

HOOF BEAT

J.W. Mitchell High School's Student Newspaper
Volume 15 Issue 2

A black and white photograph of three young women standing behind a large American flag. The woman on the left is wearing a polo shirt with a logo that says 'J.W. MITCHELL HIGH SCHOOL'. The woman in the middle is wearing glasses and a button-down shirt. The woman on the right is wearing a polo shirt and is smiling. The American flag is draped across the bottom of the image.

Let's Talk Politics

The Young Democrat and
Young Republican Clubs offer
students a chance to voice
their political opinions
(Page 3)

The Mustang News in the afternoon

New changes in the bell schedule affect when the news is played in classes.

Savannah D'Avila
Reporter

Walking into the newsroom on any given day, the news crew can be found collaborating like a big family that has been together for numerous years. The energy they create buzzes around room 740, as camera operators, directors, anchors, writers, and reporters prepare for the day's broadcast.

"Being behind the scenes is a lot fun, because you get to know what is going on before the final product is put together. My favorite part of running the camera and being the director is messing around with the countdown and getting everyone

involved," Kamdyn Mohr ('18) said.

Starting this school year, class times changed, eliminating the 10 extra minutes in first period to show the news. Instead, our administration decided to air the news during the last five minutes of 7th period. In place of the news crew filming live every morning, they switched to

pre-filming during first period.

The news crew also uploads the morning news onto their YouTube channel, My Mustang News and streams news segments onto the Mustang News website, www.mymustangnews.com.

By putting a main focus into campus news this year, the morning news created

new segments that include an advice column and a pop culture segment. The news crew plans to bring back a political corner as well.

"This year we have a lot of different segments like, 'Ask Emily' which is an advice column which normally newspapers do but I thought it would be good to have a video column too. What we also brought back is political corner, which isn't really new but we have two anchors this year," Justin Seecharan ('18) said.

The shorter format forced

some changes to the news show's lineup. Thomas Peyton ('17), who used to produce the weather report, now hosts his own game show which aired for the first time in November. New changes such as these improve and increase student interaction through the show.

Make sure to subscribe to the Mustang News YouTube channel, MyMustangNews; and watch from their website at, www.mymustangnews.com.

"My favorite part of running the camera is getting everyone involved"

First Powderbowl in Pasco history

Powderpuff championships between the boys' and girls' winners across the west side of high schools in Pasco County.

Sam Burchick
Reporter

Throughout the years, high schools have held a powderpuff game during their homecoming week for school spirit. Now, schools across the district look for a way to continue the games by having a Powderpuff Bowl. This would include the winning girls' football team and boys' cheerleading team from the west side schools of Pasco County. Ridgewood, Gulf, River Ridge, Hudson, Mitchell, and

Sunlake going into a head-to-head competition to see which school has the best team; the winning team receives t-shirts, a trophy, and bragging rights. From Mitchell, both cheerleading and football seniors won and get to compete at this event. The Powderpuff Bowl will be held on December 1, 2016.

Ms. Tracy Illig (FAC) has been preparing for this for many years. For this game Ms. Illig hired paid

officials, security, and linesmen. With officials not being affiliated with any school in particular, the schools that lose cannot argue favoritism. By hiring unaffiliated officials this also makes the game legitimate. If all goes well at the game, Ms. Illig intends for this become a tradition for years to come.

Since flag football is a sanctioned sport the rules do not allow for there to be any more

games that are not a part of flag football's normal schedule. FHSAA has allowed Ms. Illig to change the game to two-hand touch instead of flag football. All who end up participating in this event must fill out specific paperwork so the school does not get fined. To make sure we are within regulations of the FHSAA, all schools will need all their powder puff players complete their paperwork, have

a recent physical, and complete the online free concussion course.

The proceeds from this game go to the Travel Club at Mitchell, a club for students traveling and experiencing global classrooms. The information for the Powderpuff Bowl will be broadcast throughout social media.

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 construed as the opinion or policy of the school administration, unless attributed.

The 2016-17

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STAFFERS

of the
ISSUE



Josh Wagner
c/o 2020

This staffer has shown dramatic improvement in writing skills since joining staff.

Check out his work in this issue: 'Bill Nye' on page 16 and 'Melting Pot' in center spread.



Morgan Fliss
c/o 2020

This staffer goes above and beyond in finishing stories and getting content.

Find her stories 'Interact to help give thanks' on page 3 and 'A taste of fall' on page 4.

Red or Blue: Which one are you?

The Young Democrat and Young Republican clubs on campus form before the presidential election.

Max Trettin
Reporter

During the 2015-16 school year, Isabel Bradley ('18) noticed the absence of political influence around the campus. She brought it upon herself to create the Young Democrats Club.

"A friend and I were walking around campus, and people weren't educated on the platforms of political issues. They knew who they liked, Hillary Clinton or Donald Trump, but they didn't really know why. When we tried to talk about it, they couldn't explain it. We started the club because we wanted to bring more political education to the campus," Bradley said.

Grace Phillips ('18) and Paulina Keim ('18) got together and also realized the lack of political

clubs in the school.

"It got started when Grace and I were taking the world history exam and we were thinking that it would be really cool for a Republicans club on campus, so we filled out the paperwork and asked Ms. Hampton if she wanted to be the sponsor," Keim said.

The students recruited advisers Ms. Heather Daniel (Young Democrats), and Ms. LuAnne Hampton (Young Republicans). Friends, yet political rivals, the advisers sought to aid Bradley and Phillips in the creation of the clubs.

"[Ms. Daniel] wanted to help better the education in politics for other students. Within the club we're going to talk about

political topics, we're going to talk about both sides; just kind of get into discussion of what we think about both sides, how to stay open-minded, and just learn more about each party," Bradley said.

As presidents of their clubs, Bradley, Phillips and Keim endeavor daily to spread political beliefs throughout the campus. When the presidential election is complete by mid-November, both the Young Republicans and Democrats planned to continue meeting.

"We're going to get more involved in the community. One of our big focuses are the veterans in our area, and we also want to get involved in the Pasco Republicans, like the older

Republicans, and try to help them do their thing. We'll get involved with local politics, and just kind of serve our community in any way we can," Phillips said.

Both the Young Democrats and Young Republicans share similar goals, to expand knowledge of politics throughout the campus.

"We're still going to be talking about popular topics within politics. Whichever president gets in, we'll talk about it. We're going to have education discussions and learn more about who our president is and what the platform is, and how we can make our future better," Bradley said.

To participate in the initiatives presented by the

Young Republicans and Young Democrats, students can talk to the advisers. The Young Republicans meet the first and third Wednesday of each month in room 705, and the Young Democrats meet the second and fourth Friday of each month in room 811.

In addition to this, they have debate parties and discussions where they watch the debate and discuss it amongst themselves. The approximate thirty-five students that participate in both of these clubs strongly encourage students to get more involved in local politics, and their community in its entirety.

Remembering Mr. William Hull

Raleigh Illig
Editor

For three years, ESE Transition Assistant, Mr. William (Bill) Hull (FAC) worked at Mitchell within the Exceptional Student Education department. Mr. Hull passed away on September 19, 2016. Mr. Hull

made an impact on those he worked around. Even those who didn't know him might remember his sports car.

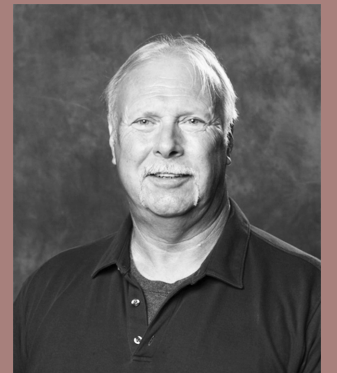
"He had a black sports car with yellow stripes that he always drove. He had it parked in the Orange parking lot and we would talk about his car a lot," Mr. Mark Feldman Jr. (FAC) said.

Mr. Hull's students were very special to him, and he always made sure that he showed how he cared about them by bringing in candies for them after they finished their work.

"He had nicknames for the students, one he called a candy thief because she used to sneak candy from him. He was a really caring man and

he liked to do things with the kids in order to make them feel good, he just had a heart for the kids and we miss him," Ms. Karen Courtney (FAC) said.

Mr. Hull cared for his coworkers and students, and in his few years he built strong, lasting relationships that will not be forgotten.



Interact to help give thanks

Donations for helping families in need are made with help from Interact.

Morgan Fliss
Reporter

The holidays begin with the gobble-gobble of a turkey and the jingling of sleigh bells. With the holidays comes traditional food and gifts from loved ones. Unfortunately, not everyone possesses the ability to provide these things to their families. The Interact Club sponsors a food drive to feed families for Thanksgiving and a Christmas fund-raiser, Toys for Tots, to give presents to less fortunate children.

