

FACEBOOK LEAKS AND LOSES: DATA BREACH TRIGGERS LOSS

by: Abby Weir / @abigail_weir_

The revelation of a recent leak of personal information by social media giant Facebook caused the company's value to drop more than \$50 billion dollars this week.

Numerous lawmakers have expressed worries regarding privacy and social media after a breach in millions of user's information. Cambridge Analytica, a private company that gathers data for political campaigns and processes, collected private information on 50 million Facebook users without the individuals' permission or consent.

The right-leaning organization received a hefty donation from Republican donor Robert Mercer. The firm also promised Steve Bannon helpful tools that could identify voter personalities as well as influence voters. It is also believed that the information is still in Cambridge Analytica's possession.

This is not the first time Cambridge Analytica has been accused of collecting and sharing users' personal information. The firm has previously worked for political campaigns, most notably President Trump's 2016 presidential campaign. There were accusations of the firm leaking voter information during their work with the Trump campaign in 2016; however, this is the first time speculations have been confirmed. This is also not the first time Facebook has been used for an attempted political gain. In 2016 Russians allegedly used the platform to sway the American electoral process.

With this huge leak, people are starting to consider whether their information is actually safe on social media websites. There are still many questions to be asked, but lawmakers have commented on the leak and

their constituents' concerns.

Republican senator Jeff Flake told CNN, "This is a big deal, when you have that amount of violations there

data, and the privacy are significant ... So the question is who knew it, and when did they know. How long did this go on, and what happens to that data now?"

Senator Marco Rubio also commented on the leak, stating he believes that some online social platforms have gotten too large too quickly to handle the mass amount of information and

content of their site while also fulfilling their obligations and responsibilities.

Democratic Representative Adam Schiff told ABC, "We need to find out what we can about the misappropriation of the privacy, the private information of tens of millions of American."

Facebook representatives have responded to the monumental leak. Initially the company remained calm about, almost downplaying, the issue, but has since addressed the issue with more concern. Paul Grewal, a vice president of the platform, has promised that the company will take action to protect its users. He also said that Cambridge Analytica has been suspended from the website, as well as top individuals from the firm. "We will take whatever steps are required to see that the data in question is deleted once and for all — and take action against all offending parties," said Grewal.

Cambridge Analytica is also involved in political controversy in the U.K. The firm is being investigated by both Parliament and government regulators for possible illegal activities during the "Brexit" campaign. The firm will likely be involved in a similar situation with the American political system. For now Cambridge Analytica denies claims that their actions violated any of Facebook's terms and conditions.

AUSTIN ON ALERT: PACKAGE BOMBER DELIVERS TERROR

by: John Shutze / @johnshutze

Early Wednesday morning, the suspected Austin package bomber detonated an explosive device in his vehicle, killing himself, as authorities closed in on him.

Authorities identified the suspected bomber as Mark Anthony Conditt, a 24-year-old white male, just days after multiple bombings in the Austin area. Conditt fled from his hotel as police gathered, waiting on more firepower to arrive.

Austin Police Chief, Brian Manley, released a statement Wednesday morning, stating "We don't know where this suspect has spent his

last 24 hours, and therefore we still need to remain vigilant to ensure that no other packages or devices have been left throughout the community."

Since the beginning of March, five package bombs "randomly" detonated, killing two and injuring multiple others.

The first attack occurred on March 2, when 39-year-old Stephen House was killed by a package bomb outside of his home.

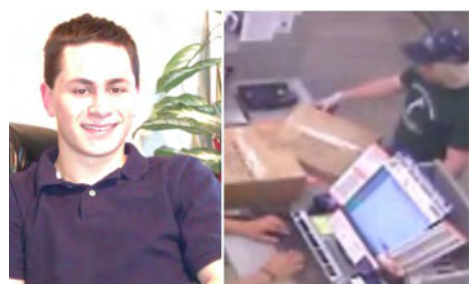
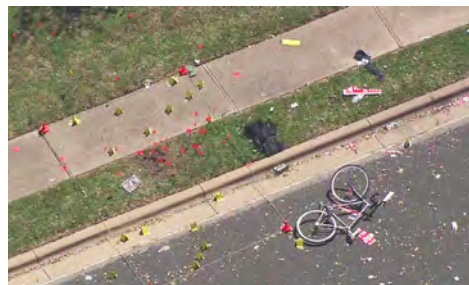
The next two attacks both took place on March 12, in which an explosion killed 17-year-old Draylen Mason and his left his 41-year-old mother in critical condition. Later that day, a 75-year-old woman was

seriously injured by an explosion outside her home.

An increasingly random attack happened on March 18, when a tripwire detonated a bomb on the side of the road, injuring two passersby.

The final bomb detonated March 20, at a FedEx facility in San Antonio, injuring one. A package shipped by the same individual was intercepted by authorities before delivery. It contained an explosive device.

Law enforcement believe all of these incidents are related, yet no clear connection has been established. Authorities are still searching for a motive behind these recent bombings, however nothing has been discovered at this point.



ABOVE: The latest package bomb was detonated by a tripwire when a cyclist and his friend passed.

BELOW: Suspect Mark Anthony Conditt can be seen wearing a wig as he ships explosives.

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WHAT'S UP WITH THE WARRIORS

- Baseball vs. Petal @5/7

March 27
- Report Card pickup during Power Hour

March 29
- Easter Holidays

March 30 - April 2
- Softball vs. Petal @5:30/7

April 3
- Boys Golf (Canton CC)

April 3
- Archery AIMS State Championship in Jackson

April 3-7
- 9th Grade Baseball vs. Sumrall @5/7

April 5
- Varsity Baseball vs. Purvis @10/12

April 7
- Girls Golf (Okatoma)

April 9
- ACT Testing @ OGHS

April 14

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OAK GROVE ANNOUNCES NATIONAL MERIT FINALISTS

by: Katie Williams / @kt_williams_

Oak Grove High School is honored to recognize three National Merit Finalists this year. Hannah Cantrell, Ryan Davis, and Julianna Hinton represent Oak Grove with their achievements and were acknowledged as Finalists in February.

