

HB

The Hoofbeat

J.W. Mitchell High School's Student Newspaper
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#WhosHB

Handmade Homecoming

Illustrations by Olivia Weyer

Alyssa Magilligan
Staff Reporter

Without fail, two or more girls show up at the homecoming dance wearing matching dresses each year. Many girls try to avoid this situation by shopping online, at small boutiques, or registering their purchases, but the unfortunate situation remains.

With the dance right around the corner, Sabrina Keenan ('16) refused to deal with the dreadful situation, so she decided to design her own dress.

"Making my own homecoming dress gives me individuality," Keenan said.

Even though Keenan might not plan on making a career out of sewing, nor possess a background in it, she takes the creative road, and develops her own dress for the dance.

"I design the way I want the dress to look, then I give my design to someone else so they can start working on it," Keenan said.

Making the dress actually takes a shorter amount of time than it seems. The maker of Keenan's dress finished it in only a month and a half, using just a sewing machine.

"When a special event comes along, I'll either buy

a dress and alter it, or I'll make a completely new one to fit my interest," Keenan said.

Keenan might not stand alone. A teenager from northern Michigan put together a prom dress made out of 18,000 Starburst candy wrappers, thanks to all of her classmates.

Many other girls also created their own bizarre dress. Maybe other girls will catch on, and it might just become the newest fad for next year's homecoming dance.

Even some of Keenan's everyday clothes include her own little twist. She

often wears personalized pieces to school.

"I can be comfortable in something that didn't cost a lot of money," Keenan said. "That's why I make some of my own clothes."

Making a homecoming dress must incorporate exact measurements. The maker of the dress needs the precise size to get the perfect fit. Cost factors in the decision to make rather than buy a dress, as well.

"Making my own dress cost much less than buying and altering one," Keenan said.

Everything needed to make her dress either

comes from a craft store or old materials.

Making outfits for the big day helps prepare for future careers in sewing or fashion design. In addition, creating outfits for homecoming, or any other big event, helps express a personality through clothing.

By taking this individual route, the worry and horror of wearing the same dress as someone else disappears.

Big plans for Trinity

Emily Fowler
Staff Reporter

Coming soon: a whole new look for the Trinity area. According to The Tampa Bay Times, a 333 acre development plans to include an outdoor mall, movie theater, nearly 1,000 homes, and hiking/biking trails. This project, now called Mitchell 54 West, plans to bring much attention to the Trinity area. The project site extends from the school all the way to State Road 54.

The land, currently owned by the pioneer Mitchell family, and now under contract, may turn from a rural area to an urban area, making it an excellent location for the upcoming developments. This project brings positivity to the community by increasing business and attracting people

to the area.

“I think it’s really awesome because there will be so much more to do here in Trinity and it will bring more people to the community. Also, it will bring former residents of Trinity back because it will be a more developed community,” Meghan Bertig (’17) said. Teens may have a new hangout spot, especially high school students, since the mall and movie theater will be within walking distance.

The planned developments present both pros and cons. Increased traffic, deforestation and a higher population represent some of the potential drawbacks. On the brighter side, drivers look forward to going to this mall and movie theater instead

of driving 20-30 minutes away.

“It’s beneficial because it saves time and it saves gas money so you don’t have to stop at gas stations on the way to a mall that’s farther away,” Olyvia Cayer (’18) said.

The future development sparks excitement for those living nearby because they may see a Wiregrass-style mall right next door, in spite of the potential drawbacks. Some residents express concern about the future developments, after the Trinity Town Center teased them with promises of development and booming business, but it still

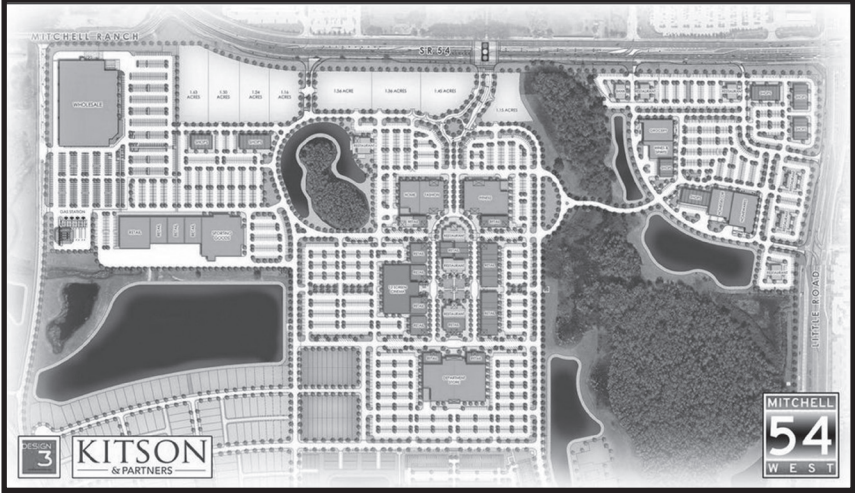


Image from Kitson & Partners

Pictured above, tentative plans for the new development are in the works.

remains unfinished today.

“The Trinity Town Center is useless because there hasn’t been any progression in building and finishing the rest. It has been the same way for about two or three years,” Alexis Zegan (’17) said.

In spite of the community’s reservations, the project moves forward, according to Debra Dremann, the Senior Vice President of Kitson &

Partners.

“Our mission is to provide a one-of-a-kind community experience for all of the essentials in life. Engaging, interactive and comfortable places to walk, shop, dine, entertain, hangout and call home. A place you will want to visit often and spend a lot of time with family and friends,” Dremann said.

Buckets of money

Bailey Sassatelli
Staff Reporter

The Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Association (ALSA) made a huge splash with their Ice Bucket Challenge, raising over 5 million in cold hard cash.

The recent fad known as the ‘ALS Ice Bucket Challenge’ raises awareness of the illness often referred to as Lou Gehrig’s Disease. Students, parents and celebrities took part in the movement and nominated their friends to do the same. But what is the real meaning behind the challenge?

“ALS is a disease that affects the spinal cord which makes people lose control of their

nerves and spasms occur sometimes,” Ryan Hoskins (’15) said. “The ice bucket was chosen because it stimulates the nerves to where you get a tingling sensation the way people with ALS experience it.”

The Ice Bucket Challenge, started by former Boston College baseball player and ALS patient Pete Frates, brought much attention to the disease in a supportive manner.

“People love to have their friends do stupid things on video that may or may not cause them discomfort. It has spread awareness very well. I know that Charlie Sheen donated \$10,000 alone. I’m pretty sure they’re at least in the millions by now,” Hoskins said.

Social media fed the trend’s popularity, and students watched countless people take the plunge.



Photo by Dena Sprotopulos

The Stampede yearbook staff uses the Ice Bucket Challenge as a means of staff bonding, all while raising money for the ALSA.

“It’s trending on Twitter, it has been for weeks, same thing with Facebook and other social media outlets. No matter who it is or where you look, everyone at least knows about what it is,” Hoskins said.

Not only does the Ice Bucket Challenge allow people to connect but it also raises awareness in one of the most unique ways thought possible.

“ALS, until the challenge,

was practically invisible to the public eye. I think people need to understand that just because something is not well known doesn’t mean that it isn’t important,” Hoskins said.

The Ice Bucket Challenge, never attempted before now, raised awareness in a unique manner that both kept people interested and made a positive difference in the community around ALS.