"The Interact food drive is where all of our club members distribute boxes into each teacher's classroom. Every teacher is going to collect as much food as they can from the students. We work Toys for Tots

by trying to get money from every person. Then we go to Target and buy toys for families that need it," McKenna Chefero ('17) said.

Donation fund-raisers sponsored by the Interact Club encourage and inspire the members to become involved in the school and help out in the community.

"I have been volunteering at programs like these ever since middle school, and being able to see the faces of people and children who we help is amazing and such a relieving feeling," Bailey Bodden ('17) said.

Volunteering and participating in these events impact the surrounding areas in a positive

way.

"When I was younger, I was adopted and my sister and I received so much help from the community. So, I think it is really important to make sure that people who need help are getting it because when I needed help, I got it and it shaped me into the person that I am today," Kelvine Moyers ('17) said.

Students not in the Interact Club can still help out by bringing in cans to all of their classrooms in order to support the food drive.

"We need the students to donate as much as they can and to have unity and community throughout the school," Bodden



Boxes located in different classrooms around campus collect donations.
Photo by Morgan Fliss

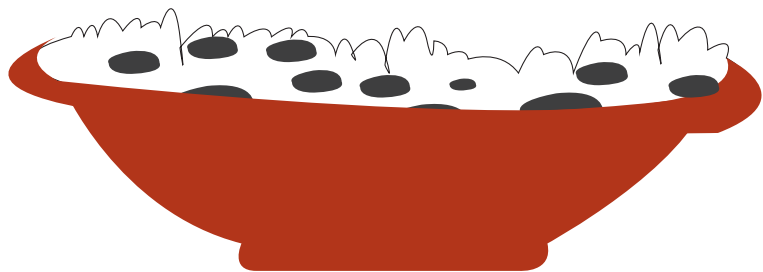
said.

The holidays bring a time of joy and togetherness for families throughout the community. Sadly, not every family can enjoy these emotions that come with

the holidays. With the Interact Club and help from all students, it is possible for all students and families to appreciate the community's generosity throughout the holidays.

A taste of fall

Unique foods students eat during the holidays as family tradition.



"When we go up to New Jersey for Thanksgiving, my grandma makes us Turkey like everyone else, but since we are Spanish, we eat it with black beans and rice. We also eat more meat, like pork. There is a Spanish dish that we eat that is basically fried pork mixed in with onions," Demi Asensio ('18) said.



"My mom makes pumpkin Swiss rolls every Thanksgiving. It is a thin pumpkin cake that's rolled around in a white cream filling. It is really fun to eat them every year," Allyson Cole ('19) said.



"For the holidays, my family friends and I make a Greek Spinach Pie. We put spinach, feta cheese, phyllo [a kind of bread] all together and place it in the oven. When it comes out of the oven, we put some more cheese on it and [its ready to eat]," Victoria Arvanitis ('18) said.



"Every time I visit my family in New York, my grandma makes a [Polish] food called Goulash. Goulash is a kind of pasta with tomatoes, noodles, sausage [and spices] and it is very sweet," Brianna Felicetta ('20) said.

Offer a helping hand this holiday

Opportunities for students to volunteer over the holidays.

Bailey Illig
Reporter

The community offers many opportunities for students to earn volunteer hours over the holidays. There are winter and fall festivals, charity events and community service events for students.

The Tampa Bay Basket Brigade is one chance for students to volunteer and the district offers this to all high schools. Angel Cook, a mom of a student, provides volunteering events for students.

"Volunteers put together baskets with non-perishables and paper products along with a ten dollar gift card for families to buy a turkey. Volunteers are needed to deliver these baskets to families in the Pasco and Hillsborough area," Angel Cook said.

Metropolitan Ministries provides many other opportunities for students to volunteer over the holidays, by offering clothing, buying toys,

wrapping gifts and providing daycare. Clubs or individuals seeking volunteer hours can fill out paperwork to participate in this opportunity.

"Holidays are the most needed times for volunteers, due to supplying Thanksgiving Feasts and Christmas shopping. Each of these holidays has many offerings to help the public," Ms. Dixon (FAC) said.

A local, Dr. Unger organizes a winter festival to benefit the

Trinity Rotary and Scholarships at Seven Springs Middle School. This event provides activities for families including a snow slide, bounce houses and pictures with Santa.

"We need as many people as possible to volunteer [for this event] from 8:00am to 2:00pm on December 3," Vanessa Unger ('20) said.

Students interested in volunteering must first fill out an application, get approved and

receive an email or confirmation back that everything is cleared. Get information on these holiday volunteer opportunities in the front office, the offices of Ms. Dixon in room 815 or Ms. Chamberlin in room 617, and online at metromin.org. Students under the age of 18 must have a parent sign the application.

It's all about the money, money, money

Students with jobs tell their experiences in the workplace.

Alyssa Magilligan
Reporter

Across campus, students found different jobs to help occupy their time and to make money when school is not in session. With a large variety of jobs throughout the area, students apply for different types of employment.

"I work at Chick Fil A. I wanted to start a job there because it was a really great atmosphere every time I was there, and plus all my friends worked there. I am an upfront person where I do cash register, or do headset

which deals with the intercom outside, and I do drinks," Julianna Jung ('18) said.

The new shopping plaza that opened up near Trinity Lakes called for new opportunities for students to apply at different locations.

"I work at Moe's and I usually work the register, which involves ringing up customers and adjusting the tips that we receive and putting them into the system," Hannah Bruegger ('18) said.

Other students decided against going into the restaurant business and went to apply at other places such as Publix.

"I am a cashier at Publix. I've been with the company for about two years now. As a cashier I run the cash register, tendering orders and helping our customers in any way possible to make their shopping experience a pleasure," Jillian Peters ('18) said.

Publix is among one of the top places for students to apply. With

approximately 1,129 locations across the country, students and teenagers make up a vast amount of those employed.

"The best part about working at Publix would definitely be the people I work with. I have made some really good friends over the years and they really make working there enjoyable. Our managers also contribute to a good working environment, they really make you feel like your voice in the company matters because it does. That

is not something you can find everywhere," Peters said.

With the variety of job opportunities in this area, students make the most of them and apply for jobs to take up spare time and to earn money for different things.

Peace, love, plants

The difference between vegans and vegetarians.

VEGAN

A vegan is...

a person who does not eat or use animal products.

Vegans eat...

- Pancakes
- Oatmeal
- Fruit smoothies
- Nondairy milk
- Veggie burgers
- Pasta
- Tofu lasagna
- Peanut butter and jelly
- Nondairy ice cream
- Trail mix

"I've been vegan for 10 months but I can't break it because [after your body gets immune to not eating meat] it doesn't have the right acids to break down meat anymore," Marylyn Patankar ('18) said.

About 1 million people follow a vegan diet

VEGETARIAN

A vegetarian is...

a person who does not eat meat, and sometimes other animal products especially for moral, religious, or health reasons.

Vegetarians eat...

- Donuts
- Cinnamon buns
- Muffins
- Grits
- Grilled vegetables
- Pasta
- Potato soup
- Tomato soup
- Brownies
- Candy bars

"I chose this lifestyle because I felt like the way that America treats animals is so harmful and that they do not deserve the harm and cruelty we use on them for food," Abby Henderson ('18) said.

About 7.3 million people follow a vegetarian diet

It's a small world after all

Students offer their opinions on language classes.

Kristine Jautze
Reporter

Foreign language classes, both in class and online, capture students' attention. These classes provide a taste into another language and culture. It is required for each student to take two classes of the same language. Some students believe there is a beneficial factor of learning a new language.

"If you end up traveling the world like most people want to do, it is nice to learn another

language so you can use it when you travel," Chris Pezza ('17) said.

Although some students believe that language classes are beneficial, learning a foreign language in high school can be difficult to adopt and understand completely.

"It is difficult because of the vast amount of stuff you have to learn. It's a whole new language. It's a lot of material that you have

to cover throughout the years," Solomon Keim ('19) said.

Recently, as of this school year, French was cut from the school's classroom setting due to the teacher retiring. However, students that were currently taking this class had the option to continue learning in an online class.

"I think that French being cut was abrupt and ridiculous. I think we should have gotten a

better warning because taking a language online is very difficult to adjust to," Kaitlyn Killeen ('19) said.

Spanish is the only foreign language class offered at school in a classroom. Some students want more foreign language classes in the classroom instead of online.

"I think we should have more. Spanish is kind of just a general language offered everywhere. I'd

like to explore my options and maybe take French or Chinese or something of that nature," Pezza said.

Taking a language provides students with a challenge and an interesting class to become involved in. It can be difficult at first, but the hard work seems to pay off.

Do you believe in magic?

Information and student opinion on three supernatural beliefs.

Alyssa Magilligan
Reporter



A mermaid is a half human/half sea creature; the waist up being human and the waist down being the tail of a fish.

