

HB

The Hoofbeats

J.W. Mitchell High School's Student Body
2323 Little Road, New Port
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Music
Just wanna
have fun

A recap of homcoming dress-up days

Raleigh Illig
Staff Reporter

Before the week of Homecoming, Student Council got together and planned out dress up days for the students, then announced them on Twitter. Students scrambled to make plans and find unique ideas for each day. Some looked at Tumblr pictures or former students' past ideas to find something dress up worthy. The first day of the week was Gender Day, sending girls frantically to find someone to borrow clothes from, and vice versa.

"Well, I got my shirt from my dad, I got my pants from my friend Jared, I got my hat from my brother, my shoes from Target, and used my own socks," Grace Gardner ('18) said.

For Gender Day, the girls came in a variety of frat boys, jocks, and gangsters; as for the boys, most came in dresses or skirts with sandals.

"All these clothes are my girlfriend's: the dress, the shoes, the socks, the bra. My mother did my make-up. I asked her to make me look old and she succeeded with the eye shadow and stuff. There's no point in just wearing some girl stuff when you can just wear it all," Nathan Chittum ('19) said.

Day two of Homecoming week was Twin Day. Groups of friends got together and planned out perfect outfits for the occasion.

"I thought it was a really cute idea for me and my boyfriend to be a superhero, and it was fun to dress up," Lindsey Hoskins ('19) said.

The biggest question amongst students was, what to do for Twin Day with a group of people without making Twin Day more as a Character Day?

"A few other girls and I went online and found

t-shirts that said 'Squad Goals' on it, so we each bought one and wore matching skirts and shoes," Gardner said.

On day three, Generations Day, students dressed up from all time periods. The night before, people jostled for a throwback. Frantically going from store to store, people stayed out late trying to find something.

"I didn't get home from Wal-Mart until later so I could get my shirt and I cut it so it would have a bigger neck line and look more 80s like. I just borrowed my jumpsuit from a friend," Savannah D'Avila ('18) said.

Going as far back as Greek philosophers, some dressed as pirates, greasers, young girls in the 50s, and trendy 80s workout get ups.

"I wanted to be Sandy because I love the movie Grease. It's one of my

favorite older movies," Sarah Shannon ('18) said.

As the week drew to a close, the second to last day of Homecoming was the annual Western Day. Students grabbed their boots, flannels, bandannas, and cowboy hats in spirit of the day. The western styles ranged from old Cowboys with the hat tipped low and biting a tooth pick, to modern day red necks with the camouflage shirts and boots.

"I just cut some jeans to make them short shorts, wore a white Tee, some flip flops and cowboy hat to be western like," Anthony Connor ('16) said.

Friday of Homecoming week brought out the school spirit and, helped get the students in the mood for the upcoming event of the night, the Homecoming football game. Cheerleaders

and football players wore their uniforms to school. Some other sports such as volleyball, cross country, soccer, track, and more wore their team shirts or jerseys showing their school pride. Other students wore their black and gold shirts, bandannas, and more to show off the school colors.

"During Homecoming week all the dress up days and activities help people worry less about school to focus more on the fun of the week and go crazy," Brett Howard ('17) said.

Whether borrowing someone's clothes, going to thrift stores, or last minute shopping the night before, students scrambled to make their Homecoming week memorable.

Students become the walking dead

Bella Smith
Staff Reporter

On September 29th, the school’s drama department and the Pasco County Sheriff’s office came together and gave Spencer Holt the experience of a lifetime. Holt suffers from a mitochondrial disease, which causes seizures. Because of the disease, he spends a decent amount of time in the hospital. His family wanted to give him an unforgettable day.

“The boy’s family contacted the Sheriff’s office, they wanted to put on the event to fulfill his dream,” Corporal Joe Koehler (FAC) said.

The sheriff’s office wanted to provide Holt with the opportunity of being a deputy for a day fighting off a zombie invasion.

In order to accomplish this goal, they searched for talented drama students that wanted to help make it happen.

“They reached out to Mitchell because they knew we have a large drama department and our students are just awesome, and great when it comes to helping out the community,” Koehler said.

Koehler and the sheriff’s office received an overwhelming response from Mr. David O’Hara (FAC) and the drama department.

“I asked for a list of 8-10 students and received a list of about 30 that were willing to help out,” Koehler said.

The drama students dressed

up as zombies and formed an invasion. It took place in the vacant Pasco County jail.

“We gave the boy a little Nerf gun to shoot the zombies, and it was like Christmas morning all over again,” Koehler said.

The drama students took advantage of the opportunity to make the boy’s dream come true. Demetra Giakoumatos (’19), one of the drama students that became a zombie for the event, appreciated the opportunity to make a difference in the boy’s life.

“I felt like I was doing something to help someone, but I was also having fun while doing it,” Giakoumatos said.



Photo provided by J.W. Mitchell High School | Twitter

The police officers performed a zombie dance for Holt after he finished fighting off the zombie invasion.

“Seeing the smile on his face was incredible, and he has the time of his life,” Koehler said.

Corporal Joe Koehler, the drama department and the Pasco County Sheriff’s office received great appreciation from Holt’s family.

“They couldn’t thank us enough,” Koehler said.

HOSA introduces Pink It Campaign

Emily Fowler
Staff Reporter

Students and families spend the month of October honoring and supporting breast cancer awareness. This terrible disease takes many lives away every year. The Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) Club spends October raising awareness and getting involved in the cause. They introduced the Pink-it campaign to our school giving students an opportunity to support the cause.

“The Pink-it campaign is important because it helps raise money for people who cannot afford the treatments for breast

cancer and possible ways to treat it and makes the process less harsh for them,” club member Anna Dumovich (’18) said.

HOSA continues to come up with activities and fundraisers to raise money for breast cancer. According to HOSA sponsor Ms. Beth Bruegger (FAC), the club will collect lids for life, which involves saving Yoplait lids so ten cents may be donated to the Susan G. Koman Foundation.

“We also have a memorial wall where we are trying to get students to make a ribbon slip for

a dollar, in memory of someone who had breast cancer,” Bruegger said.

One out of every eight women in the United States develop breast cancer. In addition, men get breast cancer as well. They contain breast tissue just like women, so they also have the ability to suffer from breast cancer. This cancer emotionally affects not only those who may have breast cancer, but their caretakers as well.

“Breast cancer is close to my heart since my mom went through it when I was little.

I was there with her through all of the chemotherapy and radiation treatments, so I am very dedicated to supporting this and raising awareness,” club president Theodora Bowman (’16) said.

Every 19 seconds a case of breast cancer is diagnosed to women and every 74 seconds someone dies from breast cancer, as stated on the Susan G. Koman Foundation website.

“Breast cancer is near and dear to my heart because my mother had breast cancer and was diagnosed when she was older,”

Bruegger said.

Raising awareness, participating in the events HOSA sponsors, and encouraging others to join in as well helps those with breast cancer. Breast cancer awareness month honors those who lost the battle, and also honors the survivors.

Together as a school, supporting the efforts of HOSA this month and doing something to make a change contributes to a positive outcome and helps those who need it.

Editorial Policy

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

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

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

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New clubs at the school, who dis?

The school introduces new clubs for students to join.

Sophie Sajecki
Staff Reporter

Numerous new clubs formed this year and with this, more opportunities prevail for different extracurricular experiences. Some of these new clubs include the Youth Beats Club, the Welcoming Club, and Video Game Design Club. While all of these clubs differentiate, they all have specific goals they set out to meet.

The Welcoming Club started with Taylor Roth ('16), a new student who moved from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania during the second semester of last year who now looks to help others with similar difficulties involved in switching schools.

"I realized the need for all students to feel welcomed when

transferring schools, since they no longer have the same friends and teachers. Through meeting with Mrs. Ruconich, we created the Welcoming Club, a group of kind individuals who are eager to help students adjust to their new high school and realize just how awesome Mitchell is," Roth said.

The project being worked on by the Video Game Design Club titled The Void Above will be designed by the end of the school year. Students in the club have different ways to get involved in the inner workings of the video game itself on it Thursdays after school in room 740.

"We have graphic design which is where you design characters,

we have storyboard where people figure out which story we are going to do, and we have programmers who program the game," Zhamal Hudson ('17) said.

Students in the Youth Beats Poetry Club run by Mr. Daniel Vanno (FAC) share work before school on Wednesday mornings at 8 AM in room 330 for coffeehouse readings in the area. In the club, inspiration comes from all over because writing poetry has lots of influences and dependence on society.