Editorial Policy

Published seven 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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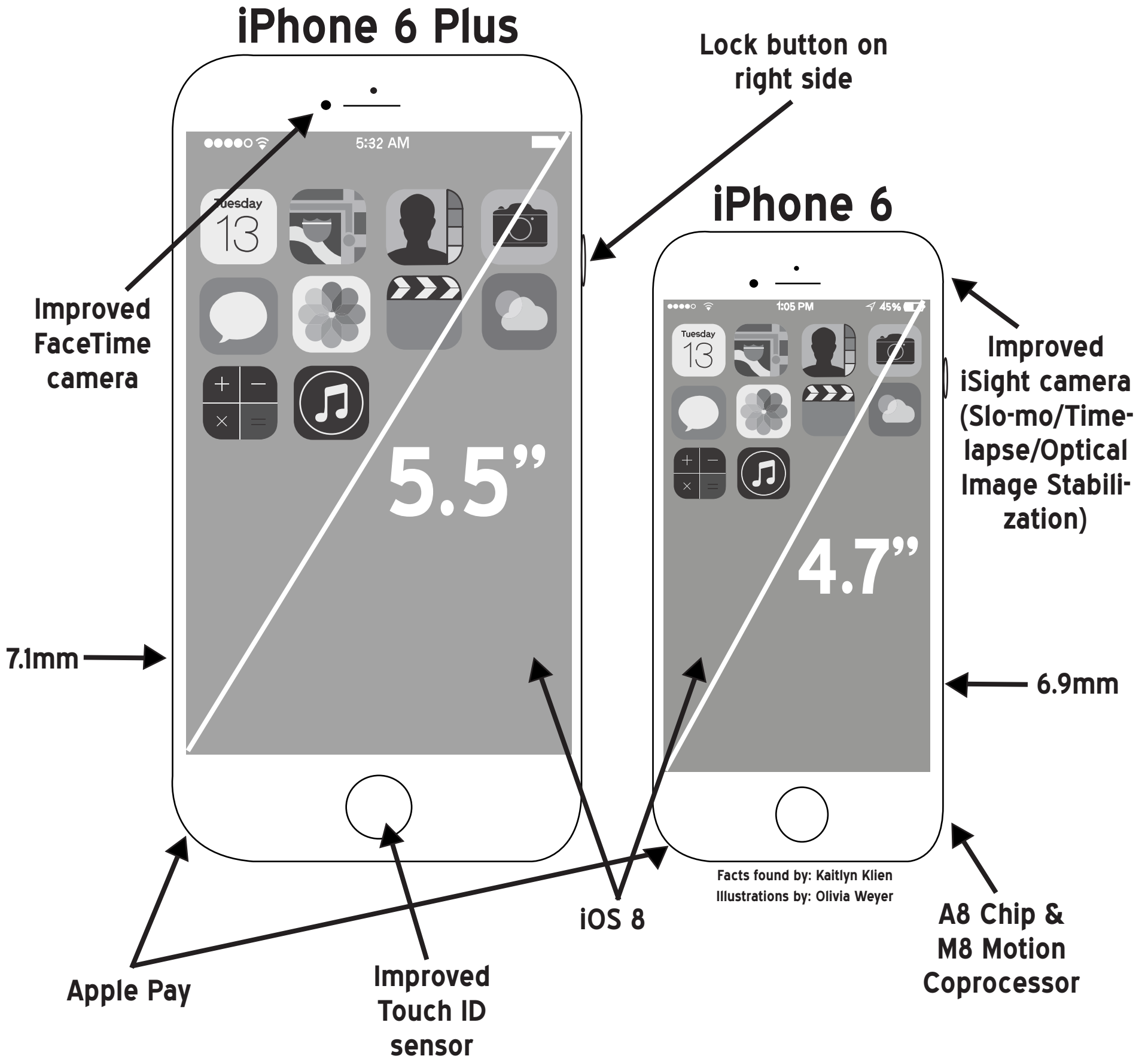
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Bigger than bigger



Who's getting the new iPhone?

37% are happy with their current phone

44% will wait for the price to go DOWN

19% will buy when it is released in **September**

15 Tips for freshmen to relax

by Chrissy Couture

Freshmen's Questions

by Sarah Nagy

- Q: "Are the pep rallies here fun and how often do they occur?"
- *Tabbi Gutowski ('18)*
- A: "Our hope is that students find them fun and interactive! They happen about once a quarter; whenever we introduce a new season of sports."
- *Mrs. Mitchell Herring (FAC)*
- Q: "What is homecoming week like and what happens during it?"
- *Michael Smith ('18)*
- A: "Homecoming week is a very eventful, week and I think it's the best week of the year. The dress up days are the best and there is a themed activity everyday!"
- *Paipe Farina ('16)*
- Q: "What are some good study tips to be successful?"
- *Grace Gardner ('18)*
- A: "The key is to study every night by taking cornell notes, making flash cards, and highlighting important information."
- *Nolan Larcom ('15)*
- Q: "What clubs would you suggest to join?"
- *Vincent Lamarca ('18)*
- A: "Clubs are based off of your own interests, so join the ones that interest you."
- *Kacie Patterson ('16)*

Transitioning back into a routine that balances school, practices, clubs, and maintaining one's sanity appears impossible. Freshmen that only set foot on a high school campus for the first time not even two months ago must master the art of penciling in time to relax. For now, upperclassmen and faculty gave their best tips and tricks about how they unwind and still make every year memorable. Take it from seasoned pros:

- #1

"I like taking nice baths. It helps calm me down and helps with all the pains from football,"

- Hunter Hill ('16)
- #2

"Sometimes I like to exercise or walk around [the park] just to get my mind off all of the stress,"

- Tatiana Maser ('15)
- #3

"I'll either take a nap, or I'll watch Netflix or read a book. When you hang out with your friends it distracts you from whatever is stressing you out,"

- Madison Schafer ('15)
- #4

"I go on the internet or watch TV. It takes me a whole weekend day,"

- Michaela McDougall ('15)
- #5

"I run a lot. I like to listen to music. I like to read or hang out with friends. I like to go [to Starbucks] on the week-ends and just sit there all day, and read, drink coffee, and listen to music,"

- Savannah Maples ('16)
- #6

"I do drumming. I usually practice certain things to get my mind off it, like I'll do exercises a lot. I just think about what I'm doing and that really takes me away,"

- Bain Wills ('17)
- #7

"I watch funny cat videos on YouTube. Those make me smile when I'm sad. I like Netflix, too. I will binge watch a whole season. Freshmen should purchase a subscription to Netflix,"

- Morgan Luter ('15)
- #8

"The freshmen should find a comfort food or a fluffy animal to touch. [When you're stressed out] you could hug your girlfriend and give her wonderful little kisses and tell her that you need hugs back,"

- Colin Moran ('15)
- #9

"I like to listen to a lot of hip hop music. I also like to play soccer with my friends, too. It's just for fun, to hang out with my friends, go out, run around, and forget about everything,"

- Elliot Evangelista ('15)
- #10

"It's all about time management, so even though I'm stressed. I love sticky notes and I have a board in my room so I can organize everything so that I don't feel overwhelmed with stuff,"

- Brianna Armenia ('17)
- #11

"I listen to music or lay in my bed. My mind is racing and then I try to just calm down. Also, just take frequent breaks. Maybe go get a snack or just watch some of a TV show,"

- Lynn Keller ('16)
- #12

"Anything that requires the least amount of thought. You can go on YouTube and there's this way you can find a random video and you do that for a couple hours,"

- Evan Gaynor ('17)
- #13

"When I feel stressed out, I'll go practice football. Sometimes I hang out with friends, go to volleyball games, football games, go out to eat, see movies,"

- Keith Satterwhite ('16)
- #14

"When I get home, I like to kick off my shoes, hold the bunny, just relax and watch my fish tank,"

- Ms. Herring (FAC)
- #15

"I spend time with my wife and family and go out on the boat, work in the yard, and do those kind of things. We plant herbs, and vegetables, and lettuce. That stuff. It's little, just a little garden,"

- Mr. Michaels (FAC)

Give my regards to Student Council

Lexi Clark
Staff Reporter

Homecoming excitement fills the campus with an energy seen only during the special week. Students participate in dress up days, games, and the dance, but the work involved in organizing all the events rarely gets the spotlight.

Contrary to popular belief, not everything magically appears overnight, but instead gets put together by a well-oiled machine, filled with the people the student body elected as their student council. With homecoming sneaking up on the students so early this year, the committee picked up the pace.

By bouncing ideas off one another until they collectively agreed on the theme, they jump-started the process. "It's running a lot more



Posted in Green commons, a banner displaying the dress up days of Homecoming week reminds students to get creative and go all out year for a Night in New York theme. Banner created by Courtney Patterson ('15).

smoothly than it has in the past, actually. We met during the summer. It's still under control and it's not rushed or anything," Carson Oakes ('15) said.

