

CAT TALK



MARCH 12, 2015 VOLUME XLVI ISSUE 4 MILLBROOK HIGH SCHOOL 2201 SPRING FOREST ROAD RALEIGH, NC 27615

This Day in History

Compiled by the Cat Talk Staff

March 12

1496 - Jews are expelled from Syria
 1850 - 1st US \$20 gold piece issued
 1904 - 1st main line electric train in UK (Liverpool to Southport)
 1912 - Girl Guides (Girl Scouts) forms in Savannah, by Juliette Gordon Low
 1912 - Establishment of the first football club in Bulgaria - Botev Plovdiv
 1928 - In California, the St. Francis Dam fails, killing over 600 people.
 1935 - England establishes 30 MPH speed limit for towns & villages
 1969 - 120 cannabis joints found at George & Patti Harrison's home
 1970 - US lower voting age from 21 to 18
 1978 - Nancy Lopez wins LPGA Sunstar Golf Classic
 1984 - British ice dancing team, Torvill & Dean, become 1st skaters to receive 9 perfect 6.0s in world championships
 1993 - 317 killed by bomb attacks in Bombay
 1998 - "Sound of Music," opens at Martin Beck Theater NYC
 2011 - A reactor at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant melts and explodes and releases radioactivity into the atmosphere a day after Japan's earthquake.
 2012 - 45 people are massacred by the Syrian Army in Homs
 2012 - China records its highest trade deficit in over a decade
 2013 - The 2013 Papal conclave begins with no new Pope elected on the first day

Look behind the facade Jekyll and Hyde



By Jessica Urbanski
STAFF REPORTER

Every spring, all of the various art departments combine to create one masterpiece: the spring musical. A huge collaboration between the dance, theater, and music departments has been pieced together for the past month by students and teachers. "Every year it's a fun collab by all of the arts teachers and students," said dance teacher Ms. Oliver. The spring musical can be seen live tonight, Friday, or Saturday in the school auditorium.

Senior Colin Yates will stand in center stage portraying scientist Dr. Jekyll, as well as madman Mr.

Hyde. In the musical, Dr. Jekyll performs various experiments on himself attempting to separate the good from evil within him.

contrast between two things, of good and evil as well. The dichotomy of Dr. Jekyll and his evil side Mr. Hyde is a part of human nature.



After school practices are held practically every day in order for students to prepare for the Spring Musical. See the results starting tonight!

This semester, IB seniors have studied the dichotomy, or a con-

The two parts of Dr. Jekyll were inseparable until his experiment

went right, which was when Mr. Hyde was created.

Throughout the musical, several characters of different backgrounds are introduced. Emma Crew, played by Sarah Zimmer, is Dr. Jekyll's significant other. Emma is also the daughter of Sir Danvers Carew, who is played by senior Taylor Willis. On the other hand, Dr. Jekyll's dark side, Mr. Hyde, has a strange relationship with a prostitute named Lucy, who is played by sophomore Gabrielle Goodman. Lucy tests both Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde's desire for love but has a tragic ending in store. Not only is there love in this musical, but there is thrill and fear. Mr. Utterson, played by freshman Carson Weddle, is a lawyer who attempts to discover the secrets of Dr. Jekyll, which will leave the audience on the edge of their seat. "This musical

SEE MUSICAL, PAGE 2

Refusing to vaccinate even amongst outbreaks



By Brittany Hubbard
STAFF REPORTER

Within the last month and a half, health officials have linked the first confirmed case of measles to Disneyland in California. According to a count by CBS News, the outbreak has reached more than 180 cases spanning more than 17 different states, including D.C. Public health officials do believe that contraction was due to secondary and household exposure. Although Disneyland is a speculated place of contraction

for the first case, state and federal health officials are not certain of the exact source.

Investigators working with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have said there is relatively new evidence that links the cases of measles in the U.S. to that occur-

ring in the Philippines. The CDC reported that specimens from 30 California patients are a direct



CDC public health officials say the measles is almost preventable when using vaccines. Even amongst an outbreak of the measles, parents still opt not to vaccinate.

ing classified as measles genotype B3.

Measles outbreaks originating in the Philippines are not uncommon. Last May, an outbreak spread throughout Ohio, mainly impacting Amish communities. The outbreak began after missionaries contracted the virus while volunteering in the Philippines. Childhood immunization is usually uncommon amongst the Amish population.

The genotype of the measles is not the biggest concern. The same genotype has also been identified in over fourteen other countries outside the United States. The measles itself is a virus common amongst young children. Symptoms include runny

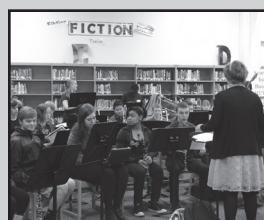
SEE MEASLES, PAGE 2



Recap a year of scandals, disappointments, and thrills in the NFL!
SEE PAGE 15



Use zodiac and astrological signs to predict almost anything in your life!
SEE PAGE 10



This spectacular student used music as a way to get a message out to the school.
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MUSICAL, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

is much like the *And Then There Were None* play, dramatic,” said Gabrielle Goodman. The deaths of several people, bloodshed, and very creepy effects make this musical not only entertaining but intense.

Two or three days per week, students from theater and Millbrook’s Dance Company rehearse. Ms. Oliver choreographed the dance routines for each scene. Students who play roles in the musical have to not only rehearse their lines, but remember dance moves too. In addition to dancing, a musical needs words. Mr. Kotzian, more commonly known as Mr. K, is in charge of blocking the musical. In theater, blocking is planning out who should be where at a certain time, which is not easy work. Mr. Jenner, the band director, is also involved with preparing his ensemble for the opening nights of the musical.

Step inside the world of Dr. Jekyll and his opposite, Mr. Hyde, and see the thrills and horrors of Millbrook’s spring musical. All through the performance, there are constant reminders of “things aren’t what they seem” through songs in the background of scenes. One song, called *Façade*, talks about how people wear masks to please people in society, which is exactly what Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde have to do. The only way to find out how this thrilling tale ends is to attend.

MEASLES, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

nose, fever, blotchy skin, and other flu-like symptoms. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends getting 28 doses of 10 vaccines for kids aged starting as an infant until age six. This fatal virus is almost preventable with the use of vaccinations. There is no US federal laws that mandate vaccinations; however, all 50 states require specific vaccinations for children who are enrolling in public schools. Most states offer medical and religious exemption and some states allow philosophical exemptions.

A concern amongst the CDC is that although the virus can be fatal, some parents are still opting not to get their children vaccinated. AP Biology teacher, Mr. Herndon said, “People’s choice on whether to vaccinate or not depends on the success rate of the vaccine in comparison to the chances of suffering from a side effect of the vaccine.” Those that opt not to vaccinate their children say the vaccines contain harmful ingredients and are unnatural, vaccines often lead to other illnesses, and that the child’s immune system will be compromised. In the 2013 measles outbreak, less than 85 percent of children had been vaccinated. It is reported that the death toll worldwide was equivalent to about 400 deaths each day. Public officials fear that the opposition to the vaccine will pose a significant threat to the public. In agreement with this idea, Senior Haley Corbally said, “Because some people refuse to get vaccinated or vaccinate their children, the outbreak of a virus like the measles may grow exponentially.”

Nigeria’s Boko Haram Islamists



By Mitra Norowzi
SECTION EDITOR

Here in the West, Americans have become desensitized to hearing about terrorist operations in the Middle East. It seems to simply be a given fact that this region houses the majority of fundamentalists. However, Nigeria has begun to gain attention as the terrorist group Boko Haram continues to gain international awareness. The name Boko Haram translates to “western education is forbidden” in Hausa, a regional language of Nigeria. The group’s main focus is on discouraging Western practices in Nigeria including voting, secular education, and wearing Western clothing. Their tactics include violent bombings, assassinations, and kidnappings. Similar to ISIS, Boko Haram’s goal is to establish Nigeria as an Islamic State and implement Sharia law, and has denounced the country’s current leaders as non-believers, even when Nigeria had a Muslim pres-

ident.

Boko Haram originated in 2002 when Muhammed Yusuf founded the group and a school that doubled as a religious complex. The school served as a recruitment center for jihadis, those devoted to the struggle against non-believers of Islam. However, the group did not begin its reign of violence until after Yusuf

Relations. Its attacks involve mainly women and students. Increasingly, they involve using young girls as suicide bombers. The most well-known of Boko Haram’s attacks was the 2014 kidnapping of nearly 300 girls from their school that garnered international condemnation of the group.

The reason Boko Haram is even a reality has more

interest. Overall, Nigeria has a fairly large economy, and one that is growing, but only for the south; Poverty in the north is actually increasing. This is the reason for northern Muslim resentment of Southern Christianity. Essentially, fundamentalism is really just the manifestation of this long held resentment, and does not represent Nigerian or Islamic beliefs.

Junior Mimi Gueye said, “Boko Haram is one of the countless false-representation of Islam groups that actually go against the Quranic text by killing innocents and civilians, and forcing religion upon others which is forbidden (as seen in chpt 109 s. Kawthar of the Quran. Their actions have oppressed thousands of women and children.”

Boko Haram has proven that it is an extremely dangerous group. As they gain influence in Nigeria, it is unclear and terrifying what, if any, actions the international community will take. Junior Victoria Anderson said, “I believe the United States should be doing all it can do help those suffering from the terror caused by Boko Haram. The things that they are doing are so wrong on a level that is impossible for the United States to ignore them any longer.”



Holding up a sign with the hashtag “#BringBackOurGirls”, Michelle Obama raises awareness for the 2014 kidnapping of nearly 300 schoolgirls. This kidnapping brought Boko Haram to the attention of the international community.

was arrested and executed in 2009. Since then, Boko Haram has been involved

“The things that they are doing are so wrong on a level that is impossible for the United States to ignore them any longer.”

-Victoria Anderson, junior

in the deaths of around 5,000 people, according to the Council on Foreign

to do with socioeconomics than religion. During colonization, southern Nigeria received more wealth because it has more oil; therefore more Europeans were there who converted the southern Nigerians to Christianity. The north had historically been Muslim because it falls along trade routes and because it had not oil, it remained that way due to low European

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Cat Talk welcomes any article and editorial contributions, but the editor reserves the right to edit pieces for length, grammar, and content. All letters to the editor must be signed. The Editor-in-Chief assumes responsibility for the content of each issue.

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Life in Beijing

Chinese New Year

By Madisen Judge
STAFF REPORTER

Madisen Judge is a past newspaper staff writer for the Cat Talk. Madisen, along with MHS students Allen Trainer, Izzy Wheeler, and Noa Feldman, is spending the year in China as an exchange student. In this and future issues of the newspaper, Madisen will share her experiences with us.

Background of the Chinese New Year: Also known as the Spring Festival, the Chinese New Year is the most important social and economic holiday in China. Being originally tied to the lunar-solar Chinese calendar, this holiday is a time to honor household deities and ancestors. China adopted the Western calendar in 1912 when celebrating January 1 as New Year's Day. China, however, continues to celebrate the traditional Chinese New Year. Home and family are the principle focuses around this holiday. Feasting is huge and families love to eat tremendous amounts of food.



