Before They Were Teachers

By: Khalil Little

Mr. Makowski asked me if I wanted to do an article on the jobs teachers held before they became teachers or jobs they have outside of teaching, so I caught up with two teachers that are very personable; Mr. Hirneisen and Mrs. Krumrine.

Colonel Hirneisen started out as an engineer for three years before starting his teaching career in 1995. As an engineer, he actually contributed to producing two, fully functioning vehicles for the military that cleared mines on the battlefield. However, making these vehicles was not easy. There were nights Colonel Hirneisen had to stay as late as 11 pm just to have everything done that he needed to before certain meetings. I asked the Colonel what sort of life lesson he learned from this experience; his wise response (which we should all learn from) was, “You quickly understand that everyone has something to offer and without everyone's contribution, the project suffers. I also learned that is it your job to understand the folks who work for you and work to manage workload, deadlines, and tasks in a way that works best for the individual team members. Not everyone responds to challenges the same way, it is your job as the leader to present and assign tasks in a way that makes them most productive.”

It does not stop there for Mr. Hirneisen. The man went from designing tanks to being one. He entered the ROTC (Army Reserves Officers’ Training Corps) his freshman year of college and was commissioned by his senior year. For the past 26 and a half years, he has served our great country in some way. What a guy! Colonel Hirneisen remembers in his ROTC camp that he had to face a fear of heights and fight through lack of sleep while still performing to a certain standard during exercises. He also had to overcome the difficult task of leaving his family for an unknown environment in the Middle East… TWICE. Colonel Hirneisen says, “... these tasks required the constant solving of complex problems that never seemed to end. This is mentally exhausting. Long days, long weeks, and long months became...

(Continued on Page 5)

For Your Viewing Pleasure:
A Year of Movies in Review

Get Out, It, and mother!: by Derek Wentz,

I myself, like a good movie. Whether it be a gore fest, a heartfelt story, or anything in between. In the year of 2017, movies have blown away audiences while also having them walk out the theaters desiring a refund. Polarizing movies such as Jordan Peele’s Get Out had audiences reveling in its way of attacking racial and cultural issues.

Though it starts out relatively slow, the main character Chris Washington (played by Daniel Kaluuya), visits his girlfriend’s parent’s house for the weekend. Unbeknownst to him, this visit would become one only imagined in nightmares. It’s thoughtful, yet subtle plot helps progress the story through each scene that go beyond their initial meaning. Though some label it as horror, it serves mainly as a mystery/thriller, keeping the audience on its feet at all times. Throughout the mysterious vibe of the movie, a hint of humor is thrown in to spice up the mood, bringing the viewer back to reality once in a while. If you’re up for a movie that stands out from the competition, and goes beyond its genre, then Get Out is for you.

(continued on page 6)
New President Changes Old-Time Precedent  
By: Emma Britton  

(For The Silhouette this year, Emma will be writing an on-going column on race-related social issues with a goal of seeking understanding and objectivity. If there is something you would like to read about regarding this topic, contact Mr. Makowski).  

Diversity - the state of having a variety, or being different, from one another - is all around us. When looking at the idea of diversity, we must understand that it is not just a black/white issue. While these issues do exist, we must also recognize that there are problems between different cultures and how we treat others within them.  

About a month ago, President Donald Trump formally recognized Jerusalem as Israel’s capital. Almost seven decades of American Foreign Policy were changed and reversed from this decision. President Trump believed that this policy was bringing the United States farther away from the peace that we want/need. Since the founding of Israel in 1948, the US and most other nations have refused to recognize the capital. This decision definitely leaves the United States isolated from other countries as this is a huge concern for many regarding such a sensitive diplomatic concern.  

Part of President Trump’s plan is to move the embassy. Many Presidents tend to promise this, however most have not been able to follow through with this difficult procedure. People believe that this move helped enhance his reputation as a peacemaker.  

Many other leaders believe that the President’s move could be detrimental towards gaining and maintaining peace in the Middle East. John O. Brennan, the former director of the Central Intelligence Agency, said that Trump’s decision was “reckless” and could “damage U.S. interests in the Middle East for years to come and will make the region more volatile.” Others believe that this change was needed and necessary.  

As we can see, diversity comes in all shapes and sizes. While there are different opinions towards whether this decision was for the best, we must acknowledge the importance of working with other cultures. Groups of individuals behave and think differently. We must be understanding towards one another and see it from their point of view. By solving our problems peacefully and thinking them through, we can create unity on this earth.