The National Merit Scholarship Program was founded to honor academically gifted American high school seniors.

Ryan Davis said, “My parents and I were really relieved and excited when I was chosen as a Finalist, as it changed my future by giving me financial security.”

The PSAT is offered to all students

during their junior year and, from this standardized test, top percentile students are acknowledged as Semifinalists. Semifinalists must then complete multiple essays and take the SAT to validate their previous scores to become a candidate for Finalist.

More than half of Semifinalists advance to become Finalists, who are awarded scholarships and acceptance from many elite colleges worldwide. Only 7,500 students across the United States are awarded this academic achievement, and the NMSC will offer more than \$32 million in scholarships this year.

“Being a finalist has changed my future,” said Hannah Cantrell. “I can be sure that my college expenses will be

well-covered, and I can pursue a higher education free of stress about finances.”

Oak Grove has boasted many National Merit Finalists each year and recognize the achievement by placing each student’s portrait in the main hallway.



ABOVE: National Merit Finalists from left to right: Hannah Cantrell, Ryan Davis, Julianna Hinton (Photos Courtesy of Katie Williams)

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COMPLETED APPLICATIONS DUE 4/27

beat's bits

NEWS

by: Anna Simmons / @anna_simmons

MIAMI BRIDGE COLLAPSES

A pedestrian bridge under construction collapsed at Florida International University, located in Miami, Florida killing six people. The bridge over Southwest Eighth Street crushed numerous vehicles and left rescue workers trying their hardest to retrieve people from under the concrete slabs. The bridge was designed to connect FIU to the city of Sweetwater, and was considered a safer way to cross the street. The cause of the collapse is being attributed to its engineering.

WALLABY IS NOW “WANTED”

Local pet wallaby, Jeff, escaped from home on March 13, and is still missing in Hattiesburg. The owner of the pet, Logan Whitefield, was on vacation when his wallaby went missing from his fenced in backyard. Whitefield is now offering \$450 award for anyone who can help find Jeff. Whitefield warns anyone who sees the animal not to pick him up, as he is anxious around strangers and fragile. For anyone who sees Jeff the wallaby please call the Hub City Humane Society.

AMBER ALERT HAS BEEN CANCELLED

A ten month old baby from Memphis was found after being abducted when the car she was in was stolen. The child, Zoe Jordan, was inside of a running car when it was stolen on March 16. The ten month girl was found in the car the next day less than three miles from where the car was stolen. She was then taken to the hospital for safety precautions. The man, who stole the car with the child inside, has not yet been found.

THE MADNESS IS REAL: UPSETS DESTROY BRACKETS

by: Brad Humphreys / @brad_humphreys

The NCAA men’s basketball tournament, March Madness, is in full swing and, as always, there have been major upsets ruining many people’s “perfect brackets.”

So far, the teams that have made the Sweet 16 are Kentucky, Loyola-Chicago, Gonzaga, Michigan, Villanova, Texas Tech, Kansas, Texas A&M, Kansas State, Nevada, Florida State, West Virginia, Purdue, Clemson, Syracuse and Duke.

In the first round, Virginia, the number-one seed in the South, lost to sixteenth seed, UMBC, by 20 points. Virginia was originally projected to go to the Final Four, and it was the biggest upset in March Madness history.

In a nail-biting game between Michigan and Houston, Michigan’s freshman guard, Jordan Poole, erased a two-point deficit by hitting a last sec-

ond three pointer, which won Michigan the game and pushed them into the Sweet 16.

Texas Tech defeated Florida 69-66 thanks to the senior, Keenan Evans. Evans dropped 22 points, with three rebounds and one assist. Evans has been an asset to the team all season and continues to make things happen for Texas Tech.

Loyola-Chicago defeated Tennessee 63-62 after Tennessee was up by one point with ten seconds left in the game. Loyola then made a run in the last ten seconds, putting them up by one point and winning the game to push the number 11 seed team to the next round.

The tournament could go in any direction and upsets may still be to come, but there have been many exciting games and ruined brackets this year. The championship game will be held in the Alamodome in San Antonio on April 2.



ABOVE: The UMBC cheering after they scored a goal. (Photo Courtesy of Sports Illustrated)

BELOW: Keenan Evans playing on the court against ACU. (Photo Courtesy of Viva the Matadors)

GAME, SET, MATCH: TENNIS TEAM’S STRONG START

by: Reagan Daniell / @reagandaniell

The Oak Grove tennis team swept their match against Petal on Tuesday, March 8 and will face their third district opponent, Meridian, on March 27.

The team, which consists of eighteen JV and Varsity members, is coached by Randy Robinett.

Sophomore Anna Pittman primarily plays girls doubles, but has played in singles and mixed-doubles matches when needed.

“I have been a member of the tennis team since eighth grade, but I

started playing in matches as a freshman,” said Pittman.

Junior member, Michael Pitts, who has also been playing since freshman year said, “My favorite part of being on the tennis team is the sense of community we share on the court.”

Pitts implies that skill on the court isn’t enough to win a match. It takes unity between each of the players to be all together successful.

Members of the tennis team will also play in their individual tournament on April 11 at Tatum Park. Team members will compete individually, as opposed to competing as a team.



Photo Courtesy of Natalie Pittman
The Oak Grove Tennis teams huddle up and say a prayer before their game.

OGHS GOLF: DRIVE FOR SHOW, PUTT FOR DOUGH

by: Matthew Williams / @_matthew.williams

The 2018 high school golf season is underway, and the Oak Grove team has played three tournaments to date. The Warriors have not won a tournament yet, but have finished in second place once and placed third twice. The boys varsity team has six upcoming tournaments, stretching from the Gulf Coast to Purvis, before they play the district tournament.