Provided by M. Judge



Provided by M. Judge



Provided by M. Judge

Chinese New Year, also known as the Spring Festival, is something you have to personally experience. Fireworks are one of the largest components of the Festival, but to understand the full scope of just how many fireworks are set off, just wait until about seven PM on February 18. China has certain flaws, and one of them may be safety regulations. I am not an expert, but setting off Disney-grade fireworks in your driveway and standing maybe ten feet away does not seem like the safest option. Aside from the safety violations, the fireworks were beautiful and very, very loud. It is exhilarating shooting off fireworks from your hands. Food is another very important aspect of the Chinese New Year tradition. A common greeting is, "Have you eaten yet?" because family means feeding you until you burst. Part of the Spring Festival is to eat with your whole family over the course of week, starting with your close family, and then your larger extended family and friends later on in the week. I got to try many things such as shark, meat balls, sheep legs, and the famous thousand-year-old egg. I do not recommend that to the faint of heart; it is definitely an acquired taste.

THE REAL DEAL

A tale of gold



By Alana Topakian
SECTION EDITOR

Everyone has heard of the thousand-year-old myth of how if one was to go to the end of a rainbow, a leprechaun's pot of gold will be waiting. The leprechaun itself, though, is seemingly given no thought. No one tends to think where the creatures come from, what their backstory is, or if they even have a backstory. Senior Jessica Sanchez said, "All I know about leprechauns is that they are short and have to do with St. Patrick's Day. It is cool to know that there is more to them than just that."

A part of Irish myth, leprechauns are smart, yet devious, beings that would do anything to escape capture. They are shoe-makers in the Faerie realm, thought to be defective children due to their size and disposition. The creatures are extremely small, tending to wear tiny suits, with waist coats, hats, and buckled shoes. Unlike

today's depictions, their attire is usually red. The reason behind the color of their clothes changing from red to green has differed among opinion. Some believe that the change occurred when Ireland became associated with all things greens, while others believe that it was because green helped them blend into grass and disappear easier.

In Irish folklore, leprechauns are known to wreak havoc on unsuspecting humans and trick them as the humans try to either capture them or their gold. Spotting a leprechaun is good luck, so humans often attempt to look for them. Unfortunately, they are so good at deceit that the task is not easy. There are many ways they trick people. The creatures will make the sound of their shoe hammer to lead a human to a false pot of gold, enticing them with riches only to snatch the riches away before they can be taken.

Once the legend of them spread, Europe was quick to act and make leprechauns a protected species under European law. Although, the spreading of their myth did change as it went from country to country, the leprechaun molded into each culture. One myth shows the leprechauns as having originally been water spirits that merged with a mischievous

household fairy, drinking heavily as they haunted cellars. Almost every story has the same backbone though: the leprechaun is a fairy that enjoys causing trouble to humans and should never be trusted. "I do not like leprechauns; I think that they are creepy," senior Cailin Pryor said.

As time passed, so did the story of the leprechaun until they became, not only the icon for the Lucky Charms cereal, but also the icon for St. Patrick's Day. The moral behind their story stays the same though, that one should never try to take what is not theirs because there will always be a very tricky faerie to make the task difficult.



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Foods Around the World



By Oliver Ficker
STAFF REPORTER

Peru is well known for its scenic environments, such

as the ruins at Machu Picchu. Sitting a mile and a half above sea level, these stone walls stand in the Andes mountains of Peru as part of the legacy of the Inca Empire.

One of the greatest accomplishments of the Inca Empire was its advanced agricultural system. Terraces were used to farm crops on hills and

mountains, and a vast road network transported crops between the coast, the rainforest, and the mountains. Inca civilization collapsed after being wiped out by Spanish conquistadors in the early 1500s. With them, Spanish explorers brought new diseases, technologies, and foods. The effects of this can still be seen today, as Old World ingredi-



en.wikipedia.org

ents, such as chicken and plantains, are mixed with Peruvian staples, like potatoes and quinoa, in many of the country's dishes. Jalea is a dish from north-

ern Peru. Senior Gerson Escobedo explains, "It is a seafood dish made of fried, lightly breaded fish. I usually have it with fried yucca." Jalea is made in the coastal region of Peru, which is known for its large fishing industry. The dish has fish, shrimp, and squid in it, complimented with flavorful vegetables and lime juice. Since Peru

is predominantly Catholic, jalea is very popular during Lent, as many Peruvians will avoid eating red meat

and poultry during that time. It also makes a great appetizer, and it is often served with a dip, such as mayonnaise or ají amarillo sauce.

Jalea fried seafood salad

Ingredients

- 10 ounces fish filets
- 10 ounces squid, cut into rings
- 10 ounces shrimp, cleaned
- 1 cup flour
- 3 cups vegetable oil, divided into 1 and 2 cups
- 2 green plantains, cleanly sliced
- 3 garlic cloves, minced
- 1 purple onion, finely sliced
- 1 Tbsp cilantro leaves, chopped
- ½ cup bell pepper, cut into thin slices
- 2 limes
- 2 tsp salt
- 2 tsp pepper



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Served on a plate of lettuce, this jalea is complemented with ají amarillo sauce. Jalea is often eaten as an appetizer, but if you do not feel like sharing, it is also a filling entree.

Directions

1. Cut the fish into small, 1 ½ inch squares.
2. Put the flour into a medium-sized bowl, and mix in the salt and pepper.
3. Dip the seafood pieces into the flour to coat them. Then, shake off the excess flour in a colander.
4. Heat 2 cups of the vegetable oil in a large saucepan over medium heat. Once heated, fry the seafood in batches, cooking until the pieces are golden brown. Put onto paper towels on a large plate.
5. In another saucepan, heat 1 cup of vegetable oil over medium heat. Fry the plantain slices until they turn a light golden color.
6. In a large bowl, combine the onion, garlic, cilantro, bell pepper, and juice from the limes.
7. To serve, put the seafood and plantains on a plate and cover them with the onion mixture. It can be served with mayonnaise on the side.

The marvelous history of superheroes



By Drew Prentice
STAFF REPORTER

Exemplary powers and equipment, flamboyant costumes, and a super secret identity are characteristics of many superheroes, regardless of whether they come from comics or other media. Some superheroes are undoubtedly more popular than others, whether it is for their powers, personality, or other factors. "My favorite superhero is Spiderman because his personal life is very similar to our lives as teenagers, but he also has to deal with the extra dangers of being a superhero. This shows how far we can reach even at

such a young age," said **In the midst of a battle, this comic book depiction of the folklore hero Robin Hood blows into a horn. Due to his heroic actions and unique costume, Robin Hood is considered one of the first superheroes.**

Natalia Bartkowiak. Nonetheless, there have been many disputes over which superhero is really the most popular or who the first was, and to find those answers, we need to look into the history of superheroes and the comic books they come from.

Though the term superhero has only been used since 1917, some people in folklore have been considered as superheroes. One of the best examples of this is Robin Hood, who helped the poor and wore a very peculiar outfit. Other very relevant examples include the mythological gods (like Zeus and Poseidon) and demigods (like Hercules).

Superheroes became really popular in the late 1930's, when the first superhero comics were starting to be created. There have been many

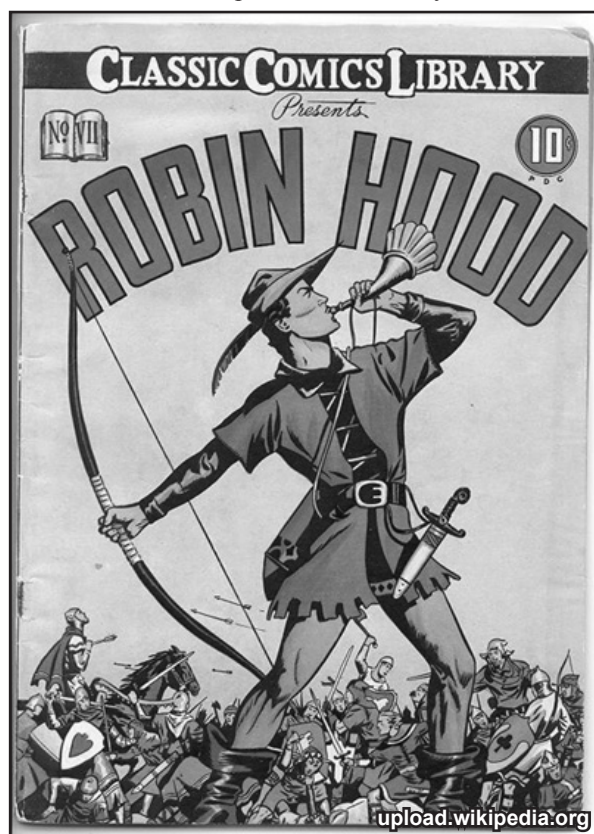
guesses over the years as to who this first hero was. "Honestly, in my opinion, Spiderman is my favorite character, and I think he was the first since he was Stan Lee's first character. He also said that famous quote, 'With great power comes great responsibility,' which everyone probably knows by now," said freshman David Rosado Hernandez. However, the first comic book superhero of the Golden Age of Comic Books (late 1930's to early 1950's) was Superman, written by

Captain Marvel, who is now named Shazam due to copyright issues.

The popularity of superheroes grew drastically during World War II, when people desired stories about good defeating evil in those bleak, trying times. Comic book creators took advantage of this by creating comics where the heroes fought the Axis Powers. Writers also created very patriotic heroes such as Wonder Woman and Captain America. These comics became so popular that they were sometimes used as propaganda during the war. Their popularity finally began to run out, however, as the only popular superheroes after the war were Superman, Batman and Wonder Woman.

Hope was not lost for the comic industry, though, when DC Comics decided to reintroduce The Flash, Green Arrow (two heroes that now have their own television shows on CW), and other heroes with brand new back stories, and brought all their superheroes together to form the *Justice League of America* comic series. Inspired by DC's return, Stan Lee of Marvel Comics worked with other writers to create famous comics, such as Spiderman and the Fantastic Four. There have been many new superhero movie releases because of the popularity of comics.

Superheroes have had a long history, mainly in comic books, that is now becoming popular for movies, games, and TV shows, both live action and animated. These heroes have impacted America's future and will likely continue to entertain us in the near future.



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"My favorite superhero is Spiderman because his personal life is very similar to our lives as teenagers, but he also has to deal with the extra dangers of being a superhero. This shows how far we can reach even at such a young age."

-Natalia Bartkowiak, sophomore

Quality Comics had created Plastic Man, a hero now owned by DC Comics. Unexpectedly, there was still a hero that sold more than DC: Fawcett Comics'

Jenna Declassified School Survival Skills



By Jenna McMains
STAFF REPORTER

In a high school full of difficult classes, insane A/B-8 Schedules and gross homework assignments, Jenna, that's me, and my two lucky interviewees, try to do the impossible and create a guide to help you survive the academic side of school.

Alert! Alert! Important question: did you know that in order to be accepted into any UNC system college you must have two credits of the same second language? Also, many other colleges require similar language credits. "Why?" you might ask. Well, learning another language is considered super difficult. It impacts your way of learning so much that it can lead to higher scores on standardized

just look it up, and I know it is reliable." According to Spanish teachers, Sra. Hernandez and Bollinger, Word Reference definitely is the translation tool to use. They also recommend 123teachme for reviewing grammar and practicing that oh so important conjugating.