The student council cuts ballots, orders the crowns and sashes, and sets up the Rodeo Games. Dance preparation includes more than just picking and agreeing on a theme. They contact decorating companies, divide up over 1900 ballots, and control the budget. These seem like difficult tasks, but this year's student council tackled them with no issue and avoided chaos.

"I feel like homecoming is going to be different this year because of how much extra money and time we've put into this," Hunter Hill ('16)

There's no place like Homecoming

Chrissy Couture
Staff Reporter

Diapers, root beer, feathered hair, and jailbird stripes. Homecoming essentials vary from decade to decade, fashion trend to fashion trend.

However, one thing remains the same: Homecoming Week still takes on an aura of excitement and anticipation. Even since the 70s, 80s, and 90s, the memories made during Homecoming Week last forever.

"You only have this experience for a short time, but it's such a tremendously big part of your life," Ms. Michelle Chamberlin (FAC) said.

No matter what era, Homecoming sparks school spirit for the main event. Over the past 30 years, the highlight of the week changes between the dress up days, pep rally, football game, and dance itself.

"We had wheelbarrow races,

and two freshmen, and we had a big school," Chamberlin said.

With slim chance for election onto the court, those who succeed rained in the glitz and glory of the night.

"If you weren't on the court, you didn't dress up. So we did the Homecoming dance immediately following the football game," Chamberlin said.

For the ladies on court, a long homemade dress complete with puffy shoulders and a train grabbed the attention of all of the dressed-down dates and spectators. With the limelight shining on the gowns of Homecoming Court, other dancegoers dress informally for the event – driving down the cost and opening up the number of people that can attend.

"When it's toned down, it's accessible to everybody regardless of financial means. So that is nice because at our homecoming dance it was packed, everybody could go. That said, it is nice to have homecoming be a special occasion because you don't really get that many chances to dress up," Seletos said.

Regardless of the decade or dress up day, Homecoming Week allows students the chance to anticipate the excitement of the events and offers them the opportunity to show school spirit. Making memories never goes out of style.

(From left to right) Mrs. Chamberlin (FAC) cheering at her Homecoming football game. Ms. Stoecker (STAFF) and future husband on Homecoming Court. Ms. Seletos (FAC) dressing up for Western Day and Rodeo Games Day.



Photos provided by: Mrs. Chamberlin, Ms. Stoecker, and Ms. Seletos

My strange obsession

Sam Burchick
Staff Reporter

Many people obsess, some more openly than others, with things like Starbucks, TV shows, celebrities, music, and more.

Katelyn Henderson's obsession with celebrities benefits her in countless ways by getting her through difficult times.

"Justin Bieber brings me happiness and helps me not do stupid things," Henderson ('16) said.

Her family members get to deal with her obsession first hand.

"They turn their head and walk the other direction," Henderson said.

Some hide their obsessions, while others show them off.

"I don't openly show my obsession, but if the subject comes up I will start talking about it," Henderson said.

Others benefit by having somebody to talk to about their obsessions and get different perspectives, especially for a TV show obsession.

"The show *Lost* got me hooked immediately when I first watched it. After that, I was addicted and couldn't stop watching it," Russell Khan ('17) said.

Teens also obsess over phone cases, always wondering which one best shows off their personality.

"My life is benefited by my obsession because I love when people compliment me on my

phone cases," Madelyn Hickey ('18) said.

People do different things when it comes to keeping the obsessions going. Henderson continues her obsession with Justin Bieber by listing to his music and following him on social media.

Others may have a harder time to keep theirs going.

"My family and friends refuse to buy me any more phone cases and think that I'm nuts," Hickey said.

Kahn's fascination with *Lost* persists with the help of Netflix.

"I watch and re-watch episodes and seasons to keep my obsession going," Khan said.

Not everyone goes around



Russell Khan ('17) takes his obsession to the next level with room décor.



Photos by Sam Burchick
Madelyn Hickey ('18) proudly shows off her collection of iPhone cases.

flaunting their obsession but some always talk about it.

"I don't hide it nor show my obsession; I just kind of have it," Hickey said.

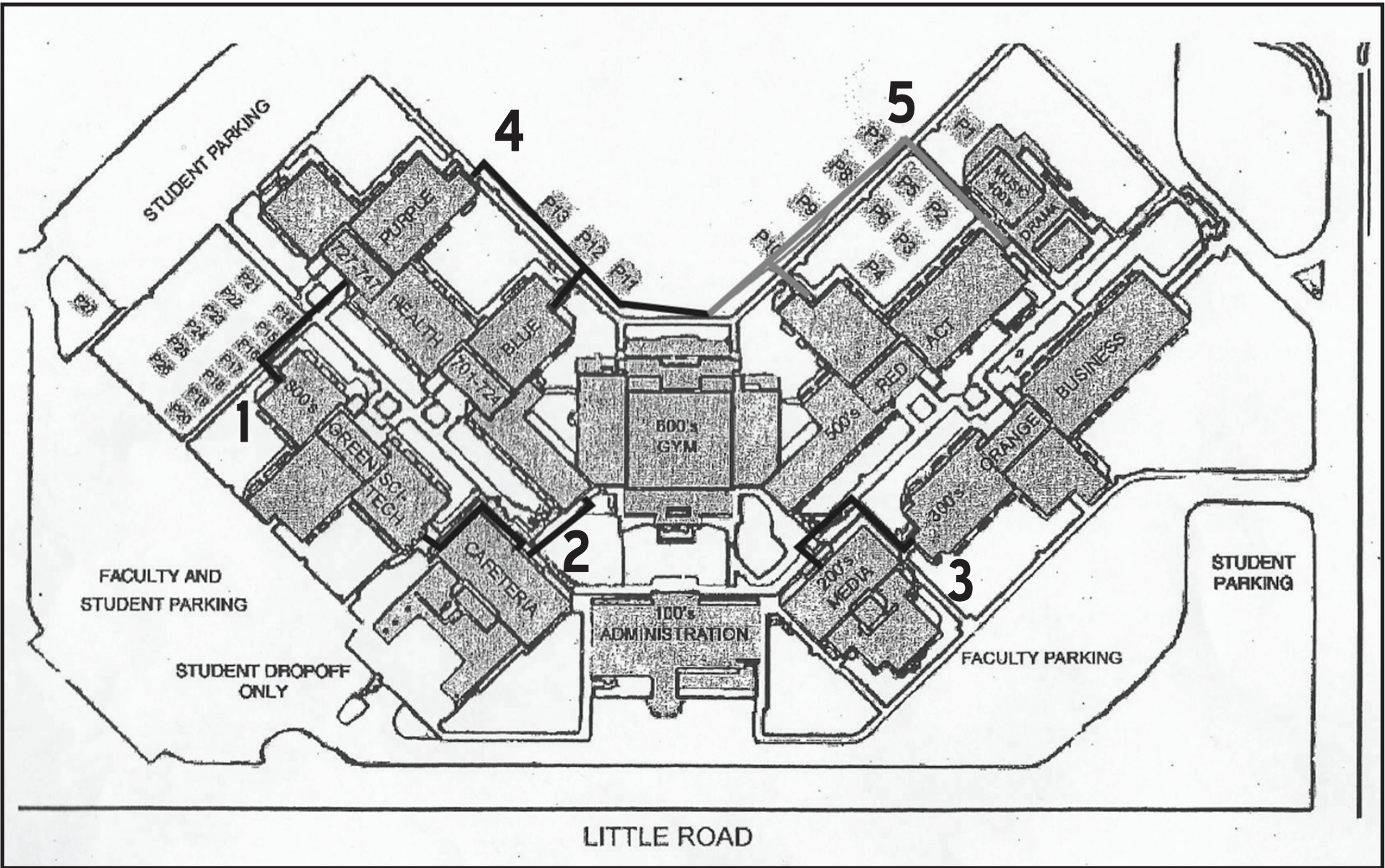
People who hide their obsession usually fear being judged by their fellow peers and keep quiet.