"Today's youth is what really inspired the club. Creating this club was my way of getting today's disenfranchised youth to realize that they do, indeed, have a voice

and a societal audience willing to listen," Mr. Vanno (FAC) said.

Working together and getting a great final project presents one of the reasons for joining many of the clubs around campus. Many other aspects influence member involvement from making friends to making a difference.

"My favorite part [of the Welcoming Club] has to be knowing that I am helping somebody and knowing that they will have someone to be friends with so they aren't just sitting alone at lunch or just not participating and feeling left out," Garrett Neptune ('17) said.

These new clubs provide students with the learning

experiences and processes to enhance their high school experience.

"The Video Game Design Club is really fun and I hope to be in this club all 4 years [of high school]," Jeffrey DiVincent ('19) said.

The Youth Beats, Video Game Design and Welcoming Clubs all welcome new members. To join, all you have to do is show up to a meeting.

- **Welcoming** - Room 333, Wednesdays after school
- **Youth Beats** - Room 330, Wednesday mornings at 8am
- **Video Game** - Room 740, Thursdays after school

RUNNIN THROUGH THE COLORS WITH MY MY CLOTHAS

Raleigh Illig
Staff Reporter

One of the most popular outdoor events for teens are the new themed 5Ks, also known as the happiest 5Ks on Earth. There are many different types of runs available to participate in such as the Blacklight Run, Foam Run, Color Run, Inflatable Run, Glow Run, and the Hot Chocolate 5K.

"I've done the Blacklight Run, Color Run, Foam Run, Turkey Trot Run, and I'm doing a Mud Run. Also I've done a Zombie Run," Chris Brash ('16) said.

With social media buzzing about all the 5Ks, local races draw in more and more people and large groups of friends.

"We got a group of people together, [because] we saw a lot pictures about it on Twitter and social media and it looked like fun," Dominic Fiumara ('16) said.

In preparation for the 5K, some people start to build up the endurance by working out, or simply pick out the perfect outfit for the occasion.

"We got white shirts, shorts and socks for the Color Run for when the people throw the paints on you," Mallory Coleman ('18) said.

When getting a group of people together to run the Happiest 5K on the planet, the biggest question is whether or not to go with a large group of friends or just a few people.


"Some of the runs I did, I've done alone, a few of them with a few friends, and for the Turkey Trot it was with a bunch of friends. I liked it better with just a few friends because we just stayed close together the whole and time and made fun of each other while we were running," Brash said.

When the Color Run comes to a close, so does some people's favorite part of the race, the rain of colors.

"It's fun running through the color sections where the kids throw all the colors on you, and you can run back through it again to get more color on you," Fiumara said.

Whether it's all about the running or just having fun in all the colors and foam, the new popular themed 5Ks are the happiest 5Ks on the planet. To find an upcoming 5K in Tampa Bay, visit www.runningintheusa.com.

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ROCKIN' the '80s

Students celebrate Homecoming week with enthusiasm

Allison Kaelin
Staff Reporter

As Victoria Arvanitis prepared to rock the 80's during this year's Homecoming week, she realized the excitement that the week brought and found the school spirit hidden within herself.

"It was really cool to see all of my friends dressed up and be able to participate in such a fun week at school," Victoria Arvanitis ('18) said.

The week kicked off with the annual Rock, Paper, Scissors competition. Out of about 500 participants, first place went to sophomore Michael Yotas, Kendall Shaw ('19) took second, third place went to Briana Armenia ('17), and in fourth was senior Dominic Fiumara.

"It felt good to beat the freshman, junior and senior because I won everything," Michael Yotas ('18) said.

With homecoming week in full swing, classes got the chance to show their performance skills during the Mustang Showdown.

To start the event, each class performed their skit in front of the school to try and earn Homecoming spirit points. "The atmosphere at the Showdown was insane. It was awesome to finally see everyone come together as a school and cheer for their classmates," Ross Cooper ('16) said.

Seniors took first place with the juniors and sophomores following close behind.

On Thursday, Rodeo Games kicked off and classes were eager to take home the win. Each competition brought out the competitive side of everyone involved.

"It was really exciting when we won musical chairs, all the sophomores started cheering for us and it felt really good," Demi Asensio ('18) said.

Even though sophomores won many of the events the seniors ended up winning the Rodeo Games and scoring many points

for their overall score.

During Friday's football game against Wiregrass Ranch High School, the Mustangs led 31-0 at half time just before the homecoming court made their way onto the field. Members of the court listened anxiously for the announcement they had been waiting for all week. Francesca Colilli ('16) and Dominic Fiumara ('16) took home the title of King and Queen.

"It was really incredible being announced Queen. I'm so humbled to be given such a title and am so honored to be a part of the senior court," Francesca Colilli ('16) said.

As the week came to an end, the seniors were announced as the 2015 homecoming spirit stick winner at Friday's pep rally. The week concluded with the annual Homecoming dance, when 1200 students filled the gym to sweat to the dj's '80s beat under the bright neon lights.



Homecoming King and Queen Dominic Fiumara and Francesca Colilli.

Photo by Amanda Garcia



Students energetically cheer on the football team at the Homecoming game.

Photo by Amanda Garcia



The senior boys show off their spirit at the Rodeo Games.

Photo by Keltine Moyers

Chamberlin's Corner

Ms. Michele Chamberlin (FAC) offers advice to students about the college application process.

- Google admission requirements for the schools you are interested in. The Admission statistics are based on the freshman class most recently admitted. Many universities take a holistic approach and are looking for the whole package: GPA, test scores, extracurricular activities, leadership roles, and possibly essays or recommendation letters.
- Many applications open in early September of senior year. Check deadlines and apply early!
- Get organized! Put together a high school resume and personal information, including your social security number.
- KNOW your deadlines, DON'T Procrastinate! Ask for help! Don't be afraid to put yourself out there!
- Juniors should begin researching potential schools now and should be getting ready to take the ACT and/or SAT beginning in December of their junior year. Start practicing now!

For more tips visit
<http://www.usnews.com/education/best-colleges/applying> or
<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/get-in/applying>

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Get ready and press start to continue

John Williams
Guest Reporter

This fall presents students with a long list of much anticipated new video games. On the top of various student’s must have lists include games like Fallout 4, Starwars: Battlefront, Halo 5, and Call of Duty Black Ops 3. The continuation of these series feeds into the completion of running story lines.

“Fallout 4 is a sequel to Fallout: New Vegas, a game that I love and still play occasionally. It came out when I was in 8th grade and I’ve been hooked on the franchise ever

since,” John Winn (’16) said.

By adding on to the story line, game developers create new motivation for consumers to continue buying their games. Like a trail of breadcrumbs, a good story line leads gamers through the series.

“Once I started realizing how engaging a story is, I was driven by that with games like Skyrim and Fallout: New Vegas,” Winn said.

Video games presented a new way to socialize for students like

Dylan Young-Ligori (’19), who has been playing games like Halo since the age of six.

“Video games have tended to be how I talk to my friends outside of school, plus it gives me something to look forward to,” Young-Ligori said.

This new platform for students to communicate with each other allows them to meet people from all around the world.

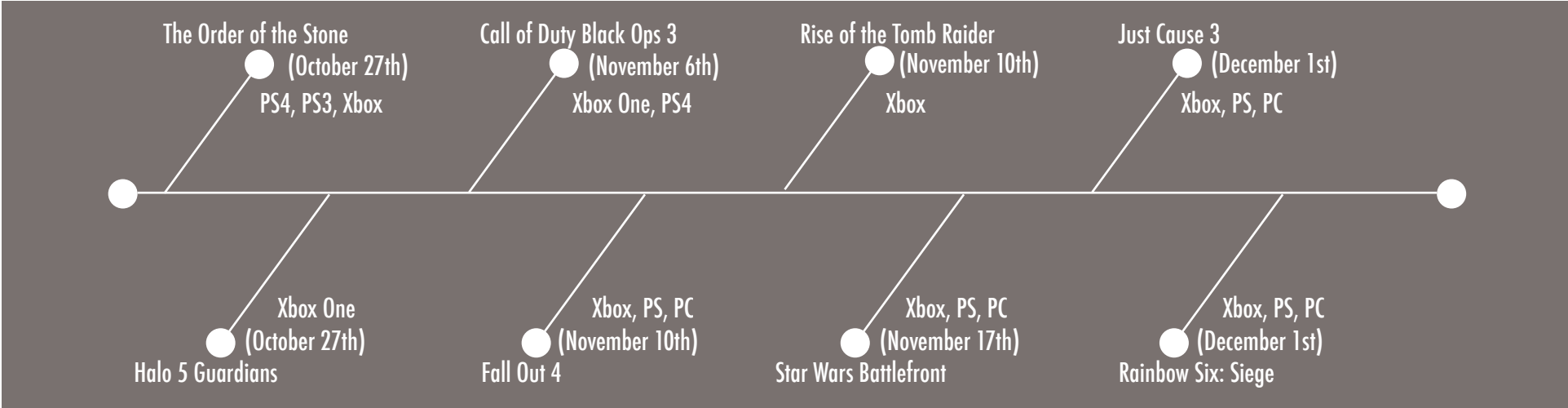
“Gaming in general is not at all as anti-social as people think it is. One time I just jumped into

Team Fortress 2 and decided to play the Co-Op mode Mann vs. Machine. I had run into four other people who had no actual teamwork going on and they kept losing the round. I stepped in and successfully managed to get everyone to work together and win all five rounds to complete the mission. We’re all in touch on Steam now,” Winn said.