Net Neutrality: Another Lust for Hierarchy  
By: Molly McKim  

What does Net Neutrality consist of, and why were so many people freaking out over the law’s repeal? Ever notice how Facebook, Pinterest, or YouTube open and load at almost the same rate? Net Neutrality is the availability of the user getting websites and apps at the same speed. Net Neutrality mainly benefits the smaller companies rather than the big ones. Big companies, who have the money to spend, will gladly take away the equal privilege from the smaller companies, who will ultimately die out due to lack of funds. In 2015, Obama passed rules for Net Neutrality with intentions of no prioritization and openness throughout the internet while before, there was no legal regulation on the internet.  

Net Neutrality was important for keeping the
public away from monopolistic internet service providers and made the market for apps and services on the internet fair. Now that it has been repealed, internet service providers have the ability to slow down or speed up certain websites and apps such as Snapchat or Twitter. The repeal of Net Neutrality promotes fear. The advocates of Net Neutrality fear that the FCC created a potential hierarchy system for broadband services. For example, AT&T could charge Netflix more to speed up their services on their own networks; AT&T users could get charged more for Netflix, because their network service decided it wanted only fast speeds for its users and slower for others. This interaction leaves services like Hulu and Amazon with slower speeds.

“But... what does this issue have to do with me?”

While it may not affect the majority of teens in the U.S., the people paying for the phone service will have to pay extra to get a higher network speed. Therefore, broadband networks like AT&T and Verizon banded together to help repeal Net Neutrality. However, acts against - like state attorney lawsuits and the outrage from the public to their senators - still have some people enraged. No, the apps and websites held to daily routine will not go bankrupt or just disappear. The advocates like Netflix and Twitter worry about the “next” Netflix or Twitter consequating from lack of a faster speed contract to keep up with other services.

Regardless, the repeal was sent through. Although, the issue can end up finalized in court. Congress can also choose to take legislative action. A union of Net Neutrality advocates are now petitioning Congress to get involved and overturn the FCC’s vote. No matter what happens, the repeal does not take effect for another year and formally approved by the Office of Management and Budget.

Cheers:

...John Wessel scoring 1,000 points... way to keep it one hunna... x10

...To the New Year... “New year, new me,” am I right?

...To second semester... over half way done, people

...To Fortnite taking over the world

...To apparently getting out of school early... whoever did that...

...To the indecisive weather...it seems to change more than the NFL catch/not a catch rule

...To the Super Bowl commercials that happen to be the reason half of the viewers watched the game anyway

Jeers:

...To the unfortunate natural disasters in California. We are wishing the best for the state and families.

...To the homework load that is approaching... brace yourselves...

...To Valentine’s Day: The holiday to remind all the single people just how single we really are

...To the Government shut down. Looks like they need advice from High School Musical and “Work This Out”
In order to get a closer look as to why *Oklahoma!* was chosen for this year’s musical, Mr. Bowman was gracious enough to participate in an interview. Mr. David Bowman is the new High School Choir director of both the Concert Choir and Women’s Chorus. He also teaches classes such as musical theory, guitar, piano, and voice class.

When asked why he picked *Oklahoma!,* Mr. Bowman shared that it was Rodgers and Hammerstein’s first and most successful collaboration back in March 1943 (not a drama buff? Rodgers and Hammerstein were an innovative, successful, and notorious American musical writing team revered by most in the world of theater). *Oklahoma!* was their most famous collaboration and it came out in the midst of World War Two. The musical was a form of escapism because it was about a simpler time and what it meant to be American. The songs speak about life, relationships, and what society was like at that time. *Oklahoma!* was also chosen because the show demonstrates what people endured at that time, while still being comical with very singable melodies. Since 2018 is the 75th anniversary of the show, and since the high school has put on several contemporary productions in a row, a classic such as *Oklahoma!* is an excellent show for our talented colonials to perform.

Mr. Bowman also shared his point of view on what the show was about, stating that it is really about two parallel relationships, or two love triangles with two ladies being competed for. There is a more serious love triangle that drives the plot, Curly and Laurey, and then another less serious one that acts as comic relief, Ado Annie not being able to choose between two guys. In the background you have the lives of the townsfolk and what life was like on the great frontier.

What may come as a surprise is that Mr. Bowman does not have any concerns regarding the production that the students are going to put on.....not even the choreography! He believes it will be performed very well by the cast and that it will be very well received by the audience.