"I don't talk about my obsessions because people can judge and if I can avoid people being judgmental I do," Henderson said.

Obsessions figure in daily routines in countless different ways. Hidden or shown, obsessions play a part in many people's lives.

Alternate routes by Katy White

1. From Green to Purple use the hallway by Green portables
2. From Blue to Green use the side hallway entrances
3. From the Media to Orange hallway entrance.
4. Go the back way from Purple to the back of Blue, Red, Band, or the Drama room.
5. Back of Gym to Middle Red hallway and the Band or Drama room.



Calm before the storm

Caroline Weyer
Staff Reporter

Each game proves a battle, though the toughest battle begins in an athlete's mind. Superstitions lead players to believe they need to perform a ritual in order to succeed in a game. Rituals help provide confidence and stability for the athletes.

"During big games when I walk on the field, I put my right foot first and pray before I step onto the field," Kaleb Hussain ('18) said.

For players like Kaleb, religion plays a large role in the game. Music also motivates success for those who overthink their game.

"I always listen to music right before a game during warm-ups. I don't listen to the lyrics though; I listen to the beat and it helps me get focused on the game, rather than drifting to negative thoughts," Ben Wagner ('16) said.

“ I listen to the **BEAT** and it helps me get **FOCUSED** on the game ”
- Ben Wagner ('16)

Athletes find whatever works for them and keep it consistent for each game. Once a ritual seems to work, the athlete relies on it each time.

"Typically for morning games, I always make a banana smoothie before I leave and listen to music the whole ride there," Hussain said.

Even eating the right food pregame helps athletes get into their routine and get their head in the game. To spectators, sports may seem only to require physical strength, but in reality require more mental

stability and confidence than fans expect.

"I feel that if I don't listen to music during warm ups, I might not perform well or focus enough on my game," Wagner said.

Athletes face the good and the bad when it comes to rituals. Rituals either work consistently or affect the player's mind negatively and cause a lack of concentration.

In the end, an athlete must find a ritual that comforts them and gets them ready for the next battle.

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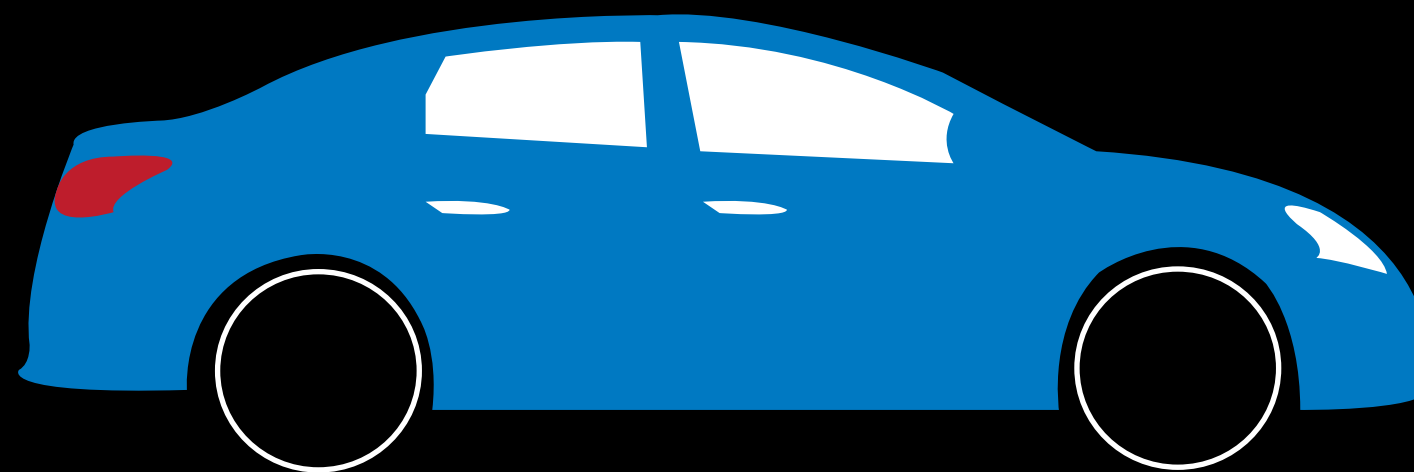
GUTTERSDONERWRIGHT.COM

BEEP BEEP COMIN' THRU

Whether it's bumper stickers or fuzzy dice in the rearview, cars often reflect the personality of their owner, all while developing an attitude (and sometimes name) of their own.

*Alex Moreno
Staff Reporter*

NISSAN SENTRA

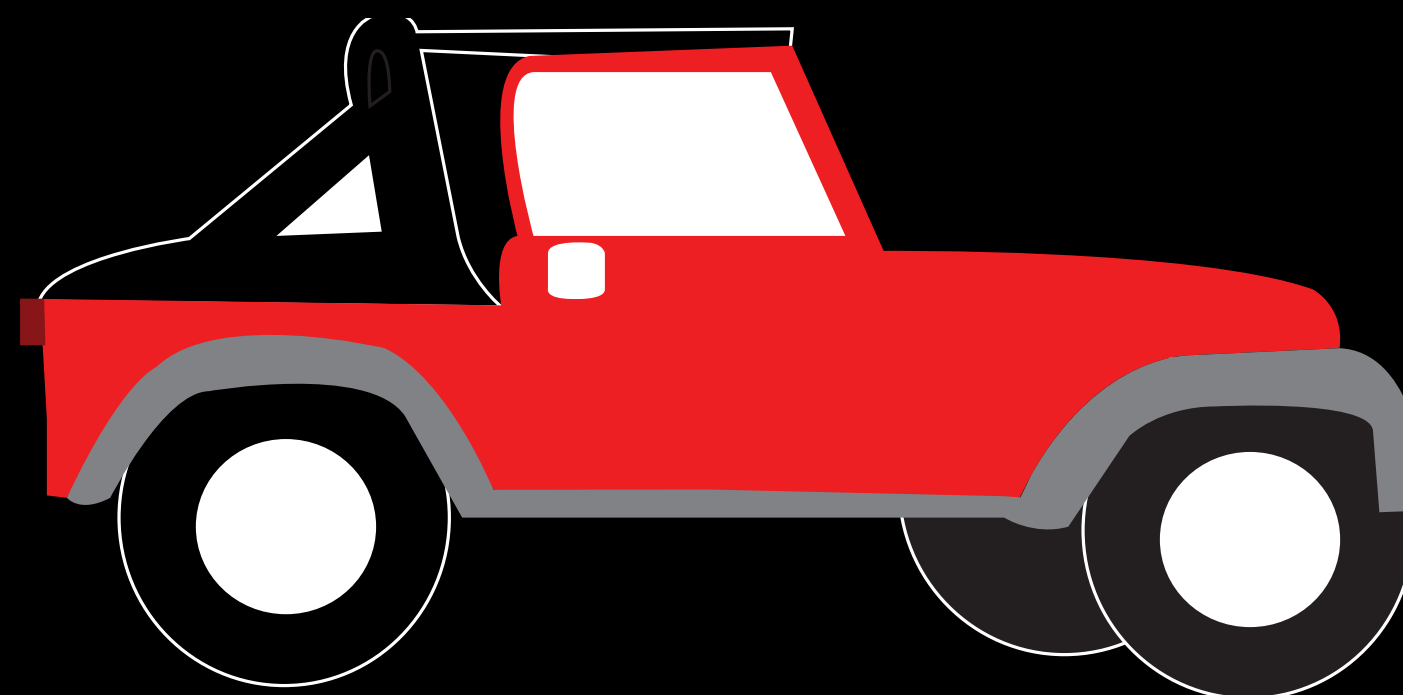


OWNER:
Maylan Cruickshank ('15)

NAME:
Nash (after vine star)