The Oak Grove boys and girls team

hosted their first tournament on February 26 at Canebrake Country Club. The boys varsity team took its top five players; Hamp Fairey, Matthew Williams, Tucker Motter, Brand Thaggard, and Brennan Sobiesk.

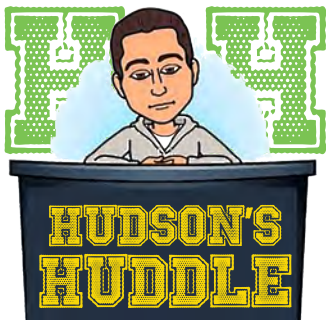
Each player is assigned a spot based on skill and is paired with players from the opposing schools in a stroke-play format. The best four scores from each team are added up at the end of the tournament to determine the winner. Each player’s score is also calculated to determine indi-

vidual ranking.

The Warriors placed third place at the Canebrake tournament with a combined score of 312, losing to West Jones and Germantown with a score of 308.

“Every tournament from now on we should win,” said Hamp Fairey, a senior on the varsity team.

The district tournament at local golf course Shadow Ridge will determine the two best teams in the district, who will later play in the State Championship in May.



by: Alec Hudson / @alechudson13

*Oh when the Mannings
come marching in?*

After the recent death of Tom Benson, owner of the New Orleans Saints and the New Orleans Pelicans, sports fans are beginning to speculate as to who will emerge as the new owner of both franchises.

Now, before we get into all of the “official” details, flashback to 2015:

Benson’s daughter, Renee, took him to court claiming he was “mentally unfit” to run the teams. After Benson was found by the courts to be fit to run both franchises, he removed Renee and her children from his will.

Both franchises will now be owned by Benson’s wife, Gayle Benson.

In 2016, many rumors circulated about the possibility of “Football’s First Family,” the Manning family, attempting to buy the Saints. These rumors proved to be false, but with the recent death of Benson, the Mannings could possibly make another push to purchase the Saints. If the Mannings make an offer on the Saints franchise, and Gayle Benson accepts their offer, we could see the rise of a new superpower in the NFL.

Archie, Eli and Peyton Manning all played in the NFL and thrived in their respective spotlights.

As I see it, if the Mannings were to purchase the New Orleans Saints, this could be the rise of a Saints team no one has ever seen before.

beat’s bits

/SPORTS/

by: Brand Thaggard / @brandthaggard

SALAH SCORES AGAINST WATFORD

Mohamed Salah’s historic season is not stopping anytime soon. Liverpool has beaten Watford 5-0, with four of the goals coming from the Egyptian forward. The four goals put Salah in great position to win the Premier League’s Golden Boot Award, an award given to the player with the most goals that season. Salah has 28 goals in the Premier League, which is four ahead of Harry Kane of the Tottenham Spurs. The hat trick was the first for Salah in the Premier League.



WESTBROOK HITS 100 TRIPLE-DOUBLES

Russell Westbrook now has 100 career triple-doubles after Oklahoma City’s win over Atlanta. Westbrook racked up 32 points, 12 assists, and 10 rebounds. That performance adds up to a season leading 21 triple-doubles for Westbrook. He is now the fourth player in NBA history to reach 100 triple-doubles, those including Oscar Robertson, Magic Johnson, and Jason Kidd. Westbrook was the MVP of last years season and and it looks he is not letting up this season.



MCILROY WON ARNOLD PALMER INVITATIONAL

Rory Mcilroy has won for the first time since 2016 at the Arnold Palmer Invitational. The past two years have not been easy for Rory. With various equipment changes and personal life changes, Rory has had trouble staying at the top flight of professional golf. But this week proves his critics wrong. Mcilroy’s putting was ranked number one this week. The birdies were rolling in for Mcilroy on Sunday after making eight birdies to finish with a final round 64.





by: Brand Thaggard / @brandthaggard

University tuition costs were once affordable many years ago, but recently, prices have skyrocketed. Going to a four-year university 50 years ago was more affordable – the tuition was cheap, and the job acceptance rate was high. Now, Americans are scared to attend university because they do not want to owe tens of thousands of dollars in student loan debt.

A solution for the average young American is to consider attending a trade school. A trade school, or a vocational school, is a school that offers career based programs. The purpose is to quickly prepare students for a job in the workforce.



Photo Courtesy of Craftforce

“There WILL always be a NEED for those in the TRADE industry.”

The average trade school costs \$33,000 to get your degree, while the average four-year university costs \$127,000. The relatively cheaper price is attractive to many, but some young Americans are still skeptical. The skeptics believe people will only get good careers after attending four-year universities. I disagree with this simply because a trade school can offer a great job with respectable pay and even greater potential.

Another reason trade school might be a better option is the length of time it takes to get a degree. Trade schools typically take two years to graduate, compared to four at universities. 40 percent of four-year university students drop out before completing their degree. The shorter class time offered by trade schools might convince

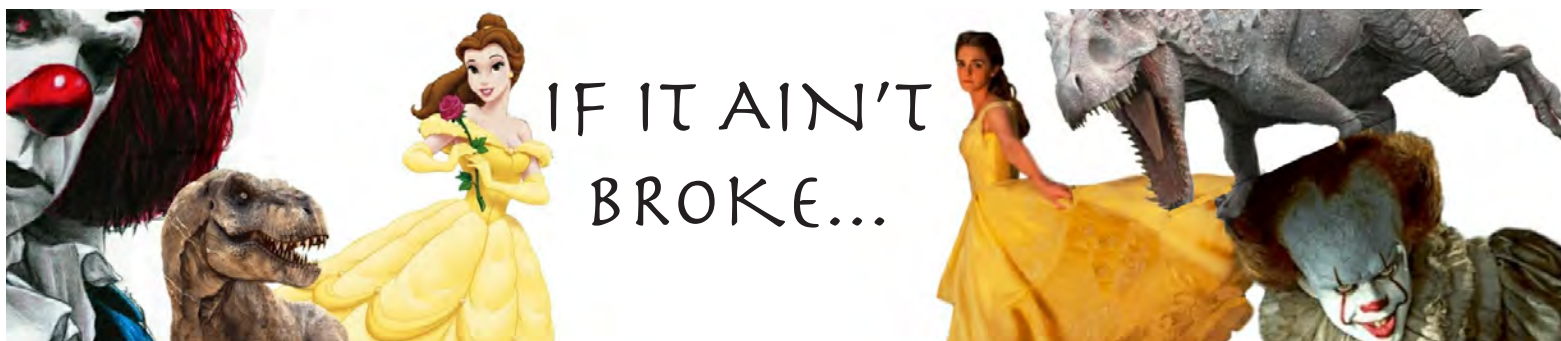
students to stay in school.