Originating in Greece around about 1000 BC, mermaids became one of the most popular mythical creatures of the ocean. According to thefw.com, their supernatural abilities include foretelling disasters, causing shipwrecks, and creating terrible storms.

"Mermaids have been a mystical thing that have been a mystery for centuries. There is no living proof to them but there have been some videos and bones of them found. Mermaids are more of a conspiracy theory than anything else," Emily Reed ('18) said.



An alien is a being belonging to another planet. Their name comes from their unique skin color.

These as-yet-hypothetical life forms may range from simple bacteria-like organisms to beings with civilizations far more advanced than humanity. "I think overall it's just fun to believe in aliens and to see some conspiracy theories about them," Anonymous ('20) said.



Bigfoot is a large and hairy creature that resembles an ape. Bigfoot is among the rarest of mythological creatures, and conspiracy theorists believe it's rarity comes from English settlers killing most of them off a long time ago. Bigfoot lives mainly in remote areas, but can be found anywhere. A majority of sightings take place in the Northeastern part of the United States, according to Exemple.com.

"I think Bigfoot is real based on what I've seen on TV. The evidence they provide is pretty interesting and I like researching some things on my own," Anonymous ('18) said.

Dynamic dual

Students participating in Dual Enrollment Courses.

Raleigh Illig
Reporter

Dual Enrollment classes are offered on and off campus for all students. By junior year, most students have enrolled in some sort of dual enrollment class, whether it's online, at PHSC, or on campus. Students taking dual enrollment must first have had to pass all three sections of the PERT test, and have a 3.0 GPA or higher in order to enroll.

"I love taking DE off campus because I get ahead in my

college education while also getting high school credits done. It's amazing because it's a lot less stressful if you're usually on top of things because it's less time in class if you're pretty good with the homework," Melody Marone ('18) said.

The dual enrollment courses are designed to help high achieving students excel in their academics. By taking these courses, the students get next

level education compared to where the average person in their grade should be.

"I wanted to get ahead of the game and get some college experience under my belt before I graduated. Knowing that I'm prepared for rigorous classes after high school reassures me that I'll know what to expect. I'm only taking one class each semester at PHSC. My class starts at 2pm and I usually get out at

3pm," Noah Sullins ('17) said.

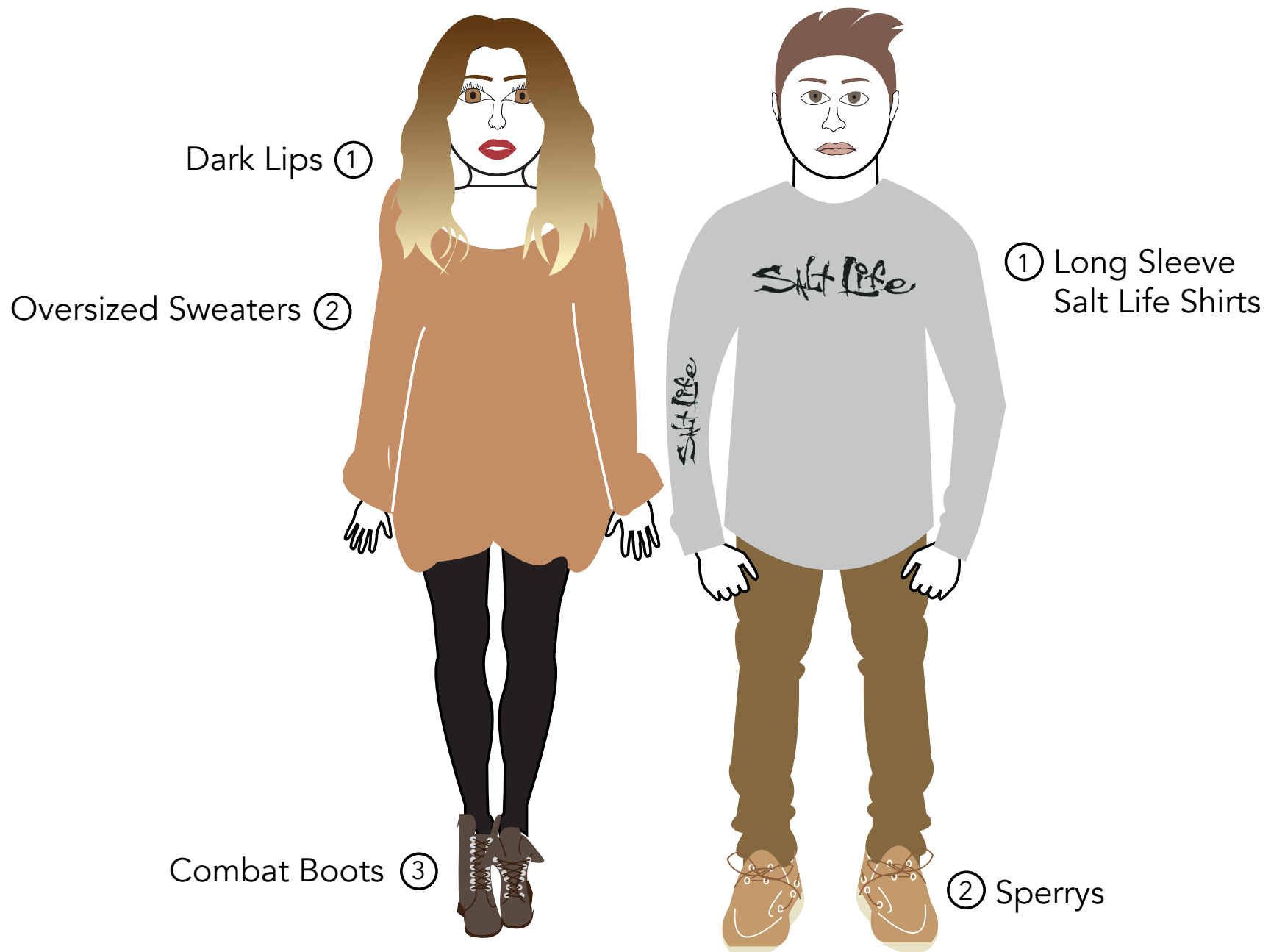
While taking dual enrollment off campus helps students excel in academics, it also helps them get through long days with the break between school and going to the college.

"My classes are scheduled after school, I go home early a lot now and nap, and I don't go do my class right after, and it's just a lot easier for me. Off campus is definitely different. I don't know














if I'd go full off campus because I still like to see my friends but it's definitely an option I would take," Gavin Gruwell ('17) said.

Off campus dual enrollment classes benefit students greatly. They help them accomplish more at a lower level in school, and make them become more independent.

Trends we're falling for



Splurge or steal

<p>\$38.00</p> <p>Becca Shimmering Skin Perfector in Champagne Pop</p> 	<p>VS.</p>	<p>\$4.78</p> <p>Wet n Wild's Shimmer Palette in Hollywood Boulevard</p> 	<p>\$20.00</p> <p>Beautyblender</p> 	<p>VS.</p>	<p>\$5.00</p> <p>Real Techniques Miracle Complexion Sponge</p> 	<p>\$54.00</p> <p>Urban Decay Naked Palette</p> 	<p>VS.</p>	<p>\$4.92</p> <p>NYC Lovatics by Demi Eyeshadow Palette in Natural</p> 			
	<p>VS.</p>			<p>VS.</p>			<p>VS.</p>			<p>VS.</p>	
<p>Kat Von D Liquid Lipstick in Lolita</p> <p>\$20.00</p>		<p>NYX Matte Lip Creme in Cannes</p> <p>\$6.00</p>	<p>Urban Decay All Nighter Setting Spray</p> <p>\$30.00</p>		<p>L'Oreal Infallible Setting Spray</p> <p>\$12.99</p>	<p>Kylie Cosmetics Liquid Lipstick in True Brown K</p> <p>\$17.00</p>		<p>ColourPop Ultra Matte Lip Color in Limbo</p> <p>\$6.00</p>	<p>Anastasia Beverly Hill Brow Wiz</p> <p>\$21.00</p>		<p>NYX Microbrow Pencil</p> <p>\$9.99</p>

Let's get POLITICAL

Students share
their involvement
with political
campaigns

Max Trettin
Reporter

"I participated in the Marco Rubio for President campaign by going down to his headquarters in Brandon, and making some phone calls."

Benjamin Hook ('17)

"I participated in the Hillary Clinton campaign. My half-sister works in the vetting committee and wanted me to get experience so she sent me up to New York."

Nicholas Fernandez ('17)

During a Presidential election between the least popular candidates in United States history, two students grasped knowledge of the process by participating in presidential campaigns over the past summer.

