuses, or benefits until receiving
- 6-Do not bring up personal issues or family problems.
- 7-Never say anything negative about former colleagues, supervisors, or employers.
- 8-Never lie. Answer question truthfully and don't over answer a question.

Gadgets and gizmos

A variety of iPhone gadgets flood the market, providing students with an opportunity to personalize their devices. New options from Amazon.com range in price from \$1.95 to \$100.



Task One G3 - This unique case contains built-in everyday tools. \$70 iphone 5/5s \$100 iphone 6/6s



Solar Charger - This USB extension allows users to charge their phone with the power of the sun. \$21.99



Detachable camera lens- Attaching this device to an iPhone allows the user to zoom in up to eight times the normal zoom in. \$15.99



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Mini Portable dock fan-This phone attachment is perfect for hot summer days. S7.90



Toaster charger - Charges phones in a stylish and unique way. \$79

Sharks migrate to the coast of Florida

Sam Burchick

Staff Reporter

With a change in climate and the warming of water all over the world, the number of sharks in the waters surrounding Florida increases as migration season begins. Some researchers believe that the sharks may not be leaving our coasts any time soon due to the fact that they find our waters a suitable habitat.

With the approach of summer in Florida, beaches start to fill

with tourists and now sharks. Thousands of sharks, mainly Blacktip and Spinner sharks, come closer to the shore near swimmers. Researchers from Florida Atlantic University have seen some fewer then 200 yards from the shore. An associate professor at the University, Stephen Kajiura, began tagging sharks so he could observe where exactly these sharks travel to and follow their

migration patterns throughout the

With Blacktip sharks migrating to Florida beaches early this year there are a few things people should know about them. In order for beach goers to enjoy the waters safely they should avoid wearing anything shiny due to Blacktip's diet of small shiny fish. The Blacktip sharks often appear in shallow coastal waters that are

only 12 inches deep and swim constantly to prevent suffocation. These sharks are often the cause of shark bite, roughly 16% of the attacks occurring in Florida coming from Blacktips. The Spinner shark, just like the Blacktip, enjoys a habitat near the shore. Luckily, there have been no reports of accidents caused by Spinner sharks.

According to National

Geographic Channel, "For every human killed by a shark, humans kill approximately two million sharks," Even though sharks may be scary these sharks do not aim to hurt humans. These sharks aren't as deadly as others lurking in the waters. Although the Spinner and Blacktip sharks haven't reached the Gulf Coast yet, the early migration season poses the possibility.

Taking steps towards the tuture

Staff Reporter

Marchman Technical College offers unique courses not usually available at a traditional high school or college. The college offers courses on topics such as childcare, makeup and hair, culinary arts, and automotive mechanics. They also offer career dual enrollment classes to students that want to enroll.

Marchman offers a program called the Transition Education Program for students wanting to pursue part-time or full-time

paid employment only. Students have a chance to participate at a variety of locations as well as travel training. The main goal of this program "promotes students' successful transition toward independent post-school adult living", according to the Marchman website.

Goals of the Transition Education Program aim to increase students' level of independence, increase students' social and communication skills

improve self-determination skills. Students who take part in this program receive specific instruction in employment as well as future life skills

The curriculum of the Transition Education Program includes employability skills, accessing public transportation and even career exploration.

Some of the criteria needed to be eligible to take part in the Transition Education Program

include having good school attendance, having a social security card, being able to display the appropriate behavior, and the ability to comply to directions and

Students taking dual enrollment classes earn high school credits towards graduation in addition to earning college credit. The college GPA also becomes part of a student's permanent college transcript. A weighted overall high school GPA also comes in

Fiddler's Green

• March 16th: Irish music with higher

March 17th: Irish music with Cormac

7-10, Greg Billings band

p.m. (outside stage)

tides at 6 p.m.

that package. To become eligible for an application for Marchman, you must be a junior or a senior, have a 2.0 unweighted GPA, two letters of recommendation from counselors or teachers, and good attendance and discipline records. They also highly recommend that students take and pass the Florida State Assessments.

Marchman offers courses to students across Pasco county that help get them ready for their future life and career.

Don't forget to wear green

Emily Fowler

Staff Reporter

With St. Patrick's Day right around the corner, finding ways to spend this Irish holiday may seem difficult. Going out to eat with friends or family contributes to a fun night and an easy way to spend March 17th, Local restaurants celebrate this day in a variety of ways. Adding cultural foods to menus, playing Irish music, or playing Celtic games serve as an example. This holiday, known for the wearing of green and stories of leprechauns, really celebrates the culture of the Irish and the introduction of Christianity, Getting out of the house and going out to eat the night of St. Patrick's Day makes an eventful holiday, and this year since the date falls on a Thursday, the celebration continues throughout the weekend following.