Trade schools offer programs for future electricians, air-conditioning technicians, and welders. Graduates from these programs can immediately find great jobs that pay a decent living. Another great aspect about these jobs is the demand will not decline anytime soon – there will always be a need for those in the trade industry.

Obtaining a bachelor’s degree may pay out more in the long run, but some people are not looking for that. Some people simply want to insert themselves into the workforce and make a living immediately after high school. For a direct learner wanting to join the workforce directly out of college, trade school is a relatively cheap and safe option.



Photo Courtesy of Newcastle Welding



by: Payne Petro / @payne.petro

Many people believe classic movies, like It and Mad Max, should not be tampered with or remade because they were masterpieces in their own time. Though some may argue movie remakes can reintroduce many people to stories they knew and loved in their childhoods, or introduce new audiences to stories told in movies made before their time, it does not mean a movie remake is a good idea.

There are many reasons so many classic movies are being remade – often it is simply the pursuit of money. In some cases, producers and directors will champion remakes in efforts to pay homage to the original films. These projects usually excel in rekindling the nostalgia the originals hold for older audiences, while simultaneously winning over new audiences – bringing them the same excitement the originals brought previous generations. These succeed because they are passion projects.

There is a fine line between remaking a movie and rebooting a movie. Movie reboots do not claim to be carbon copy remakes, nor do they guarantee a payment of homage. Directors of reboots are simply creating new stories, with their visions, using established

characters. Movie remakes retell the classic stories, attempting to recapture the magic of the originals, but will update the story, modernizing it for a newer generation of viewers.

Personally, I believe movie remakes lack the “magic” the original films brought to their audiences, but there are those diamonds-in-the-rough that shine through as thoughtful successes.

The new It, released last year, did a fantastic job of retelling the chilling Stephen King story that terrified so many people when the miniseries, based on his novel, aired in 1990. The director of the remake, Andrés Muschietti, did a great job recreating the scenes from the old film using modern twists.

Regardless, even though It (2017) was a well done remake, the overall realm of movie remakes is very lackluster at the least. Classic films like Jurassic Park and Disney’s Beauty and the Beast are already perfect, and their recent reboot and remake left much of the original audience in disdain with the perception that the new versions tarnished the legacy of the superior originals. There is an old saying, “If it ain’t broke, don’t fix it,” and that is exactly how I feel about remakes.



DEAD OR ALIVE

by: Katie Williams / @kt_williams_

The recent popularity of social media trends proves that our generation is one of the most easily swayed age groups in history.

Entertaining trends like Pokemon Go and Fortnite explode in popularity, consuming most teenage boys’ waking hours (and torturing their girlfriends). Other sweeping trends involve dangerous, and potentially fatal, challenges like the cinnamon challenge and the current Tide Pod challenge.

These trends emerge to entertain, but others can actually arise to incite social change. Recently wearing a red “X” trended as a demonstration of fighting human trafficking. I take issue when people ignorantly jump on these bandwagons just to be trendy.

I absolutely encourage standing up for worthy causes, but when students wearing the “X”

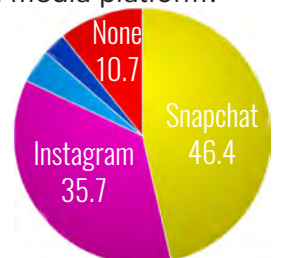
do not fully understand the significance or actually support the cause, it changes my perspective of our generation and our brain-washed ideals.

We may act as though the we are individualistic and independent, but in reality, our every action is dictated by what is deemed “popular.”

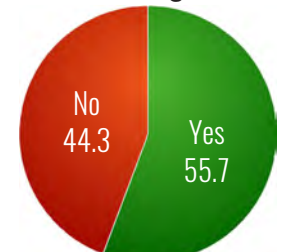
While there can be good that comes from a movement, and there are people who genuinely take a stand, the message they are trying to convey can be quickly lost when the masses ignorantly jump on the bandwagon simply to be trendy.

YOUR OPINION

What is your preferred social media platform?



Does social media do more harm than good?





AN UNHEALTHY, UNSOCIAL SOCIAL ADDICTION

by: Kat Thaggard / @kathrynthaggard

What started out as a fun way to connect with friends has grown into an immense void that has completely taken over our lives. In my opinion, social media has changed society for the worse, with more than enough evidence to support this claim.

One disadvantage to social media is the way it removes us from reality. According to a Pew Research study, 92 percent of teenagers are online daily and 24 percent say they are online “constantly.” This can even be seen at our schools. Most students are constantly on their phones, and most of these students are checking social media sites. When people are constantly plugged into these sites, they fall further and further away from reality.

Social media has allowed users to become completely involved in the lives of others, so much so that they miss events in their own lives. I believe deleting these sites would help everyone, including OG students, become more self aware and grounded in reality.

Another downfall of social media is its responsibility for increased anxiety and depression in teens. In

a survey of nearly 80,000 US college students, the 2014 National College Health Assessment found 54 percent of students reported experiencing overwhelming anxiety, 32.6 percent “felt so depressed that it was difficult to function,” 8.1 percent had seriously considered suicide, and 1.3 percent had attempted suicide. With the rise of social media platforms in recent years, these numbers are expected to be even higher today.