Nicholas Fernandez ('20), an officer in the Young Democrats Club, helped campaign for the Democratic Presidential nominee, Hillary Clinton, in New York. In addition, Benjamin Hook ('17), an officer in the Young Republicans Club, engaged in the campaign

of former Republican Presidential Candidate, Marco Rubio.

"I got involved in Hillary Clinton's campaign when my half-sister, who works in the vetting committee, wanted me to get some experience in the political field," Fernandez said.

Both Hook and Fernandez spent their time while participating in the campaigns performing small jobs to help encourage registered Republicans and Democrats to vote for Marco Rubio or Hillary

Clinton, respectively.

"I made calls to a list of people who are registered Republicans and I had to call them and ask them who they are going to vote for, and try to get them to vote for Marco Rubio," Hook said.

Although the participation in campaigns requires hours of work, the opportunity to gain experience is strong. Fernandez and Hook both gained personal fulfillment when participating in Presidential campaigns over the past summer.



Kari Wagner (left), Lily Mattingly (center), and Jim Clark (right) at the Boys and Girls Club of America Celebration Dinner. Photo provided by: Lily Mattingly

Inspired by a nation's youth

Lily Mattingly visits Washington, D.C. for the Boys and Girls Club of America

Sophie Sajecki
Editor

her overall experience.

"It was such a good experience to see how kids around the country that are homeless, or maybe don't live in a great neighborhood can go through school and still maintain a 4.6 GPA and are also the first in their families to go to college, thanks to the Boys and Girls Clubs helping them to do their best," Mattingly said.

While only exclusive guests are typically allowed into the event, Mattingly had a special connection

allowing her access to the gala.

"I was able to go to the event because my uncle, Todd Wagner, has a foundation called the Todd Wagner Foundation where he donates thousands of dollars to contribute to the kids who benefit from the Boys and Girls Clubs scholarships each year,"

Mattingly said.

No matter what motivates us to push past tough challenges, the recognition she gained from doing so gives a stronger connection to the hard work accomplished.

"The most important

thing that I took from the event was how eye-opening and humbling it was to see how these children can do so well throughout their lives; even though they are homeless, or have very rough home lives. The fact that they have the Boys and Girls Club to help them through is amazing, and seeing them do so well makes me want to try even harder to get better grades in school," Mattingly said.

In everyday life, we see the challenges that others may face and we realize how lucky we are. Even those going through the toughest situations make time to strive for greatness in everything they do with help from individuals and groups, such as the Boys and Girls Clubs of America.

Students who do well in school sometimes grow up in difficult circumstances, but these challenges only set boundaries necessary to persevere through. Large foundations such as the Boys and Girls Clubs of America inspire youths in becoming the best people possible. A yearly event titled Youth of the Year and held in Washington D.C. represents and celebrates

teens who have accomplished many feats on their journeys to high school. At this year's National Youth of the Year Gala & Celebration Dinner for the National Military Youth of the year, the 2016-17 National Military Youth of the Year was awarded to Arianna S. of Fort Dix, New Jersey.

Lily Mattingly ('20) gained the opportunity to attend this event and took a deeper meaning from

"It was very eye opening. It showed me how hard these children have it, yet they are able to do so many great things in their life because they work so hard to get there," Lily Mattingly ('20)

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THE MELTING POT

The new club on campus allows students to explore the diversity of the world

| Josh Wagner
Reporter

America, often referred to as the “melting pot” of the world, serves as a home to people from different countries, races, and religions. From its beginnings, this country has been a place of immigration, diversity, and cultural uniqueness. Students at our school decided to bring that diversity here, and The Melting Pot Club was born.

“I noticed that our school wasn’t really diverse at all, and I thought it would be cool to have a club that promotes culture, different backgrounds, and diversity,” Nurah Koney-Laryea (’17), founder of The Melting Pot Club, said.

This recently established club meets the first Monday of every month in room 811 at 3:00 p.m., to discuss, present, and plan out their actions.

“[At each meeting] discuss a country one of the officers represents and ways to get support for that country. At the end we take a vote, and whichever country gets the most votes is who we donate all the money we have collected throughout the year to,” Hunter Tobey (’18), a Melting Pot officer, said.

The club not only promotes student awareness of many other cultures, but also helps countries that need support

and a helping hand.

“The main thing we are going to do is try to find a way to donate, not necessarily just straight money, but supplies: medical supplies, food, stuff like that,” Tobey said.

The Melting Pot Club is stewed up with students and numerous cultures. The club has students representing Puerto Rico, India, Greece, Ghana, and many more.

“I am Greek-Italian, but I like to show my Greek side more because it is a less represented culture at the school,” Tia Marchiselli (’17) said.

The club is a way for students to shed light onto their culture

and heritage, which may not be as easily shown in the school otherwise. The Melting Pot Club offers many ways to get involved in something other than schoolwork or sports, discovering cultures apart from one’s own.

“I think joining the club is a good idea if you want to learn more about other cultures, other backgrounds, and diversity,” Koney-Laryea said.

Students that want to know more about joining the club can see Ms. Daniel in room 811 or one of the officers for additional information.

Meet the OFFICERS

Sources: undp.org, worldbank.org, adb.org, wfp.org, caribbean.unfpa.org, ibtimes.co.uk



Nurah Koney-Laryea is the president and founder of the Melting Pot club.

“I chose South Sudan because I wanted to learn more about the country and know they could use the support.”

SOUTH SUDAN FACTS

75% of the population do not have access to health services in South Sudan. 80% of the population is “income-poor” and lives on less than one US dollar per day. 85% of the working population works for no wage.

BELIZE FACTS

Their economy relies mostly on tourism and exports of goods such as marine products, citrus, sugar, and bananas. Their unemployment rate is 11.5%. Almost 40% of children 17 years old or younger in Belize live in poverty.

Allision Rosulek is the design officer

“I chose Belize because I used to live there and seeing the way they lived made me want to help them.”



Billy Dorkowski is one of the networking officers

“I chose Cyprus because I feel the country has experienced hardships and the funds raised could help them.”

CYPRUS FACTS

Cyprus has been enduring a financial crisis, they are around 19 million euros (20,992,530 USD) in debt. 28.9% of the population live below the poverty line as of 2015. As of April 2015, Cyprus’s unemployment rate was 15.6% of the population.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA FACTS

26.3% of Papua New Guinea’s population is below the poverty line. More than 80% of the population lives in rural areas and has to rely on agriculture heavily. In early 2016, El Nino caused a massive drought that devastated Papua New Guinea.

Tia Marchiselli is one of the creativity officers

“I chose Papua New Guinea because their country is not publicized much so they do not receive the support that they need.”



TANZANIA FACTS

In a 2014 census the population of Tanzania was 50,757,459, and 11,679,274 of those live in rural poverty. 17% of people die from HIV in Tanzania. According to the National Nutrition Survey conducted in 2015, 35% of children under 5 in Tanzania are stunted (prevented from growing or developing properly.)



Noémi Rivera is the music officer

“I chose Tanzania because a lot of people there are in poverty and are struggling to live a good life.”

JAMAICA FACTS

Unemployment rate is 14% and poverty is 16% currently. Jamaica’s average GDP growth rate is less than 1%, which is a large hindrance to their economic growth rate and persistent poverty. 3.2% of children under the age of 5 are underweight.

Hunter Tobey is one of the networking officers

“I chose Jamaica because it is an interesting culture that has a weak economy, they could use the help to improve their lives.”



SYRIA FACTS

From a UN Economic and Social Commission, the percentage of people behind the poverty line rose from 28% in 2010 to 83.4% in 2015. In late 2015, 13.5 million people were in need of humanitarian aid, and 12.1 million people were in need of water and sanitation. It was also reported that 165 hospitals in Syria were either destroyed or damaged.



Maria Otalvaro is one of the creativity officers

“I chose Syria because I want to bring awareness to the cruelties that the children go through there and hopefully help them.”



The Varsity Volleyball team celebrating their district final win. Photo provided by @JWMHS twitter.

We are the **CHAMPIONS** my friend

Meghan Borum
Reporter

As volleyball season ends, it's certain that these players' heads will be held high as they finished off the season. Bringing in a new coach for the varsity team has allowed them to grow as a team and work harder to achieve their goals. Coach Heidi Michaels has reached a milestone in her career, 500 wins, which leaves her players feeling more confident in themselves, knowing that they are being led by a coach that has accomplished that many wins.

"I think it's cool that we got to experience that moment with her," Gabrielle Tsamis ('17) said.

Coach Michaels played volleyball for USF, and now uses her knowledge of the game to help out her players. Through being a former player herself and gaining so many wins, she knows the game and is able to train her girls hard to do their very best.

"She's a lot more positive and doesn't yell often. But she is very strict in the fact that she will give us a punishment if we don't try

our best," Kennedy Deluca ('19) said.