On a side note, to those who delve deeply into theater and what the musicals represent, some would say that *Oklahoma!* is the most influential piece of musical theater. Mr. Bowman reasonably states that it is extremely difficult to place one musical as the MOST influential, yet due to the fact that *Oklahoma!* was one of the first musicals to integrate dancing and music into the plot. *Oklahoma!* also did not cast any stars. Instead, the production team and directors searched for singers who could act, as the song and dance became a much more important part of the show than it was before. *Oklahoma!* had much success, with many awards and revivals. Although, it did not have high expectations. After the show’s first performance, it was reviewed as “beautifully different.” Prior to *Oklahoma!,* musicals were just a bunch of songs loosely tied together by a ridiculous story, often headlined by famous actors in order to sell tickets.

Mr. Bowman does admit, however, that *Oklahoma!* is definitely influential in regards to society, second only to West Side Story. *Oklahoma!* through its creation and integration, changed the world of musical theatre 75 years ago. Current playwrights and composers wish to do the same with their own shows. *Oklahoma!* is spectacular because of its influence and differences. It is easy to see when a show is great, especially if it is still performed and celebrated all around the world 75 years after its opening; our school is fortunate to have the opportunity to put on such an influential work.
“Let You Down”
A new phenomenon
Artist unknown

Let’s take a look at the artist who wrote the song soaring to the top of Billboard’s Top 100 charts. If you haven’t already, listen to the song quick. The artist began as a Christian rapper Nathan Feuerstein, but you probably haven’t heard of him. Now, he now goes by NF. He was hitting #4 on the top gospel charts, but wasn’t getting much of society’s attention. He started releasing more music and, suddenly, Billboard says he created a “top hit on rap radio.” His song “Let You Down” quickly became popular, beating popular artists like 21 Savage, Kendrick Lamar, and Logic. How could this unknown Christian rapper surpass the artists so many of us love? There is a simple answer.

NF is real music. He sings/raps about the hard to talk about topics. His music is raw and shows all of his emotions. He sings about his crappy past including his mother dying of an overdose and he raps about his inner demons. Listeners are able to relate to the crappy situations NF sings about, which they may have gone through themselves. It helps them feel like they aren’t alone or they aren’t the only ones who feel this way. If you have any doubts, listen to his songs “Mansion”, “Outcast”, “Lie”, and “Turn the Music Up”. These are just a few fan favorites. NF is currently on tour (The Filmore in Philadelphia February 9th); for those that didn’t attend, don’t miss out on the next time around. Turn NF’s music up and really listen.

Studio Albums Released:
2015 Mansion
2016 Therapy Session
2017 Perception
By: Liz Coover

Before They Were Teachers, Cont’d
physically exhausting.” The main life lesson Mr. Hirneisen learned from these experiences is, “keep your head about you” and the importance of “remaining calm in the face of difficult and dangerous situations.” Finding opportunities to encourage others and even find some humor in very difficult situations is good for everyone.” Many thanks to the Colonel for everything he has done and taught us all; if you have not had the great opportunity to meet this man, make it a priority.

Mrs. Krumrine’s previous job takes a less serious tone, yet still remains important. Mrs. Krumrine performed biological research in Costa Rica! She got the job through some connections in college, which is when she started. From college to Costa Rica, what a life, right? Well, maybe not so much. Mrs. Krumrine said some of the hardest tasks she had to perform were actually getting to the research bases, all the mosquitoes in the rain forests, tarantulas and scorpions in their clothes, sleeping bags, and even their shoes, and the teams had to take cold showers...which is the worst out of all them. She also shared some memories that are simply insane. The first memory she shared is when she was assessing insects, a coral snake (very poisonous) slithered right in between her feet. Her next memory takes place on a beach at night. She was all alone and a fully grown tapir walked right behind her in the sand (I recommend Googling a tapir if you do not know what it is). Lastly, and perhaps the craziest story I personally have ever heard, is her final memory and scariest moment. Mrs. Krumrine was swimming alone when she noticed alligator eyes rise up out of the water. Her plan was to continue to swim toward it, jump out of the water at it and try to have the beast miss her. This is exactly what she did (hence why she is still here to tell the tale).

When asked what life lesson she learned from the job in Costa Rica, she responded with, “Teaching younger generations about the importance of the environment is the only way to bring change to it.” Just remember we all work together and trees have feelings too.