Kavanagh, Blue Lightning band at Bearded Brothers at 7:30 p.m. (outside stage) • March 18th: Irish music Fitzgerald's

5811 Nebraska Ave, New Port Richey, Fl 34652

 March 17th: Tents, festivities. DI and more

Mulligan's Irish Pub

10550 Regents Park Dr, Tampa, Fl 33647

· March 17th: Irish buffet, live music, games

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Sports

Leading off to an impressive start

Lexi Clark

Staff Reporter

Holding a strong record this season with wins over Wesley Chapel, Crystal River, East Lake, Wiregrass, Sunlake, Clearwater, and Fivay, the Mitchell baseball team continues to work hard every day to maintain their record.

"We've put in a lot of hard work and time at practice to make sure that we can play to the best of our abilities, and outside of practice we all hangout, so we're close as a team and have good team chemistry," Kyle Blakeney ('16) said.

The players practice everyday after school until around six, and a strong coaching staff with captains leading the team help them play to the best of their abilities. This year's captains are Kyle Frick (*16), Kyle Blakeney, Ryan Slaughter (*16), and Kamren Powers (*16) are all seniors.

"It feels good to have my teammates and coaches trust with the the job of leading the team. It can be a tough job at times, but with the efforts of my fellow captains, we always seem to get things worked out," Frick said.

Along with the captains to lead the way for the team, players also put hard work in on their own, but ultimately the efforts of the team as a whole push them to victory.

"I practice every day outside and inside of school and on the weekends. It also helps having great leadership in our captains and our coaches, it's not just us," Ryan DelNegro ('17) said.

The team received their first loss in their game against Ridgewood, breaking their undefeated streak of 5-0, but continue to have high spirits and work towards a successful season for the team.

"[We plan on coming back from our game against Ridgewood by] having a short memory, putting that loss behind us and focusing on our upcoming games. We're also looking forward to later in the season when we play Ridgewood again," Powers said.

They bounced back their following game with a triumphant win over Clearwater, but lost later again in the season to Northeast, leaving them tied with Sunlake and Osceola for number two in the district.

Players on the team lead the district in various statistical categories. Tyler Edling (†17) and Frick are tied with two others for number one in home runs and Frick stands at number two in slugging percentage along with being number three for runs batted in (RBIs). He's also number five for runs, and number three for fielding percentage. Edling also holds the number five spot for RBIs. Blakeney ranks second



Kamren Powers ('16) leads off from first base against Fivay to help him on the

in runs and Ryan DelNegro stands at number three. The two are tied for number three in stolen bases. Jakob Mattos leads the district in wins and holds, the number five spot in on base percentage, and number two in batters struck out. Blake Parry ('17) is number one in earned run average. Kyle DeJesus ('17) currently leads in fielding percentage with a perfect average.

"It feels good to be part of a team that works so hard towards our goals and actually has the ability to make them happen, I think we're going to do really well and go far this season," Dalton Brooks ('17) said.

The baseball team's next games will be held at home against Hudson on March 15th and the next day away against Anclote, both games starting at seven.

*All stats are as of 3/8/16

Skating their way to Nationals

Katy White

Staff Reporter

At Amalie Arena on February 13th, an intense game between Mitchell and Manatee took place. The top two hockey teams in the Tampa Bay area played for the prestigious Lightning Cup.

prestigious Lightning Cup.
Last year Manatee beat Mitchell
and went on to play in the State
Finals. Playing them again this
year gave the boys an opportunity
to redeem themselves. Mitchell
won in a close game by only one
point. The final score was 4-3,
making Mitchell the Lightning
Cup Champions of 2016.

"It was a special moment and [I was] really honored to play and to win the Lightning Cup," Lucas Sowder ('17) said.

The weekend after winning the Lightning Cup, the team moved

on to play in the State Finals in Miami. Losing the first game to Manatee, they came back in their second game with an 8-1 win over the Bull Sharks. After their second win, the team advanced on to the State Championship. They met their rival Manatee once again this season. They scored twice in the first period, and continued to dominate the rest of the game. This effort gave goalie Jacob Serpe (*18) the shutout.

"It was really relieving [to win States], it felt great to accomplish what [we've been working for all season] and now we're moving on to Nationals," Zach Harrison ('18) said.

The main focus for this team now is Nationals, to continue working hard and to stick to what they do best. The team looks to get to Nationals a few days early to try and settle in, and to get some rest.

"We're going to take it like every other game and hope for the best," Zach Harrison ('18).

After losing to Manatee last year, which kept them from going to States, the team rebounded with a winning season. Now they get an opportunity to go to Nationals and show why they are the best in Florida.