This stress derives from the need to look perfect or reach an amount of likes or followers. It also comes from cyber bullying, which nearly 43 percent of kids have experienced according to DoSomething.org. Ridding students of social media would completely dispose of these afflictions and help teenagers lead happier and healthier lives.

Although I see the advantages social media offers, such as keeping in touch with old friends and promoting businesses, I believe the detriments outweigh the benefits significantly, and so do 55.2 percent of students at OGHS according to a Warrior Beat survey. As someone who has lived free of social media for over a year now, I can say life is truly better without it.

SOCIALLY INNOVATIVE, SOCIAL MEDIA PRACTICES

by: Emmie Perkins / @emmieperkins

Social media is an incredible and powerful platform in today’s society. We have evolved to a society in which technology and media are driving forces throughout our daily lives. Our generation receives and shares information through social media instantly, making social media an informative way for society to stay up-to-date in a moment’s time.

Recently, through the #metoo movement, we have seen the incredible power of social media in bringing people together and raising awareness on sexual harassment. With social media, millions of people are able to support one another and share their stories no matter the distance between them.

Social media allows people to connect with old friends and follow their journeys. Through social media we are able to empathize with one another. We can share the ups and downs of our lives with the backing and support of friends on media who might have gone through similar situations. Social media provides a place for people to connect with others with similar interests.

In a survey about their views

on their digital lives conducted by Common Sense Media, more than 1,000 13–17 year olds responded. 28 percent said social networking made them feel more outgoing while only 5 percent said it made them feel less so. 29 percent said social media made them feel less shy while only the 3 percent said it made them feel more introverted.

News outlets tend to focus only on the negative impacts of social media. While negatives such as cyber bullying and stalking do exist, there are more good outcomes from social media than bad. For every bad story we hear about the media, there is a good one that far exceeds it.

Since the recent tragic school shooting in Florida, we have seen teens come together through social media to take action and make meaningful changes. Not only does this provide a forum for teenagers to unite, it also creates a platform for their voices to be heard throughout the world.

At the end of the day, the negatives of social media can be avoided by users simply maintaining a reputable online presence. Social media is what people make of it. It connects, inspires, and provides an outlet for people’s voices to be heard.



by: Mia Pierce / @little.asian.grl

“Any tips on how to control your anger with someone?”

Never take your anger out on them in any way, for it might come back to haunt you later in life. However, you cannot keep it bottled up either. My advice is to talk to the person and try to sort it out so everything is okay because there is a very good chance they do not even know you are angry. If they know they are making you angry, and they are not doing anything to stop, then ask them to stop again and ignore them. The reason they are probably making you angry is because they know they can get a reaction out of you. If you do not respond, sooner or later they will give up on you and stop making you mad. If they do not stop, report them for harassment and tell an adult. Acting out of anger can lead to regrets down the road. When you find yourself enraged and ready to lash out, take a pause, take a breath, and take a break. Don’t ignore the reason for anger, just address it when you are thinking rationally.

“Holding onto anger is like drinking poison and expecting the other person to die.” – Buddha



by: Payne Petro / @payne.petro

WHAT GRINDS MY GEARS



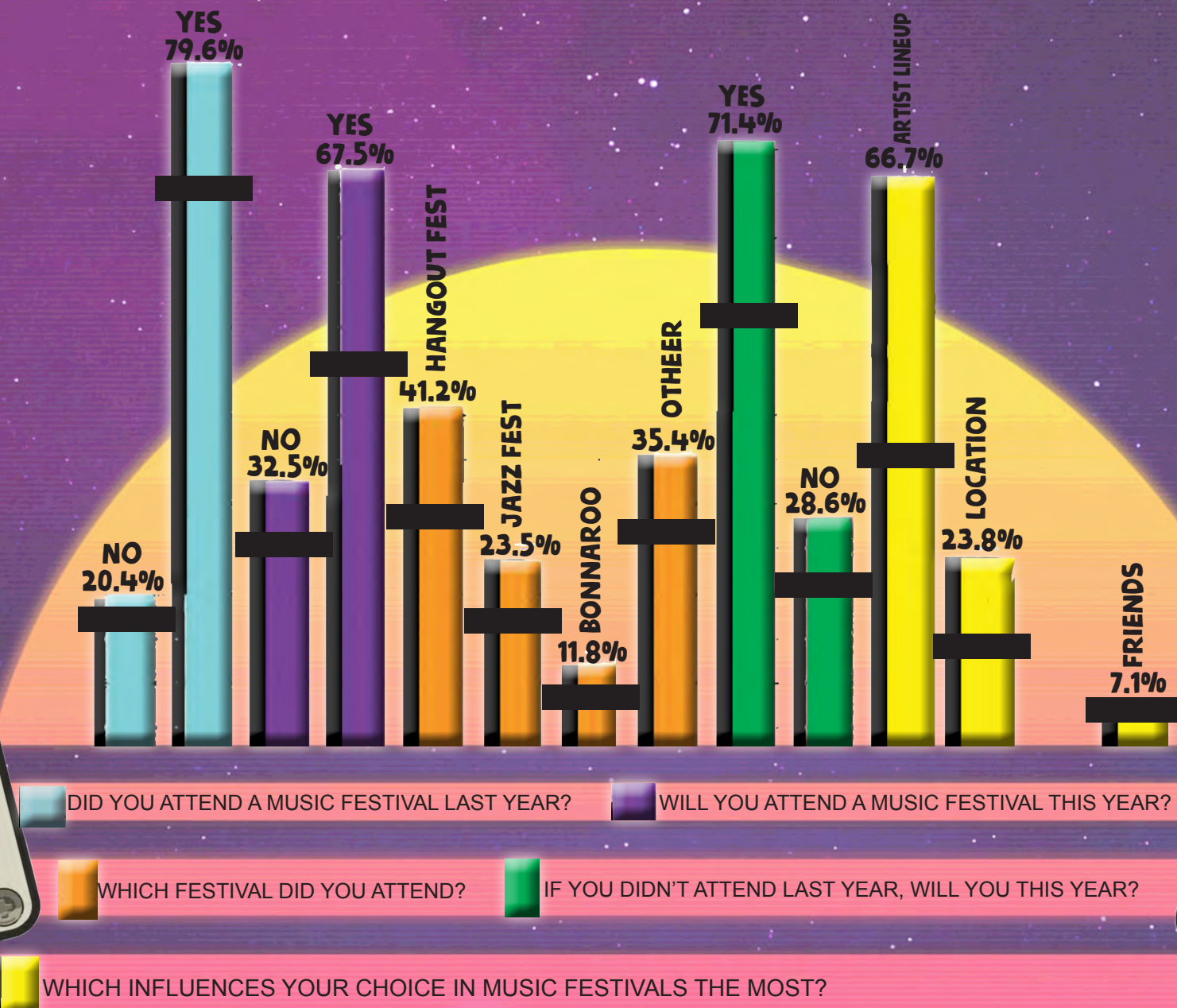
As many people know, there are different kinds of drivers they will encounter on the road. I believe the drivers who drive ridiculously slow and are unaware of their surroundings are the absolute worst. People know what I mean by the different kinds of drivers – there are the speed demons who treat the highway as a race track; the road ragers who will purposely swerve through traffic and put many lives at risk by not using a turn signal when switching lanes; but above all else, the most aggravating drivers are the slow and unaware ones. The amount of disdain they show to other drivers is so deplorable, and they most likely believe that their responsibilities are most important than ours.