At MHS, the top resource for French students again is Word Reference. It seems as though Word Reference owns the monopoly on accurate word translations and vocabulary. In addition, a rather unorthodox,



Trivia Crack is a super fun way to practice reading comprehension. Even if used to just become acclimated to the language, your brain will get used to seeing the proper grammar, spelling, and sentence structure.

test and greater cognitive development. Cognitive development occurs specifically in ways relating to cerebral flexibility, such as problem solving, creativity, and addressing issues by contemplating multiple solutions and then deciding on the best choice. Thankfully, for our brains, Millbrook offers Spanish, French, Latin and Chinese.

Senior Sydney Borden uses Word Reference to aid her on Spanish assignments. She said, "It definitely is my favorite site to use. It is like Google Translate but better. If I ever forget a word, I can

but effective, way to practice is by changing your phone language in settings to French or any other language. Also watching television shows and playing games in the language can help with pronunciation and spelling, which we all know is critical to getting that triple digit number that exists in our dreams. One current gaming app, Trivia Crack, allows users to play the addictive knowledge game in many languages, including English, French, Spanish, Italian, Catalan, Arabic, German, Russian, Japanese and Portuguese.

This is certainly a great way to practice, as long as you have a dictionary handy!

Latin students at Millbrook rely on William Whitaker Words. This website is a project of the University of Notre Dame. Although this website has a crude lay out and not all the pizzazz, it is very useful and has saved many a Latin grade, or so I've heard. Latin is very useful in other classes, and students are able to use their Latin knowledge every day, especially when reading books with new vocabulary.

Junior Christopher Hoffer, who is currently in Chinese, uses the app Xiaoma Hanzi. In his words, "It is a database of words, [and] it is really, really helpful." Other students use apps such as Chinese Pinyin Game to review pronunciations. The app is designed to make fun quizzes that teach students the difference between very similar sounds, which are commonly mixed up.

The most important thing for students, no matter what language they are studying is to remember that learning a language requires memorization, reviewing, and practice.

It is not enough to only practice vocabulary. You also need to review grammar and regional phrases. In many higher-level second language classes their rubrics include points for cultural terms and colloquialisms.

Practice using reading comprehension and conjugations online and with games in the language. Also do not forget to practice listening and speaking skills with television shows and music. Practice makes perfect, and as close as you can get to perfect will help boost your grade this semester!

Student Question



If you could protest something, what would it be and why?



"Bullying is a growing problem for today's youth and needs to be addressed and have advocates."

Ryen Bolware, freshman



"I would say that all sports should get equal recognition at school. On the Morning Grawl for example, instead of just focusing on basketball or football."

Hunter Pigg, freshman



"The denial of basic rights to women because there are many places where they are considered second-class citizens."

Julie Dodson, sophomore



"I think we should be able to protest mixed honors and academic classes."

Cameron Bouchard, sophomore



"I'd protest against inequality! It's 2015, yet people are still projecting their opinions based on insinuations and bigotry. It's not fair that some people aren't allowed to do daily activities without being ridiculed because of their gender, race, or sexual preference. I think people are still close minded to new ideas and aspects because of their or their parents' values."

Marianne Valino, junior

"How people treat teachers. My mom is a teacher and I see all the stuff she has to do outside of school and doesn't get credit for countless hours of work she does outside of school and that doesn't include trying to teach the material to her kids."

AJ Rogerson, junior



"I would protest the issues in our current healthcare system. I think it's important that women and men are protected medically by the government and not left to fend for themselves."

Andrea Bustillos, senior



"I would protest terrorism and violence around the world. Violence and death are not the answers to our problems. I'm not a hippie, but better solutions should be implemented."

Ben Katzenstein, senior

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Wildcat

Spectacular Student Hannah Shreve



By Jessica Urbanski
STAFF REPORTER

Playing her way through sophomore year, band member Hannah Shreve knows the amount of effort that is needed to strike success. Challenges have been known to come in many forms, and sophomore Hannah Shreve knows firsthand what challenges can do.

Activities like Winter Guard have consumed Hannah after school this school year. After being on junior varsity last year, Hannah became part of the varsity team in this past season. Even though Hannah had to move to junior varsity because of surgery, her school spirit never faded. Hannah is also a member of the Latin Club, World Languages National Honor Society, and marching band.

Music is a big part of Hannah's life, which is why she is involved in both Band II and Symphonic Band. In her band classes, Hannah is constantly practicing to improve her style and intuition on her euphonium. Every week at home, Hannah has to practice for two hours to

help increase her skill level and her skills in general. Hannah plays music at and above her skill level when she is in the classroom, too. When she is not in the classroom, Hannah is on her piano, which she taught herself how to play.

Music also helped Hannah with her sophomore Personal Project. "My Personal Project is about suicide prevention. The goal is to raise awareness, show others they are not alone, and share my story," Hannah said. By sharing her story, Hannah hoped to save a life, just as she did for herself. Hannah herself has attempted suicide. The purpose of her project was to inform people, too. Suicide is the second leading cause of death for ages 10-24.

In response to knowing this, what would you do? Hannah's response would help the whole school. Her product for the project was a suicide awareness concert that was held in the Media Center at Smart Lunch on February 2. Preparing for this concert meant using her musical side and a bunch of friends. Hannah and her team started practicing in the middle of November. They held rehearsals every Wednesday and during Smart Lunch. Many challenges came up in the process, though. Some people lost interest and quit, while others did not show up certain days. Attendance was mandatory for the show to go on.

Finding a place to practice was difficult, too. Her first idea was to practice in the courtyard, which was not allowed. She then tried the Media Center, auditorium, and band room without success. Finally, the chorus room was available for the group. After months of practice, the final product was a huge success. "I am really good friends with Hannah and I loved helping her with her Personal Project because the story behind it is so meaningful," said sophomore Hannah Scanlon. Students filled the Media Center to watch Hannah and her team perform popular songs like *Sail* by AWOLNATION. "Hannah did a fantastic job of raising awareness for suicide prevention. She selected music that was very appropriate for the cause," said freshman Ethan Qualle.

Suicide awareness means a great deal to Hannah. When asked what suicide awareness means to her, she said, "It means saving a lost one and pulling them out of that hole they cannot climb out of by themselves. Suicide awareness has a meaning to my life. It gives me a chance to do something because I saved myself through music and I want to help save others."

Before you snicker at the girl in the hall for having on a strange shirt, remember what your words can do. Hannah showed how she felt about her situation and never gave up on herself.

Campus Clubs FCCLA



By Brittany Hubbard
STAFF REPORTER

Founded in 1945, the FCCLA organization has influenced the lives of over nine million youth. FCCLA stands for Family, Career and Community Leaders of America. It is non-profit national career and technical organization that provides personal growth, leadership development, and career preparation opportunities for students in the organization.

Today, hundreds of thousands of students are involved in 5,500 chapters in 50 states. A chapter in FCCLA is all the members involved in a school. Chapter projects focus on a variety of things, including teen pregnancy, family relationships, peer pressure, career exploration, and much more. Senior Staci Alston said, "FCCLA is the only student-led organization with a central focus on family." Members of FCCLA are able to develop useful skills such planning,

goal setting, problem solving and interpersonal communication skills.

In the club, community service is a priority. Members can often be found on campus on the weekend participating religiously in what they call campus cleanup. In addition to campus cleanup, FCCLA members also participate in Holiday Express. Holiday Express is a parks and recreational event for children of all ages, where they get to play

and participate in Star Events. Topics during the competition range from fashion design and culinary arts, to food innovation. Members are then judged on a panel and those who place get the chance to go to nationals.


In July, members of FCCLA spent a week in San Antonio, Texas. They competed at FCCLA nationals and got to meet people from different states and different chapters, including Puerto Rico. In addition to competing, those that went on the trip also got to experience Sea World, Six Flags and simply explore San Antonio.

Someone who is not sure of what career path they would like to follow may want to consider becoming a part of this club. Senior Kourtnei Monroe said, "We are all about CTE classes. We learn from each other and become a fun family."

CTE is an acronym that stands for Career Technical Education. CTE classes are classes that help students develop skills that will prepare them for a career. Examples include Foods, Interior Design, Accounting and more.



Working in groups, FCCLA members participate in campus clean up. Community service is a key way to build leadership skills.



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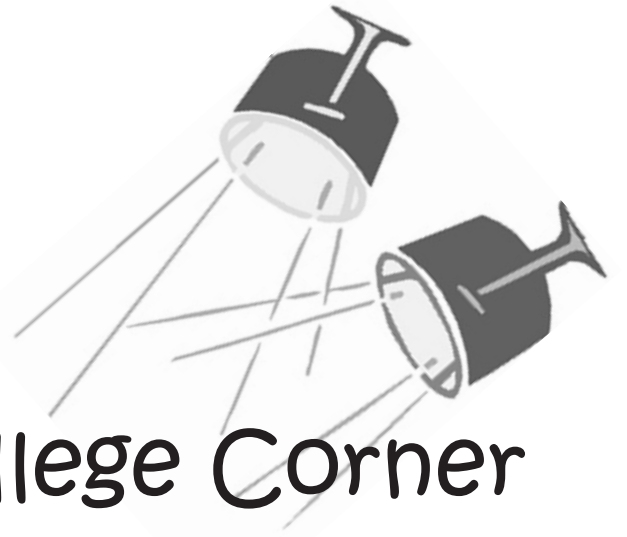
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Spotlights



Teacher Tribute Mrs. Genesky



By Lexi McCool
SECTION EDITOR

Mrs. Genesky's favorite quote is a simple, yet inspiring one by Kahlil Gibran. It reads: "Work is love made visible." This excerpt from Gibran's *The Prophet* reflects Mrs. Genesky's approach to life and teaching. Her devotion to her career is made apparent by her involvement in multiple campus organizations, her love for literature, and her generous disposition.

Mrs. Genesky was born in Florida, but her family relocated to Charlotte when she was two years old. Growing up, her favorite subject in school was Art, and she was convinced she would one day pursue a career as an art teacher. However, in her senior year, she discovered North Carolina State University did not offer a major in Art Education. She ultimately decided to focus on her other passion—English—and earned a degree in English and Secondary Education from NC State.

Although she toyed around with the idea of becoming an architect in her elementary school

years, Mrs. Genesky explained that, in reality, "[she] always knew that [she] was going to be a teacher." Above all, Mrs. Genesky credits her mother for inspiring her to pursue a profession in teaching. Her mother taught Special Education while she was growing up and currently works as a Media Specialist at a high school in Charlotte. For this reason, Mrs. Genesky was constantly immersed in the school environment. She believes that this, as well as her love of learning, was an important factor in her decision to become a teacher.

Mrs. Genesky first began teaching at East Mecklenburg High School, the school she attended in Charlotte, and remained there for two years. She moved to Raleigh when her husband, Mr. Genesky, who also teaches English at Millbrook, was accepted to a Master's Program at NC State. Mrs. Genesky joined the Millbrook community in 2010 and currently teaches English I and IB Language and Literature. Mrs. Genesky loves each of these courses because they both "deal with beginnings." She explains how her English I students are just being introduced to the high school experience, while her IB students are staring down the tunnel to college, adulthood, and life. "It's really neat to switch between the two every day," she added.

Mrs. Genesky also serves as the advisor to Key Club and Junior Class Council. She commends Key Club for its ability to bring students out of the school environment and into the community, allowing them to participate in unique service opportunities. Senior, and Key Club Officer, Morgan Flowers admires Mrs. Genesky's involvement in the organization. "Mrs. Genesky is always super organized and has so many innovative ideas, which allows Key Club to expand and take on new service projects," said Morgan. She also loves being a part of the Junior Class Council because of all the fun they have while planning prom. She describes Junior Class Council as the hosts of a huge party with a different theme every year. As a result of her work and dedication to Millbrook, Mrs. Genesky was inducted into the Service Club at the end of the 2014 school year.