Nationals takes place in Reston, Virginia, from March 17 - 21, 2016. For results, follow the Lightning League on Twitter @TBLHSHL.

Hockey Tournament Timeline

February 13th, 2016 - Defeated Manatee 4-3 for the Lightning Cup at Amalie Arena.

February 20th, 2016 - Lost to Manatee 7-4 in first round of SAHOF 2016 Tournament.

February 21st, 2016 - Defeated Bull Sharks 8-1 in second round of SAHOF 2016 Tournament. February 21st, 2016 - Defeated Manatee 5-0 in the final game of the SAHOF 2016 Tournament. March 17 - 21st, 2016 - Nationals in Reston, VA

Adapting to a brand new culture

Amanda Garcia

Staff Reporter

2016 college softball recruit Madison Staniloiu has been playing for thirteen years, pitching for most of these years, as well as a few appearances as an outfielder. Madison started her high school career off strong, making varsity as a freshman, as a starting pitcher. It's been a long treacherous road that took her all the way to Lake Sumter on a softball scholarship.

"School work has become more advanced in classes, but I'm more focused on school in college, I like it more because there is more independence and only having one or two classes a day is great," Staniloju said.

When making the transition from a high school into a college or university, the students schedule changes completely. Madison spends several hours working on homework and attending classes while getting her degree to be a nurse.

"I am currently taking five classes, math nutrition, English, public speaking, and psych. With this schedule, I spend about five hours a week studying,"

While juggling the academic side of school, college athletes must also make time for their commitment.

"The biggest change I've noticed so far is college ball is more demanding at school, and softball becomes your life. It consumes your life, but it's is worth every bit," Staniloiu said.

Making the transition into college, athletes realize living on their own was something they looked forward to, as it has helps them become more independent, which former graduate Nicole Milford ('15) loves, and says it's one of the best things about being away.

"My life is much different, I love being my own now, so I depend on myself to get up on time for class and I have to take care of myself. College is a lot different on the field, we practice a lot more and much harder and much longer. We work very hard and are held to a much higher standard. Me personally, I guess I've grown to be more independent since I've been here," Nicole Milford Garden City commit said.

Being a college athlete requires years of dedication and commitment. When one finally achieves the opportunity to play sports at the collegiate level, hard work does not stop there. It takes hard work and dedication to be successful.

Keep hitting your hearts out

Katy White

Staff Reporter

The varsity softball team has only lost two games this season so far, and they are undefeated in their district. The current trajectory of the team projects they will make it to Districts.

There are four captains on the entire varsity softball team, Kelsea Vanderveer ('16), Julia Jerard ('17), Amanda Garcia ('17), and Maddie Bell ('17). Vanderveer being the only senior captain, she is the main leader of the team. Vanderveer continues to impress with her play, having played since she was four softball is just second nature.

"We play 21 [during practice], if you hit a ball to third base you have to throw the ball clean, throw it to first base but say you miss the ball, you go back down to zero," Vanderveer said.

Having fun on the field and enjoying what you do, that's what Taylor Platr's (18) main thought is when entering a game. The pressure to be the best still creeps into the back of every athletes mind. That can be stressful, but Platt loves the competition and adrenaline that the game gives her.

"If there's a fast pitcher, I'm going to slow the ball down with my mind and then just hit the ball. If she applies the power, I'm just going to come back ten times harder," Platt said.

The team works together to create cohesion throughout the roster. Julia Jerard, one of the team captains, loves hanging out with her teammates and having the team get close to one another.

"[To prepare] we get a lot of reps in hitting and make sure we all have fundamentals down and all work together as a team,' Jerard said.

This year's team has many leaders to help the team move up



Hailey Profeta ('17) hits a ball against Wiregrass into center field for the girls' varsity

in the standings, and to keep them working hard. Their main focus is to stay connected and to feel comfortable with each other on the field and off the field. They are undefeated in the district, and keep working to create a championship team that wants to win.

What's with all the racket?

Alyssa Magilligan

Staff Reporter

As the tennis team progresses through the season, they utilize strategies and skills from last season to work on the new skills they need to improve this season. A new season brought big changes to the team's outlook in 2016.

"The tennis team this year is no longer a "no-cut" team, a lot of girls who tried out didn't make it because Coach Lynn wanted us to bring our A game this year and work on improving with only the top fifteen players," Kerstin Hamels (18) said.

Improving a certain skill among individual players helps the team as a whole.

"Every tennis player loves a good slice. I always like to improve on that hit, being that it's the most fun and consistent for me," Isabel Bradley ('18).

Since last season, the team improved their game in different ways. They focused on the matches and seeing what they may improve on.

"I can definitely improve on my serve. It has already improved since the beginning of the season. Also I could improve on my confidence going into each match," Hamels said.