If this article has taught anyone anything, I hope it conveys the message that getting to really know some of the people at New Oxford High School can be more interesting than you think. Do not be scared to connect with a teacher or two and see what they have done before becoming a teacher because even though teaching is their job, sometimes you learn more from them when they are not trying to teach you.

Mrs. Krumrine (back row, middle) with a team of Biologists in Guanacaste, Costa Rica
For Your Viewing Pleasure, Cont’d

Another movie this year that has taken the spotlight is Andy Muschietti’s adaptation of Stephen King’s, *It*. The long awaited reboot of miniseries in 1990 had audiences lining up their local theatres to see this movie. The story follows a group of kids who come together by destiny to solve the ever growing problem of abduction in their town of Derry, Maine. What they don’t know is that a monster, in the form of a clown (Pennywise) is responsible for the disappearances. Everyone in the group must face their darkest fears and defeat Pennywise in order to return their town to what it once was. The movie’s eventful beginning helps to proclaim a tone that it will hold all throughout. Similar to *Get Out*, the movie heavily relies on comedic effect to lighten the mood in an otherwise terrifying film. If you’ve ever read the book, upon first viewing the film, you might be plagued by questions of, “Will this or that happen?” Otherwise, this horrifying experience of a movie is for anyone who likes a good story with a few spooks.

Though it did not receive as much attention as much as the other blockbusters of the year, the movie, *mother!* surely made its impact. Its story follows a woman and her husband crafting a humble beginning with the construction of their home and the husband’s rising writing career. There undying relationship is tested, though, when people start to invade their home, bringing out the absolute worst in one another. Upon first viewing, the story can be confusing and hard to understand, which only adds to the mystery. The movie is listed as a part of the horror genre, but goes beyond its label and challenges the viewer with various signs of symbolism that can be interpreted in many ways. What happens in the movie can only be understood if it’s witnessed firsthand. Upon face value, the movie looks moderately innocent, but its scenes tell otherwise, with graphic imagery that left me especially, in awe. If you want to end up having your head in your hands, and discussing this movie with others for days, then it’s for you.

*Star Wars: The Last Jedi*: by Colin Plotica

The eighth movie in the Star Wars saga received high praise on Rotten Tomatoes when it debuted. Mirroring, to an extent, *Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back*, the fifth movie in the Star Wars saga also has its own creative Disney take on the Star Wars universe. The previous film, *Star Wars: The Force Awakens*, was a much darker and serious movie than *The Last Jedi*, something I did not at all expect from Disney (and was pleasantly surprised about).

Coming into the theaters to see *The Last Jedi*, I hoped it would continue that dark and serious path right where The Force Awakens had left off. Ten minutes into the movie and they made the first joke. Then came the next joke, and the next... the writers of the movie made the use of humor way too obvious, which becomes annoying after a while.

From a digital editing standpoint, the movie is outstanding. The special effects are seamless and the lightsabers look more realistic in each movie. The music is absolutely classic, as is usual for Star Wars films. Also, the plot is very well done and sets up perfectly for the ninth movie.

Though it had its downfalls, overall I would give Star Wars: The Last Jedi an 8.7/10 simply due to the fact that the use of humor was quite obnoxious. Now Star Wars fans will have to wait another two years for the ninth movie; hopefully Disney finishes their trilogy off with a bang. See you in late 2019.

*War for Planet of the Apes, Baby Driver, and Guardians of the Galaxy 2*: by Abbie Murray

*War for Planet of the Apes*

Starring: Andy Serkis, Woody Harrelson, Amiah Miller

Tomatometer Rating: 93%

*War of the Planet of the Apes* is the third movie in a prequel trilogy to the 2001 movie, *Planet of the Apes*. *Rise of the Planet of the Apes* was awesome and *Dawn of the Planet of the Apes* was even better, so walking into the theater, I thought War would be just as good. War of the Planet of the Apes is about the leader of the apes, Caesar (Andy Serkis) battling an inner darkness while also preparing his friends for war with a group of humans. I wasn’t disappointed with this movie. It was equally as good as the first movie, but not as good as the second. However, I encourage anyone who has watched the first 2 movies to rent or buy *War for the Planet of the Apes*.

(Continued on Page 7)
**Baby Driver**
Starring: Ansel Elgort, Kevin Spacey, Lily James, Eiza Gonzalez, Jon Hamm, and Jamie Foxx
Tomatometer Rating: 93%

*Baby Driver* is about a partially hearing impaired getaway driver (Ansel Elgort) who works for a crime boss and is trying to get through his last job. Walking into the theater, I expected to be as “wowed” as everyone else because this movie did so well in the ratings department. Walking out, I was super disappointed. The movie wasn’t terrible, but I just didn’t think it was that great. However it was very “actiony” with car chases and gunfights between the good and bad guys. If you like those things, then watch the movie, otherwise, stick with other Ansel Elgort movies.

**Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2**
Starring: Chris Pratt, Zoe Saldana, Dave Bautista, Vin Diesel, Karen Gillan, and Kurt Russell
Tomatometer Rating: 83%

*Guardians of the Galaxy 2* is the sequel to the 2014 movie. 6 months after the events of the first movie, the guardians, now recognized as heroes, try to help Peter Quill/Star Lord (Chris Pratt) uncover the secret of his parentage after meeting a mysterious stranger who may have the information he needs. I always assume sequels aren’t going to be as good as the first movie. I’ve been wrong a few times, especially with *Guardians of the Galaxy 2*. This movie was one of the best Marvel movies I’ve ever watched! It was definitely better than the first one and had a lot more humor. I recommend to fans of the guardians to watch this if you’ve watched the first movie or if you like superhero movies.

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**Prom Dress Fashion Styles for 2018**
By: Zarah Janneh

Prom season is just around the corner, which means many girls are looking for that perfect dress to wear on this special night. With the turn of the New Year, prom dress designers have come out with new styles and concepts to attract each and every girl. Because there are endless options when it comes to finding that perfect dress, here are a few styles to check out for Prom 2018.

Prevalent styles in fashion are included in prom dresses this season. Dresses with cut out sides, two-pieces, open back, V-neck, and skinny straps are common trends shown this season. Textured dresses - such as velvet, metallic, and complete glitter and sparkles - are the most popular styles that will be seen. Colors range from dark, like emerald greens, maroon, and black, to lighter colors, like pastels and white.

To find that perfect dress, local stores like Simone’s Unlimited, Renaissance Bridals, J & B Bridals, Suzanne’s Bridals, and David’s Bridals will have the perfect dress for you. Regardless, don’t overthink it. Wear a dress you love, be confident, comfortable, and enjoy the night.

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**Did you know?**
By: Katey Cole

- Christmas was never actually on December 25th. There was no mention of it being on this day.
- Most lipstick contains fish scales (Sorry ladies...).
- Lightning strikes the earth 100 times every minute.
- The first artificial tree was created by the Germans using goose feathers.
- Americans, on average, eat about 18 acres of pizza every day.
- Maine is the only state with one syllable as a name.
- The image of Santa Claus flying his sleigh began in 1819 and was created by Washington Irving, the same author who dreamt up the Headless Horseman.
- ‘Jingle Bells’ (the popular Christmas song composed by James Pierpont in Massachusetts, America) was written for Thanksgiving and not Christmas.
- The average person spends 6 months of their lifetime waiting on a red light to turn green.
- Earth has traveled more than 5,000 miles in the past 5 minutes.
- About 150 people per year are killed by coconuts.
- The femur bone is stronger than concrete.
- 15 percent of U.S. women send themselves flowers on Valentine’s Day.
Condemn or Defend: The Hypocrisy of Hollywood’s Feminism

By: Isabella Whitmore

Hollywood’s 2017 opened massive opportunities for sexual assault victims and members of the Feminist Movement through the prosecution of powerful men. However, Hollywood continues to mishandle activism through the defending of bigoted sexual abusers, such as Harvey Weinstein and Woody Allen, by notable celebrities.

Over the course of 2017, more than 50 women came forward with reports of sexual assault against Harvey Weinstein, leading to his long-awaited criminal investigation. Women meet with hatred and accusations of falsehood, yet together their stories sparked the ever-growing #MeToo Movement and Time’s Up Movement. Despite tremendous achievements in the prosecutions of Harvey Weinstein and perpetrators exactly like him, Hollywood took over 30 years to condemn his actions; many big-name sexual abusers in Hollywood still roam free.

Although Hollywood relishes in self-proclaimed activism, their cause lacks unity as many artists continue to advocate support and work with known sexual predators. A-list celebrities (such as Kate Winslet, George Clooney, Selena Gomez, and Matt Damon), as well as a multitude of celebrities who have remained silent or engaged in fake solidarity as Weinstein’s disgusting behavior was an open secret for years. Many actors who work or have worked with Weinstein owe the start of their successful careers to Weinstein’s films. However, their blissful ignorance created an environment within Hollywood in which Weinstein and other powerful predators could strive in for years.