Outside of school, Mrs. Genesky enjoys "Pizza Friday" every week with her husband. Although they work down the hall from one another, they rarely see each other during the week, so they always try to get a frozen pizza and watch a movie together on Fridays. In her free time, Mrs. Genesky enjoys reading, experimenting with Ethiopian food, exploring farmer's markets, spending time with her cat, and going to Starbucks.

College Corner UNCW



By Audrey Kahwaty
SECTION EDITOR

The University of North Carolina at Wilmington, sometimes referred to as UNCW or UNC Wilmington, is a public, co-ed university located in the beachside city of Wilmington, North Carolina. UNCW enrolls about 14,000 undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral students every year, as a part of the 17-campus University of North Carolina System. The university offers degrees in humanities, sciences, health,

business, and professional fields. UNCW has a highly ranked marine science program which draws students from all over the United States. Teal is the official school color with navy and gold as alternate colors. Their 19 varsity athletic sports teams, known as the Seahawks, make UNCW a great place for student-athletes as well. The mid-

dle 50 percent SAT scores for incoming freshmen in 2012 were 1130 to 1250 on the math and reading sections with a middle 50 percent weighted GPA of 3.71 to 4.33. UNCW has a 52 percent acceptance rate. Ranking #16 in the 2015 Edition of Best Colleges (Regional Universities; South), UNCW is an all-around great school for someone who is looking for beautiful beach weather to go perfectly with a good education.



pixgood.com

Named one of the top 50 institutions in the country in the Business Journal's "2015 Ranking of U.S. Public Colleges", the University of North Carolina at Wilmington is the place to go for academic excellence. It is also an extremely affordable university.

Student Q&A with Dakota Minear

A graduate of the Millbrook Class of 2014, Dakota Minear was involved in many clubs and organizations over her years here. As a part of Class Council for all four years, National Honor Society, National Achiever's Society, Key Club, World Cultures Club, Drama Club, Millbrook Mentor's, and Cheerleading, she truly thrived in the Wildcat community.

What is your favorite part about UNCW?

I cannot choose only one thing to be my favorite part about UNCW; but I love the people here, campus, stores, and the location near the beach. Most of the people are really nice and relaxed; the campus is close together and beautiful. I am also obsessed with a lot of cute stores down here, and who doesn't love being less than ten minutes from the beach and wearing a bathing suit everywhere?

Are you a part of any clubs and/or organizations at UNCW?

I am a part of Greek life, yoga club, and the surf club. Clubs here are easy to join; they have multiple fairs all year long that are extremely helpful and fun. There are many more diverse clubs here than other schools because we are so close to the beach.

Which sorority are you in, and do you enjoy Greek life?

I am in Phi Mu here at UNCW, and I love it. I am not your average "sorority girl," but I enjoy it very much. I get along with all the girls and could not have asked for anything better. Another great thing about Greek life here is that we are calmer here, and PanHellenic is very important as well. PanHellenic is all of Greek life combined, and we all like to hang out with each other and do things together.

What advice would you give to a senior beginning their freshman year of college next year?

The advice I would give is cliché, but it is to be yourself and meet as many people as possible and do as many things as you can. Watching Netflix and being lazy is great, but that will not get you anywhere. You are going to miss home no matter what, so do not go home a lot of weekends, or you will never really experience college. If you are surrounded by people you love and keep yourself busy, you will find a new home. Transition is hard, but you have to give a little effort to get something back.




Provided by D. Minear

During recruitment week, Dakota Minear poses with friends and future sisters for a group picture. Dakota loves being a part of Phi Mu and says that Greek life is one of her favorite things at UNCW.

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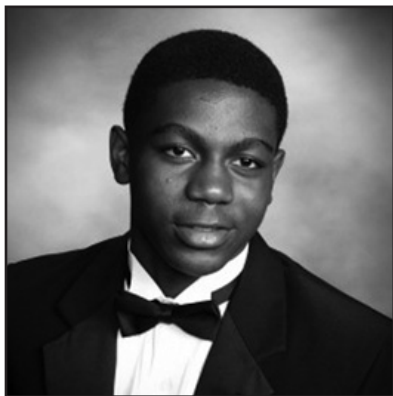


**Advanced
Color
Consultant**

MARY KAY

Outstanding

20



Chris Clemons

What makes you proud to be a Wildcat? The thing that makes me proud to be a Wildcat is my team and my peers who encourage me every day to be and do better. Wildcats have shown support all this year. Knowing that they expect a lot encourages me, inspires me, and I see it as a challenge that I'm willing to take on because I love being a Wildcat.

Who is your role model? My dad because he is always supporting me no matter what. He never misses a basketball game, and he always cheers me on.



Ryan Gorman

"Millbrook is..." home. My dad and both of my sisters graduated from here. I've lived a mile away from the school for 18 years. Millbrook is where I'm from.

What has been your most meaningful accomplishment?

Serving the Class of 2015 as President since my freshman year

What is your most memorable moment? Storming the football field after a win as a senior Maniac leader on Homecoming

What advice would you give to underclassmen? Get involved! High school is a lot more fun when you're not sitting at a desk.

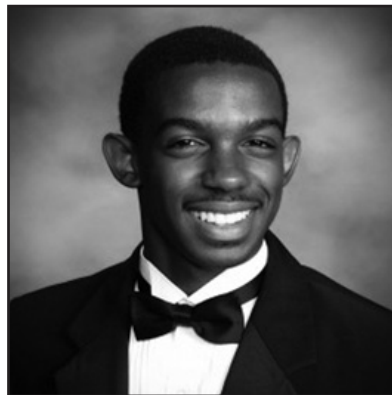


Molly Lowder

What has been your most meaningful accomplishment?

My most meaningful accomplishment was going to Governor's School West. The application process was lots of hard work, and once I got there, I was challenged to think about the world differently and grow as a musician. Governor's School made me realize that I want to become a professional musician.

Who is your role model? My youth leader, Clark Rinehart, because he is passionate, incredibly caring, and always motivated to help others before himself. I hope one day to be for someone else who he is for me.



Andrew Evans

What has been your most meaningful accomplishment? My most meaningful accomplishment was earning the MHS Character Education Award because it recognizes who I am as a person. My character means a lot to me because, at the end of the day, that is what is most important.

What advice would you give to underclassmen? Keep your priorities in order. Keep a good balance between your schoolwork, friends, and extracurricular activities. Get to lunch early on the first day of school.



Michael Hayes

What has been your most meaningful accomplishment? Becoming Student Body President. It allows me to help my community on a large scale with the help of MEB. Also, I got a cool gavel.

Who is your role model? Theodore Roosevelt. The man walked out of his home as a kid wanting to prove himself and accomplished so many incredible feats. I wish to do the same—live life attempting to take on each crazy challenge after the other.



Karch Majtenyi

What advice would you give to underclassmen? Get involved early. I can't add many activities from my freshman year on the list of things I am proud of, and I really regret it. You can make high school the best years of your life if you broaden your horizons and try new things.

What is your most embarrassing memory? On the first day of school, I went to my first block instead of the class designated for freshmen with a last name beginning with "M". It was full of seniors, and someone eventually said, "Hey, I didn't know 4'8" seniors existed."



Emily

What has been your most meaningful accomplishment? My most meaningful accomplishment has been competing for three consecutive years in the state competition for three consecutive years. I absolutely can't wait, so I want to learn leadership and professionalism.

What makes you proud to be a Wildcat? I see students working hard to accomplish their goals. Whether it is through sports, or club events, seeing students succeed at Millbrook makes me smile.



Christy

What has been your most meaningful accomplishment? My most meaningful accomplishment was being able to give back to my community, and my work at Millbrook.

What advice would you give to underclassmen? Get involved early.

What is your most memorable moment? My most memorable moment was winning the state golf season during States and hugging my family.



Avery

What is your most memorable moment? My most memorable moment was being elected Vice Club at the end of my junior year. I was shocked and truly honored. Being recognized by the faculty that I deeply respect was humbling.

Who is your role model? My parents. They are the role model what it means to be empathetic and caring; attributes that I try to emulate.

ing Seniors

15



Fordice

What has been your most meaningful accomplishment? My most meaningful accomplishment was competing at DECA's international... I will be a business major in col... DECA has been an incredibly fun way... sm.

Who is your role model? Whenever I see dedicated stu... their extracurricular goals, I am proud... h sports, theatre, concerts, competi... s and friends dedicate themselves to



Danielle Gibbs

“Millbrook is...” My home away from home. My family when I feel like I'm all alone. My backbone when I feel like I can't stand the stress anymore, but more than anything, Millbrook is my drive to accomplish my lifelong goals.

Who is your role model? My grandparents are my role models because they give me hope and the drive to reach my goals and do what makes me happy. They've shown me that you can have a career and still find the love of your life. They've shown me that I can't give up because they have not. If they didn't give up after being diagnosed with cancer, then I cannot.



Hailey Glick

“Millbrook is...” just a building. But the Wildcats inside are family. They make Millbrook a home.

What has been your most meaningful accomplishment? My most meaningful accomplishment was being selected as a RYLA candidate and peer counselor. The selection process was very competitive. I learned about myself and how to better lead others. I gained the confidence and skills necessary to become Interact's president. Now I get to go back and counsel others on their journeys to improve themselves as leaders.



Johnson

What has been your most meaningful accomplishment? My most meaningful accomplishment was being inducted into Service Club. I... and it was nice to be recognized for

Who is your role model? Turn in your parking

What has been your most meaningful accomplishment from your time at Millbrook? My most meaningful accomplishment was walking off the last hole at... my coaches after a great senior year



Oluwatobi Kalejaiye

“Millbrook is...” a place that taught me to embrace my differences.

What has been your most meaningful accomplishment? My most meaningful accomplishment is getting people to smile at least once in a conversation. You never know what people are going through, so I like to brighten their day even for at least one second.

Who is your role model? My role model is my younger brother because he reminds me to fill life with laughter and not to sweat the small things.



Sammy Kopac

What has been your most meaningful accomplishment? My most meaningful accomplishment was becoming yearbook editor. This was always a goal of mine and accomplishing it has brought me so many other opportunities that I never would have had otherwise.

What is your most embarrassing memory? When I was a freshman, I went to the wrong Spanish class on the first day of school. It was an all senior class, and I sat there for the first ten minutes trying to hold back my tears of panic before the teacher told me I was in the wrong room. It was a little more traumatizing than embarrassing.



McClure

What has been your most meaningful accomplishment? Being inducted into Ser... ar was an awesome moment. I was... gnized alongside students and... nbling and encouraging.

Who is your role model? My role models are my role models because they... ts are my role models because they... ic and compassionate towards oth-



Lexi McCool

What has been your most meaningful accomplishment? Being accepted to the North Carolina Governor's School my junior year was my most meaningful accomplishment. I had always dreamed of attending the summer academy but was denied from the program my sophomore year. There, I studied Social Science, a subject I am very passionate about, and met some of my best friends.

What is your most memorable moment? Every moment in Ms. Lyon's AP Biology class my junior year.