They practice thoroughly throughout the week to get better at the game. Getting better proves itself as every girl's goal in tennis. Confidence also proves as a key to doing their best every match.

"Compared to last season, I would say the tennis team has

strengthened greatly due to the team efforts to become a strong support system for one another and by rooting each other on in matches," Bradley said.

Every team needs leadership, and it comes from five players on the team.

"These five players play singles every single match no matter if it's home or away and four of us play doubles." Hamels said.

The tennis team's goal is to be a force to be reckoned with this season, so far they proved that by doing their best in matches and improving on their game every week, but they always look to improve on their skills.

Varsity Girls' Tennis Schedule

2/9/16 @ Land O' Lakes Won 4-3 2/10/16 @ Ridgewood Won 7-0 2/11/16 VS Sunlake Won 5-2 2/16/16 VS Zephyrhills Won 4-2 2/18/16 @ Gulf High Won 7-0 2/19/16 VS Land O' Lakes Won 5-2 2/23/16 @ Wiregrass Loss 6-1 2/25/16 VS Wesley Chapel Won 5-2 3/1/16 VS Hudson Won 5-2 3/8/16 VS Anclote Won 6-1

A different mind-set and mentality

Sophie Sajecki

Staff Reporter

The track team lost an influential member of their team recently, Michael Holl ('07) lost his battle with brain cancer on February 17th, 2016. Michael's cancer was diagnosed officially in March 2011 as an inoperable Astrocytoma grade 3 that later transitioned to a Glioblastoma grade 4. Through all of this, Michael helped and inspired members of the team to do their best.

"Michael's dream job was to become a coach for track and cross country. Being back at JWMHS helped him achieve that big part of his life, by working with all the runners and giving him the best advice he could. Michael was everyone's boost and everyone's friend. He was adored and it was truly amazing to see how much of an impact my brother made on others lives, not just with people who did track but every individual he has met," Dayna Pasqua [Michael's sister] ('16) said.

Coaching staff and students participating as a part of the track team appreciated and respected Mike's contributions to the team.

"Michael was a superenthusiastic member of our track and Cross Country team who would do any event we asked him to do. He was very versatile, He was a good athlete, He was a great friend, helping anyone who he felt needed it. He was a great motivator for his team, He cared and tried his best," Coach Paramenter (FAC) said. Mike helped the team in multiple ways, as he added inspiration and motivation for the track team

"By being by the whole team's side, whether it'd be biking around the track along with them to give each runner a boost of confidence or even pulling them to the side to achieve that task, he somehow just magically spoke to runners in a way that helped them in every race. He was their cheerleader, their leader, their inspiration, their friend, and their coach in every way possible," Pasqua said.

The determination and perseverance Mike showed throughout his long battle with cancer reflected upon runners on track.

"Mike has taught me how to



Chase Kerr ('17) hands off the baton to Kym-Mani King ('19) in a track meet for the varsity guys' track team.

varsity guys' track team.

be strong and push through my
races strive to be one of the best
in the state. He showed me that
if he can fight through five years
of having brain cancer, I can fight
through a painful race," Austin
Koos ('16) said.

The legacy left by Mike is one to admire and appreciate, and will be recognized in a multitude of

"[On the track team] we have adopted a saying of 'Run for Mike.' Mike's family and girlfriend have collected money in order to purchase a school record board, plaque honoring Mike to be at the track, and to be able to provide scholarships/supplies that are needed for kids and the team. In addition, we included Mike in the Mitchell Invitational name for Cross Country and Track and Field," Coach Paramenter said.

To contribute to the memorial fund of Michael's legacy, donations can be made to www. gofundme.com/MichaelHoll.

Entertainment

Celeb power couples

Interviews by:
Raleigh Illig
Staff Reporter

Several students shared their opinion on their favorite celebrity couples and why they feel that way.



"They are not concerned of any negative feedback they get from anyone and I admire that. I see them not only as a celebrity couple, but a "normal" couple that can be respected despite rumors or obstacles."

Emily Lawrence ('19)



"They are both gorgeous people and they are goofy and seem like they are fun to be around. I think that they're better than other couples because it is obvious they are both sincere and have similar personalities."

Sarah Shannon (*18)



"Every time they're asked about each other in either interviews or just in general, they always describe each other in such beautiful and mesmerizing ways that truly represent true love."

Victoria Arvanitis (*18)



"I think that even though Miley went through a rough phase, Liam still loved and accepted her even after all that time I also love them because they met on set and then found love offscreen."

> Kelly Meehan ('17)



"They do everything together whether it ha to do with singing or going to a basketball game. I love the way Jay Z looks at Beyonce and how he can be with such a powerful women. He treats her how she deserves to be treated."