FUN FACT:
**Keeps it clean
and organized**

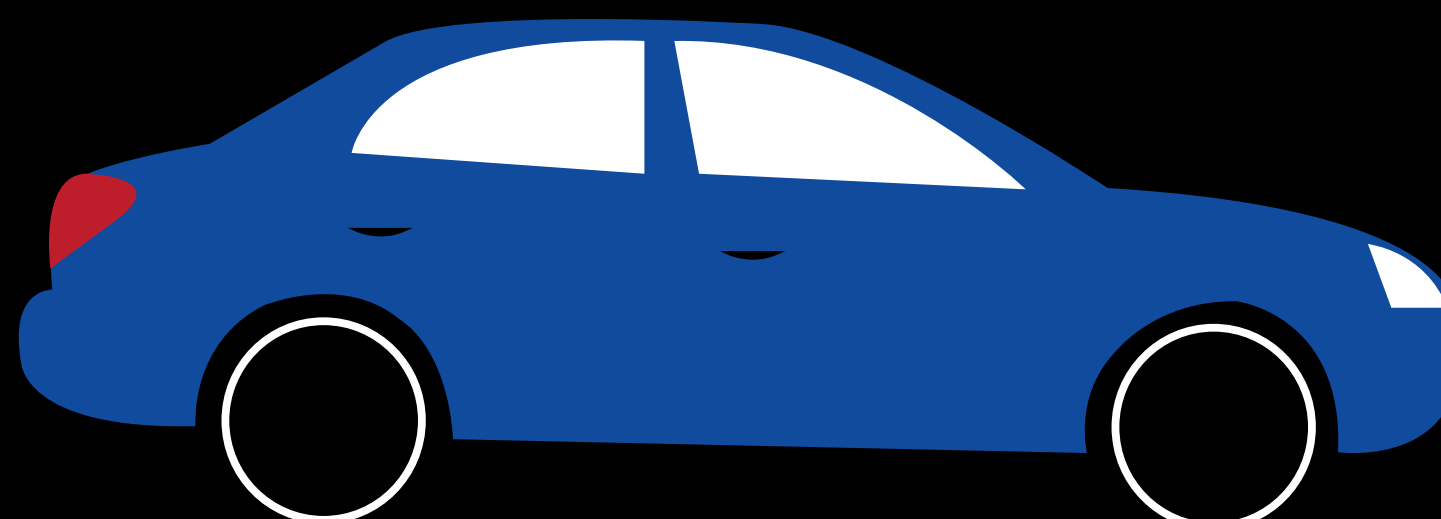
JEEP WRANGLER YJ



OWNER:
Ben Hoppes ('15)

FUN FACT:
**Only rule is
"buckle up"**

KIA RIO



OWNER:
Valentina Izzo ('15)

NAME:
Blueberry

FUN FACT:
**Named because it is
shiny and blue**

Johnny ‘Clipboard’

Brock Shively
Staff Reporter

The fans exclaim in applause and boo in despair. The fans love and hate the media circus of Quarterback Johnny Manziel.

People loved watching him play quarterback in the NCAA. Manziel won the Heisman Trophy as a freshman, the first collegiate athlete to do so. Manziel captivated everyone following the NFL Draft, leaving fans wondering where he would land.

“I thought the Bucs would draft Manziel,” said student Dillon Johnson (‘17). Now NFL scouts and fans question his ability to succeed in the league.

“He was good in college, but I don’t think he will be good in the NFL,” said Johnson.

The Cleveland Browns shocked the world trading up to select Manziel with the twenty second selection. No-body denies Manziel supplies incredible talent. Manziel carries an athletically gifted body with a strong arm.

This offseason his off-the-field actions started a heated debate. He poses as a partier off the football field.

This offseason he went to Vegas and partied with New England Tight End Rob Gronkowski. Manziel also arrived late to a rookie meeting in the

Cleveland Browns’ training camp.

“There’s nothing wrong with Manziel having fun off the field,” said Johnson.

Manziel showed immaturity by flipping off the Washington Redskins bench during a preseason game. Browns executives questioned him as an immature adult, and this didn’t help.

Brian Hoyer maintains the starting Quarterback job now, but for how long? The fans want to see him play, and that might arrive soon if Hoyer struggles. Manziel wants to start now, but the coaches put his career on hold.

MANZIEL’S OFFSEASON

May 8th, 2014 - Cleveland Browns trade up to select Johnny Manziel with the 22nd overall selection

July 4th, 2014 - Manziel goes to Las Vegas with Rob Gronkowski

August 9th, 2014 - Manziel makes NFL debut against the Detroit Lions

August 10th, 2014 - Manziel shows up 45 minutes late to a team meeting

August 18th, 2014 - Manziel flips off the Washington Redskins bench

August 20th, 2014 - Browns name Brian Hoyer starting quarterback over Johnny Manziel



JOHNNY CLIPBOARD

The Cleveland fans want Manziel to start immediately, but coach Mike Pettine thinks Manziel needs to learn the playbook and watch from the sidelines. Even though Manziel won't start now, the future of Cleveland is arriving soon.

BROCK'S FANTASY FOOTBALL TIPS

1. Avoid adding your favorite teams players.
2. Keep an eye on the waiver wire for breakout performers.
3. Avoid adding rookies due to them acclimating themselves to the NFL.
4. Look for second year players who received expanded roles this season.
5. Don't add players because of their household names.
6. Stay away from injury prone players.
7. Check bye weeks of your backups so they don't match your starters.
8. Check updates on your players frequently.
9. Try not to make trades.
10. Look for players with an upside.
11. If a starter gets injured, look for his backup.
12. Check a player's schedule late in the year for the playoffs.
13. Look for player's with good matchups on waivers.
14. See if anyone dropped a good player in your league.
15. Add consistent players to your teams.

PLAYERS TO ADD:



ESPN.com

Baltimore Ravens QB Joe Flacco

27.1% of ESPN leagues own Flacco on their fantasy teams. Flacco gained Steve Smith this offseason, and now requires him to throw more in a pass happy offense. Flacco plays in the easier AFC, which gives him more chances to score you fantasy points.



BestFNFantasyShow.com

Miami Dolphins WR Brian Hartline

5.3% of ESPN leagues contain Hartline on there team. QB Ryan Tannehill used Hartline as a go to target all last season. These two obtain great chemistry on the field that won't go away this season. Hartline started the season slow, but look for him to explode later this year.



ProFootballRosters.com

St. Louis Rams RB Benny Cunningham

A miniscule 1% of ESPN leagues own Cunningham on their team. If you need a guy to stash on your roster for late in the season, this guy fits your team. Cunningham impressed the coaching staff this preseason and snatched some of Zac Stacy's carries away.

Off and running to the finish line

Katy White
Staff Reporter

More than eager to tell others about her passion, Leah Thompson (‘16), a cross-country runner since her sophomore year, leaps out of her chair in the classroom with a smile.

Thompson decided to become a cross country runner when her coach came to her and suggested it.

“I thought it was insane, that’s like two miles every day. I felt bad though, so I went to one of the practices and it turns out I was pretty good,” Thompson said.

The sport came naturally to her, and she refused to turn

back from there.

Thompson wakes up every morning at five to go to the local YMCA. The whole team runs three to six miles a day, maybe even eight. Sunday mornings they get to sleep in, unlike the other days of the week. For their first meet at Wiregrass on Tuesday, September 16th, they competed against many schools.

Thompson often tells herself, “You can do it, have strength,” when pushing herself to finish an event. She says that many times it becomes mentally, and even physically, draining.

“You CAN do it, have STRENGTH”

- Leah Thompson (‘16)

“I need to break 20 minutes and get into the nineteens; 19:30 would be great,” Thompson said.

Family history drew Koehler Machlus (‘15), a senior on the cross country team, to running.

“My uncle is the cross country coach at Largo High School. I would always go to his home meets when I was in Middle School,” Machlus said.

Machlus knows the struggle of working to the bone, often pushing his body further than he thinks possible.

“In order for me to work harder I need to put some

emotion into the race. The emotion helps me push forward and move faster,” Machlus said.

The cross country team wants as many supporters to attend meets as possible.

“The school should definitely show some spirit for our cross country team. We work hard too, just as much as the football team, volleyball team, swim team, and all teams,” Thompson said.