Both JV and varsity teams have racked up a total of 22 wins this season. Both teams had to adjust to having new players on the team and losing some others. The JV team struggled at the beginning of the season to find their footing, but eventually they were all able to work well together.

Going after their goals

Chris Wilson
Reporter

VARSITY

Soccer season has kicked off and the varsity boys team hopes to build on last year's playoff run.

"Our goals this year are to improve off last year. We had a good season last year, so we just need to improve off of that, and go farther than regionals to states," Adis Kukuljac ('18) said.

Kukuljac starts at center defense and also plays center midfield when coach needs him to.

This year's team has to work out some kinks after losing its two captains to college, the returning players stepping up and helping lead the team for the new kids.

"Losing the seniors won't affect

much, because we have a really young team, mostly sophomores and juniors last year. We lost a couple seniors, maybe two or three, so it won't affect us much because we have a stronger, younger team that will be a base for our team this year," Kukuljac said.

Throughout their 26 games this season, the boys hope to mesh together as a team and achieve their goals.

"We just need to fight to the end no matter whether it's practice or a game, we have to give everything to achieve our goals," Zachary Wilson ('18) said.

JUNIOR VARSITY

As the season kicks off, the

Junior Varsity boys soccer team strive to prove that they are ready to play varsity.

"The one thing I can do the best this year is to push myself really hard towards that future varsity spot," Nicholas Praga ('18) said.

The team consists mainly of returning sophomores and juniors who can help lead the up-and-coming freshmen to find their roles as players and help them feel like they fit in.

"This is where us returners need to step up. This will be their first time being exposed to the high school environment and it is important that we help them grow comfortable with the team as quickly as possible. Once they

Boys varsity soccer sharpens their skills this year and JV players aim to prove themselves varsity-worthy

are comfortable they will be able to play without holding back," Praga said.

New JV coach, and former JV and Varsity player Tyler Frick ('14), hopes that his experience of being a former player helps improve the players in how they play each day.

"I'm glad that I am able to come back and coach my Alma Mater. Since I didn't graduate that long ago, I understand what the team is going through and what they will be going through later on in the season," Frick said.

The players are excited to have a former player with experience as their coach.

"I'm excited for Tyler to be the

coach," Praga said. "He has the ability to relate to us since he is still our age and just graduated. It will also be good for him to be coach because he has already had the high school experience of playing for both JV and Varsity."

As the season gets closer, the boys have to train harder so that as soon as the first whistle blows, they are ready to give it their all.

Keeping the ball rolling

Chris Wilson
Reporter

VARSITY

The girl's varsity soccer team looks to improve off last year's playoff run as the new season begins. The girls lost in the regional finals last year, but this year the girls move their goal towards making it to states.

"Since we've lost in the regional finals the past 3 years in a row I think this year's seniors' goals would be to win regional finals and move on to states," Chandler Dempsey ('17) said.

Losing five seniors who played key positions on the team, left a gap for returning players and this year's seniors like Dempsey to

step up and help lead the team to achieving their goal. Since the team has been together since they were kids, Dempsey believes that they will rise to the occasion and become the leaders that they need to be.

"Most of the girls on the team have played together since we were eight starting at competitive soccer over at West Pasco, so I think it will change the dynamic of the team a lot and it will be hard to play without them, but the legacy they have on the team will help carry on the team," Dempsey said.

With 17 games on the

schedule, the girls hope that they win as many of the games as possible to achieve their goal of moving past regional finals going all the way to states.

"I have faith that we can bond and work together well as a team to achieve what we need to for this season," Julia Cirigliano ('19) said.

JUNIOR VARSITY

A team consisting of mainly freshmen and sophomores, the junior varsity girls soccer team starts another season looking towards completing the ultimate goal of making the varsity team.

As the season kicks off the team held tryouts; over 40 girls tried out for the team but only 37 girls made it.

"I felt pretty confident going into the tryouts, I knew I wasn't going to make varsity since they are really good, but all I could count on was doing my best to help make the team better," Jolie Babcock ('20) said.

Returning sophomores are the leaders on the team especially since they have been on the team before and know what's expected, which can help them lead the other players better.

"As a leader, I know that I have

to set an example for the new players so they know how to play and act as a high school player," Trinity Yeloushan ('19) said.

Even though JV only plays 8 games, JV players work hard to get noticed by the varsity coach.

"I hope that I can show the coaches enough throughout the season so that next year I can be on varsity," Yeloushan said.

Playing with a passion

JV Football players work hard on and off the field to achieve their goal of making Varsity next year



Kyle St John ('19) throwing the ball down field against Ridgewood. Photo by Caroline Weyer.

Alyssa Magilligan
Reporter

Football requires having dedication and the willingness to participate in whatever needed to improve. It becomes more than just a game to the players as well.

"What football means to me is unreal, the feeling you get with both sides of your bleachers filled with people watching your every move, every play is just so amazing to hear crowds of people screaming our school name cheering on our boys. It means so much to me I would put anything on the line for it. I'm willing to strive and grind every step it takes for me to make it," Leesander Francisco ('19) said.

The players prepare themselves

to go out on the field each game to bring them together.

"Mental prep in the locker rooms before the game sets our minds to be focused on getting the win. Another tradition is our team prayer before coin toss, which symbolizes our unity as brothers and we pray for a well fought game where we will not be beat," Francisco said.

Making it onto the JV team leads to opportunities for these players to perform well in tryouts for the varsity team in the future.

"As center, for me to improve and make varsity I have to make my snaps. Without the center the play cannot progress forward," Jaden

Chambers ('19) said.

The finished their season with a 4-2 record while the varsity football team improves every season. For team bonding, the varsity team and coaches think of a unique acronym every year.

"It's a team effort. Usually us and the coaches agree on what it should be. It's a motivation tool. We use it for building as a team," Matthew Hegwood ('17) said.

Both teams find new ways to improve every season with bonding being key to the development of the teams. When the teams work together, they achieve more victories.

Look back at it					A recap of concluded fall sports' final scores and rankings this season
GOLF	SWIM	FOOTBALL	VOLLEYBALL	X/C	
Overall W-L: Boys 11-1, Girls 11-2	Overall W-L: 4-1	Overall W-L: 7-2	Overall W-L: 22-4	Conference Ranking:	
District Ranking: 1st	District Ranking: Boys 7th, Girls 5th	District W-L: 4-1	District W-L: 5-1	Boys 2nd, Girls 1st	
Conference Ranking: 1st	State Finalists: Julia	JV W-L: 5-2	District Ranking: 1st	District Ranking: Boys	
Regional Ranking: Boys 2nd, Girls 3rd	Walkup & Tori Eure	District Ranking: 1st	Conference Ranking: 1st	3rd, Girls 2nd	
		Playoff Game Friday, Nov. 11, 7p.m.	JV W-L: 14-5	State Finalist: Grace Phillips	

Pom-poms to the sky

Meghan Borum
Reporter

Excitement rushes through the cheer team the morning prior to their sideline cheer for a football game or compete at a cheer competition. Competition and sideline cheer have one thing in common: working as a team. Whether that is achieved by cheering as a team on sideline or competing together in a competition, the most important thing is to work together to conquer a common goal. That goal includes things like being pushed towards several more specific goals at practice that will ultimately contribute to winning a competition.

"We have tried lately to be more serious and focused. We have basically tried to set a team goal, and meet that goal by the

end of practice. We just work on things that were going to be doing at the game and try to accomplish as much as we can," Jenna Deliso ('20) said.

Competitive cheer is strictly business, while sideline makes sure to excite the crowd for the game. School pride is also important because cheerleaders are cheering for their school. Hannah Crawford ('19) is on the Varsity cheer team and competes in competitions.

"Sideline is more crowd involvement where you try to get parents and the Stang Gang and everyone hyped up for the game and competitive is strictly cheer competition where you compete," Crawford said.

Competitions typically start



The Varsity cheer team anticipating a touchdown during the River Ridge Game. Photo by Gavin Gruwell

early in the morning, with a certain time designated for teams to compete. Upon arriving, warm ups start shortly after with sections of stretching, stunting, and tumbling. After teams perform, they wait for awards. Most girls feel excited, as they are getting ready to perform.

"I love being excited and performing something that I can do that no one else can really do," Crawford said.

Both sideline and competitive cheer revolve around being team oriented and the need to work together to achieve common goals. Sideline cheer is more about getting the crowd more

excited and involved in the game, while competitive cheer is more about competing as a team and trying to win a competition.

The power & joy of SPORT

Kaitlyn Klein
Reporter

Special Olympics, the world's largest sports organization for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, provides a year-round training and competitions. The global organization, changes lives by promoting understanding, acceptance and inclusion among people with and without intellectual disabilities.

"Special Olympics is an outside organization that provides the special needs population with an opportunity to grow mentally and physically and play sports and have social interactions for their entire life," Ginger Lynn (FAC) said.