Everyone has at least had an experience with one of these drivers: the ones who drive below the speed limit in the left lane – possibly on their phone, possibly fixing their hair, and possibly even reading a whole novel while driving! It also blows my mind at how

ignorant these drivers are whenever they are travelling along, well below the speed limit, not worrying about how many cars may be behind them. Not to mention the fact that they are potentially making people late on their daily commute just because their friend messaged them a funny video on Instagram.

For some reason, the city of Hattiesburg has a higher amount of these stereotypical drivers. It seems like they are always out-and-about any time regular people are travelling. In many situations that driver may be a senior citizen and may not be as aware as younger people. I have no problem with them travelling, they have a car for a reason, but I say we need to reevaluate the seniors that have a history of bad driving and have them retake a driver’s test. I by no means mean any offense to the elderly, but I feel like people just do not take driving as serious as it should be taken. Regardless if you do not know the kind of drivers I am referring to because you cannot drive yet, then you definitely will discover them.

BEST OF THE FESTS VOL. 3



CENTERSTAGE! PARTNERS WITH PAPA JOHN'S PIZZA

by: Anna Pittman / @annalizzp

The Magnolia Invitational, a competition annually hosted in the PAC by Centerstage!, was sponsored this year by Papa John's Pizza, who sold pizza and t-shirts throughout the weekend. In addition to their "SHOWCHOIR30" coupon code on the back of this season's tickets, which gives users 30 percent off their orders, a portion of the proceeds from those sales will go to the Centerstage! and Spotlight showchoirs.

Additionally, Papa John's has invited Centerstage! to perform in their Third Annual Papa John's Star Spangled Celebration. This year, the program will be held in the Oak Grove High School PAC on July 28. The show will feature the Brick

Street Barbershop Quartet and the Victory Belles from the World War II Museum in New Orleans.

John Pace, the community outreach representative for Papa John's, felt that adding Centerstage! to the lineup "seemed to be the perfect fit for our community."

"We're looking for many great things to come from the new partnership between Oak Grove Schools and Papa John's Pizza," Pace continued.

Centerstage! director Ashley Bolling said, "We're excited about the possibilities opened up through this new partnership. We are excited to team up with a company who wants to see success for our students as much as we do."

The award-winning Centerstage! Showchoir has seen much success this season. The group consists

of 48 singer/dancers, two student crew members, and one student band member. Centerstage! placed second in their last three competitions with their show, "Dare to Dream?"

Sophomore member Abigayle Talbot, who was named "Best Performer" at a recent competition, describes the show as, "the struggle to escape your nightmares."

The group recently branched out into another vocal field: a cappella. The new group, Symphonic Sounds, won "Grand Champion" in several recent competitions, performing a variety of current pop music.

The recent partnership with Papa John's has catapulted Centerstage! into their 2018 season, providing many new opportunities.



Hannah Clare West performing with Centerstage!.
Photo Courtesy of Anna Pittman

SPRING BREAKING AWAY: WHERE DID OGHS STUDENTS GO?

by: Anna Watts / @_killa_watts

Spring break is perhaps the most beloved week of the school year – great weather, plenty of time to rest and spend time with friends, and no waking up early. Spring break is also a time many families and groups flock to a new destination hoping to bond and experience something new.

Senior Hannah Grace Talbot is going with her family to Copper, Colorado to hit the slopes. She is no stranger to the snow, having this family skiing tradition for 12 years now. Talbot said the thing she is most excited about "is trying trickier runs, wearing my ski jumpsuit, and getting in the hot tub while it's snowing."

Personally, I am lucky enough

to get to travel to Oahu and Maui, Hawaii with my family this spring break. We are spending two days in Oahu, visiting Pearl Harbor and other sites, and then taking a flight to Maui for a more relaxing visit. I am looking forward to experiencing new things like riding in a helicopter and attending a traditional luau (feast) for the first time. While I have never visited Hawaii, my mother



Anna Watts and her family vacationing in the islands of Hawaii.

and step dad honeymooned there, and it makes me extremely excited to visit islands that are sentimental to them.

The students of the Temple Baptist Church youth-group probably have the most bizarre and distant destination this spring break. They are going to Krakow, Poland as part of a mission trip. The weather is not typical spring break weather, and



Hannah Grace Talbot skiing in the snow mountains of Colorado.

the students travelling there have to pack accordingly – taking their warm, winter clothes. They will be teaching kids English and sharing the gospel in schools. Oak Grove senior, Caroline Simpson, said "I'm excited to just get out of the country and get a break. We've been sending letters to our pen-pals and I can't wait to meet mine!"