Sammi Leroy (*16)

Roses and reality shows

Sarah Nagy Entertainment Editor

ABC's hit reality TV show The Bachelor, is the trending topic of discussion each Monday night. On the first episode of the season, 25 women gather together in one house to compete to win over the love of the Bachelor, Ben. Viewers anticipate the show each week to get their dose of drama in the LA mansion.

Massion.

As usual, this season has taken many unexpected turns and bumps with controversial behavior, and outrageous amounts of drama, as one would expect.

Olivia, for example, was one of the more contentious women on the show.

"I love the show, but some of those women make me mad. They just stir up unnecessary trouble, especially Olivia. Even though it is very entertaining," Brandan Comito ('17) said.

After many viewers watched with angst as Olivia remained on the show week after week, she finally left during a dramatic, climactic show.

Ben, the bachelor, has the hearts of Americans all over the nation, who have fallen head over heels with his genuine, caring personality. Some have speculated Lauren is going to be the lucky woman due to their connection that stood out amongst the others. Viewers can only hope he chooses the right woman after weeks of tears, drama, and anticipation.



The Walking Dead anticipation

Raleigh Illig
Staff Reporter

AMC's hit TV series, The Walking Dead, returned on Sunday, February 14th. With the return of the series, multiple conspiracies developed about the characters, new and old, such as Sam Anderson, Morgan, Denise, Glenn, Maggie, Judith, Father Gabriel, Daryl, Rosita, and Negan.

Two of the biggest characters to watch out for this season are the Anderson boys, Sam and Ron. Sam made a situation for himself by causing the zombies to hear him at the mid season finale. This event caused Sam to get himself killed by a walker. His brother

Ron, hates Rick Grimes and his son Carl, and he blames them for his father's death. Rick has brought in many outsiders into Alexandria, creating suspicion about what theses peoples next move is.

"Definitely the guy that calls himself Jesus, I don't trust him, and I find him extremely sketchy," Breanna Hackney ('17) said.

This season has seen a lot of action lately with people dying all over the place with intense scenes involving characters that fans love. The most recent character to be injured is Carl Grimes.

"When Carl got his eye shot

out because that whole scene was just so fast. Three people died in like the fist minute of the season happening and then you just hear a gun shot go off and it was very emotional for me," Hackney said.

Negan, one of the villains in the series currently, has not been shown too much lately but will soon be a big part of the plot. According to Entertainment Weekly, "Negan is an Atomic bomb that's going to be dropped on the show, and the show will never be the same after that."

"Negan has been very suspicious and has it out for Rick and you can't really tell what he'll do next. I believe the level of morality demonstrated by the characters is extremely beautiful in the sense of character development due to the amount of evil situations they've all bear witness to. The group's ability to overcome their fear and somewhat of a repulsion towards each other and work together to defeat an innumerous amount of undead beings. The action in season six is more so drama based than the overall sense of action," Jake Hektoen ('18) said.

As far as relationship status, Michonne and Rick recently got together in one of the latest episodes, shocking viewers with the unexpected pairing.

"I really like them together, they had a great friendship and I think that they're going to make a really good relationship," Hackney said.

With more shocking and suspenseful moments to come, the season is still just getting starred. Characters that people have come to trust in the show are about to be tested, while the threats are at their strongest point. According to TV Guide, "The back half of the season will involve some crying and screaming at the TV set."

Plus size models not really plus size

Recently plus size model Ashley Graham graced the cover of Sports Illustrated, becoming the issue's first plus-size model featured in their annual swimsuit issue. Posing bikini clad on a beautiful beach, Graham stirred up the issue of whether or not being plus-size is truly attractive and healthy.

According to the University of Texas at Austin, the average size of the American woman is a size 14, making Graham a good candidate for the portrayal of the everyday woman. With the rise in popularity of plus size modeling, arguments over the beauty of such models increase in intensity. If Ashley Graham, who wears a 14-16, is considered undesirable due to her status as a plus-size model, that would mean that the average woman would also be considered unattractive for such a trivial thing as dress size. A number cannot define beauty.

In a society where a large number of teenagers experience low self-esteem it is important for people to encourage others to appreciate their bodies. According to dosomething.org, "Among high school students, 44% of girls

and 15% of guys are attempting to lose weight." Beauty is what a person makes it to be rather than a set of specific measurements.

The number on a clothing tag was not added to help deem someone's worth or level of beauty, it was added for convenience. Clothing size created a quick and efficient way that men and women could easily located the right fitting clothes.

The creation of the idea that woman may not be considered desirable unless she is a certain height, weight, or dress size, puts beauty in a box, but beauty can not be defined by several superficial numbers. These numbers look different on every woman, because every body is different. Women come in all shapes and sizes, ranging from body types that look more rectangular to ones that look like an hourglass.