The cross country team holds meets every Saturday morning and welcomes all fans of the sport.

Tackling the Knights

Amanda Garcia
Staff Reporter

Some may say the biggest part of Homecoming is the dance, however, some say it’s the actual football game itself. Our school takes on the River Ridge knights. Although homecoming comes early this year, some are excited about it.

“Homecoming being early is good cause I don’t have to wait as long for it, and it’s the best week of the year honestly, no other school does what we do on homecoming,” Cale Boggess (‘16) said. “River Ridge, our rival, doesn’t even have a homecoming. It’s like a middle school dance; dance.”

“Its different but I feel that we can start our year off bet-

ter than different schools, like we can set the bar high and starting it earlier is something we can look forward to so immediately,” Mallory Eline (‘15) Varsity cheer captain said.

The cheer and football team work hard to prepare for the biggest game of the season.

“We are preparing by learning this routine at the FSU camp we did over summer, and they taught us this fun dance to pretty mainstream songs people know about. We also do stuff with the step and dance team; its pretty cool stuff,” Eline said.

Varsity football player Tyler Williams tells how the football team prepares.

“We don’t really prepare for river ridge until the week of the game because we play every team week by week,” Williams said.

“Of course we will win because Rive Ridge stinks,” Williams said.

Kelly Meehan varsity cheerleader agrees with Tyler. “We will do really well because our first game we tied, and the team is working really hard and is going to do great,” Meehan said.

A lot of faith the football team to win this upcoming Homecoming game against the Knights.

Bright lights, big game

Amanda Garcia
Staff Reporter

That time of year again where the boys put on skirts, and the girls prepare to score a touchdown. Powderpuff, one of the most talked about activities that one may get to participate in.

“[It’s] my first year playing Powerpuff, and it sounds fun and a good experience to get to know the school,” Addis Kukljac (‘17) said.

His friends involvement motivated him to play.

“My friends are doing it and it sounded like a way to support school spirit,” Kukljac said.

During Powderpuff, the girls get down and dirty playing flag football while the boys

grab their pom poms and cheer on.

“Wearing a skirt seems kind of girly but funny at the same time,” Jordan Garcia (‘18) said.

If the boys can handle wearing skirts, will they be able to learn the cheers?

“It will be difficult because the boys get confused a lot than us girls and the boys take a bit more time to learn it. Its obviously going to be a lot of fun, but I hope they are actually listening and paying attention,” Armenia said.

Armenia sacrificed her own desire to play to help coach the boys.

Swinging for the stars

Sarah Nagy
Staff Reporter

Girls golf comes swinging in ready for a full year of fierce competition, practicing four days a week in Florida’s scorching conditions. Although the heat fails to handicap their determination for top rankings.

In the year prior, the girls placed well in each match and have high hopes for outstanding rankings once again.

“Our main goal as a team this year is to make it in the top 5 at the state match. As an individual, I hope to place in conference, districts and

regionals,” Mackenzie Bennett (‘16) said.

The girls practice diligently Monday through Thursday with the school team, and spend a lot of their personal time practicing for their own good. This year especially matters for some people.

“This season is really important to me since it’s my senior year; I want to make it really count because I want colleges to notice me and I just want to have a good year to finish off high school,” Lindsey Ritchey (‘15) said.

Scott Schmitz (FAC) who previously coached the girls golf team in the school’s earlier years.

“Coach Schmitz Sr. (FAC) allows us to have our own focus this year in any weak areas that need improvement, and I think it’s very helpful,” Ritchey (‘15) said.

With all the hard work put in, they wish for rewarding scores in return. Swinging, sweating, and stroking in 90+ degree weather demonstrates the dedication and ambition these girls have for their sport.



Photo by Sarah Nagy

Alongside of the lush, green course, Mackenzie Bennett (‘16) precisely measures the distance of the ball to the hole visually. “Doing this gives me a better idea of the angle the stroke needs to be taken at,” Bennett said.

Growing laps and bounds

Sophie Sajecki
Staff Reporter

While watching the entire swim and dive team warm up in the pool, fans see that the team members really know how to swim. Onlookers also see that every team member works their hardest to prepare for the upcoming meet. The splash of swimmers cutting through the water sounds intimidating even from far away.

This year the school’s swim and dive team grew much larger compared to teams of previous years.

“Our girls swim team went from around 20 swimmers last year to now 42 girls,” Marlo Shiver (‘15) girls team captain said.

The boys swim and dive team became larger this year as well.

“About five or six guys joined the team this year. It’s not nearly as many as the girls but it’s still a lot more than we had join last year,” Evan Roberson (‘16) said.

This year the swim team plans to participate in a few different activities than last year. This should put a spotlight on new members and bring more success.

“I definitely like that this year we’re hosting our regionals once again at the Clearwater Aquatic Center because it’s a really nice pool and it’s a lot better than last year,” Roberson said.

Because the swim team has grown so much larger this year, the swimmers train in many different ways than in previous years to advance and win at more meets.

“We’re having half the team in the pool and then we’re having the other half of the team go do dry land and get their strength up, so that way we have enough time and so it doesn’t get so crowded in the water,” Shiver said.

Outside of practice, some of the swimmers do lots of extra training.

“Dry land, conditioning, squats and running really helps endurance,” said Raleigh Illig (‘18).

Swimmers and some other athletes know that just knocking a few seconds off an overall time makes a huge difference.

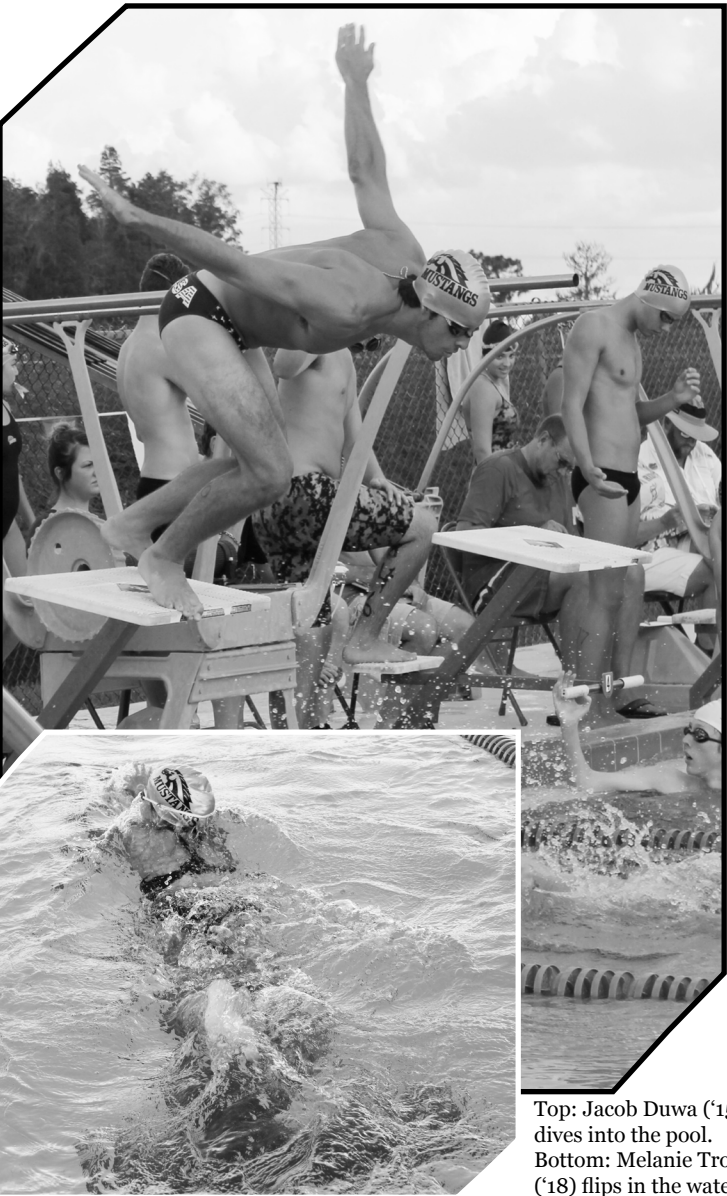
“I have improved in my 100 free by about 3 seconds from last year,” Roberson said.