To create hype about the release of upcoming games companies like Bungie and 343 Industries tease gamers.

“The developers of Halo have released bits and pieces of the games and released an amazing beta for people to play long before the game comes out,” Young- Ligori said.

Student’s Christmas lists may increase in size this year with the promise of numerous games coming out at the end of this year. Some of the closest release dates include Call of Duty: Black Ops 3 set to be released on November 6th, and Fallout 4 which will be released on November 10th.



Gonna party like it’s your birthday

Katy White
Staff Reporter

On May 2nd Demi Asensio (’18) threw a huge Quinceanera. Family and friends from Sarasota and even New Jersey came down to celebrate it with her. Butterfly Kisses by Bob Carlisle played as she and her father walked onto the dance floor for their father/daughter dance. She started having flashbacks while dancing with him, as all of the great memories from throughout her entire childhood ran through her mind. He would do anything to see her happy, and her party was proof of it.

“It was definitely a dream come true and a night I will remember forever. When I was younger I saw my sister plan hers and I couldn’t wait. I wanted to make this night one where everyone would have fun,” Asensio said.

Samantha Burt (’18) tried to keep her body from shaking while she stood behind the two large doors just seconds before she would enter into the Fox Hollow Golf Club for her sixteenth birthday party. All of her closest friends and family came to see her and as she entered the room, she

couldn’t help being nervous. Once she walked out and saw all the smiling faces she slowly relaxed, realizing that everyone there was there for her and wanted nothing more than to see her smiling face.

“I’ve always wanted [a big sixteenth birthday] since I was little, it was really exciting to have one,” Burt said.

At the Starkey Ranch cabins Taylor Fox (’18) plans to have a huge get together with family and friends for a whole day’s worth of activities. Line dancing, bonfires, and games like wheelbarrow races

are just some of the few things that will take place at her party. She hopes to have some of her close relatives from Mississippi come down. She only sees them once a year and hasn’t had them at any of her birthday parties growing up.

“I like southern things, and I like the idea of being with my family and friend and having a big area open so that everyone can come,” Fox said.

Fox, Asensio, and Burt all celebrated their birthday in a way that’s special and meaningful to

them. Whether it’s for tradition, or just a way to get the family together, each of them have a different way of getting everyone to surround them for what they consider the perfect birthday.



Becca Roberson(’18) holds a sign for Liz Traina(’18) at the WFLA pep rally.

The concert of your wildest dreams

Sophie Sajecki
Staff Reporter

Taylor Swift takes over Tampa Bay this Halloween with a concert making many excited at Raymond James Stadium. Swift’s self-proclaimed biggest fan, Gianna Zelinski (’18), can’t wait for the concert to come closer.

“I’m really excited. I ordered the tickets last year on pre-sale so I have been waiting for forever,” Zelinski said.

As the date of the concert approaches, Zelinski and other

concert goers begin preparations for numerous details, from arrival times to outfit ideas.

“We are waiting in line when we get there because if you get into the stadium first, they have a Taylor Nation booth. If you go and talk to them they will pick the best and most creative fans for Loft 89, which is where you can go backstage and meet [Swift] after the concert,” Zelinski said.

Fans attending concerts

find unique ways to enjoy the encounter. Because this concert falls on Halloween, many plan on dressing up in costumes to add to their experience.

“My friend Chandler [Crawford (’18)] and I are dressing up as cheerleaders but we are making the costumes that [Taylor Swift] wore in the shake it off music video,” Grace Gardner (’18) said.

In attempt to make her concerts even more enjoyable and fun,

Swift rewards her fans who attend all of her concerts with unique surprises and they are never predictable.

“At the concert I hope there is a special surprise performance from Selena Gomez. I know it’s unrealistic but it happened not too long ago, so you never know who could show up to perform with Taylor,” Sydney Moore (’19) said.

Opening acts in the past include Vance Joy, James Bay, Ellie

Goulding and John Newman.

Taylor Swift’s 1989 world tour comes to Tampa Bay’s Raymond James Stadium on Saturday, October 31st at 7:00 pm. Tickets are sold on TicketMaster and currently range from \$130 to \$3,000.

Sweetening up this spooky season

Sam Burchick
Staff Reporter

Ghost Brownies

Ingredients:
1 box of brownie mix
Water, vegetable oil and eggs called for on brownie mix box

1 ¼ cups white frosting

16 large marshmallows

Black decorating gel



Directions:
1 Heat oven to 350°F (325°F for dark or nonstick pan). Line 8- or 9-inch square pan with foil so foil extends about 2 inches over sides of pan. Spray foil with cooking spray. Make brownies as directed on box for 8- or 9-inch square pan. Cool completely, about 1 1/2 hours. Remove brownies from pan by lifting foil; remove foil. For 16 brownies, cut into 4 rows by 4 rows.
2 Heat frosting in microwavable bowl uncovered on High 30 seconds, stirring every 10 seconds, until frosting can be stirred smooth and fluid. If frosting becomes too firm while decorating, microwave 5 seconds; stir.
3 Top each brownie with 1 large marshmallow. Spoon 1 tablespoon frosting over each marshmallow to coat. Let stand until frosting is set, about 30 minutes. Use black gel to make eyes and mouths.

Scare up Scarlet from beneath at Howl O' Scream

Kelsey Williams
News Editor

Deep under the surface lurks an evil force waiting to be unearthed. Construction crews at Busch Gardens Tampa faced delays after discovering an object buried in the park. The workers failed to identify the object, so experts in the field from American Underground Research & Archaeology, or A.U.R.A., were brought in to investigate further, and what they found is truly horrifying. What appeared to be a house buried beneath the earth may hold the cause of many locals' nightmares.

Stories of a woman known to reside in the house began surfacing during A.U.R.A.'s research on the history of the grounds. She is known as the Woods Woman in local lore and she may not be imprisoned in the earth any longer. It is said that locals' buried the woman, identified as Scarlett by her journal, inside her home after she began causing terror in the surrounding towns in an act of revenge for their actions towards her husband. Townspeople feared the couple was using dark practices, which led an angry mob to capture her husband. The mob, scared that he would use his 'evil eye' to harm them, proceeded to remove his eyes and feed them to crows. This chain of events led Scarlett to turn to dark arts, creating a deck of 'casting cards' with the ability to summon ancient evils to follow her commands.

Brave soul Bill Walden, of A.U.R.A., entered the house, finding it in surprisingly good condition, having been preserved underground for many years, and one other unexpected thing may have survived. Walden claims that Scarlett still lingers in the house, and demanded that it be closed to the public. After Bill formally stepped down from his position at A.U.R.A., the team declared that the house was not a hazard.

Despite these strange events, Busch Gardens Tampa is opening the house to the public. Those brave enough to venture into the house will discover the truth behind the Woods Woman during select nights in October. Ticket prices range from \$60 to \$70, depending on the night park goers choose. Busch Gardens pass holders may save up to 50% on ticket purchases. Those willing to enter the house and face the evils that have been unearthed do so at their own risk. Visit buschgardens.com for tickets and more information.

First Fall Festival

Kaitlyn Klein
Staff Reporter

The Mitchell School Advisory Council hosts the first Harvest Festival on November 5th, 2015, from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm on campus. The proceeds from this event go into the SAC funds to support school-wide technology advancements.

Plans for this family event include food and business vendors from the local community, music, and activities for kids, such as face painting and bouncy houses.

To make this event as successful as possible, many volunteers are needed throughout the day. "We are hoping our MHS clubs and organizations will get involved and help out," Ms. Michele Chamberlin (FAC) said. Students interested in earning community service hours for this event should contact the event coordinator, Diana Jerome at djerome64@gmail.com. See the ad below for more information.