The shape of one's body is dependent upon where they carry their body weight, some carrying more in the hips while others in their upper body. The placement of this weight largely determines the size of clothing that a woman needs to wear, but it does not



Morgin Tew Height: 5'11' Dress size: 2
Represents the size of the average normal runway model.

mean that they are unhealthy or unattractive.

Beauty is an opinion rather than a fact. To criticize someone based off of personal opinion is unfair



Morgan Reinhardt Height: 5'9' Dress size: **8**Represents the size of the average plus size runway model.

because numerous other people may disagree. As the English idiom states, "Don't judge a book

What one person may find



Jordana Vollen Height: 5'4' Dress size: 14
Represents the size of the average American woman

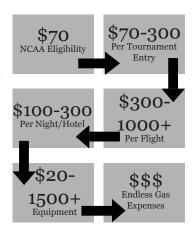
gorgeous, another may find subpar. It is unfair to use opinions to make a person feel badly about himself or herself.

Costs of college sports high, but worth it Lexi Clark Staff Reporter

The expenses of playing

a club sport as an aspiring collegiate athlete adds up endlessly with multiple costs including things such as equipment, camps, tournament entry fees, showcase fees, flights, hotels, and thousands of gallons of gas. In addition, costs include anything else required for the player to receive the exposure needed for the opportunity to be seen by college coaches.

Hopefully these expenses pay off with the offer of a scholarship to play their sport for a college or university. The costs can cause a huge strain on whoever is putting out the money and they may struggle along the way. But the money that can be saved from not paying for college, the friendships made, the skills learned or improved upon, the memories made along the way, and the joy the athlete gets from playing the sport they love, makes paying the large amounts of money worth it in



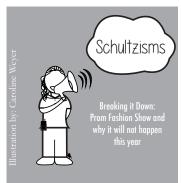






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Interview by: Bailey Sassatell

Q: What happened to this year's prom fashion show?

A: We decided not to have prom fashion show this year because of multiple reasons. The main reason was because a few students would take advantage of the freedom we gave them or try to be funny and ultimately ruined it for everyone.

Q: What other factors were taken into consideration when deciding not to hold the prom fashion show?

A: Prom fashion show took up a lot of school time. Even when we moved it to the night, the students participating in the show had to leave class or miss it completely too often. Not only that but some of the dresses we received from vendors were completely out of dress code, even for dances. Then, the vendors would go on to tell students that since it was in the show, they could buy it and wear it. The biggest thing to realize here is that this isn't one class that had the problems, it was a constant problem throughout every year.

Q: Do you think there is any way that the prom fashion show could continue in the future?

continue in the future?

A: I don't think it is impossible for it to be brought back up. I think it is more sad than anything else that we have to take things away because of the select few who decide that it would be better to do something against the rules or something that they know would be inappropriate. Once this student body becomes and acts more like a community as a whole rather than small groups of individuals, the rules will be followed more. A sense of community and teamwork could bring students to stop others from doing the right thing instead of allowing for the wrong thing to continue. Until this happens, we will have to continue to enforce the rules in place and hope that the majority of students oblige and that there won't be many problems.

Dear teachers everywhere,

Jaelyn Moser

Lifestyles Editor

Throughout the years you've had many students pass through your classrooms. Some have gone on to become famous movie stars, athletes or business moguls. They could not have done it without you. We'd like to apologize now.

Working with teenagers can be difficult. We don't always want to listen, and in this day and age our new technology became more attractive than sitting in a classroom doing work all day. We know how hard you work to make sure we get a good education and we just want to say thank you.

We're sorry we always have to use the bathroom when we're in class. Some of us have schedules so packed we never get the chance to talk to our friends besides in the halls or during passing, which prevents us from using the bathroom so during that time.

We're sorry that we don't always have our homework finished and ready to be turned in. Many of our nights are filled with sports, work or assignments from other classes. We try to complete as much as we can but we're exhausted after our long days and barely staying awake.

We're sorry that it seems like we take you for granted. It may seem like a lot of us do not care about learning. We're sorry for that. Many of us know that we would not have made it this far if the teachers we learned from did not care. We owe you a lot for our success and the people we've turned into.

You've dedicated your lives to helping us enrich ours and make sure that we'd know enough to survive in the world after school ends. We know you spend long hours with us five days a week and that the work doesn't stop when the bell rings. We're grateful for those hours you spend agonizing over our work. So thank you.

You've done so much to help us transform ourselves into adults and your contribution will stick with us for the rest of our lives. Thank you for caring even when you didn't have to. Sincerely

Students Everywhere

Hold on to your rights

Bailey Sassatelli

First Amendment rights are a key component of the everyday living of U.S. citizens. Those rights seem to follow citizens everywhere...except for school. Although it may seem this way, the fact of the matter remains that students are still allowed to express their First Amendment rights while in school.