Caroline Simpson and Mckenize Woodard spending their spring break in Poland.
Photo Courtesy of Instagram

SPECIAL SPOTLIGHT: KAIRA SMALLEY

by: Anna Pittman / @annalizzp

Oak Grove High School is known for its award-winning theatre productions and casts. One of the lesser known shows, Warrior's Take a Bow, is sponsored by Tribe, formerly known as Junior Civitan. This program specifically highlights students with special needs at OGHS and allows them to be in the spotlight.

The students with special needs play all of the parts, especially featured roles, and student volunteers assist with lines and stage directions.

This year, Tribe is presenting Cinderella, featuring senior Kaira Smalley as the lead, Princess Cinderella. Kaira is 18 years old, and she will

graduate with the class of 2020. She is in Mr. Turner's class on G-Hall.

Including last year's production of A Bug's Life, this will be Kaira's second performance with Warrior's Take a Bow. When asked what she is most excited for, Kaira exclaimed, "The dresses! The costume changes!"

Kaira is full of Warrior pride, and she expresses her excitement to anyone and everyone who asks.

"This is the best school ever," said Smalley. "I'm gonna start back practicing [for the show] really soon."

Tribe members and sponsors work tirelessly each year to ensure the students in the show have a great experience. The hard work generally begins in March, and continues until the final days leading up to the play. Sets are hand painted,

props are gathered, costumes are ordered or handmade, and a good time is had by all.

One of the Tribe sponsors, Megan Hogue, is a history teacher at OGHS. "We started eight years ago," said Hogue. "I chose Cinderella based on our students, all of the parts seemed to fit!" Hogue continued, "I chose Kaira because she is meant to be a star, she can handle the lead role, and she will be a beautiful Cinderella!"

For anyone who wants to support Kaira and Tribe, the curtain will open on this year's production of Cinderella on April 9, 2018 in the Performing Arts Center. All proceeds will go towards Tribe. Anyone who wishes to participate or volunteer may speak with Ms. Hogue on G-Hall.



Kaira Smalley will be Princess Cinderella during this year's Warrior's Take a Bow, which will be held on April 9, 2018.

PHOTO: Anna Pittman



IN THE KITCHEN

by: Faith Nazario / @faith_angelique_

Creamy Shepherd's Pie:
March, while bringing the promise of spring, can be fickle weatherwise – glimpses of spring and summer greedily snatched away by the cold grip of winter. March also brings St. Patrick's Day – a celebration of Irish culture. This makes March the perfect time to make Shepards Pie. This traditional Irish recipe is comfort food at its finest. Creamy mashed potatoes on top of warm meat and veggies will surely make anyone's mouth water. This simple and easy recipe will have everyone coming for seconds so you might want to make extra!

Prep Time: 15 minutes
Cook Time: 50 minutes
Serves: 4-5



Instructions

-Place the peeled and quartered potatoes in medium sized pot. Cover with at least an inch of cold water. Add a teaspoon of salt. Bring to a boil, reduce to a simmer, and cook until tender (about 20 minutes).

-While the potatoes are cooking, melt 4 tablespoons of the butter in a large sauté pan on medium heat. Add the chopped onions and cook until tender, about 6 to 10 minutes.

-Add ground beef to the pan with the onions and vegetables. Cook until no longer pink. Season with salt and pepper. Add the Worcestershire sauce and beef broth. Bring the broth to a simmer and reduce heat to low. Cook uncovered for 10 minutes, adding more beef broth if necessary to keep the meat from drying out.

- When the potatoes are done cooking (a fork can easily pierce), remove them from the pot and place them in a bowl with the remaining 4 Tbsp of butter. Mash with a fork or potato masher, and season with salt and pepper to taste.

- Preheat oven to 400°F. Spread the beef, onions, and vegetables in an even layer in a large baking dish (8 x 13 casserole).

- Spread the mashed potatoes over the top of the ground beef. Rough up the surface of the mashed

potatoes with a fork so there are peaks that will get well browned. You can even use a fork to make creative designs in the mashed potatoes.

- Place in a 400°F oven and cook until browned and bubbling, about 30 minutes. If necessary, broil for the last few minutes to help the surface of the mashed potatoes brown.

Ingredients

- 1 1/2 to 2 pounds potatoes (about 3 large potatoes), peeled and quartered
- 8 Tablespoons (1 stick) butter
- 1 medium onion, chopped (about 1 1/2 cups)
- 1-2 cups vegetables—diced carrots, corn, peas
- 1 1/2 lbs ground round beef
- 1/2 cup beef broth
- 1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
- Salt, pepper, other seasonings of choice



HUBFEST RETURNS DOWNTOWN: WHAT TO EXPECT THIS YEAR

by: Bella Massenburg/ @bluebellaicecream

Hattiesburg's own Hubfest, an arts and music festival hosted by the Area Development Partnership, will take place Saturday, April 7, 2018.

"Hubfest showcases Downtown Hattiesburg and the many activities, shops, restaurants, and businesses we have to offer," said Lindsay Pace, communications and events director for the Area Development Partnership, in an interview with Resorts and Lodges.

This local festival showcases all of the unique arts the Hattiesburg area is known and applauded for. The hope is to introduce and influence people to attend local businesses outside of festival hours and grow the community in many ways.

Hubfest takes place in the historical downtown Hattiesburg and is celebrating its 34th year. It features four sets of live music, over 250 arts, and multiple foods and vendors which are located within the festival. Every year, the festival

books multiple musical guests, commonly being local bands or country artists.

Although admission to Hubfest is free, certain events that take place inside the festival may require a fee. Every year over 30,000 people attend Hubfest, and as a result of this anticipated attendance, pets have been banned from the festival grounds.

As soon as people enter the festival grounds, they are greeted by the enticing smells coming from the food vendors. Hubfest always offers many options for food – usually over 40 food vendors attend, many being locally-owned businesses. In addition to food trucks, local downtown restaurants are open during festival hours.