As Hollywood walks into 2018, serious changes must be made to accommodate to the altering societal viewpoints regarding rape culture and sexual assault. The hypocrisy of Hollywood’s proclaimed feminism must begin from the inside, beginning with the prosecution of the powerful predators, following into wholeheartedly believing the victims of sexual assault. Hollywood must amend their flawed feminist ideology to destroy their rooting hypocrisy.

College Preview

By Wes Hagarman

For the Silhouette this year, Wes will be researching two colleges students from New Oxford may choose to attend

West Chester University:
Located in West Chester, PA

West Chester University is a medium-sized, public university in the middle of a city. The city of West Chester is about the size of Gettysburg and is located 45 minutes west from Philadelphia. The school has around 15,000 undergraduates studying varying degrees. Last year, five seniors decided to attend West Chester University including: Brianna Ramos, Destiny Riley, Lindsay Fadenrecht, Jamie Hogarty, Kortni Krzysko.

Ms. Caldwell, the long-term substitute in for Mrs. Zinn, graduated with a Bachelor Degree in English Education in 2015 and is currently studying towards a masters degree in Arts and English. She loves the small class sizes and the fact that everything is within walking distance. Ms. Caldwell believes that “the school is great at coordinating student teaching opportunities at nearby districts.”

Messiah College:
Located in Mechanicsburg, PA

Messiah College is small, private school in a rural setting that is close to home. The college has around 2,800 undergraduates in a location about 30 minutes away. Messiah is a Christian college and states that they integrate faith into all academic activities. From the graduating class of 2017, three students attend including Carly Rippeon, Morgan Shriver, and Robert Dickey.

Dr. Brosius graduated in 1988 with a bachelor degree in biology and pre-med. He believes that it was the “right scene” for him and it provided a great education. “Messiah has a good reputation preparing students in medicine and learning craft with Christian values,” Dr. Brosius said. He currently teaches as a professor of Education where he instructs how teachers should design their courses.
The Jersey Shore Revival
By: Mackenzie Christie and Ally Setliff

*The Jersey Shore* was a reality TV show from the 2000’s that followed a group of ridiculously privileged and chaotic 20-something-year olds who meet up and live together in Seaside Heights, New Jersey. Filled with fights, night clubs, massive sunglasses, low IQ’s, and heavy spray tans, this series has something to offer for everyone.

Whether you’re an avid fan, a casual viewer, or you’ve never subjected yourself to this torture, *The Jersey Shore* has undoubtedly shaped modern American culture. Lots of modern slang language originated from the show, such as the term “shook” being coined in early 2010 episodes. Iconic and memorable phrases like “hold my earrings,” came to signify the fights that appeared in this series (as fights were merely routine on the show). Further, the most popular Taylor Swift lyric of 2017; “The new Taylor can’t come to the phone right now. Why? Because she’s dead!” is a variations of Jersey Shore’s line “Snooki can’t come to the phone right now...because she’s dead.”

Some of the most memorable episodes and scenes, if we have to choose our favorites, would be the Michael vs Ronnie fight, and the entire episode dedicated to Mike bleeding from his butt (see also probably any scene with Snooki).

The MTV hit went off the air on December 20, 2012. Now, we’re in for a revival, and everyone has an opinion on it. Mr. Kraus states, “after watching one or two episodes while doing house work or grading, my wife and I were hooked.” He was unaware of the revival being planned, but he says now that he knows, curiosity may get the best of him. On the contrary, Mrs. Gingerich said, “I never watched Jersey Shore and was kind of indifferent about it...I didn’t even know there was a revival series, so I guess I don’t plan on watching it.” No matter the response to the revival series or whether or not it will be successful, all we can say for sure is: it’ll be interesting.
One of the craziest conspiracy theories of all time is that of the king of rock, Elvis Presley, was alive years after he was declared dead (or may even still be alive today). If the conspiracy around it is true or not, no one can argue that Elvis wasn’t the king of rock; during his music career, he sold many records and made a big impact to the music industry.

Elvis’s rise to fame is really inspiring, if you think about it. He was raised in Mississippi to an extremely poor family, so the fact that he worked hard to become the legend we know today is unbelievable.

Something most people aren’t aware of is that Elvis actually served in the army. He was discharged after a year and half, though, which is when he met his wife Priscilla. They went on to get married and have a daughter, named Lisa Marie.