Julian Williams

“Millbrook is...” the place that turned me from a boy to a man!
What has been your most meaningful accomplishment? Being named captain of the football team was my most meaningful accomplishment because I dreamed of playing for Millbrook as a kid.

What advice would you give to underclassmen? Ask yourself if it's really worth it before you do it.

What is your most embarrassing memory? Dancing at the pep rally my freshman year

TECH SAVVY

Finding your fitness tracker match



By Chase Jamison
STAFF REPORTER

With all these new and flashy-looking fitness trackers, how do you decide the best match for your needs? It would only make sense to make a list of which would be the best deal and which would best suit you. Keep in mind that there are many more fitness trackers than just these three, so you may have to do some research yourself.

When fitness trackers were first introduced they were basically pedometers used to track your steps.

As the market gets more competitive and

expands, new functions are constantly being added, like how many calories are burned.

The first fitness tracker on the list is the Fitbit Charge HR. It works with both iPhone and Android. It has sleep detection to monitor how well you sleep and how much you toss and turn at night. It does this by monitoring your heart rate. That is what the HR in Fitbit Charge HR comes from. This one would be best for people being introduced to fit trackers as a way to test if you want one a little more accurate. It may not be water proof, but it is splash proof, so if you manage to spill a little water on it, you are not going to break

“Anything that you wear on your arm to keep track of what you have done and not done is helpful when it comes to keeping in shape.”

-Coach Dickens, PE Department chair

it. For some people price is normally a problem,

but the Fitbit Charge HR is pretty affordable with a price of \$149.

This next one is for people who want to take working out a little more seriously than just doing squats and jogging for 20 minutes. It is the Fitbit Surge, and it has iPhone and Android support. It was made by the same company who produces the Fitbit Charge HR. The Fitbit Surge, as well as having a sleep tracker, has a GPS, so along

with keeping track of your sleep patterns, it keeps track of your location. To top it all off, it is water proof, so you can even swim with it. This

is really helpful for people who swim as their main

means of exercise. This fit tracker is for people more

This fitness tracker is best for people who want

knew that fit trackers had a lot of different uses but

never one that would measure the strength of the sun's heat.”

On the other hand, it is only splash proof, but do not take it for granted; it is built to be tough. However, with open options on what phone it can be linked with and many active features, it comes with a price of \$200.

While some of these fitness trackers are expensive, they are most certainly worth purchasing. They will help you track your fitness goals,

help you stay the healthiest you can be, and may even help you keep that New Year's resolution you made this year. Coach Dickens, PE Department chair, says, “Anything that you wear on your arm to keep track of what you have done and not done is helpful when it comes to keeping in shape.”



en.wikipedia.org

Ranging from a step counter to a full on phone on your arm, fitness trackers have a wide variety of choices. Sometimes it can be a little hard to find the right one.

committed to working out and is not for everyone, so if you are willing to spend \$249.95, this would be the best choice.

The final fitness tracker is the Microsoft Band. This one is iPhone, Android, and Windows supported, which means it will work with almost all the phones that most people have.

something serious but at a smaller price. It has sleep tracking and GPS, so it is just as committed as the first two. The thing that sets this one aside from the rest is a UV monitor that tracks the strength of the sun's heat and warns you when you need sun screen. Sophomore William Fasano says, “I always

March Horoscopes



♓ Pisces - Feb. 19 - Mar. 20

Stop sulking about when things don't go your way. Step up and make sure that you are being reasonable. Find new ways to communicate.

♈ Aries - Mar. 21 - Apr. 19

Be patient with the friend or loved one who is taking too much time to do what they say they would. They have their reasons for moving slowly.

♉ Taurus - Apr. 20 - May 20

Your great mental energy is all you need to come out with at least one killer idea that will take you far. Start brainstorming!

♊ Gemini - May 21 - June 20

Now is the perfect time to remedy shyness. Don't be intimidated by intellectual conversations. You could surprise yourself!

♋ Cancer - June 21 - July 22

Talk to a few strangers and gain some perspective on that issue that you can not seem to work out. Getting an outside opinion may shed some light.

♌ Leo - July 23 - Aug. 22

You've got a great plan, but you might need to refine it just a bit before you can pull it off. Take time to go over it before you have to make it happen.

♍ Virgo - Aug. 23 - Sept. 22

Fit some one-on-one time in with someone close. You will be able to speak clearly with them and find the help you need.

♎ Libra - Sept. 23 - Oct. 22

You are having a lot of fun but you need to slow down and organize your priorities. Budget your time wisely and you will be able to mix business with pleasure.

♏ Scorpio - Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

Be sure to double-check your work. A small error may cause the whole thing to be off. Pay attention details and avoid an ugly situation.

♐ Sagittarius - Nov. 22 - Dec. 21

Let your creative energy take you where it may and great ideas for summer activities will arise. Get some input from friends and you may have the most memorable summer ever!

♑ Capricorn - Dec. 22 - Jan. 19

Demanding people must be put in their place. Be diplomatic. Take on challenges at home. Your hard work will be rewarded toward the end of the month.

♒ Aquarius - Jan. 20 - Feb. 18

Let that person in your life who has been sitting on the fence know that you are tired of it. Let them know you are ready for their decision.

A look into the stars Astrology at a glance



By Alana Topakian
SECTION EDITOR

When considering astrology, one thinks first of the stars and the meaning behind them, while others scoff at what is considered a real science. Defined as the study of the movements and relative positions of celestial bodies, astrology is interpreted as having an influence on human affairs and the natural world. While many people are aware of this area of study, they tend to be unfamiliar with its background.

The Babylonians are credited with discovering Astrology over 2000 years ago. During that time, they used astrology to predict the recurrence of seasons and certain celestial events, as they did not have the technological advances that we do today. The Babylonians used divination, the practice of seeking knowledge of the future through supernatural means, to develop their knowledge of the field, making sure to write down all that they learned.

By the time the Babylonians were overtaken and destroyed by the Persians around 1 B.C., the field of astrology had spread to Europe, and was especially prominent in Greece. It was during this time when philosophers like Plato and Aristotle began to study astrology, and that the field began to grow. Through their understanding of the field, it began to be highly recognized as a science and spread to other countries. With time, astrology spread around the entire world and was used to not only predict weather patterns, but most human affairs. Back then, royalty would have astrologists at their beck and call to help solve any issues presented. Today, nearly everyone knows his/her astrological sign and many check their horoscopes daily.

A horoscope is actually a map of the zodiacal circle, each person's horoscope charting the relative position of the sun, moon, planets, and stars at a specific time. Astrologers use sidereal time instead of clock time to decipher this, which measures time through the sun's position during the spring equinox. Before computers, astrologers would have to

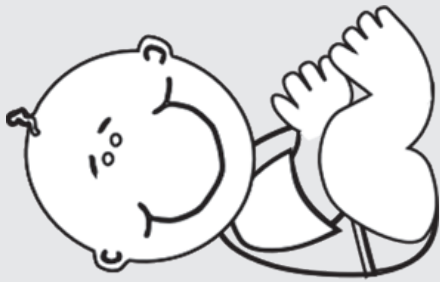
personally create the chart that would decipher one's horoscope, a tedious process that has been made much easier with technology. The interpretation of the actual chart, though, is an art and a science, one having to know almost everything about zodiac signs and astronomy. Horoscopes are frequently regarded as nothing more than entertainment, due to the fact that one does not go to a professional to have his/her astrological chart made. An example of this would be freshman Calvin Ison, who said, “When I was eight, my horoscope said I would be 5'2” by the time I was a freshman. At the start of freshman year, I decided that horoscopes were not real because I am still not 5'2”.” On the other hand, sophomore Jordan Wolborsky takes a different perspective saying, “Even though people may say that horoscopes are fake, I feel like they are true in their own way. How they are worded could be taken many different ways.”

Despite the varied beliefs on astrology's validity, the field is an old science that will never stop looking into the stars to find answers to the world's questions.

Top Ten Unique celebrity baby names

Compiled by the *Cat Talk* staff

10. Kyd – (child of David Duchouney)...but what about when he's an adult?
9. North West – (child of Kim & Kanye)... you need a compass to keep track of their train of thought on this one!
8. Diva Thin Muffin- (child of Frank Zappa)... Why have a bland diet muffin when you can have a Diva Thin Muffin?
7. Prince Michael I and II –(child of Michael Jackson)... Obviously the King of Pop wanted them to be royalty.
6. Jermajesty- (child of Jermaine Jackson)... taking sibling rivalry and royalty to the next level.
5. Pilot Inspector – (child of Jason Lee)...when your parents decide your name and career all at once.
4. Tu Morrow – (child of Rob Morrow)...when the doctor takes "we'll name the child tomorrow" literally.
3. Moxie Crimefighter- (child of Penn Jillette)... Call her, beep her, if you want to reach her, Kim Possible 2.0.
2. Rosalind Arusha Arkadina Altalune Florence – (child of Uma Thurman) ...the perfect match for Esteban Julio Ricardo Montoya De La Rosa Ramirez.
1. Poppy Honey Rosie / Buddy Bear / Daisy Boo Pamela / Petal Blossom Rainbow – (child of Jamie Oliver)...this family clearly wanted to be a herd of My Little Ponies.



Dear Catty...

Dear Catty,

All of my friends are going to one place for spring break this year, and my parents are making me go with them to my grandparents' house. I want to go with my friends, but my parents will not let me. What do I do?

-SaveMe

Dear SaveMe,

I have been where you have been, and though it never gets easier, they are your parents, and you are going to have to listen to them. High school is all the time they have left with you as a kid, and they probably just want to spend as much time with you as possible. Don't worry about it too much, and just enjoy vacationing with your family. You'll be able to see your friends after spring break.

-Catty

Dear Catty,

Recently, my friend started dating someone I don't like and don't think is good for her. I don't want this to affect our friendship, but every time I try to hang out with her, she ends up changing our plans to be with him. How do I tell her I don't want to be around the person she's dating?

-LostFriend

Dear LostFriend,

It can be hard when your friend is with someone you do not like. I suggest talking to your friend and telling her how you feel. Tell her that you do not want their relationship to interfere with your friendship and that you feel like she's not prioritizing your friendship. If you are going to tell her that you don't like her significant other, or that you have concerns about them, make sure you are being sensitive to her feelings.

-Catty

Dear Catty,

I am ALWAYS spending money on food. It feels like whenever I get money or a paycheck, I've spent it in only a week from eating out. How can I still eat out with friends or get a good meal without wasting away all of my money?

-FastFoodFailure

Dear FastFoodFailure,

When you get your paycheck, set only a small amount aside for food and put the rest in savings. If your friends want to go out to eat, suggest going to your house or having a picnic somewhere. If you want to eat out alone, go back to your house and get a microwavable meal; it is cheaper than fast food. Eating out is fun but expensive and unhealthy, so limit yourself since it should be a treat.

-Catty

Dear Catty,

My clothes are not up to date for the upcoming and spring season, and I'm running low on funds. What can I do to make some quick cash for spring break?

-PoorYetFashionable

Dear PoorYetFashionable,

I think one of the quickest ways to make some cash is to have a one day garage sale, do some babysitting, or help your neighbors with some chores around their houses. Good luck finding the perfect look this spring!