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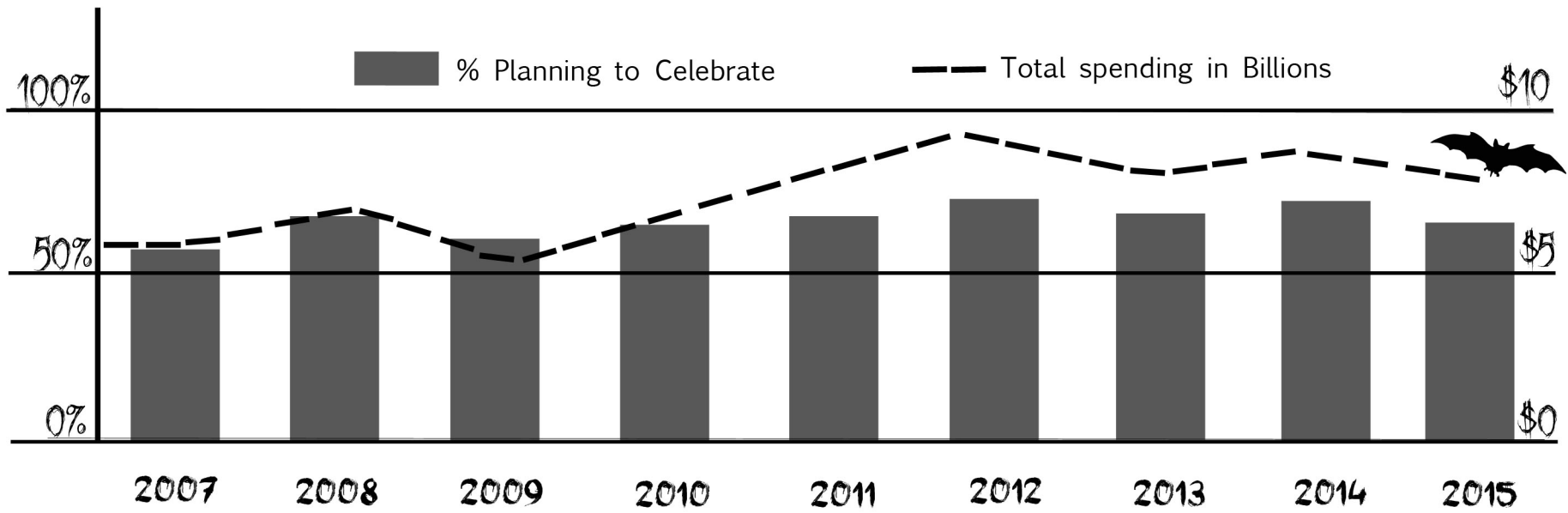
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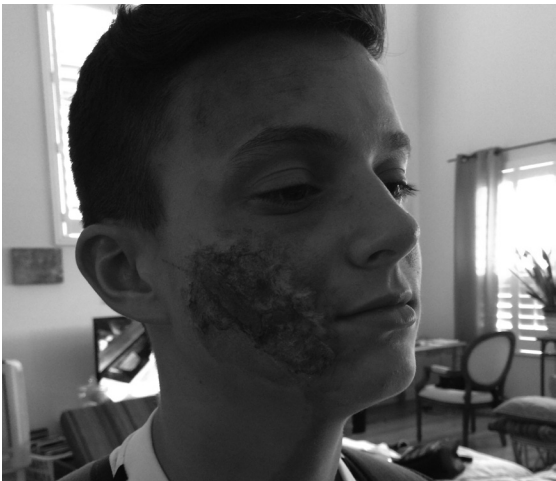
157 Million: Number of Americans planning to celebrate Halloween

Total Halloween spending and % of Americans Celebrating



Changing the face of Halloween

Students offer advice on how to achieve frightening looks with makeup.



“Make sure you have the right tools because that makes it a lot easier, and work slowly. When I first started doing it I had to make sure that I did it slowly so that I didn’t do something wrong. Make sure to blend,” Avery Phillion (‘19) said.



“I use anything anything I can find around my house. Recently I’ve been just using regular acrylic paint on my face. I have an airbrush that I use for bruising and everything and then I have some other paint that’s used with this alcohol, it’s an alcohol based paint,” Michael Wilkins (‘18) said.



“A lot of the techniques that I use depend on the brushes that I use. If I’m doing special effects then it will depend on the colors I’m using because there’s shading that I have to do to it,” Phillion said.



“For beginners I would say just have fun with it, there is so much you can do with just latex and tissue paper. There are millions of places you can find inspiration, whether it be the internet, a movie, or even your own mind. This is your art, and if you make a mistake, use it to your benefit, when working on a zombie, mistakes tend to make your work look even better. I suggest looking on the internet for a special effects gelatin recipe. It’s much easier for beginners to work with and a lot safer,” Michaela Doyle (‘16) said.

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WHAT ARE YOU

AFRAID

OF ?

PANOPHOBIA

“I’m literally afraid of Everything,” Makenzie Sheu (’16) said.



CHRONOPHOBIA

“I’m afraid of my Future because I don’t know how successful I will be,” Mariah Guy (’17) said.

GALEOPHOBIA

“I’m afraid of Sharks in the ocean because they are terrifying,” Jake Hektoen (’18) said.

MONOPHOBIA

“I’m afraid of being Alone,” Elsi Vega (’18) said.

AGORAPHOBIA

“I’m afraid of Wide Open Spaces,” Mr.Koslin (FAC) said.

ENTOMOPHOBIA

“I’m afraid of Bugs because they are gross,” Lauren Wright (’19) said.

Sticking with the thunder

Alyssa Magilligan
Staff Reporter

The 2014-2015 season proved the Tampa Bay Lightning play with the best teams in hockey. The team made it through the playoffs and to the Stanley Cup Finals, but fell to the Chicago Blackhawks, 2-0 in game six. Fans and others who work closely with the organization believe that this year the Bolts may come back better than ever, and possibly bring the cup to Tampa for the second time.

“They definitely have the ability to bring it back, especially with their defensive line and with Stamkos leading them, they’ll definitely have an edge against other teams in the league,” Katie Fitzpatrick (‘18) said.

Others who work closely with the Lightning, such as Nigel Kirwan who works as the video coach, believe that the team is capable of winning the cup for the first time since 2004.

“I do believe this team is capable of getting back to the Stanley Cup finals based, not on the preseason, but on my knowledge of their capabilities and the strong work ethic all of our players bring to the rink daily. I think getting close last season has only fueled our desire to get back to the finals again and this time get the job done,” Kirwan said.

Over the offseason, players suffered minor injuries. Andrej Vasilevskiy underwent surgery to remove a blood clot near his collarbone. Tyler Johnson hurt his wrist, as well. Cedric Paquette hurt his foot during a preseason game.

“The injuries could seem bad now but it [letting players rest] is the best thing to do. If we put them in while they’re hurt they may not heal correctly and hurt themselves even more,” Stephanie

Camacho (‘18) said.

The Lightning acquired a new player, Erik Condra, over the offseason and expect him to bring great skill to the team. He made a good showing at camp, as well as the veteran players.

“Our team will continue to rely on Stamkos and the Triplets (Kucherov, Johnson, and Palat) up front, Hedman and Stralman on defense and Bishop in net to take us as far as possible. But at the end of the day all of our players have an important role in our quest to win,” Kirwan said.

After a good run last season, the Bolts hope to bring it all the way this year, and to bring the Stanley Cup to Tampa. The Lightning won five of their first seven games and take on the Colorado Avalanche at home on Thursday October 29, 2015.

STARTING LINEUP		
LW	C	RW
Ondrej Palat	Steven Stamkos	Nikita Kucherov
Alex Killorn	Tyler Johnson	Ryan Callahan
Jonathan Drouin	Valtteri Filppula	Erik Condra
Vlad Namestnikov	Brian Boyle	J.T. Brown
LD	RD	G
Victor Hedman	Anton Stralman	Ben Bishop
Jason Garrison	Braydon Coburn	Kevin Poulin
Matt Carle	Andrej Sustr	

The uphill battle to success

Brock Shively
Sports Editor

One man took the city of Chicago by storm, and brought prominence back to a franchise in need. Derrick Rose energizes the Chicago Bulls roster when he steps foot on a basketball court. However, the plague of injuries he’s sustained makes the team and fan base quiver when they go to sleep.

The one time most valuable player, consistently struggles to stay on the court and help his team. The sequence of events began April 30, 2012, when Rose fell awkwardly on his left knee and

tore his ACL in game one of the first series of the NBA Playoffs. Rose then sat out the entire season in 2012-2013, saying he needed to feel “110% healthy”.