Elvis’s (supposed) lasts days led to constant struggle. His music wouldn’t be as recognized as it was when he was in his prime. All that led to Elvis becoming depressed and eventually getting a divorce from his wife. His health was diminishing and he heavily relied on pills for help.

Like many other artists, Elvis had his own doctor; if he wanted a certain drug, he could easily get it and with everything he was going through and the stress of the music industry, it’d make sense for why he wanted certain pills.

Eventually, on August 16th of 1977, the “king of rock” was declared dead at the age of 42. He was found by his fiancé in the bathroom floor next to his throw up. Days later, it was confirmed that the cause of death was from a heart attack. The toxicology report found many drugs in Elvis’s system before he died and way more than he actually needed.

Everyone wanted someone to blame for his death, and of course they chose his doctor, Doctor Nick. During the last seven months that Elvis was alive, Doctor Nick wrote prescriptions for 8,805 pills.

There are many people today who believe this was all a lie and that Elvis is actually still alive. The theory surrounding this is that Elvis was tired of fame and just wanted to live a normal life away from the fame and fortune. Many people also believe it wasn’t just Elvis who has done this; many other artists get tired of the fame and the pressure created by the music industry and see a fake death as the best way out. On his final days, Elvis wasn’t satisfied with how his music was doing so if it is true that he faked his death; he knew his music sales would skyrocket just as any other artists music does when they pass away.

At his funeral, Elvis’s cousin secretly took pictures of what was supposedly Elvis in his casket, sold it to the media, and ended up making 18,000 dollars from it. When the pictures were leaked, many people started to believe that it was a wax figure of Elvis. Everyone started to think his whole face looked different and some of his own friends that attended his funeral later came out and said that his skin didn’t even feel real.

And then, of course, there are the supposed “Elvis sighting.” But, then again, Elvis is one of the most impersonated artists ever so what if people just happened to see someone impersonating him.

There is also another theory that Elvis booked a one way flight to Argentina under the name John Burrows just two hours after he was declared dead. Even before his death, his own manager would publicly confirm that they booked his flights and hotels under this pseudo name, John Burrows (which, if you didn’t know, is common for celebrities as a means to protect themselves). There are people that even think Elvis was in the movie Home Alone. There’s really no solid evidence that proves that this is Elvis (and also, why would Elvis be an extra in a movie if he wanted to live a secret life).

Overall, there really is no proof that Elvis is alive, but the conspiracies around it really make you think about the theories.

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Conspiracy Theories: Elvis Presley, Dead or Alive?

By: Ruby Hernandez

February 2017/18, Issue 3

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Adalyne Graybill      Emma Price
Ruby Hernandez         Lillian Reck
Zarah Janneh          Emily Simon
Zoe Kind              Samantha Simon
Luke Lardarello   Isabella Whitmore
Swish, Smash, Splash into the Winter Sports Season
Bryce Nelson & Emily Myers

As winter sports come to an end, we decided it was important to hear from our star winter sports athletes who have worked hard to get to where they are and are a great asset to the team. We covered swimming, girls and boys basketball, and wrestling. We had a few question for them so these are the questions we asked:

Swimming: Lauren Richter (Sophomore), District Qualifier; Wrestling: Kurt Smith (Junior); Boys Basketball: John Wessel (Senior), Captain; Girls Basketball: Lauren Slonaker (Senior), Captain

Question 1: What makes you love your sport?
(L.R): “It’s fun and teaches me how to manage time and pushes me to be a better overall athlete”
(K.S): “The social experience with my teammates and friends.”
(J.W): “The guys on the team are the best and my best friends and [it] doesn’t compare to the other sports I’ve played.”
(L.S): “My teammates.”

Question 2: What makes it difficult juggling school and sports?
(L.R): “I have to learn how to manage time with swimming in the morning, and evening. I have to fit homework in, [study for tests], and waking up and doing it all over again the next day.”
(K.S): “Time management is key.”
(J.W): “The amount of homework in advanced classes. It’s harder on game days because you get home at 10 pm and still have homework from your advanced classes.”
(L.S): “It comes natural and late games are hard to juggle and doing homework and studying for tests.”

Question 3: How does the student body help or not help?
(L.R): “They don’t pay attention, and they aren’t very supportive to us as they are for other sports. We wish we had more support, we never have a student section.”
(K.S): “The support is there but we always want more support, it’s always nice to have it.”
(J.W): “Their impact on us is positive and it’s the support, and them being there and seen by all our guys by a positive thing whether loud or not loud.”
(L.S): “Making it known on social media and being supported and having a student section definitely helps.”