-Catty

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Wiley the Wildcat



Drawn by Oliver Ficker
STAFF REPORTER





By Mitra Norowzi
SECTION EDITOR

When asked to think about movies, one's mind probably jumps to big blockbusters in a crowded commercial theater, by Warner Brothers, or perhaps Disney. But to see the film world through such a narrow lens is practically an injustice. There is a plethora of amazing independent films that go unrecognized due to less promotion and budget allowance. Two such films are *Kumiko, the Treasure Hunter* and *A Girl Walks Home Alone at Night*.

Directed by David Zellner, *Kumiko, the Treasure Hunter* premiered at the 2014 Sundance Film Festival and has since achieved universal acclaim. The plot is loosely based on the true story of Tokako Konishi. Konishi, a Japanese office worker, reportedly believed that the treasure in the movie *Fargo* was real and died in her efforts to find it. The title character Kumiko, played by Rinko Kikuchi, is also a Tokyo office worker, disillusioned by a disappointing life.

Kumiko's only solace is a low quality American VHS movie in which a man buries a fortune in the plains of the Midwest. Convinced this treasure is real, and eager to leave her old life behind, Kumiko embarks on a journey to America to uncover the money. The film will have a limited release in the United States beginning March 13. The

who goes by no other name throughout the entire film, played by Sheila Vand, is a lonely and strangely moral vampire, complete with a chador, a traditional Muslim head covering. Her victims mainly include abusive, chauvinist men. Arash and the Girl meet and have an instant connection, but rest assured this movie is no *Twilight*. Filmed



entirely in black and white, the movie combines Hitchcock-like horror and spaghetti western elements in a delightfully eclectic combination. The aesthetic is vaguely 50's; Arash himself is styled reminiscent of James Dean. All of these elements are set to an entrancing Persian soundtrack. With a plot that continually surprises, *A Girl Walks Home Alone at Night* is a stellar example of the best both the independent and Iranian film scenes have to offer, and one of my personal favorites. Look for it on DVD this month.

movie can only be viewed at independent theaters such as the Colony or Rialto here in Raleigh.

Another great independent film that is a must-see is Ana Lily Amirpour's *A Girl Walks Home Alone at Night*. It is an Iranian film, but please do not let subtitles scare you off! *AGWHAAN* is an extraordinary film; it is poignant and sweet and intense all at the same time. The plot is centered mostly on Arash, played by Arash Marandi, and the struggles he faces in supporting his drug addict father in a town called 'Bad City.' The Girl, the title character

entirely in black and white, the movie combines Hitchcock-like horror and spaghetti western elements in a delightfully eclectic combination. The aesthetic is vaguely 50's; Arash himself is styled reminiscent of James Dean. All of these elements are set to an entrancing Persian soundtrack. With a plot that continually surprises, *A Girl Walks Home Alone at Night* is a stellar example of the best both the independent and Iranian film scenes have to offer, and one of my personal favorites. Look for it on DVD this month.

Music Now

Mouth-only melodies



By Drew Prentice
STAFF REPORTER

For many centuries, instruments have been a large part of the music industry, and there are many songs that only use instruments. Nonetheless, even more songs use singing to accompany the instruments. Singing itself has changed from just accompanying instruments, and branched off into its own genre: a cappella music.

Though it was not named a cappella at the time, singing without the support of instruments is believed to have begun between the ninth and tenth centuries

in a form called Gregorian chant. Gregorian chant is a music genre that was widely used in the Roman Catholic Church, involving only one melody of singing that is accompanied by nothing else and sung by multiple people. Slowly, chant spread to Jewish and Muslim practices as well, and some people began to debate whether instruments should be used in religion at all.

A cappella music did not become popular outside of religion until 1906, when Peter Christian Lutkin, the dean of the Bienen School of Music, founded the Northwestern A Cappella Choir, which was the first permanent a cappella organiza-

tion. Soon, more of these organizations began to appear, the most prominent being the St. Olaf College Choir, started in 1911 by music faculty member F. Melius Christiansen of St. Olaf College, which started an even greater trend of a cappella choirs in colleges everywhere.

A cappella also became the root of a new music style named barbershop music. Barbershop music involves four people singing in perfect harmony, with the lyrics divided into four different roles: the lead, who is responsible for the melody;

"I find a capella music amazing because I cannot recreate music with my voice nor sing well without background instruments."

-Patrick Smith, senior

the tenor, who sings higher than the lead; the bass, who sings lower than the lead; and the baritone, who completes the harmony. This form of singing started in the late nineteenth century by African American men who were socializing in barber shops, which were social communities at the time. 1983 marked the beginning of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America (S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A), or the first men's barbershop organization, although later the name was changed to the Barbershop Harmony Society (BHS). The first women's barbershop organiza-

nization, the Sweet Adelines, formed in 1943, and both organizations have had competitions ever since their creation.

There are few artists who have gained success with a cappella music, and the group Pentatonix is one of the most notable. The group originated in Texas, where three members that grew up together, Kirstin "Kirstie" Maldonado, Mitch Grassi, and Scott Hoying, made an a cappella trio version of the song "Telephone" and sent it to a *Glee* competition to meet the cast. They did not win, but they did gain success both in school and on YouTube. After graduating, the group reformed and found two more members, Avriel "Avi" Kaplan and Kevin Olusola, and met with them on the day before the auditions for the show *The Sing-Off*, which they won after Hoying, Grassi, and Maldonado dropped out of college to focus on the competition. The group moved to L.A. after winning the show and has become major in both the music industry and YouTube, with their first extended play hitting number 14 on US Billboard Top 200. Their official YouTube channel, PTXOfficial, is the twelfth most subscribed music channel on YouTube.

Though it has not always had the same name, a cappella music has been around for centuries and has had many different forms. As more talented singers rise to fame, this genre will simultaneously grow to become a staple of the music industry.

Our favorite, standby TV shows conclude



By Frances Deese
STAFF REPORTER

There are many everyday depressing things in life, such as failing a test you studied for, forgetting headphones at home, or realizing someone has eaten all of the leftovers you were saving. The king of these doldrums is a favorite TV show ending.

We do not often expect to enjoy shows about the boring, everyday events in life. No one would have ever guessed a show about a parks and recreation department in Pawnee,

Indiana, would be so funny and relatable. *Parks and Recreation* has aired for five seasons. The show stars Amy Poehler, an optimistic bureaucrat who works for the parks and rec department. The series follows her and several of her coworkers as they try to make the town a better place. Sophomore Maya Celetti says,

"*Parks and Rec* is one of my favorite shows because the characters are all so different and interesting; it makes the show super funny!" Producers of the show chose to end it because they did not want to drag it on and ruin it.

The final episode aired February 23.

Glee also follows the everyday lives of normal



high schoolers in the school Glee Club. The series first aired in 2009 and follows drama of the members, but shows them seeing past each other's differences and learning to work as a team. Sophomore Cedric Lyons says, "*Glee* is the best show

ever. The show brings very important topics to light, such as LGBT rights and gender equality." Looking beyond the great plots of each episode, *Glee* performs many amazing songs that will make you feel like you are watching a Broadway musical. In 2009, *Glee* had 25 singles chart on the Billboard Hot 100. *Mad Men* has amazing sets and costumes, accurately portraying the 1960's that is its setting. The show follows a firm of "Mad Men" who are defined as men who work in advertisement on Madison Avenue in New York City. The show truly shows how different things were not too long ago, such as the wives

making a homemade meal from scratch every night. *Mad Men* is ending due to low ratings, and critics say it has dragged on long enough. The last episode will air May 17.

Some shows never make it past the first season, *Two and a Half Men* was not one of those. The show aired for 12 years and 12 seasons. The series follows two brothers raising one of the brother's sons. Over the years, the show went through a lot. Many fans were very disappointed when Charlie Sheen left in the eighth season. People worried that when Ashton Kutcher replaced Sheen, he would not be able to live up to the task, but he has proven his potential.

When Angus T. Jones left, producers realized the show had been on long enough. The final episode aired February 19.

TV shows ending is a big deal because we become so invested. Watching TV is a way to escape and to relax. There are several ways to deal with a show ending. One is to re-watch from the beginning of the show on Netflix or other online sources. Find people who know what you are going through and also enjoy the show. If you talk to them about the series, they might even recommend a new show to watch. Eventually you will have to move on, so try to finding a show in the same genre or with some of the same actors.



Sound Opinions

Long live the queen?



By Frances Deese
STAFF REPORTER

In a world where democracies are popping up, many say Queen Elizabeth and her fellow members of the Royal Family are useless and should be done away with. However, the Royal Family brings tourists, and only cost each English citizen 56 pounds a year. They are also people to look up to.

It is nearly impossible to go a day without seeing a picture or headline of the British Royal Family. There has always been a fascination with the elite and royals, from when Queen Elizabeth first became queen to Princess Diana to Duchess Kate. In place since 1066, many commoners still obsess over the royals. Currently many like hearing about Prince Harry, Prince William, or Duchess Kate most, but Queen Elizabeth is still very impressive.

Why is it that so many are obsessed with the royals? When looking at them, they do not have any crazy quirks except for ruling a couple of countries. Many love them because they have seen Prince William and Prince Harry grow up. People feel connected when they see the royals experiencing normalcy, like going to college, finding love, and having children.

Elizabeth Alexandra Mary is 88 years old and was crowned queen on February 6, 1952. After all those years you would think the queen does nothing but host tea parties or make appearances. Another reason the public is fascinated with royalty is because no one truly knows what they do. She is head of the armed forces and head of the Church of England. She can shut down Parliament if needed, and all laws have to go through her. She advises and guides the government. She is the Queen of England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, and many other

areas.

Her daily schedule consists of meetings with her private secretaries to discuss the day's events and review documents. These meetings can last up to an hour. She then has meetings with officials such as ambassadors, bishops and commissioners that last all day. She also has Investiture ceremonies where decorations and honors are presented.

Last year the royals cost taxpayers 35.7 million pounds, only 56 pounds a person. 19.5 million of this was spent on the payroll of staff and other staff costs. Property maintenance was 13.3 million. So, the money that is collected is not used so the royals can have gold toilet paper or bathe in diamonds. Some of their money even comes from private organizations.

The Royal Family definitely pays back those 56 pounds. Tourists flock to England just to see the royals' home country. There are copious amounts of souvenirs sold that feature the royals. Part of England's identity is their royal family; many always picture the two together. Taking away the royal family would be wrong because it is called the United Kingdom, and there has always been a queen or king since 1688. The royal family is also a group of people to look up to, because they give back to charity and seem to care a great deal about England.

While all of this may seem like a lot to juggle, many oppose the queen and the royal family saying they are just figure heads. While it might never happen, there is no reason to do away with the royals. If England forced out the Royal Family, they would have nothing to do; they are bred to rule.

While they may not be the most important part of the United Kingdom, the Royal Family helps to bring tourism to England, gives the citizens someone to look up to, and provides an identity to England. The royal family is not a parasite on the economy either, with costing each citizen only 56 pounds a year.

Controversy about cameras



By Audrey Kahwaty
SECTION EDITOR

After the historical events that have occurred in the past couple years, such as the murders of Michael Brown and Eric Garner by police officers, the push for officers to wear mandatory cameras with their uniforms is rapidly moving forward. Undoubtedly, this forceful push has worked. Many police departments across the United States have made requests to purchase them for their police forces. In December of 2014, the Los Angeles Police Department announced that it was purchasing 7,000 body cameras to be worn by officers. On Tuesday, the Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department made a request for \$7 million to

purchase 1,400 of them. In jurisdictions all over the country, these cameras are being requested, purchased with public money, and deployed. Since the White House is behind them on this issue, there has been very little pushback on the rules beginning to be set in place for police officers and these cameras. They have



A big issue nationwide has been whether the use of cop cameras is valid and should be allowed. Logically, if the police officers have nothing to hide, the cameras should not be an issue.

proven to be helpful in a study which found that the number of complaints filed against officers dropped from .7 per 1,000 contacts to .07 per 1,000 contacts when on-body cameras were being used. But, there

are some problems arising.