Fans and media members questioned Rose throughout his absence from the court. He then launched a campaign with Adidas called #TheReturn.

“After his #TheReturn campaign, I gave up on him,” Dillon Johnson (‘17) said.

With enormous expectations on Rose and the Bulls in 2013, he suffered a torn right meniscus in a

game against Portland.

After a healthy 2014 season, his injury laden past caught up to him. On February 24, 2015 an MRI confirmed he tore his right meniscus once again. This started the chaotic debates over whether or not Rose’s career looked to change for the worst.

To add insult to injury, Rose’s ex-girlfriend filed a lawsuit against him, claiming that he raped her this offseason. The offseason kept going downhill, when Rose fractured his left orbital in the Bulls’ first practice. The latest



www.nytimes.com

Derrick Rose sits on the bench with a meniscus injury as he watches the Chicago Bulls take the court without him

reports say he looks probable to play in the season opener.

“Even if he can play in the opener, you’re always worried he’ll get hurt again,” Johnson said.

Rose obtains athletic gifts that few supply, but how do the Bulls manage him? One thing looks certain Rose faces an uphill battle in this prolonged 82 game season.

Chasing a championship

Kaitlin Klein
Staff Reporter

The intensity of baseball increases for the World Series, which is right around the corner. The playoffs started with a bang in the pursuit of a championship.

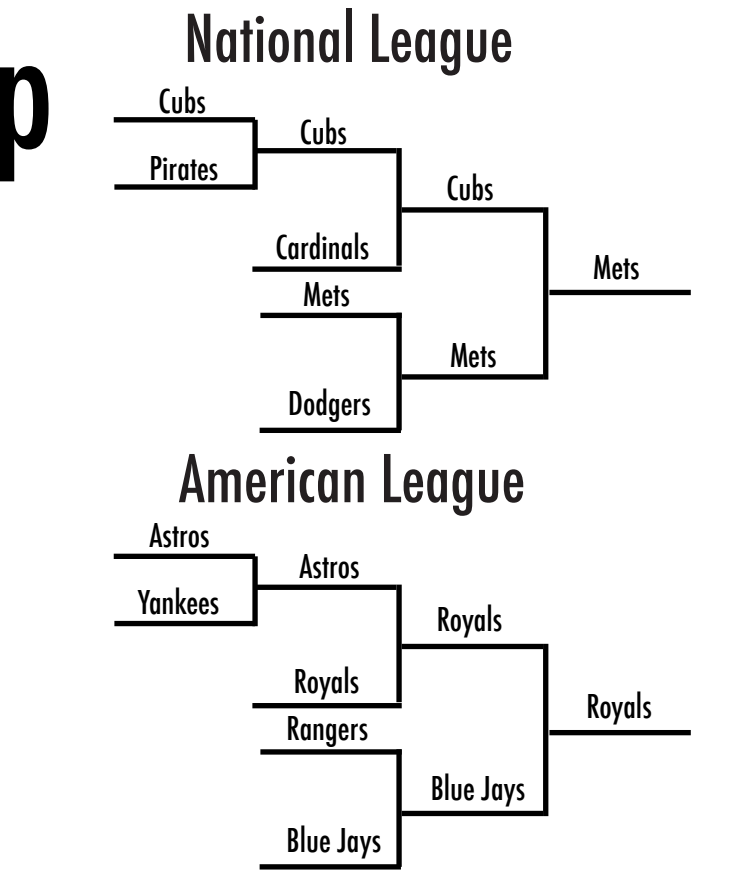
In the first game of the postseason, the Houston Astros sent Dallas Keuchel to the mound in New York, who shut out the Yankee’s in the wild card game, ending the Yankee’s postseason. The Astros went on to get eliminated by The Kansas City Royals in game five of the American League Division Series. In the other American League Division Series, the Texas Rangers got eliminated by the Toronto

Blue Jays in game five, after a go ahead three run home run by Jose Bautista in the bottom of the seventh to give the Blue Jays the lead. They would go on to lose to the Royals in the American League Championship Series game six, sending the Royals to the World Series back to back seasons.

On the National League side of things, the Chicago Cubs started things off by sending Jake Arietta to the mound that shut down the Pittsburgh Pirates in the wild card game, making Chicago advance to the National League Division Series. The Cubs momentum continued, beating the St. Louis

Cardinals in four games. The New York Mets beat the Los Angeles Dodgers in five games after an ugly slide by the Dodgers’ Chase Utley in game two, that ended shortstop Ruben Tejada’s postseason. The Mets went on to beat the Cubs in game four of the National League Championship Series, sweeping the Cubs and advancing to their first World Series since 2000.

The Kansas City Royals take on the New York Mets in the World Series this week, in a highly anticipated match up for the Commissioner’s Trophy.



Mitchell wins the district championship

MITCHELL FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

8/28 @ River Ridge 10-7 Loss
9/4 Anclothe 40-7 Win
9/11 @ Ridgewood 55-14 Win
9/18 Springstead 33-19 Win
10/2 @ Pasco 42-27 Win
10/9 @ Dunedin 44-0 Win
10/16 Wiregrass Ranch 52-18 Win
10/23 Sunlake 21-14 Win
10/30 @ Land O' Lakes
11/6 Gulf

PLAYER STATS

Mychael Hamilton	Larry Dalla Betta	JJ Lewis
<ul style="list-style-type: none">1,053 rushing Yards131.6 Rushing Yards Per Game19 Touchdowns	<ul style="list-style-type: none">1,109 Passing Yards19 Touchdowns92 Rushing Yards vs Springstead	<ul style="list-style-type: none">25 Receptions357 Receiving Yards8 Receiving Touchdowns



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Shoot the puck or go home

Katy White
Staff Reporter

As Zach Rehm (‘17) skated down the ice at the Clearwater Ice Arena against Plant City, as everyone surrounding the rink watched intently. Rehm, a key player this year, pulled 13 penalties so far this season, while racking up six points in the first four games. Lucas Sowder (‘17), another strong player, leads in points and dominates the ice with his speed.

“We started off good, just by simply beating other teams,” Rehm said.

Nick Demiceli (‘18) started showing interest in hockey at five years old and now spends a lot of time on a travel team. Skating on



Josh Corrow (‘19)

a high school team allows him to spend time with friends and also play the sport he loves. The team works surprisingly well together considering some of their key players go to different high schools, but their communication and chemistry on the ice created a

team that schools take notice of.

“We have a really good penalty kill, where we forecheck a lot and set up really well in [the opponents] zone,” Demiceli said.

Josh Corrow (‘19), a new addition to the team, scored 2 goals and also recorded 8 assists already this season, even though he plays the defenseman position. His puck movement creates scoring chances and his speed makes it hard for other guys to keep up.

“Making better plays, passing, using speed [are some of the things we’ve improved on],” Corrow said.

They supply the talent to win



Photo by Katy White

Players Zach Rehm and Josh Corrow congratulate one another on a goal against the Plant Panthers.

the Lightning Cup this year, but have a long season ahead of them. The Lightning Cup created a way for local high school hockey teams to compete against one another. The best team out of the 18 high school teams in the Lightning High School Hockey League

receives the trophy. Teams look to fight for victories, so they need to make sure they play to their strengths to keep up with other teams in the rankings.

Changing the game

Amanda Garcia
Staff Reporter

As the girls walked into the football stadium for the annual Powder Puff game on Monday of Homecoming week, they practiced their defensive and offensive strategies to beat their classmates. Boys focus on perfecting their cheer routines. As six o’clock approached the teams start to huddled and discussed their game plan.

“We have an awesome football team, unfortunately we just got an injury from one of our cheerleaders, and he’s our captain, so we’re a little hurt there. That’s probably our weak area. The girls are looking good. We have an awesome coach,” sophomore

advisor Ms.Berry-Guth (FAC) said.

The sophomore girl’s team lost to the junior team, and went on to play a consolation game against the freshmen.

“Being a freshman this is going to be a struggle because we had some troubles in the beginning, but were going to ace it today. I’m most excited for one of the stunts we are doing, and also crushing the seniors,” Jake Herny (‘19) said.

The freshman fell short, and the sophomore girls won the consolation game by one point.

While the girls ran plays, junior boys pumped up for their performance.

“We most definitely have the best stunts that will lead us to victory no question,” Chase Kerr (‘17) said.

Right before their performance, the sophomore class faced some technical difficulties, but was still able to put on a show.