Question 4: What makes the team bond stronger or weaker?
(L.R): “All of our swim activities help the bond grow stronger and helps during swim meets and we push each other [but] it doesn’t help when there’s negativity being thrown at one another, and individuals being rude to each other”
(K.S): “Stronger whenever we can support each other and give pointers, weaker when people are making fun of other people, [and] get mad at each other.”
(J.W): “The hardships we go through every day at practice, the punishments, and the things we go through together as a team creates unity.”
(L.S): “Making it known on social media and being supported and having a student section definitely helps.”

Question 5: What makes this year different from last?
(L.R): “There are less kids on the swim team, [and it is] not as competitive. [There are] higher standards for me because I went to districts last year, so I’m expected to do better and go further.”
(K.S): “Being older, [and] having younger wrestlers [looking up to you], it feels weird being in control instead of you asking [questions] them asking you questions.”
(J.W): “A whole lot of new faces. We had 3 seniors in starting lineups and have 3 new starting players on the team.”
(L.S): “The seniors being gone, but it’s another season. We have a new coach and for Presley and Me; we’ve gone through three coaches, so it’s been an obstacle. Everyone on the team likes the new coach, so we’ve adapted.”

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**Question 6: What are you looking forward to this season?**

(L.R): The upcoming swim meets and improving as well as bonding with my friends.

(K.S): "Making it to states and district tournament."

(J.W): "The post season playoffs, we have a great chance in the post season playoff and I’m really excited about it."

(L.S): "Seeing how far the team goes… we just have this bond out on the court. We haven’t played with Morgan Adams and Jayla Brown, so getting out there and playing together is a different experience, but it’s well worth it. In the end, our goal is to make it to Counties and Districts and possibly States; it all starts at practices."

**Question 7: What is your team goal?**

(L.R): "To get a win on our record and to improve as individuals and improve bonding."

(K.S): "Go to the team district tournament and having fun together and making it a memorable season."

(J.W): "Just to get better every day."

(L.S): "One thing is foul shots we want a 70% foul shot accuracy and just to go out and have fun."

**Question 8: How does the sport help you grow and mature as an individual?**

(L.R): "It helps me communicate because I meet new friends. It also teaches me to be responsible and to work hard."

(K.S): "I can learn about certain things I need to work on and the ability to handle situations in a different way."

(J.W): "We talk about managing school and having to juggle everything in everyday life and in your personal life. The balance helps."

(L.S): "Being a captain is a huge responsibility and if I see them with their head down in a game, I have to say head up next play and it really helps. Basketball has shaped me for college and stepping up to be at that next level. It has also helped me with leadership skills."

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**Sports Facts**

By: Luke Lardarello

1. **THIS YEAR, THE BUFFALO BILLS MADE THE PLAYOFFS FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 17 YEARS**
2. **IF MICHAEL PHELPS WERE A COUNTRY, HE'D RANK NO. 35 ON THE ALL-TIME OLYMPIC GOLD MEDAL LIST, AHEAD OF 97 NATIONS.**
3. **WILT CHAMBERLAIN DIDN'T WIN MVP THE YEAR HE AVERAGED 50.4 POINTS AND GRABBED 22.9 REBOUNDS PER GAME**
4. **THE AVERAGE GOLF BALL HAS 336 DIMPLES**
5. **THERE HAVE BEEN THREE OLYMPIC GAMES HELD IN COUNTRIES THAT NO LONGER EXIST**
7. **THE CLEVELAND BROWNS ARE THE ONLY TEAM TO NEITHER PLAY IN NOR HOST A SUPER BOWL**
8. **FOUR PRESIDENTS HAVE BEEN ON THE COVER OF SPORTS ILLUSTRATED: JOHN F. KENNEDY, GEERALD FORD, RONALD REAGAN (TWICE), AND BILL CLINTON**
9. **DESPITE NOT PLAYING BASKETBALL AFTER HIGH SCHOOL, BRUCE JENNER WAS DRAFTED NO. 139 BY THE NBA'S KANSAS CITY KINGS AFTER WINNING THE MEN'S DECATHLON AT THE 1976 OLYMPICS**
10. **STARTING IN 1990, MICHAEL JORDAN AND THE CHICAGO BULLS NEVER HAD A THREE-GAME LOSING STREAK FOR EIGHT YEARS**

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**Swish, Smash, Splash, Continued**

Great job to all teams this year and continued luck to those entering the postseason!