They unleash the power of the human spirit through the transformative power and joy of sports, every day around the world. Through year-round sports, health, education and community building, special olympics changes the lives of people with intellectual disabilities.

"Special Olympics affects the students and helped them in a way because they are always so happy being with their friends and other People. When we are with them we help them and cheer them on, for them to have the best time," Victoria Arvanitis ('18) said.

People with intellectual disabilities who wish to participate, giving them

continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate in the sharing of gifts, skills, and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes, and the community.

"It has a lot of positives effects on the kids because they develop friendships that last through life, they go to practices so they have to schedule time accordingly and show up and be accountable and responsible. It also gives them confidence. When they win their gold medals or ribbons they feel like maybe they can do more other people think that they can do and they are actually willing to try harder. It's very positive," Lynn said.

Special Olympics brings these kids closer with the student who volunteer their. The students that help with those events notice how down to earth the kids are.

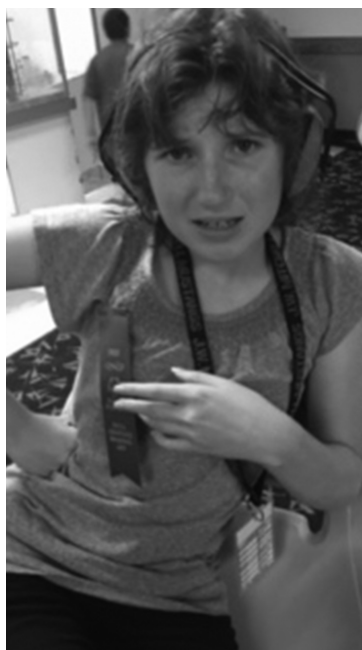
"Their disabilities make them special. But even with their disabilities, they are the sweetest people you will ever meet and should be treated just like anyone else," Arvanitis said.

Special Olympics allows those who participate to show their heart and strength. The students gain a lot from these sporting events, including making friends and boost their confidence as they earn medals and ribbons.

Special Olympics helps ESE students become more involved and active along with boosting their confidence and improving their positivity.



Special Olympic athletes compete in a bowling event for ribbons and medals.





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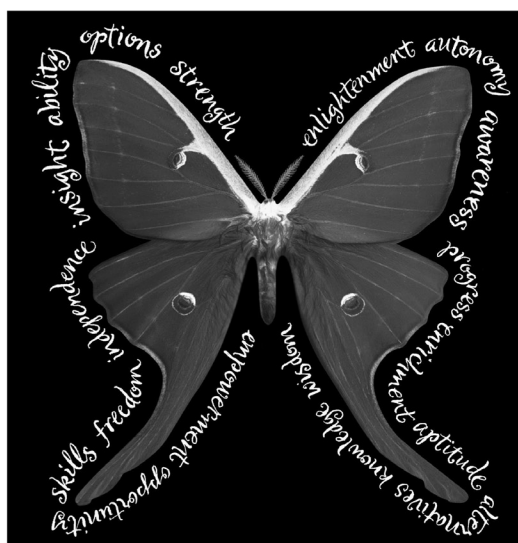
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Bill Nye saves the world with science

Bill Nye comes back to the screen in Spring of 2017 and fans share their thoughts

Josh Wagner
Reporter

Bill Nye impacted many students' childhoods in the science classroom, with that unusually catchy theme song of "Bill Nye the Science Guy," and his plethora of scientific knowledge.

To people like Mr. Dante DiSabatino (FAC), Bill Nye was more than just a scientist, he was one of the biggest factors of their childhood, especially the generation that grew up when

his TV series aired.

"I actually watched the show throughout middle school. My science teacher showed Bill Nye to me during class. He actually is one of the reasons [that] kind of inspired me to continue in science and maybe even going into teaching," Mr. DiSabatino said.

When Bill Nye announced that his new Netflix talk show began production, and would

air in Spring 2017, many science enthusiasts and Bill Nye fans enjoyed the thought of Bill Nye back in action on television. The show "Bill Nye Saves the World" will dive deep into science's impact on society, politics, and scientific world issues. The show plans on having episodes on genetically modified foods, climate change, and more.

"I am very much looking forward to watching it, because

it's going to be kind of reliving my childhood, and also since I am a science teacher," Mr. DiSabatino said.

Nye came to be a familiar face in homes and the science classroom, illustrating scientific concepts, and sharing scientific data for viewers such as John Martinez ('20).

"He really taught me about space, all the planets, the asteroid belt, all of the stars,

it really influenced me by me wanting to learn more about it. I would not have learned as much information if I hadn't watched his videos," Martinez said.

Bill Nye the Science Guy's show inspired, taught, and informed people on the ways of science. Now viewers must wait and see what his new show may bring.



Deep Water Horizon Deepwater Horizon was a true story about a drilling rig that exploded into a massive ball of fire in the Gulf of Mexico. Eleven crew members died on board. Mike Williams was a man of courage and saved many crew members on board. The movie began with the lives of the crew first, and discussed their everyday lives, and life at work, such as how the crew cracks jokes and how it was just a normal day on the job. Little did they know what was about to happen. This movie was a very suspenseful, heroic, action movie. The way the director shows the emotions of the crew members and their families was unbelievable. It was like you were living in the moment with them and the special effects and make up was astonishing.



Don't Breathe Don't breathe was a very unique horror film. This thrilling flick focused on an older, blind, gentleman who won a huge cash settlement from the death of his only child. Three Detroit thieves try to rob the old man of his money thinking he was a simple target due to his disability and things take an unsuspected turn. Little did they know he had experience with military training and was a war veteran. There are many more twists and turns in this movie but you will just have to watch it to find out.



Boo! A Madea Halloween Boo! A Madea Halloween is a Tyler Perry comedy/ horror flick that has to do with Madea keeping an eye out for some misbehaving teenagers that she has to watch over. This funny, haunting movie features Madea fending off killers, ghosts, ghouls, poltergeists, zombies and a lot of other spooky creatures. All of the past Madea movies, Tyler Perry did a fantastic job on as well as his other shows and movies but this one was a jaw dropping, pants peeing, laugh out loud comedy. It is a movies for the whole family to enjoy together.



When the Bough Breaks When the Bough Breaks is about The Taylors, a couple that wants to have a child, but is unable to conceive. After going through all of their options, the desperate couple brings along Anna, a pretty, young woman, who agrees to be a surrogate. Anna starts to develop an obsession with John, the soon-to-be father. The Taylors have to keep Anna pleased in order to get their baby. As she gets farther along in her pregnancy, the worse her obsession gets. It was a very dramatic movie and was a little hard to follow. The preview makes it seem very suspenseful but in the movie there wasn't and ounce. The director's previous movies are all the same so if you have seen a Jon Cassar movie before you can predict what's about to happen. Save your money and skip this one.



Guess who's coming to the App Store

Apple's release of the newest iPhone 7 brings with it many other releases of new apps and gaming systems

Michelle Cervera
Reporter

At Apple's September event announcing the new iPhone 7, new releases were also introduced including the new Super Mario Run app. Shigeru Miyamoto, the creator of Super Mario Bros. stated that in the new game, users can play against friends and players around the world. Students who follow gaming news noted the benefits.

"The new app will introduce gamers that are new in the gaming community to a simplified version of Super Mario without the commitment of purchasing a Nintendo system

and then buying the game as well," Christian Hernandez ('17) said.

Super Mario Run will release on IOS first. Nintendo plans on releasing the game at a set price so there is no need to make multiple in-app purchases.

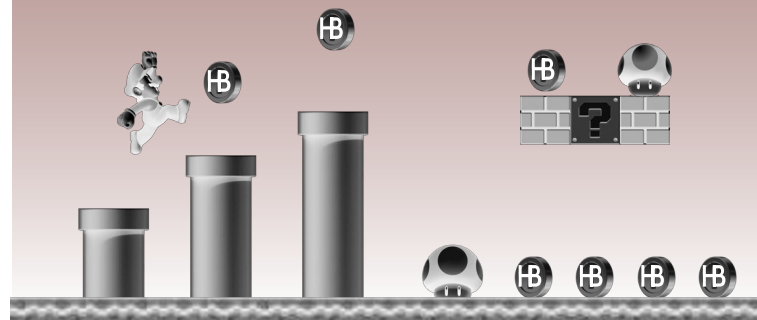
"People that can't play on a Wii U or any of the other Nintendo systems Super Mario Run would be a decent first look into the franchise so consumers can later make a decision on whether or not to purchase from Nintendo or any other console manufacturer," Jeffrey DiVincent

said ('19) said.