In 1969, the case of Tinker v. Des Moines School District set up the idea of dress code policies. Dress code can be considered a form of free speech or religion based on the nature of the clothing. According to the Supreme Court database OYEZ.org, students in the Tinker case wore armbands to school to show support for a truce in the Vietnam War. However, school officials disagreed with the need for a truce and set a ban on wearing the armbands.

The Supreme Court ruled that it was a form of free speech and that school officials cannot censor free speech. Although this case gave way to the idea that students could still act as everyday citizens while in school, schools continue to show patterns of attempted censoring as well as discouraging students to speak out about the things they care about.

In 2013, the Salutatorian of Wharton High School in Tampa was interrupted during his speech because he went "off-script." The Salutatorian was required to have an approved speech and his first draft included a comment about the unsanitary men's restrooms and was denied. According to the Tampa Tribune, Hillsborough County Sherriff's officers escorted him out of the ceremony and his diploma was withheld for a few days. The graduate was meant to give a personal speech to his fellow classmates and it turned into a censored, school announcement that did not allow for the speaker's true message

With respect to the 1969 case, the Supreme Court said, "Students do not lose their constitutional rights at the schoolhouse door." If this is written in the law, then why do school officials put forth an abundance of effort to discourage student use of First Amendment rights? Under the law, students are allowed to assemble, speak, petition, show religious preferences, and have the right to press, even in school as long as it does not disrupt the school day or the rights of others.

Although students' Constitutional rights remain a part of their academic lives, there is a constant show of misinterpretation by school officials on this issue. Whether the censorship occurs intentionally should not be a factor in determining a problem. If students experience circumstances in which their rights are questioned, the law needs to be upheld regardless of what school officials and rules say.

Stick to the movie ratings

Opinions Edito

Teens and parents constantly argue over the idea of movie ratings. While teens believe that if the movie theme is aimed at their interests, they should see it, parents tend to stick to what the movie rating says, and for good reason.

Movie ratings are in place to show appropriateness and the age level that is suitable to the movie in question. Each rating is set based on specific criteria including language, violence, nudity, drug use, and sexuality. These things are the main concerns of the critics when rating movies. The focus is mainly on the targeted age level.

Although teens feel the need to show independence by gaining interest in more mature activities, paying attention the movie rating is important. Teens should listen to the rating and stick to their age-appropriate movies.

G

No strong language Minimal violence No nudity, sex, or drug scenes PG

Some profanity Some violence or brief nudity No drug scenes

PG-13

Some strong language No more than one sexually explicit word Some non-sexually oriented nudity R

Adult themes and activities Strong language Intense or persistent violence Sexually-oriented nudity Drug abuse and other scenes

Source: http://filmratings.com/downloads/rating_rules.pdf

The thrillogy continues

Amanda Garcia

Staff Reporter

Since the first movie, the Divergent trilogy has become the series to watch. The first film came out in 2014, starring Theo James as Four, and Shailene Woodley as Tris.

"I feel really excited about it coming out because it's my favorite movie and I expect it to be really intense and full of suspense," Alexandra Moreno (*17) said.

Being Divergent simply means that you contain all the characteristics from each faction: Abnegation (selfless), Dauntless (brave), Erudite (intelligent), Amity (peaceful), and Candor (honest). In this movie, Tris has to decipher which faction to choose due to her being Divergent. Divergents are strictly prohibited from society due to fear of them. Tris chooses Dauntless as her

faction, but didn't see the intense military training that comes along with it. Through her journey, Tris trues to hide who she really is, and with the help of Four she is able to do so.

Unfortunately along the way Tris loses ones loved in her life, but successfully escapes the government people trying to kill her.

With that being said, the second

movie picks up there, Insurgent, the second movie of the Trilogy came out in 2015. The movie pitted Tris and Four against society as a whole.

The government wanted all Divergents found and tested to open a box with a message from the creators of factions, that was found in the previous movie. Government leader Jeanine Matthew stops at nothing to find

the Divergent who can open the box, even if it means death.

The first installment of the conclusion to the trilogy premiers March 18, 2016. Part 2 will come out June 9, 2017. The final movie buzz has fans wondering what will happen to Tris and Four. Trailers show that the couple go beyond the walls to explore the outside world, but will this cause more harm than good?

Festivities in the Renaissance

Allison Kaelin

For the past 38 years the Bay Area Renaissance festival has been a fun place for families and friends to explore a wide variety of activities. From now until March 20, 2016 you can step back in time at MOSI and enjoy the many different activities the Renaissance Festival has to offer. Admission is S20 for an adult and S12 for a child ages 5-12, and is open from 10am 6pm every day rain or shine. What is expected to see at the renaissance festival?