While swimming in high school brings immediate glory, some athletes aspire to higher goals.

“I’m hoping to swim in college and if not then I at least want to join a club team while I’m there,” Shiver says.

“Swimming pretty much is my life.”


This year the school should see a boost in scores from the swim team. With all of the new additions to the team and the advantages in training this year, the team shows promise for success at their upcoming meets.




Photos by Sophie Sajecki

Top: Jacob Duwa (‘15) dives into the pool. Bottom: Melanie Troche (‘18) flips in the water to finish her lap.


Summer movie recap by Sebastian Miller



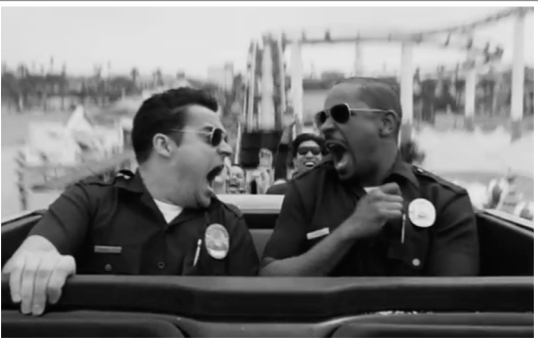
Guardians of the Galaxy
Chris Pratt and a talking, gunslinging raccoon that blows stuff up? You're welcome. Go see it.




X-Men: Days of Future Past
While previous X-Men films often fell short, this one gave fans what they needed: a completely revamped story that totally disregarded previous plot lines to create an amazing new movie.




Dawn of the Planet of the Apes
Caesar acts as a scene stealer in this movie, packed with great emotion and awesome fighting scenes. Buy it.



Let's Be Cops
Like many recent comedies, most of the funniest moments of this movie debuted in the previews. Suffering from bad marketing plus an attempt to throw back to older buddy cop films, it failed miserably.



A Million Ways to Die in the West
Much like the current storytelling on Family Guy, this movie felt like lazy writing and a money grab. Seth MacFarlane, take some time away from writing.



Jersey Boys
This movie changes the point of view way too often. Just as The Office characters share their inner monologue with the camera, except the whole cast of this film feels compelled to confuse the audience with their thoughts. Do not see this movie.

Fall TV preview

Kelsey Williams
Staff Reporter

Fall not only pertains to the changing of seasons; things like TV shows change too. Viewers receive the gift of returning TV shows and brand new series. Shows like *The Big Bang Theory* plan to return for an eighth season this fall. Returning TV shows include *Arrow*, *Bones*, *Brooklyn Nine-Nine*, *Criminal Minds*, *CSI*, and *Modern Family*. Viewers find themselves glued to the TV once new series begin, like CW's *Arrow* spin-off series *The Flash*, starring Grant Gustin. For fans of the how *How I Met Your Mother*, the new series A to Z a romantic comedy following the love story of Andrew (played by Ben Feld-

man) and Zelda (Christin Milioti) and the troubles life throws in their way, starts soon. Among new TV shows one may find *Red Band Society*, an American adaptation of a Spanish drama called *Polseres Vermelles*. This new show will follow a group of teens experiencing out of the ordinary circumstances; a coma patient, a cheerleader in desperate need of a heart transplant, and other unwell teens. Longtime running series *NCIS* starts a new series *NCIS: New Orleans*, giving fans extra plot lines and crimes to enjoy. Returning and new TV shows this fall provide viewers with multiple options to enjoy this year.

Most anticipated Fall TV shows by students:

- American Horror Story
- Once Upon a Time
- Red Band Society
- Walking Dead
- How To Get Away With Murder



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ROBIN WILLIAMS (1951-2014)

by Olivia Weyer

On August 11, 2014 the world lost a brilliant comedian and actor. Robin Williams, 63, left too soon; his manic improvisations and lightning impersonations will be dearly missed. He has made an impact on people's lives through his dramatic and comedic movies as well as his stand-up routines. Here are some highlights of his career in Film and Television:



NYTimes.com

Mork & Mindy (1978) - Williams' big break on a spin-off TV show about his character on *Happy Days*, Mork, an alien who comes to Earth to learn about humans



NYTimes.com

Good Morning Vietnam (1987) - A story about a DJ sent to Vietnam during the war to shake things up and bring humor to Armed Forces Radio lets Williams show the audience his quick thinking as he ad-libbed all of Adrian Cronauer's broadcasts.



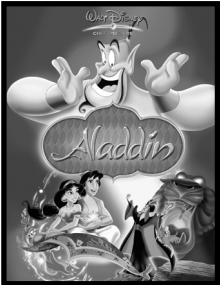
NYTimes.com

Dead Poets Society (1989) - O Captain, my Captain! A fan favorite, this movie remains important in English classrooms across the country as many watch and learn how to seize day.



NYTimes.com

Hook (1991) - A movie many grew up watching, Williams plays Peter Pan all grown up with kids as he goes to Neverland to save them from Captain Hook (Dustin Hoffman).



NYTimes.com

Aladdin (1992) - A Disney classic kids still love today as Williams' hilarious Genie will have people singing 'A Friend like Me' and 'Prince Ali' for many years to come.



NYTimes.com

Mrs. Doubtfire (1993) - A household name, as Williams plays an actor who disguises himself as a Scottish nanny so he can see his children more after a bitter divorce left the kids in the mother's custody.



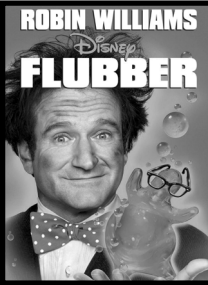
NYTimes.com

Jumanji (1995) - Another childhood classic, Williams plays a man who after being trapped in a jungle board game for 26 years is forced to play again, but this time sets the creatures of the jungle loose on the city and must finish the game to end the terror.



NYTimes.com

The Birdcage (1996) - A lesser known film to some; Williams plays a father, Armand, who's son plans to marry the daughter of an ultra-conservative Republican Senator. Armand and his partner Albert (Nathan Lane) must convince their future daughter-in-law's parents they are a traditional family during a dinner party that goes south fast.



NYTimes.com

Flubber (1997) - Yet another childhood favorite, Williams plays an absent-minded professor who invents "flubber," a super-bouncy substance that can only be described as 'flying rubber'.



NYTimes.com

Good Will Hunting (1997) - Will Hunting (Matt Damon), a boy genius who was severely abused as a child, finally agrees to get counseling; he meets Sean (Williams), the psychologist who will change his life. The two come to terms with the blows life has dealt them and with the questions that lie in the future.



NYTimes.com

70th Oscar Awards (1998) - Williams won his first and only Academy Award for his supporting role as Sean Macguire in *Good Will Hunting*.

"Thank you. Oh man, this might be the one time I'm speechless. Oh, thank you so much for this incredible honor... And most of all, I want to thank my father up there - the man who, when I said I wanted to be an actor, he said, 'Wonderful, just have a backup profession like welding.' Thank you. God bless you." - Robin Williams

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I am an ADDICT

Bailey Sassatelli
Staff Reporter

As people gather together to celebrate, hang out, or just talk, the majority of people tend to sit on their phone rather than socialize with the people in front of them, according to some students. This age of technology turns people into electro-addicts.

True addicts cannot even last 24 hours away from their phone. However, not all people acquire the addiction to their electronics.

"I could last 24 hours without a phone, but not a week because I need to keep contact with friends and family," Sara Pruitt ('15) said.

Pruitt cannot last a week without her phone, while others find the strength to let go for a full 168 hours.

"I go 24 hours without a phone all the time, and I could go a week because I am not entirely dependent on my phone," Austin Shearer ('15) said.

The debate regarding this generation's reliance on technology gets controversial.

"Although we rely on our

technology for a lot of things, and sometimes we do it too much, it does help with certain tasks like looking things up easier and making it more convenient," Pruitt said. "This generation is actually pretty smart. I think that the increase in technology has helped us rather than hurt us. I definitely don't think we are any dumber because of it."