As the games progressed, it came down to the juniors and seniors in the championship game. Halfway through the game the seniors were up 14-0. Maddie Bell scored twice for the juniors making the score 14-8. With only a minute left on the clock the juniors tried running the ball, but time ran out and the seniors won.

“Something that really helped



Photo by Amanda Garcia

The junior girls huddle up to practice play calling in their pivotal match up against the sophomore girls.

us is our defense. Our defense is D1 material. Some big factors that contributed to that are Juliana Gruerio, Micki Sherrill. They were diving left and right, taking flags, face planting on the ground. It was great, it was unbelievable,” quarterback for the senior class Kelsea Vanderveer (‘16) said.

When the seniors watched the final countdown they all sprinted

toward the middle of the field in excitement.

“It was a fair game, both teams played great. I wouldn’t have wanted to win it any other way. I love my senior class,” Vanderveer said.

Fall’s hottest TV Shows

Hand-picked by the Hoofbeat staff, these shows represent students’ favorites for the new fall season.

Sunday

ONCE
UPON A TIME

ABC at 8pm

Monday



CBS at 8pm

Tuesday

SCREAM QUEENS



Fox at 9pm

Wednesday

AMERICAN

HORROR

STORY

FX at 10pm

Thursday

the Vampire Diaries

The CW at 8pm

Friday

GRIMM

NBC at 8pm

Saturday



STARZ at 10pm

Netflix and binge

Sam Burchick
Staff Reporter

When the weekend hits, people that are looking for a few relaxing days to bring out their comfortable blankets and pillows and start their day binge watching Netflix. Binge watching happens everywhere, and Netflix allows their users the opportunity to binge any show they offer at any time of the day. Netflix launched in 1997, and in 2007 they started online streaming. Now over 62 million people pay for Netflix, allowing them all the chance to binge.

Netflix offers countless shows, the majority containing multiply seasons as well. Binge watching allows the users the chance to catch up on shows and get to see

the next episode right away, or start a new show. Sometimes, once they start watching a show they get engrossed and keep watching it all day.

“I binge watched 10 seasons of supernatural in a little over 2 months. I personally really like binge watching TV shows. Although it takes up a lot of time, it’s still great,” Rebecca Glomski (’17) said.

All binge watchers got their start somewhere. Some got their start from friends or the recommendation section from Netflix. Eventually, they got hooked on a show and kept watching.

“I started watching American

Horror Story because I saw it in Netflix and it seemed interesting. Then the actor got me hooked and teen wolf my friend suggested it and Dylan O’Brien is in it,” Mackenna Shiver (’18) said.

Netflix allows the users to access their shows on the go or at home. Some enjoy watching the same show again and again even after they finish the series.

“Once I watched all of the seasons of Prison Break. I watched the whole series another 4 times before I stopped,” Katelyn Henderson (’16) said.

High school students enjoy watching the same shows as their friends because then they always have something to talk about.

Some people enjoy watching episodes with their friends and won’t watch the show with out them.

“I binge watch American Horror Story with my friend Makenzie because we both love Evan Peters and we watched the first 3 seasons together. We never watched it without one another,” Shiver said.

Netflix allows users the chance to binge watch whenever and wherever they want. With the huge selection of TV shows and movies, Netflix offers everyone a chance to find a show just for them. So when Saturday comes around, get ready to have a relaxing day full of binge watching.

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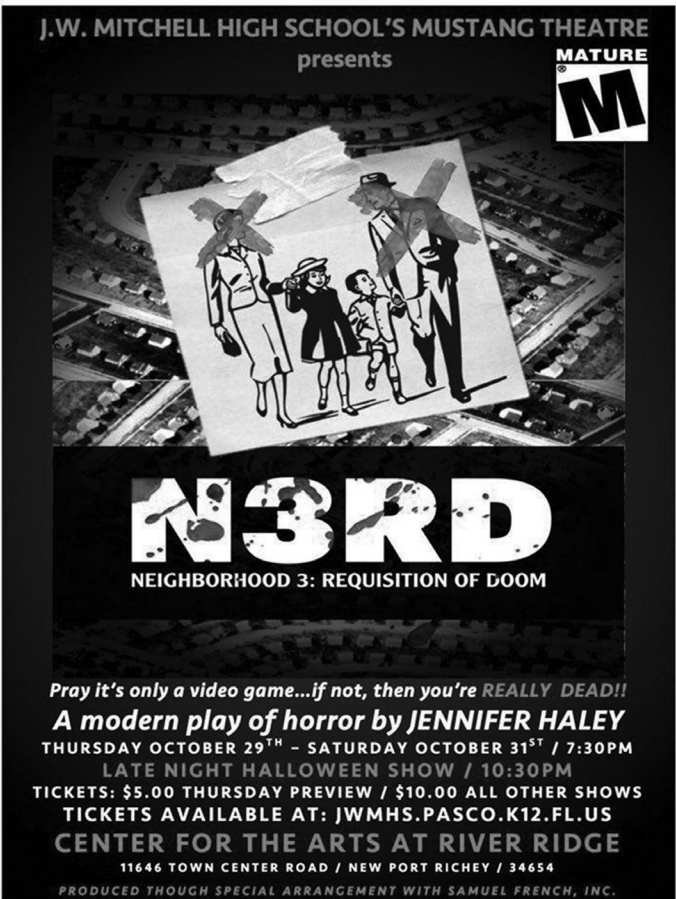
The cool kind of N3RD

Sarah Nagy
Entertainment Editor

Thespian Troupe 6272 kicks off their fall production, Neighborhood 3: Requisition of Doom, also commonly referred to as N3RD, in hopes of enticing the student body for a creepy thrill. The plot goes hand-in-hand with the Halloween season, with one of its performance dates actually being on October 31st at 10:30 pm. “The show itself plays out like the Twilight Zone. It has to do with how these teenagers become so invested into a single video game that their perception of what is real and what isn’t becomes skewed,” Kasey McNaughton (’17) said. Each character plays a different role in the video game, seeking one goal, while they portray different characters,

sometimes real and other times it is up to the audience to decide which is part of reality. “The goal of the game is to kill off an army of zombies and escape the neighborhood for good. But as the show goes on, you can’t tell what’s in the game and what’s real. It’s pretty terrifying,” Emily Mitchell (’17) said. The Thespians dedicate countless hours of their lives to this production and club, aiming for the best outcome possible. “Each scene rehearses two to three times a week for 3 hours at a time. Depending on how busy we are with other events for the Thespian National Honor Society, this number fluctuates. However, during “hell” week also known as tech week, we constantly run the show with lighting, sound, and

blocking over at the Center for the Performing Arts at River Ridge High,” McNaughton (’17) said. While the production is acted out by students, it also partly directed by one, Mr. O’Hara’s right hand gal. “I get to help Mr. O’Hara basically put the show together. I love being able to direct. I love getting to portray a different character, but I love being able to develop all of the characters and help to put the show together,” Mitchell (’17) said. Hard work and determination defines these Thespians’ lives. The production runs from October 29th-31st. Come out for an exciting thrill, and to support your fellow students.



Tickets now on sale for N3RD at jwmhs.pasco.k12.fl.us.

Provided by the Thespian Troupe

Elena dies, Damon lives to kill again

Bailey Sassateli
Opinions Editor

The Vampire Diaries (TVD), which concluded its sixth season in the summer, revolves around relationships, action, and drama. The show has captured the hearts of many while touching on the paranormal drama that continues to be a favorite among young adults and teenagers. Nina Dobrev, who plays the main female character Elena, announced her departure from the show at the conclusion of season six. This news quickly broke the hearts of new fans to the show

and felt like a betrayal to the veteran viewers. “Her (Elena) and Damon’s relationship was my favorite part about the show and now one of them is gone. The show is never going to be the same again,” Kayla Farrel (’17) said. Ian Somerholder, who plays Damon, had a real life relationship with Nina Dobrev, also his love interest on the show. The relationship ended in real life and picked up again in the show, making the actors’ emotional

states unstable and complicating the show’s character chemistry. “If Elena will not be there, Damon will probably become a heartless killer again like before he met her. Damon does anything that he thinks is best for Elena because he has a soft spot for her. They have both fought for their relationship, and to end it for good now is not ideal for where the plot was going before she left the show,” Farrel said. As the anticipation for season seven’s premier rose up amongst

fans, so did the angst for the return of Elena. Good characters have died before, but only a few have actually come back. The fans of TVD will forever miss Nina Dobrev and her wonderful rain kisses with Ian Somerholder. The show’s producers have nothing to say on the matter other than that it is her choice and she should do what is best for her. Until further notice, Elena is permanently off the series and the world of TVD will remain changed forever. “Even though it has been a

while since I have watched it, I am anticipating more outrage from other fans about Nina Dobrev’s departure as the season goes on,” Patricia Borzyck (’16) said. Season seven premiered October 8th, so catch new episodes on The CW on Thursdays at 8pm. Past episodes may be viewed on hulu and cwtv.com.