Nintendo's new system code name "NX" or "Switch" is expected to release sometime in March of 2017. The new Nintendo system will have Amiibo support, Amiibos are a series of Nintendo character toys that interact with games on the Wii U and 3DS systems. Other games such as Darksiders: Warmastered edition, Mario Super Slugger, and zombie Vikings, are coming soon to the Nintendo Wii U within the next year.

Upcoming Game Systems

- Sony's PlayStation 4 "Pro" or "Neo" is a 4K-capable and HDR support system with efforts to make services more accessible, the Pro will release November 10th 2016.
- Pokémon Sun and Moon will be available on Nintendo 3DS November, 18, 2016.
- Microsoft's Xbox Scorpio, the system supports true 4K gaming, has 320 GB/s memory bandwidth, and 8 CPU cores that will release in the holiday months of 2017.



Normal people scare me

FX's hit TV show American Horror Story airs their new season with lots of suspense in store

Mackenna Shiver
Reporter

American Horror Story, a creepy, suspense-filled television show which airs Wednesday on FX, incorporated a new season into its legacy starting on September 14, 2016. The sixth season of the AHS installment loosely based its story line on the Roanoke Colony disappearance of the 1590s. While the paranormal new theme strays from those used in the past, the

scare factor still exists.

The unique platform of AHS incorporates a new story line for each season, while still using the same actors in the new plots. Past seasons include Murder House, Asylum, Coven, Freak Show and Hotel. Of all these seasons, the reoccurring actors include Evan Peters, Lily Rabe and Sarah Paulson, but unique actors appear as well to add to

the story line.

"One of my favorite seasons was hotel. The setting of the season in the L.A. Hotel Cortez was really well done, the set seemed really intricate and well thought out. The new characters also made it much better, and having Lady Gaga in the season was really good because her character fit her since she's a little crazy as she is," Julien Gonzalez

('18) said.

Over the years, the series covered everything from the colonial period to present day, and complex details similar to others.

"I think the new season won't be as good as the ones from the past. The story line is kind of weak in my opinion, I feel like there's so much more they could have done with the story line

and Roanoke theme in general," Nathan Chittum ('19) said.

After living in the Murder House, escaping the Asylum, protecting the Coven, attending the Freak Show and checking out of the Hotel, American Horror Story lives on through the Roanoke Nightmare.

Dance like nobody's watching

With many new members, the dance team still puts together strong routines

Avery Phillion
Reporter

At almost every home football, and basketball game, the Dance Team shares their routines with the audience. With two to three practices a week, they have to work hard to get the dances choreographed and taught to everybody. This year, they added eight new members to the team.

"Dance team has changed this year because we added a lot of girls with the ability to do cool turns and leaps and other techniques. I didn't expect to have this many girls but I have always wanted to have a lot of girls on the team, so it was exciting to find out. Now we

can do really cool formations and ripples that we couldn't do with a smaller amount of girls. This year our goals are to make lots of creative dances that the crowds love and have fun as a team," Jessie Colegrove ('17) said.

Past members on the team are welcoming to their eight new team mates. This is the largest group of girls on the Dance Team since its formation.

"I think that the team in general has improved on working together and having more trust in everyone. Everyone's a team player and we have the support from our school by creating dances that will hopefully make

them look at us differently. We have already created bonds with each other even though it's been a short amount of time. Dancing together and doing tricks and lyrical dances show how much effort we put into these dances for our school," Eryelies Gonzalez ('18) said.

Despite the challenges of bringing in eight new girls, the dance team continues to practice with injuries, short amounts of time, and a large group of people to ensure their performances are the best that they can be.



Dance team performs at the Friday night football game against Land O' Lakes.
Photo by: Avery Phillion

Look mom, no hands

Self-driving cars promote consistent safe driving

Bailey Illig
Reporter

Student interest in self-driving cars grows, and although the cars currently are not for sale at every car dealer, soon they might be. Google currently offers self-driving cars, and the cars' tremendous safety ratings and precautions make it a must buy for consumers.

These cars possess both map and sensor information to determine their location in the world. The cars are aware of the surroundings and positions, no matter where they travel.

"Sometimes you get distracted with your phone or the radio, people putting on makeup, so if you have another backup while driving it can make it safer. Say if you veer off the road, then it

can always bring you back and it can save a lot of lives," Theresa Garrison ('17) said.

Sensors help detect objects around the car, like pedestrians or fire hydrants. The software in the car classifies the objects according to their size, shape, and movement. Kaitlyn Gordon ('19) knows a worker at a company that develops self-driving cars who got to take the car home for a test run. Gordon rode in the self-driving car, which has different modes and settings.

"The driver can put it on the self driving mode and the car would switch lanes by itself and the driver would put his feet on the dashboard and let the whole thing handle itself because it



Theresa Garrison ('17) dreams of the day her car will drive itself. Photo by Bailey Illig

knows the speed limits and it knows everything and it checks itself before changing lanes," Gordon said.

According to www.cdc.gov, in the United States, 94% of accidents involve human error, and 55% of that involves teenage drivers. The safety precautions built into the self-driving cars help prevent the number of

accidents and make it safer for the driver and the people in the cars around them.

"Maybe they would be thinking less about the road and their surroundings and the distractions if they have a backup driving system that could take their place if something were to happen," Garrison said.

The car companies like Google

and Mercedes store records and statistics proving that self-driving cars are safer for the drivers of their cars. The students like Garrison and Gordon say that self-driving cars sound safer and easier to drive and that they are more likely to buy one in the future when the car becomes available.

MAN on the STREET

How do you feel about Donald Trump winning the Presidential Election?

George Habib ('19)



"The future of our country is over and we need to think about how we can fix this next election."

Maria Asanza ('17)



"I think that the country is ruined."

Jordan Walsh ('20)



"He is the lesser of two evils and is a safer choice than Clinton."

Megan Stone ('18)



"I am happy because he will enforce better laws and regulations."

Robert Jozic ('17)



"I don't think he deserves to be president because he is not qualified."

You better stop that clowning around

The "Creepy Clowns" made it to Pasco County and laws have been enforced to end the epidemic

Samantha Burchick
Reporter

Over the past few months people have been dressing up as clowns and threatening citizens everywhere. This clown scare started in South Carolina with the clowns trying to lead kids in to the woods. Now, the clown epidemic has spread across the nation and needs to end. A law was recently made to try and stop these attacks, Senate Bill 436436: Crime of Making Threats of Terror or Violence. The law also makes it a first-degree misdemeanor

to threaten with death or harm law enforcement or government officials or their families. A person can also be charged with up to a third degree felony with this law. Schools have become a hot spot for these clowns to make a move.

At Seven Springs Middle School a 12-year-old boy made an account and threatened students in the sixth grade, saying that he was going to kill them.

"It was stupid because young kids shouldn't be going so far

to bring that to schools because now the rest of his life is going to be affected by this," Tabitha Gutowski ('18) said.

People that dress up as clowns terrorize those with coulrophobia (phobia of clowns).

"Clowns are one of my biggest fears. I'm not sure exactly why that is or why the fear developed but they are terrifying. This situation has contributed to my fear and caused me to be aware of my surroundings more,"

Megan Stone ('18) said.

These clowns are all around the country and have gained a huge amount of media coverage. News stations are now showing videos of people sighting them or of clowns chasing people in schools and neighborhoods. With all of the new footage released people may start to question if the videos are real or staged.

"There has been enough awareness raised through the media of this situation and

enforcements have been made. The clown spotting videos, though cause worry, make it hard to tell if they are fabricated or not," Stone said.

People participating in this clown epidemic need to realize that threatening people is a serious issue and if caught they will face jail time.

Dear DSBPC, tear down that fire wall

A staff editorial regarding the various phone applications and websites blocked by the District School Board of Pasco County

J.W. Mitchell High School, like many schools in the district, allows in-class access of iPads and laptops to their students. However, a sour note often intrudes on these programs. In their many efforts to become more of a technologically advanced school, they took a huge step back as the district blocks certain websites and apps from the school's wifi. Blocking websites and apps remains an unnecessary evil, and access to all websites and apps should be permitted, unless the site or app contains inappropriate content.

Students who work on in-class

projects usually use school supplied computers and iPads to gather information, yet often times they try to access websites that the district blocked. Yahoo, among other sites, keep students updated on current news, yet these websites remain blocked on school provided computers and iPads. The prevention of accessing sites like Yahoo on school computers seems preposterous, as students may find these sites helpful during school projects.

The district, which regulates which websites get blocked, uses the Children's Internet Protection Act to decide

whether students can access a website or not. The protection measures must block or filter Internet access to websites that can contain pictures that are obscene or harmful to minors. Since sites like Yahoo may post inappropriate content while covering news, the district must block them.