Human Combat Chess- An individual team sport with its roots in medieval times.



Acrobellum- A comedy show with acrobats performing

Scotch Eggs- hard- boiled egg wrapped in sausage meat, coated in bread crumbs and baked or deep-fried

Full Contact Armored Jousting- Medieval kniglengage in a sports contest in which two opponents on horseback fight with lances (spear).



Apple Dumplings- A pastry filled with apple, cinnamon and occasionally raisins.

Highland Games-Traditional Scottish games, including Stone Put where men compete in throwing a 16 pound stone as far as they can and Caber toss where competitor runs forward attempting to toss the wood in a way that it turns end over end with the upper end striking the ground first



Mitchell's March madness schedule

Monday, March 14th

Pep Rally Schedule

Dress up: Color Day-Each class will pick a color to dress in for pep rally

Colors: TBA

Games/Activities during lunches, Bean Bag Toss, Pep Rally Tuesday, March 15th

Regular Schedule

Dress up: Hawaiian Day (No Coconut Bras, follow dress code)

Games/Activities during lunches 6th period event with ticket: Lip Sync

(\$2)

Wednesday, March 16th

Activity Schedule

Dress up: Mathletes vs Athletes Games/Activities during lunches

Activity: The Talent Show Activity (\$2)

Thursday, March 17th

Regular Schedule

Dress up: College Day (and something green if you wish for St. Patty's Day)

PERT Test

Games/Activities during lunches

Friday, March 18th

Regular Schedule Dress up: Tie Dye Day Games/Activities during lunches



USF

Emily Fowler
Staff Reporter

College parties, football games, the move from home, and learning independence all relate to the idea of a four-year college or university. People gain responsibilities and learn how to handle tasks individually from this experience. Cooking, cleaning, and making time for studying serve as examples. With attending a university, getting involved and making friends on

Unlike four-year schools, community colleges contain cons such as a limited curriculum, lack of campus life and uninvolved students. Sarah Langston, a 2015 graduate, believes even though community colleges include a cheaper tuition, they lack the same caliber

of professors as four-year universities. Jake Fowler, another 2015 graduate, shares a similar opinion of four year schools including better opportunities, better college experience, the connections available for jobs, and the better education that comes along with it. Attending four-year colleges also benefits students as universities look good on resumes for jobs later in life.

"Going to a four-year college opens the doors to all of the connections that your professors have and gives you a longer time period to take advantage of these privileges," Langston said

Fun memories created at four-year colleges make enjoyable stories to look back to and share.

"Kids who go to a community college miss out on fun stuff such as college football game days and the night life by a university, as well as professional opportunities like being able to network and do research with professors," Elliot Evangelista (2015 graduate) grid

The variety of universities also makes it easy to choose one that personally fits in the areas of comfort and a desired career field.

"I recommend that current juniors and seniors try to be well rounded individuals to make it easier to get into a university. Also, make sure to pick a university that is right for you. I can honestly say I have no regrets about deciding to study at UF,"

Evangelista said.
Universities not only
provide more opportunities,
but also better preparation
for life after college.

"If you want to get away from the kids you see everyday in high school and learn more about the rest of the country, a four-year school is the way to go. You are surrounded by all different kinds of people and are able to learn so much more about different experiences," Langston said.

The fun memories and experiences, the gaining of independence and responsibilities, and the better opportunities for the future all comes along with a four-year school or university.

University vs. State College



Jessica Mason

The benefits of starting at a community college, prior to transferring to a university majorly outweigh going straight into a fouryear university.

According to a study conducted by the American Association of Community Colleges, four-year schools cost nearly three times more than community colleges. By beginning at a community college, and transferring to a university later on, students will save an abundance of money.

In the process of being at the community college, they will also have time to work and save up for the expenses

PHSC

that come with the transfer.
In addition to saving

In addition to saving money, the time taken in the community college allows students to take a step forward in developing a solid idea for what they want to major in. Starting at a community college gives students the opportunity to excel in smaller classrooms before being thrown into a large classroom that will often come with the four-year university experience.

Mitchell Alumna Kerri Leonard ('15) chose to attend Pasco Hernando State College in the fall of 2015.

"I decided to go to PHSC because I wanted to keep my

assistant manager position, and for me, it was more convenient to stay around home and take classes," Leonard said.

Mitchell Alumna Makenzi Capelo-Fine also chose to attend PHSC in the fall of 2015.

"I think my plan to go to PHSC will help me in the long run. I've been saving money to be financiallyable to attend a 4-year University," Capelo-Fine

Overall, through research and clearly-given reason, starting at a community college and transferring to a university is all around the better choice for students.