Technology plays a part in both the furthering of knowledge as well as the depletion of social skills.

"[Technology] is rife with links to depression, low self-esteem, and a need for attention."

- Mr. Burnes (FAC)

"Technology has become a double-edged sword for today's generation. On one hand, it is a fast, efficient way to communicate with large groups of people and also stay informed of practically every event that is happening throughout the world. But on the other hand, it is rife with links to depression, low self-esteem and a need for attention," Mr.

Steven Burnes (FAC) said. According to Shearer, even

though technology does not make this generation dumber, it affects the way information gets treated.

"Information is readily available, so it is no longer a scarcity. This means that information is no longer valued as highly as it used to be," Shearer said.

As far as social situations go, Shearer believes that people connect more than before with technology's help, but Pruitt disagrees.

"Over text messages, what people say and how they act are different than in person," Pruitt said.

Shearer believes that technology negatively impacts the way people act as well as their literal activity level.

"I think that this generation is lazy because we think we are entitled to get the things we want without working to earn them. We have been brought up to live this way," Shearer said.

Shearer not only blames technology for people's activity levels, but also gives

technology credit for its contributions to society.

"With today's technology, we can think about things more logically while the computers do most of the work for us," Shearer said.

Technology made both positive and negative impacts to today's society. A fine line between just enough and too much help exists, and this generation must make sure the line remains uncrossed, for fear of losing personal intelligence. The debate roars on, so the decision for or against technology lies with the people.

Photo by Sarah Langston



Hand-held devices increases the probability of technology addiction.

Apples to aliens

Shyanne Dove
Staff Reporter

A question asked by phone addicts when walking into AT&T or any other phone store when shopping for a phone usually starts off with, "which phone should I buy?" Sellers of phone services hope for quick easy sales that leave people forking over more money than they can afford. But which phone stands above?

"Apple filters out a lot of features that Android doesn't. The customization level far exceeds Apple, for example:

widgets," Austin Shearer ('15) said. "I like that it has a bigger screen size, but when it comes to cost, if Apple is cheaper, I could go either way. Though most people will go with the crowd and not research at all."

For some Widgets make the difference between Apple and Android.

"On a computer there's widgets and on a Android there's widgets. With Apple, you don't have those shortcuts to Apps. Android, in my opinion, is more updated and then is a

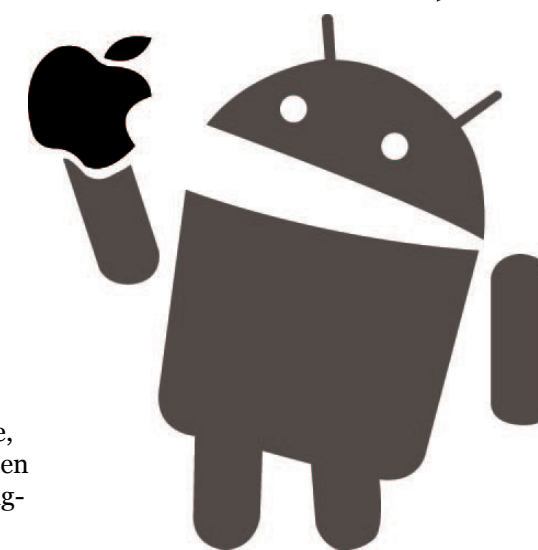
step ahead of Apple," Trevor Maples ('15) said.

Other students prefer certain features that the Apple provides.

"I like the size of the screen for iPhone 5, its not too big," Hannah Bruner ('16) said. The iPhone available for pre-order now, compares to the Android Galaxy S5 released April 25th, but now even Android rumored a Galaxy S6. Apple announced that the iPhone 6 size increases to 4.7", while becoming

both wider and thinner. The iPhone 6 plus, the next upgrade, boasts a screen to an even bigger size 5.5", high-resolution display and an exposure feature for the camera. The Galaxy S5 resists water and dust, uses voice activation, uses face detection, and runs on super AMOLED for the display.

Debates continue between Apple fan boys and Android diehards, but when it really comes down to it, durability and price decides between the two when choosing a new phone.



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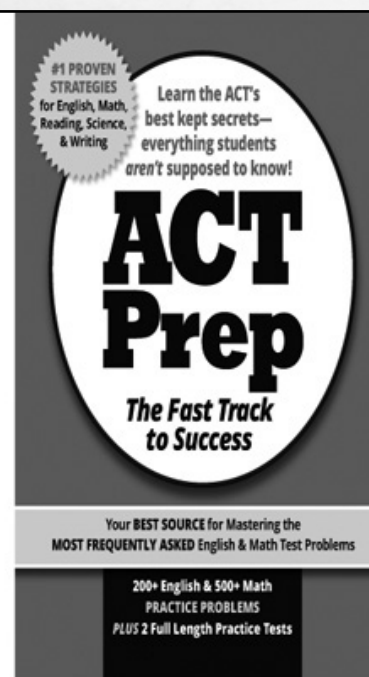
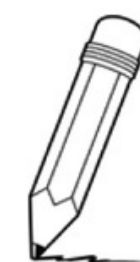


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Book to movies: **FAME** or **FLOP?**

Jaelyn Moser
Staff Reporter

People line up on the sidewalk anxiously waiting for the newest book to film adaptation. However, these adaptations sometimes cause a large controversy in the movie making industry. Movies such as Harry Potter and The Fault in Our Stars received positive reviews and hundreds of dollars in their opening weekends. Yet, other movies failed to achieve their expected success. While popular books, the Percy Jackson series and Twilight movies earned far less positive reactions than originally expected.

In the case of Rick Riordan's novel, The Lightning Thief, the director took liberties

in the casting for the role of Percy Jackson and outraged fans with the way the events of the movie played out. Books contain fine details and descriptions that directors and producers find troubling to include while following the time allotted, and attempting to please fans. A large problem when making a book into a movie includes deciding which scenes to cut and which scenes to keep in the interest of time. Cutting out certain scenes may result in leaving out scenes that may be vitally important in the movie.

Fans all over the world feel let down when a book they love debuts on the big screen,

yet fails to meet their expectations. This causes people to resist the idea of books turning into major motion pictures, as they worry that the directors cannot step up to the challenge of making a decent and accurate depiction of a beloved book.

With loved books like The Series of Unfortunate Events and My Sister's Keeper morphing into tragic excuses of film adaptations, the fear of people's favorite books transforming into movies popularized. The world that people make up in their head never truly fits into the real world and sometimes, holds a better place in their mind.

From paperback TO THE **BIG SCREEN**

Kelsey Williams
Staff Reporter

Recently book to movie adaptations burst onto the scene with quite a few books earning movie equivalents in the coming year. Opinions on book to movie adaptations vary from book to book. Among the adaptations receiving positive reviews one can find Forrest Gump, Carrie, Harry Potter And The Deathly Hallows, Jurassic Park, and The Silence Of The Lambs.

These adaptations allow the reader to immerse themselves in the fictional world created by the author. For those who find picturing main characters or scenery troubling, movies allow them to see what the author intended play out in front of them. In the classroom, this provides motivation to students who may otherwise find no interest in reading a book.

Few find positive reviews for

book to movie adaptations, yet the movies that win the approval of audiences imprint important messages among viewers. Books like The Fault In Our Stars earning 48 million dollars its opening weekend, opened the door to successful book to movie adaptations.

Over 100 books hold a place in line for big screen portrayals in upcoming years. Among

these soon to be made book to movie adaptations is Thirteen Reasons Why, which signed Selena Gomez to portray the ghostly main character Hannah.

Movie equivalents coming to theaters soon include The Maze Runner (September), The Hunger Games: Mockingjay Part One (November), The Hobbit: The Battle Of The Five Armies (December), and

Into The Woods (December).

Movies created from the pages of books breathe life into fiction. They allow the reader to experience the worlds they imagined in their heads, and make three-dimensional characters out of two-dimensional pages. This year's promising adaptations might provide moviegoers with new movies to add to the success list.