Marching in step toward success

Lexi Clark
Staff Reporter

Hundreds of people watched in anticipation as the marching band stepped on to the field to perform at the Hurricane Pride Marching Band Invitational at Citrus High School on October 10th after long weeks of preparation. “[My favorite part of performing is] the general excitement of it and it’s really amazing to see the crowds responses while you’re doing what you love to do, it’s really fun,” Karissa Currier (’18) said. Band members experience anticipation, and nervesall factors that play in while performing at the show, titled Imagine, that represents months of hard work. “My favorite part of performing is probably the end result on Monday when we watch the film it looks really nice and it turns

out better than I think it would,” Rachel Biesiedzinski (’18) said. Although performing requires dedication and long hours of hard work, band holds a special place in the heart of who Hailey Bunker (’18) plays the clarinet. “Performing is just a passion that we all have and everybody [in band] shares,” Bunker said.



The band members perform at the Hurricane Pride Competition.

Photo by Karyn Smith

Following in the footsteps of family members “My mom had a saxophone and I saw [the band] play at the elementary school and I liked it so I signed up and after that I never wanted to stop playing the saxophone,” Ian Anderson (’17) said. After school until 7 or 7:30 when most students already relax at home, the kids of the band still stand

in their positions on the field marching their routines until they achieve perfection. In addition to after school practices, the marching band attended band camp over the summer towards the end of August for a duration of two weeks. “We have practices every Tuesday and Thursday from four to seven after school and then we have sectionals every Monday [for the clarinet section] from three to four,” Biesiedzinski said. At the invitational competition, the band placed 3rd out of the twenty bands that competed. Fans of the band can catch the Imagine halftime show at Senior Night on Friday, November 6th at the home football game against Gulf High.

Discontinue the dangerous decisions

Kelsey Williams
News Editor



Late night costume parties and poor decisions may lead students to events that change their lives forever this Halloween. Parents consider Halloween a dangerous holiday that may affect people that celebrate it in a negative way. October 31st feeds into some family member’s worries about little ones.

“My biggest worry is probably the whole idea that some creep could go after my little brother, even with his mom and dad there. That, and going out driving during that time,” Chris Brash (’16) said.

Parents and siblings share the fear that harm may come to their kids on Halloween but their focus might emphasize the wrong thing. An analysis by the U.S. Government published in USA Today shows an average of 5.5 deaths each Halloween as compared to the normal 2.6 on an

average day. Halloween weekend becomes an excuse to party and make poor decisions. Due to this, 44% of national fatal crashes during Halloween weekend involve a driver or motorcyclist with a Blood Alcohol Content of 0.08 or higher as stated by Edgar Snyder & Associates.

“Well, like any other holiday a lot of people drink and drunk drivers terrify me. Stay away from people who give you bad vibes,” Demetra Giakoumatos (’19) said.

Potentially harmful choices that get easily influenced by negative activities hold the ability to risk changing the person’s life forever.

“Poor choices can end a life. I’m all for fun, but don’t be stupid and risk someone dying. Just look out for each other. Definitely watch out where you’re going, and stay in groups. Know where you’re staying the night. If you’re

partying, know where you are and how you’re getting home,” Brash said.

These negative statistics blemish the fun oriented celebration of Halloween.

“People are too scared of each other nowadays. Nothing usually bad happens, at least around here. I think if someone’s going do something they are capable of doing it any day not just Halloween. So if you choose to live Halloween in fear you mine as well live everyday in fear, and that’s no way to live,” Giakoumatos said.

This Halloween, students’ plans need to include activities that allow them to stay safe without taking the fun away. The possibility of safe fun remains without putting a damper on the spookiest night of the year.

Don’t you forget about me

Bella Smith
Staff Reporter

Homecoming week: the infamous time of the school year that students get to dress up and enjoy themselves. It begins with dress up days and ends with the football game on Friday and the dance on Saturday. The Class of 2016 valued their last homecoming week greatly. Realizing he’s a senior, Josh Bisbe (’16) understands the importance of dressing up and being involved every day.

“I feel like it’s pretty sad because it’s the last year to do all this stuff and you can never really come back to it so it means a lot more than every other year,” Bisbe said.

Rhyan Blews (’16) felt that the students showed greater spirit than in previous years and that the rest of the week was a success.

“Speaking as someone from class of 2016, it was a great way to go out because all of us participated. Not usually everyone does, and I loved how we all had fun,” Blews said.

The consensus seems to be that

the feeling remains bittersweet, as sadness and excitement flowed through the students during the week.

“I was excited, but I am going to miss it because it’s my last Homecoming Week,” Andrew Niro (’16) said.

One of the popular dress up days, character day, failed to make the schedule this year as twin day took its place. As a result, students chose to dress in pairs or groups and make it character day as well. For example, Niro and his friends dressed up as characters from a Nickelodeon show.

“I was Jorgen Von Strangle from The Fairly OddParents,” Niro said.

Danny Riffe (’16) felt that underclassman know that they need to value homecoming week during all school years, not just senior year.

“Students should make the most of Homecoming. Dress up and have fun. If you don’t, you’ll regret it when you graduate. You

don’t need to worry about feeling weird because a lot of people dress up,” Riffe said.

Realizing how fast time flies, the upperclassmen know better than any other class to enjoy everything.

“I’m devastated. It’s really hard realizing that we’re never going to be able to do this again and that we’re all growing up,” Blews said.

Homecoming Week remains as a time to create memories and show spirit.

“Be involved in everything because it will be over before you know it,” Bisbe said.

High school is commonly thought of as the best four years of a person’s life. It is a time to enjoy and savor, especially when it comes to Homecoming Week. Not only spirit made the week one to remember, the impact of the senior’s attitudes on leaving gives room for the growth of spirit for the next generation of seniors.



Andrew Niro’s emotions remain conflicted after the end of one of the most eventful weeks.



Joshua Bisbe’s excitement lingerd, although it was soon replaced by bittersweet feelings.



Daniel Riffe wants to emphasize the importance of participating in the week’s events.



Rhyan Blews believes that the success of her class overshadows the sadness she feels.

All photos by Bella Smith

On *Wednesdays*

WE SELL

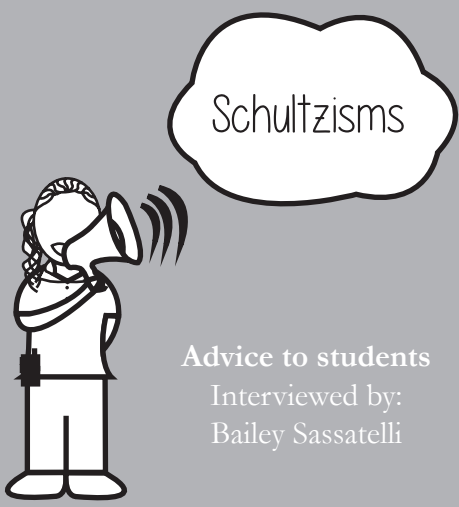
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Illustration by: Caroline Weyer



Advice to students
Interviewed by:
Bailey Sassatelli

Q. What sparked the beginning of senior privileges?
A. “I wasn’t here but Mrs. Castellano was,” Ms. Jessica Schultz (FAC) said. “They decided to start senior privileges because at that time, the senior class was extremely mature and we thought we should reward them by allowing them enjoy lunch without being disturbed by the underclassmen,” Ms. Marlane Castellano (FAC) said.

Q. How is the senior parking space privelege looking for this year?
A. “The senior parking space privelege would really get off the ground if the senior leaders would actually make a decision. We have approved many, many things and the only thing missing at this point is the actual execution of the seniors—I don’t mean their deaths, I mean them doing something about this,” Schultz said.

Q. Do you think it is unfair to underclassmen that only seniors get privileges? Why or why not?
A. “While I do believe that underclassmen lives matter, what I want you to understand is that the seniors have endured this place for three years now.”

Q. How do you feel about the petition to give senior patio back to the underclassmen?
A. “There was a petition? I don’t recall seeing it, but I do find it funny that underclassmen want to also sit outside in the heat of the day instead of the air conditioning.”