One of the major risks of these punishments is that officers can fail to record a serious altercation, and then walk away with no recording and no punishment for it either. So, what exactly happens if an officer does not hit record before approaching a crime? This question worries many Americans because officers have an advantage if they can choose when they are recording. Bottom line, any cop body camera policy needs to have rules and regulations. There should be not only a risk of disciplinary action but an exclusive rule for any evidence obtained in an unrecorded encounter. These are all just suggestions, of course.

Police unions and chiefs are not likely to immediately adopt a set of rules and regulations for these cameras, but the points that are being made by not only citizens but respected officials are extremely valid.

With the use of cop cameras, as long as there are mandatory rules and regulations for the officers who are wearing them, on-body cameras worn by officers can extremely help our police force and society. They have proven to drop not only the amount of complaints filed against officers but can, if used correctly, prove injustice in a criminal trial. This can contribute to the efficiency of cases in court if all officers are required to wear them and record every encounter. With policy meetings occurring in major cities across the United States about how departments could deploy on-body cameras without antagonizing or angering citizens, now is the best time to debate both what is realistically going to help the police force and what is simply necessary.

Parties in the USA



By Oliver Ficker
STAFF REPORTER

Many Americans feel that they are not represented in Congress. In 2014, Congress's approval rating was at 14 percent. In the Senate, Republicans used filibusters to block bills and delay nominations at staggering rates. The last two Congresses have enacted fewer laws than any other Congress since before 1973. Why is it that the quantity and quality of Congress's work for the American people are lower than ever? The extreme divide between Democrats and Republicans and lack of bipartisan efforts on the federal level may be in part the byproduct of our two-party system.

The political parties in our country divide people arbitrarily when they are on the same side of an issue. Many liberals and conservatives agree that the use of drones by the U.S. government should have limits. Concerns include that drones have already been used to kill American citizens that were not on U.S. soil, and drones could

be used within the country to violate the privacy of Americans.

However, despite the fact that some Democrats and Republicans agree on this issue, little has been done to define how the executive branch can use drones. The antagonism between the parties makes it difficult to come to agreements even if both sides want the same thing. It is also risky for elected officials to go against their own party to join bipartisan efforts. This leads to less of the legislation that Americans want being passed.

The development of the two-party system in the country is believed to be influenced by the voting system. In the United States, most election use the first-past-the-post voting system, meaning that the candidate with the plurality of the votes is elected. This means that if more than two candidates are running in one election, a candidate can receive less than half of the votes but still be elected. Because of this, voters in

the United States often vote strategically. If a third party candidate has a lower chance of winning, voters will choose a candidate with a better chance of



Speaking to a joint session of Congress, President Obama goes over his ideas on health care reform. Like many other issues, progress on health care reform has been very slow due to a lack of bipartisan efforts.

winning to prevent the candidates they dislike the most from being elected. This system makes it difficult for third parties to win many elections, giving the voters less practical choices for representation.

The two-party system not only gives the voters fewer choices, but it reduces the range of choices for the voters as well. In order to appeal to a wider range of voters, the larger political parties must try to represent moderate voters to gain a majority of the electorate. In the recent congressional elections, many Democratic candidates in tight elections moved to the right, distancing

themselves from President Obama and supporting more conservative policies. Liberal voters in these states did not have a candidate that represented their views

well. However, most liberal voters disliked the Republican candidate in their state more than the Democrat and strategically voted to prevent the Republican from being elected. When there is very little difference between the candidates in our elections, Americans are less likely to get the representation they want.

It seems as if very little can be done about the two-party system in the U.S.; however, there are other countries that have a handful of successful parties with representatives in government. The U.K. has three major political parties that fight for power in the government. Until they were recently cut, Canada had per-vote subsidies for political parties that helped to support smaller parties based on their popularity. To support smaller parties on the federal level in the U.S., policies would have to change to reach a better balance.

The inconsistencies of standardized testing



By **Brittany Hubbard**
STAFF REPORTER

Standardized testing is nothing new to our generation; we have been taking them since elementary school. A standardized test is one that mandates students to answer questions from a common pool of questions if not the same exact questions and then is scored in a uniform way. These tests range in format; however, the most common of them are the multiple choice format; in some cases the test has four to five answer choices per questions.

On average the annual state spending for standardized tests is over one billion dollars. Spending over a billion dollars on tests that do not even provide reliable data is wasteful, to say the least. Every time we turn on the television, there is an issue with the budget for education. If education is so imperative to becoming successful, why not recognize the defectiveness in standardized testing and consciously use the one billion dollars on a more practical approach to obtain progress in academics? Maybe not spending 60 to 110 hours of instruction in preparation for the test could be a feasible solution. That time could actually go towards a more relaxed learning environment and the money towards instructional programs to promote even more academic growth with possibly some left over.

Passed in 2001 by President George W. Bush, the No Child Left Behind Act required states to test students in reading and math throughout grades 3-8 and once in high school. The act was a failing attempt to compare and promote progress in academics amongst students. However, over the years, data concerning standardized testing

has become a red flag. Students all over the world are compared to each other. Those learning the English language have to take standardized tests in English. How objective is the data when the students are not sitting in the same exact classroom, being taught the same exact thing, by the same exact instructor, in the same exact manner? Different teachers have different methods of explaining concepts, some better than others. Using a uniform test to analyze ununiformed



Standardized tests have been implemented in the US since the 1800's. Over a billion dollars is allocated annually for states to administer them to students.

learning is contradictory and decreases objectivity of data regarding the test. Failures in the education system are most often equated to low income families living below poverty, teacher quality, and incentives. If all these loop holes can skew the performance on a standardized test, why continue to utilize them throughout the education system? High stakes are at risk when analyzing data from these tests. In some cases teachers are evaluated on the performance of their students, fired, students are retained, and federal funding for programs is reduced.

This uniform way of testing has taken control of almost every person involved. No longer is school about learning for the student; it is about doing well on the test. Why? Because the test can determine whether you go on to the next grade or not or whether you get into the school or not. Standardized testing dehumanizes the learning experience and reduces the identity of students. Students are put into a crunch-like situation trying their best to think

as someone they are not in order to maximize their chances at scoring high.

What ever happened to innovation? The environment of classroom is now teaching around the test. Standardized testing is an inaccurate representation of the knowledge and growth of students who take the test. It is very likely that a one student could sit and guess on the test and be statistically compared to a student who did not guess. In that case the data should be void because there is no

accurate way to assess the progress of the students. Without the uniformity of standardized testing, education would be sure to promote innovations, expand knowledge, and create future leaders .

Space travel Is it worth our time?



By **Chase Jamison**
STAFF REPORTER

Many question whether or not space travel is worth the money or the time. Some say it is just a waste of taxpayer dollars; however, many people do not realize the amount of technological advances we have had in space that has brought new technologies. While most people are against the \$18 billion budgeted to NASA each year, they do not realize that the money put towards NASA is only .5% of the United States budget and most of that money is not being spent on the actual rocket, but the people working all the time to get things done.

A statement commonly used by people against space travel is that they think the people who are going to space are being put in life threatening conditions without them knowing it. People going to space know the risks and are willing to take that risk in the hope of discovering something new. This is why we have discovered so much over the years about Earth. The only real danger the people in space have to worry about is a malfunction in the space craft which is not likely

to happen due to years of training and testing.

Another commonly-used excuse is that we should not be wasting so much money on space travel and that we should be using it to find ways to help the poor or the less fortunate. However, we already put three billion dollars toward the homeless each year. Many of the discoveries made by NASA have had a lasting impact on lives, but some people still are against it. Meanwhile, the very phones and computers people are using to post

pictures of fire ants. NASA began looking at the fire ants after observing them float on water by linking together somehow, and on closer inspection of the fire ants, they noticed that the ants would get close and use small hook shaped hairs to hold each other together. Not only did this discovery benefit NASA as a way to hold things together tightly in space, but it helped us on Earth.

While that may be amazing, people always bring up the argument that the closest inhabitable planet to Earth would still be light years away and that we should take care of Earth. However, Earth does have a max limit of people it can sustain. We might not know the number, but humans have disastrous effects on



Space travel had only been a dream for mankind, yet now we are sending people to space on a yearly basis, despite large costs that some critics question.

about how space travel has not been any help are using the internet, which is only around due to satellites that NASA sent to space. That is just one example of what would not be around without the help of NASA. Other items, such as Velcro, are not even a technological advance but were made by NASA long ago for use in space. The amazing part is that Velcro was discovered by looking up at close

Earth. This is why if we work together and advance our pursuit of space travel, we may one day inhabit another planet. Some may be against space travel, but I for one support it mainly because of all the good it has brought us over the years, as well as the good it will bring us in the future. It is only human nature to want to expand and explore, and without ways to do so, we are only hurting ourselves.

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Heroes are remembered, legends never die



By Hannah Bailey
SECTION EDITOR

In the span of just a little more than a month, North Carolina lost two of its brightest stars, Tar Heel legends Stuart Scott and Dean Smith.

For years, fans watched as Stuart Scott led ESPN's SportsCenter. Though he earned his status and is most recognized for his spirit and catchphrases from SportsCenter, Scott, for many North Carolinians will be remembered as a great Tar Heel.

Stuart's love for the University of North Carolina was contagious. Scott once said, "No matter

where you go, no matter where you've been, when you go home, it touches your heart." He showed his passion for his school through hosting *Late Night with Roy*. Scott led the kickoff to UNC's basketball season many times. He would walk to the interlocking NC in center court of the Smith Center and say, "This is what it's all about. This right here. It's on the floor, it's on your shirt, and it's in your heart."

The past few years, Stuart could not make the event because of his battle with cancer. For the last seven years, Scott battled his cancer and never gave up. Stuart's spirit always shined through his fight. Last year at the ESPYs, Stuart received the Jimmy V Perseverance Award for his determination to fight his cancer to the end. Stuart passed away on January 4.

Like many Carolina fans, senior Justin Carlson was



Being presented at a UNC event, Coach Smith shares a loving moment with his former player Michael Jordan. Smith coached many baseball greats during his time at Carolina.

devastated by the loss of Scott. He said, "I was truly

sad about the loss of a Tar Heel alumni." He was 49.

Dean Smith led the Tar Heel basketball team from 1961 to 1997. Smith was known as a great basketball coach. At the time of his retirement, he had won more games than any other college basketball coach in history. He reached the Final Four 11 times and won two national championships. Many have called Smith the greatest basketball coach college basketball has seen, but most will remember him as a true gentleman.

Dean Smith's legacy reached far more than

just basketball. More than 96 percent of his players graduated, and he always taught them good sportsmanship. Smith will also be remembered for his work in the Civil Rights movement. He recruited the first African-American scholarship athlete to UNC, Charlie Scott. He also worked to desegregate Chapel Hill by sitting down with African-Americans at white establishments.