However, since students figured out how to circumvent the filters meant to block access to games, social networking, and other non-educational activities by simply getting off the school's wifi, they still access the apps and websites the district blocked. Since

students still access the blocked apps from their personal devices, the restriction of them on the school's wifi seems unnecessary. Students also use one of the numerous VPN apps, such as BetterNet, that allows its users to go on blocked websites while on the wifi.

The district prevents access to certain apps that entertain students at lunch, namely Netflix and Spotify. On days when the teacher allows free time, students often fix their eyes on their phones for the class period, watching shows or movies on Netflix, or listening to music on Spotify. Students

are not going to try to access these sites while working and learning in class.

As schools become more technologically advanced, by bringing computers and iPads into classes, a huge step back remains the unnecessary blocking of certain apps and websites. Though the district attempts to avoid in-class distractions, they should not block websites and apps, instead barring only those with the intent of posting inappropriate content.

Devastation for the next generation

Students discuss what changes the president needs to make to fix climate change issues

Michelle Cervera
Reporter

Climate change occurs when too much carbon monoxide (CO₂) becomes transmitted into the atmosphere. Fossil fuels contain CO₂. Which provides energy to operate cars, trucks, boats, air planes, as well as other vessels. CO₂ also transmits from power plants, which are the sources of energy used to generate power. Most power plants located internationally burn fossil fuels to generate electricity. Others use nuclear power according to NASA Earth observatory.

Climate change is making the

Earth's temperature rise and as a result, the glaciers and ice caps located in the Arctic ocean are melting. This potentially leads to the elimination of species such as polar bears, walruses, sea otters, and whales but also causes sea levels to rise and engulf coastal areas. When there is less land there are fewer homes where people can live.

"I think the next president should pass environmentally beneficial laws on factories, cars and other contributors to climate change so Americans

can produce less carbon to have cleaner and safer air." Lauren McWilliams ('20) said.

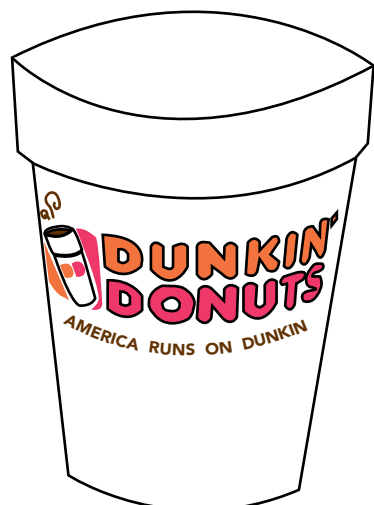
According to Scientific American, in 2011 a world census was conducted and the data displayed that seven billion people currently living on Earth. The world population is expected to reach over 9 billion people by 2050. With a growing population there will be less land to inhabit due to rising sea levels, because of climate change, along with many other contributors.

"We should really start to focus on making clean energy resources more accessible, and try to make it more common to use clean energy instead of using fossil fuels. If we are going to modernize the energy grid, then we should do it with a more available option instead of continuing to use nonrenewable resources that continue to damage our planet. Recourses like Solar energy, geothermal energy and hydraulic power to fuel the new potentially efficient world," Kyle Cochrane ('17) said.

The next President of the United States should take initiative to reduce the consumption of fossil fuels in this country. Rising sea levels already took their first victim: an islet of the Solomon Islands, Nuatambu Island, which lost nearly half of its inhabitable area since 2011. Climate change affects everyone, and even small contributions can go a long way. The sooner America starts doing something about it, the less dramatic changes will occur over time.

SIP ON THIS

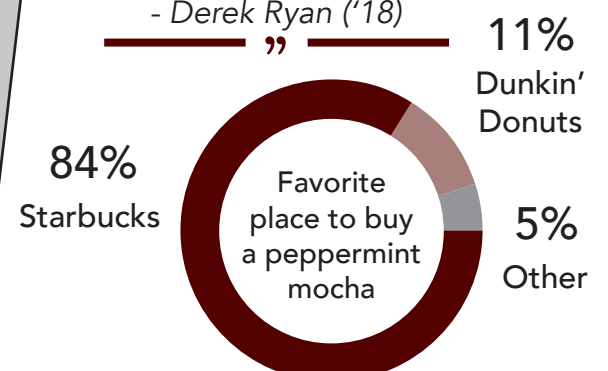
Data provided by a twitter poll @JWMHS_Hoofbeat



Honestly, pumpkin spice lattes are probably my favorite type of coffee.
-Marco Colilli ('19)



I love when peppermint mocha season comes around, it puts me in the holiday spirit.
-Derek Ryan ('18)



PLAY IT SMART

The reasoning behind students' anti tattoo mindset.

Kaitlyn Klein
Reporter

Just a few decades ago, tattoos were the trademarks of the fearless. Bikers, punks and other misfits wore tattoos in proud defiance of the "normals" that stigmatized them. Since the popularization of tattoos in the 1990s, society entered a new, even stranger era of ink: one in which everything that made tattoos cool is now overdone, tasteless and overexposed.

"I think there's many reasons why getting a tattoo isn't a smart decision, but the fact that they are so outdated is definitely top on my list. I mean, my parents, business people, have tattoos, and I think that really shows how different their meaning is now than how it was years ago, and how it's just so outdated now," Dan Miller ('18) said.

Tattoos take effort and time to apply, including the planning and sketching behind a tattoo, a process that mostly goes unnoticed and gets overlooked.

"To be honest, it seems like such a spontaneous decision to some, which most of the time results in stupid and meaningless tattoos. I think it would be different if every tattoo had some personal meaning, but a majority

of them are stupid, and those who get them probably regret it a lot," Melissa Repasy ('17) said.

In spite of recent discovery of disappearing ink, or ink that disappears after a few years, most parlors only offer the original style- permanent ink. Tattoos, if taken care of properly, last for a lifetime. As trends and fashion change, the "good idea" from years ago remains there permanently.

"I wouldn't get a tattoo ever. I just don't know if there is anything I would permanently want on my body. What I like today, I won't like in college, and what I like in college, I won't like as an adult. If people feel like they'll like something forever, they are probably wrong and shouldn't get it permanently marked on their body," Miller said.

Besides the unfortunate probability of regretting a tattoo

bikers and punks were those with tattoos. for the little meaning it has later in life, people may regret tattoos for medical reasons.

"I know there's a lot of medical issues that come with getting a tattoo. The needles aren't always clean, which can result in getting diseases. Sometimes people's tattoos get infected really badly, so they have to get it removed. Like if someone had an infected tattoo on their finger, sometimes it's so bad they'll have to remove the finger," Jason Swizer ('19) said.

The stigma that a tattoo makes a person maintain a higher social status remains nothing more than an outdated stereotype, dating back to times when intimidating

"I think people feel so much cooler when they get a tattoo, which isn't right at all. It's not like someone with a tattoo on his or her shoulder has a cooler shoulder than me. It's not cooler because it has some random picture on it," Miller said.
From bold to bland, from scarce to overdone, the evolution of tattoos undeniably brought a bad taste to an otherwise interesting topic. Tattoos, a concept so broad, turned into a common and tasteless way to attempt self-expression.

BODY ART

The reasoning behind students' pro tattoo mindset.

Jess Mason
Reporter

According to theharrisspoll.com, a credible health and life website, three in ten American adults have at least one tattoo. Supported by this statistic, tattoos have become more accepted in today's world in the recent years. Rather than being something only rebellious types would have, tattoos are now a much more common thing.

"Some people are still against tattoos, but I think they're becoming more accepted in society," Ashley Tomer (17') said.

Although they have become more accepted, like Tomer said, some people still obtain the 'con-tattoo' mindset of the old times. However, students like Rachel Schumm (18') remain open-minded.

"We're all our own canvas; we can decide if we paint it or not," Schumm said.

Some students with that

outlook have already made their decision.

"I chose to get my tattoos because I really liked the meaning behind them. I chose to get the flower on my back because it symbolizes the bond that my mother and I share. I chose to get the elephant on my arm because it represents truth, love, and kindness," Tomer said.

Despite the fact that people like Tomer get tattoos with meaning and thought, some choose their tattoos based on appearance and aesthetic.

"I personally want to get meaningful tattoos. But if someone wants to get them just because they look cool, they should have at it. It is not my body," Schumm said.

It is clear that in the recent years, tattoos have become more of a normalcy. However, even people who fully support them share different opinions on whether or not tattoos should be

covered up.

"I think you should be able to cover your tattoos because if you are trying to get a job, most employers won't accept being able to see them," Tomer said.

In contradiction, recent studies conducted by theharrisspoll.com show that 71% of parents are comfortable with their child's primary school teacher or pediatrician having tattoos. This proves that although the acceptance of tattoos is new, it is growing drastically.

As the next several years go on, tattoos are projected to be even more of a widely accepted trend. Not only does this change the view of art and personal choice, but it obliterates the idea of judgement and preconceived notions.