Q. Why do you think senior privileges are important to seniors?
A. “Senior privileges are important to the seniors because they feel as if they rule the school. However, they don’t use them; for example, take the parking space situation. The staff is ready and raring for the painting to commence, but the senior leadership has not actually pulled the trigger, which makes it difficult for us to do anything for the seniors.”

Q. How do you feel about senior skip day?
A. “There is no real senior skip day, it is not a sanctioned day. We do not approve of it and in fact we think it is a bad idea because bad things happen when you break the rules.”

Q. What is your take on the senior prank?
A. “We like senior pranks. We think it is funny that you think you are funny. However, we advise you to get approval for the senior prank because we are willing to help you and get you in the school legally.”

Bring real athletes back

Jessica Mason
Staff Reporter

Every time a report comes up about a football player doping, the public seems to think that only football players dope. However, the reporters never say how often all athletes use performance-enhancing drugs (PEDs).

This statement does not mean that football players near perfection. Some of them abuse drugs, some of them abuse the law, and some of them abuse people. Doping affects more than just football players.

On October 12th, the media released to the public that Will Grier, 20-year old starting freshman quarterback for the University of Florida (UF), tested positive for performance-enhancing drugs throughout his first five winning games of the 2015 Gator football season. Due to Grier abusing their performance-enhancing policies, the NCAA suspended him for one year.

His using clearly violated basic athletic and human morals. However, according

to Global Sports Developement, 4 in 10 athletes have used PEDs at some point in their careers. Cycling remains the sport that one most commonly finds PED abusers. Football does not even make the top five.

“I’m that guy that everybody wants to pretend never lived,” Lance Armstrong, former professional cyclist admitted to reporters of telegraph.co.uk.

After being stripped of his seven consecutive Tour de France victories, Armstrong’s doping complications still remain a hot topic throughout the world news.

When a professional or collegiate football player abuses the PED policies,



By: New York Times

Due to the detriment of Will Grier’s suspension from the UF team, Grier realized his mistake only to apologize publicly, just a little too late.

it becomes world-wide news. Yet drug abuse remains a problem in all sports, not just football. Unfortunately in today’s society, people would rather risk their lives injecting themselves with deadly medicine than perfect the sport they claim to love. Drug abuse is not a Gator thing, or a college thing, or a football thing, but a human thing.

Capable of giving more

Alyssa Magilligan
Staff Reporter

A video on Twitter received over five thousand retweets. It exposed typical first-world problems, such as “I hate when I ask for no pickles and they still give me pickles” and “when my mint gum makes my ice water taste too cold”. The people stating these so-called “problems” live in third world countries, meaning all of them reside in a location with almost no healthy living conditions.

“One picture I saw was a boy, sitting on a sidewalk in a village and his legs were missing. He had chalk and drew out where his legs would be. Some people in our country can afford to get

prosthetic legs, but that boy couldn’t. We are able to cure disease. Most of us have food on the table and a roof over our head,” Kyla Dove (‘18) said.

Citizens of third world countries go days without clean water, food on the table, and a roof over their heads; all things that people living in this country often take for granted.

“I believe we do take things for granted. We have a lot of things that other people do not. A lot of the time we don’t appreciate the things that we have and live everyday with,” Dove said.

The average annual income in the

United States was \$52,000 in 2013 while the average in third-world countries is under \$1000 according to the Nation’s Online Project.

“We are capable of giving them our resources. We can help build things. We can help with technology, and even give them clean drinking water,” Olivia Brown (‘18) said.

Helping those in countries that struggle every day may help change their lives. With the many resources and privileges in this country, we possess the ability to help those in need.

The right to bear arms

Jessica Mason
Staff Reporter

According to Harvard research, the rate of mass shootings tripled since 2011. In spite of the fact that violent gun use continued to expand over the past few years, no drastic gun control laws came into play thus far. While some believe that our best interest includes prohibiting gun rights, others argue that without guns, we remain defenseless.

“Guns aren’t the problem. It’s the people who pull the trigger. I don’t think that taking guns away completely from the public will benefit us all that much, because plenty of people will simply break the law and illegally get their hands on one,” Taylor Rodriguez (‘18) said.

Contradictory to Rodriguez’s thoughts, others remain on the opposite end of the spectrum.

“I think there would be much less shooting going on [with stronger gun

control regulations]. By checking the [gun receiver’s] background more in depth, the people who know how to use them would be getting them,” Victoria Arvanitis (‘18) said.

Although opinions differ on the United States gun control rights, the fact remains that 20 school shootings in the U.S. have taken place since the beginning of 2015. Whether one’s opinion is for or against gun control, those statistics are not acceptable. The most recent school shooting in the U.S happened at Umpqua Community College in Oregon on October 1st.

On this night, 26-year-old Christopher Harper-Mercer opened fire in a hall on campus, killing eight students and one teacher, and injuring nine others.

“The shooting in Oregon is daunting. I don’t know how someone in their right mind could ever do that. I wish he

would’ve gotten help sooner,” Rodriguez (‘18) said.

Mercer then proceeded to commit suicide after engaging in a brief gunfight with a police officer. This school shooting holds the highest fatality rate since the Sandy Hook Elementary School incident in December of 2012.

After this occurrence, the topic of gun control and arguments about the Second Amendment sparked up again. President Obama addressed the nation after the Oregon school shooting and stressed that new laws must be passed to keep the citizens of our country safe. However, any laws passed by the U.S. Congress with regards to gun control cannot stop the violence in the country. Criminals determined to find guns will get them somehow, regardless of the law.



★ *Should I stay?*

Jaelyn Moser
Staff Reporter

Trick-or-treaters line the streets and ring the doorbells awaiting their chance to receive a delicious treat. However, not everyone goes out on Halloween. As a person gets older, the desire to trick or treat recedes and Halloween takes on a completely new allure. Parties thrown on Halloween become huge costume competition blow-outs, while others choose to settle down for a quiet night at home with a cozy blanket and a classic scary movie.

Contrary to popular belief, Halloween does not need to be spent as a wild night out on the town. Staying at home and enjoying a classic horror film brings just as much gratification as attending an all-nighter in the busiest part of the city. Instead

of worrying about little details such as how one will safely make it home, where's the best party location and who will win the best costume competition, a person can chill in one of their coziest pair of sweatpants and their rattiest t-shirt and binge on Netflix.

Netflix offers an ample number of quality Halloween night material such as the Nightmare Before Christmas, Sleepy Hollow, Scream, and The Silence of the Lambs. Another good source for Halloween classics includes ABC Family's "13 Nights of Halloween". It begins on October 16th and runs until the 31st playing beloved films including Hocus Pocus, Casper, The Addams Family and Monsters

University. On Demand from Verizon or Bright House offers all the best movies from the long buried childhood. Movies like the Halloweentown saga and Twitches also air on Halloween. Staying in also relieves a person of the stress of choosing the perfect costume and save them the time it takes to trick themselves out in the horrifying (or adorable) garb. The time used to get ready becomes the time to de-stress and chill out.

With the abundance of entertainment, staying home on the infamous All Hallows Eve becomes more appealing and lures in former ghouls and ghosts. So leave the trick-or-treating to the kids and stay in this Halloween.

Or should I go?

Emily Fowler
Staff Reporter

Haunted houses, parties, festivals and more make going out on Halloween a better choice than sitting inside on this spooky holiday. Staying home prevents people from experiencing the fun and scary things on Halloween. Sure, watching Halloween movies with friends may seem like a good time, but how about going to a scary theme park to experience the thrill and fear? Howl-O-Scream and Universal Halloween Horror Nights both make for a fearsome, petrifying night.

Nothing compares to the frightening and chilling feeling of a night out on Halloween. Haunted houses include pop-outs, creepy hallways, and people

dressed in creepy costumes.

Halloween parties with friends creates a good time as well. Not a fan of being frightened? Festivals may be the way to go. The rides, food and activities all make a satisfying Halloween time, while keeping the frightening things far away.

Getting out of the house, especially around Halloween, gives people the opportunity to participate in more activities. Staying home makes the night boring and uneventful. These four years of high school make the idea of holding fun times and memorable moments with close friends and family important. Going out also may help students escape stress from school and

take your mind off of things.

Staying cooped up inside brings kids closer to the chance of seeing their backpack, and then every possible stressful thought comes up.

Go out and enjoy this night that only comes around once a year. Think about all of the events to enjoy: scary theme parks, the school play, festivals, parties, etc. Going out on Halloween gives people more to talk about the next day, and creates a better time, since otherwise people would spend a day or night somewhere other than home. With Halloween being right around the corner, prepare a fun, scary night somewhere away from home.