In the last few years, like Stuart Scott, Dean Smith has been fighting illness. He battled advanced dementia before he passed on February 7 at the age of 83. Senior Alyssa Jordan said, "It broke my heart to hear about his passing. Dean Smith was such an influential man who did so many great things for not only UNC but for the community as a whole. He's a legend, and he'll always

be remembered especially by us Tar Heels!"

Smith won countless awards during his lifetime, including the Arthur Ashe Courage Award and the Mentor Award for Lifetime Achievement, given by the University of North Carolina Committee on Teaching Awards for his teaching that went beyond the classroom. The basketball arena in Chapel Hill, "The Dean Dome," is named after him, and in 2006 he was honored as a member of the founding class of the National Collegiate Basketball Hall of Fame. In 2013, President Obama awarded Smith the Presidential Medal of Freedom for his activism and coaching.

In the words of Stuart Scott, Dean Smith and Stuart himself were definitely "cooler than the other side of the pillow."

A season in review



By Kiley Burns
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

It was a year of scandals, rebranding, disappointments, and thrills, but all in all, the NFL topped off the season with the nation's highest-rated TV program in history.

The conclusion of the 2014 regular season saw the re-emergence of the coaching carousel. The following teams have new head coaches for the 2015 season: Atlanta Falcons, Dan Quinn; Chicago Bears, John Fox; Denver Broncos, Gary Kubiak; Oakland Raiders, Jack Del Rio; New York Jets, Todd Bowles; Buffalo Bills, Rex Ryan; San Francisco 49ers, Jim Tomsula. Senior Cole Buckalew said, "For me, the coaching change that was most shocking was the Bills head coach, Doug Marrone, leaving his head coaching job for a job as the Jacksonville Jaguars offensive coordinator."

In a week unlike any other in NFL history, domestic abuse came to the forefront of the league's, and the country's, attention and put Commissioner Roger Goodell as the target of public scrutiny. The video of the Ray Rice incident came out, and three other NFL players—Greg Hardy of the Carolina Panthers, Adrian Peterson of the Minnesota Vikings, and

Jonathan Dwyer of the Arizona Cardinals—were charged with crimes involving domestic abuse. Ray Goodell's handling of the case drew the ire of people across the nation and led to the creation of a new domestic violence policy for the NFL and the launch of the "No More" campaign.

Three "integrity of the game" probes are currently underway in the NFL. Deflategate took the sports world by storm, as the Patriots were the center of their second cheating scandal in seven years. The Cleveland Browns General Manager Ray Farmer is accused of violating the NFL's electronic device policy by texting from the press box to the sidelines about playcalls during a game in what is now called Textgate. Farmer apologized for his actions in mid-February and could face suspension. The Atlanta Falcons are also facing discipline from the league for supplementing the sound in the Georgia Dome with fake crowd noise to throw off the opposing team's offense.

The season of scandal seemed to wipe away, however, during the week of Super Bowl XLIX. Team Irvin held on for a 32-28 victor over Team Carter in the 2015 Pro Bowl, Aaron Rodgers was named AP MVP for the second time in his career, and Bruce Arians was named AP Coach of the Year. The real thriller was the New England Patriots 28-24 victory over the

Seattle Seahawks in Super Bowl XLIX, which drew a record 114 million viewers. Two undrafted rookies—New England's Malcolm Butler and Seattle's Chris Matthews—earned national notoriety with their breakout performances. Butler's game-winning interception in the last minute of the game clinched New England's fourth title in 14 years, and Butler was granted Tom Brady's MVP truck.

With the draft, free agency, and, of course, NFL Network, there is a constant slew of NFL news and anticipation of the 2015 season. It will likely bring changes to the rules and maybe even ones to the playoffs. Junior Andrew Strickland said, "The biggest surprise of the year had to be the Carolina Panthers making the playoffs as a 7-9 team." There is speculation that changes will be made to the playoff seeding, though this is unlikely. The biggest story this offseason will be regarding who the Tampa Bay Buccaneers will choose with their number one pick in the draft; the likely scenario seems to be Jameis Winston of Florida State University, as the Bucs recently released veteran quarterback Josh McCown. The New England Patriots are the youngest team in the league and Seattle Seahawks are among the youngest, so, if both teams can lock up some big-name free agents, do not be surprised to see a Super Bowl XLIX rematch in 2016.

Living the dream



By Lexi McCool
SECTION EDITOR

Growing up, millions of children aspire to play their favorite sport at their dream college or university. Very few, however, are able to convert this ambition into a reality. Even fewer are willing to pursue their goals whole-heartedly by graduating early from high school and beginning college at the young age of seventeen.

For James Smith-Williams and Kengera Daniel, graduating early was the perfect opportunity to begin the next stage of their lives. This past January, these Millbrook alumni made the decision to walk across the auditorium's stage, receive their diplomas, and prepare for what was next—college, and a life dedicated to football. Kengera, known around Millbrook's campus as KG, ultimately decided to major in BioMedical Engineering at the University of Kentucky. James also chose to study BioMedical Engineering, but at North Carolina State University.

While these student-athletes knew they would have similar experiences regardless of the school they chose to attend, each was drawn to their respective universities for different reasons. KG received offers from the University of Alabama,

the University of Miami, Wake Forest University, and twelve other schools with established football programs, but was most excited by the role he felt the University of Kentucky would play in shaping the the rest of his life. Currently, he plays "Jack," which is a hybrid Outside Linebacker and Defensive End and practices with his team every morning from 5:30am to 9:30am, including film. "We're



James Smith-Williams with NC State head coach Dave Doeren

about to start two-a-days, which include those workouts and a two hour afternoon workout," he explained.

Finding a balance between academics and football is undoubtedly difficult, but with the supportive and intense atmosphere of his team, KG is able to manage his schedule well. Overall, he loves the student-athlete experience and believes that he is thoroughly prepared for what is in store at his new home. "I feel that not a lot of people get to experience what I have, so I try to treasure every moment of it," KG noted.

Following a similar path, James received offers

from Appalachian State University, Vanderbilt University, and Boston College, but was drawn to the positive coaching staff and overall environment of the Wolfpack. "Although we are a young team," explained James, "we are constantly getting better and working to establish ourselves." James trains defensively as both a linebacker and a nickel every morning from 7am-10am, excluding Sundays.

While he admits that adhering to a rigorous academic and athletic schedule can be demanding, James is thankful to pursue his passion for football at the collegiate level. "I'm always tired, and chemistry is by far the most difficult class I have ever taken, but I'm excited to be starting the next stage of my life," James added. "I have a ton of freedom to do as I please, and I'm really close to home, so if I ever need anything I can go back easily."

Minus a few surprises and mishaps, such as the long walks in between classes and adjusting to life with a roommate, both James and KG are glad they decided to graduate early and begin training with their teams. Doing so has allowed them to get an early start on classes and grow accustomed to college life well before a majority of their peers. "It's actually a pretty great experience," concludes KG, "Being away from home gives you the chance to find out who you really are and transition into the real world."

SPORT OF THE MONTH

Baseball



By Hannah Bailey
SECTION EDITOR

As winter sports are winding down, spring sports are starting to heat up, and Varsity Baseball is no exception. After going 20-10 (11-3 Cap-8) and reaching the Eastern Regional Finals, the team looks to improve upon their success from last season. The team is led by Coach Austin James, who is heading into his fifth season at Millbrook and third as head coach. He said, "After our Eastern Regional Finals run last year, we are excited to try and put together an even

better team. We have several holes to fill, and there will be lots of new faces, but we think the talent coming up from JV last year is strong enough to give us a shot at another special season."

After finishing second in the conference behind Sanderson and having one of the best seasons in program history, the team lost nine of its seniors. Five of these seniors, Brian Miller, Gunnar Deal, Marcello Betances, Chris Scott, and Ali Fathullahzedeah, are now playing collegiate baseball. Since the year 2000, Millbrook has sent 32 players to play in college.

"It is really awesome and a great atmosphere when we get a lot of fans at our games, and the students find out they actually really enjoy going to baseball games. Hopefully the crowds can be even bigger this year!"

-Basil Rodts, senior

The team will have to fill the roles of these former players and the team feels

up to the challenge. Junior Bryce Carnevale said, "The amount of success last year derived from our seniors and their leadership on and off the field and really made our team special. This year, we are going to rebuild our team chemistry, so we can have a year as successful, if not an even better season."

Since 1974, Millbrook's baseball program has won 11 Conference Championships and looks to add another this year. Coach James said, "Our goal is to win the conference.

It will be extremely challenging, as the conference is very competitive top to bottom." In order to achieve this goal, the team has been working since September. Senior Basil Rodts said, "I'm really looking forward to [the season] finally starting! After all the

workouts and eight mans in September to now, I'm looking forward to building a strong team bond this

after his senior season at Millbrook ends. Last year, Alex had eight complete games, which is tied for

seen seven alumni play in Major League Baseball, and for the last seven years, the Wildcats have reached the State Playoffs.

The team hopes to continue Millbrook baseball's tradition of being one of the top programs in North Carolina.

Last season, the Varsity Baseball team had a lot of support from fans, especially during the playoffs. Coach James said, "Our home crowds last year were amazing." The team has worked hard all offseason and wants the same support they garnered in the playoffs all season long. Senior Basil

Rodts added, "It is really awesome and a great atmosphere when we get a lot of fans at our games, and the students find out they actually really enjoy going to baseball games. Hopefully the crowds can be even bigger this year!"



Provided by A. James

After their fourth round win, last year's team celebrates going to the regional round of the playoffs. This year's team is working hard to reach the playoffs again this season.

year and working towards the state title that barely eluded us last year."

The team is led by senior pitcher, Alex Royalty. Royalty is committed to play baseball at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington

the program record with alumni Jimbo Bottomly (1985 and 1986), Matt Shuey (1990), Brandon Hall (1995), and Jake Harris (2009). He looks to continue his success on the mound this season.

The baseball program has

Cats on the Prowl

By Kiley Burns
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



Photo by K. Burns

Name: Logan "The Web" Weber
Grade: 11
Relationship status: Mingling
Sport: Varsity Men's Tennis
Awards, honors, accomplishments: Runner-up for Cap-8, Regional, and State individual championships representing Millbrook in singles; Seventh place at USTA Winter Nationals 2015
Hobbies: Playing the drums and guitar, golfing, and playing basketball.
Best moment in a match: Cobb and I came back from 7-3 down in a doubles match to beat Broughton and clinch the Regional dual team title on the road to winning States.
Favorite quote: "If there is anything that this horrible tragedy can teach us, it's that a male model's life is a precious, precious commodity. Just because we have chiseled abs and stunning features, it doesn't mean that we too can't not die in a freak gasoline fight accident." (Zoolander)



Photo by K. Burns

Name: Erin Brooks
Grade: 12
Sport: Varsity Women's Lacrosse
Why did you start playing this sport? I used to play basketball, but realized I was not very good at it, so I started to pass at the beach with my older sister, Meghan, and became hooked. Meghan really pushed me to be a better athlete and playing with her for two years was so much fun. Now I get to play with my baby sister for my final year, and I could not be happier!
Hobbies: Watching Netflix
Best moment in a game: Getting to watch my team play last season in the first playoff game in school history alongside my two sisters
Pre-game: Eat pasta (made by Brooke Elsam), say a little prayer, tuck my laces in, and braid my pony tail
Favorite quote: "We have this hope as an anchor for our soul, firm and secure." -Hebrews 6:19

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