In addition to the wide variety of food being served at Hubfest, guests will also find booths hosted by many locally owned shops on the festival grounds. Many of these booths show off local art and decor, as well as boutiques. Hubfest always has live music featuring local bands and country artists on the four stages.

Hubfest is an event many people in Hatties-

burg and the surrounding areas look forward to annually. This historic festival has something special for everyone who comes. Attending this event is such a unique experience and is recommended to all people in town.



Above is a photo of past hubfest that have been held in downtown Hattiesburg. Photo Courtesy of www.studentprintz.com

Today in History

by: Brady Smith / @_bsmith27



1775: In lieu of the growing tensions between the American Colonies and England, Patrick Henry gave a speech to the Second Virginia Convention in favor of Virginian troops joining the US Revolutionary War proclaiming, "Give me liberty or give me death!" Henry's speech was enough to persuade the convention to adopt his amendments, although only narrowly passing. After the Convention, militias formed throughout Virginia.



1933: The Enabling Act of 1933 was an amendment that granted the German Cabinet the power to execute laws without the approval of the Lower House of the German Parliament, which turned Adolf Hitler's government into a dictatorship. During June and July of the same year, all non-nazi parties were outlawed in the Reichstag legally establishing total Nazi control over the German government.



1983: The Strategic Defense Initiative was introduced by President Ronald Reagan to protect the United States against a nuclear attack. Advanced weapon concepts such as laser beams, particle beams, and space-based missile systems consisted of the bulk of the Strategic Defense Initiative. The American Physical Society determined that the concepts were decades away from practical use.



ALL GOLD EVERYTHING

by: Brad Humphreys / @brad_humphreys

Fortnite: Battle Royale is a third person PVP (player vs. player) multiplayer game where 100 online players drop into an arena and scavenge for weapons in hopes of being the last person alive. There are three standard game modes including: solo, duo, and squad (four players to a team), but a fourth game mode is randomly added to the game with special rules. The latest game mode is an “All Gold” mode where only the most powerful weapons are spawned. The game has been out since July and has taken every console by storm. Recently they added the season three update which brought many new cosmetics to *Fortnite*. Although there is purchasable content, the game is not “pay to win” like most modern video games. The cosmetics consist of skins, dances, emotes, and pickaxes.

Not only has *Fortnite* taken over the gaming community, it has also been posted on all platforms of social media. The posts mainly consist of love for the game, but many people oppose it. It has been blamed for stealing attention away from girlfriends due to the long games and the fact no online game can be paused. Since the release of the game, many friends have been made and relationships have been ruined, but the game seems to be only getting more popular.

SEASON THREE OVERVIEW

by: John Shutze / @johnshutze

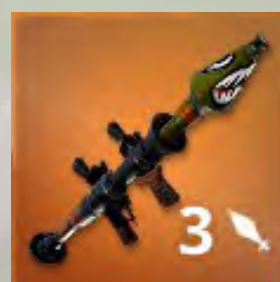
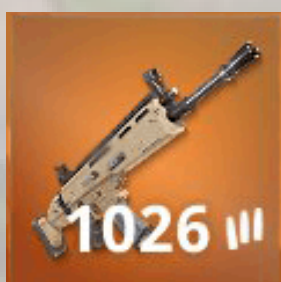
Fortnite season three is finally here, bringing a completely different experience than the previous seasons. Xbox and PS4 players now have the option to play at 60 frames per second, a major improvement over last season. The in-game textures run much smoother, and more detail was added to surroundings, such as water reflecting.

As far as actual gameplay mechanics, many new changes were implemented this season. “Turbo building” mode and “Auto-Change Materials” allow players to build much faster, as the game automatically switches materials. The infamous “double pump” was patched following outlash from the community. “Double Pumping” allowed players to switch and shoot pump shotguns extremely fast, which forced Epic Games, the software company, to remove it from the game.

Season three also introduces two new weapons: the Hand Cannon and the Hunting Rifle. The Hand Cannon is a pistol that deals high damage, with a slow rate of fire. The Hand Cannon can be found in Epic and Legendary variants. The Hunting Rifle is a bolt-action rifle with no scope. The Hunting Rifle is a dulled down version of a Bolt-Action Sniper, offering less damage and less range.

Along with season three comes a brand new Battle Pass that is outer space themed – moving away from the season two’s medieval theme. The Battle Pass costs 950 V-Bucks, the equivalent of \$10. The new Battle Pass has 100 unlockable tiers which includes six new player skins and 94 other cosmetics such as emotes, gliders and back bling. It takes 75–150 hours of playtime to unlock all 100 tiers, or \$150 worth of V-Bucks.

BEST FORTNITE LOOT



FORTNITE EVERY NIGHT

by: Anna Watts

/ @_killa_watts

Fortnite: Battle Royale is taking the media by storm. As soon as it was released, the video game became a huge trend, consuming everyone’s attention. Personally, I am affected.

Whether I am with my boyfriend or talking to friends, *Fortnite* is always brought up. At first it was simply an exciting game to play, but now it seems to be an integral part of teenagers routines.

I am not going to lie, I am pretty tired of having full-blown conversations with my boyfriend and looking up to find out he has had his headset on for 20 minutes. I have become immune to Snapchat stories celebrating a win by whoever posted it with a caption saying “dub.” *Fortnite* has definitely made an impact on both boys and girls, and has even affected some relationships.

In a study piloted by Zaheer Hussain, it was concluded that “Forty-one percent of people who play online video games admitted that they played computer games as an escape from the real world.” This is surprising to me as I assumed the percentage would be higher, considering so many students around the world, and in the Grove, are tossing their assignments aside in the race to “catch a dub.”

‘THE PINBALL WIZARD’ & HIS ‘AMAZING JOURNEY’

by: Kat Thaggard / @kathrynthaggard

Hattiesburg Civic Light Opera continued its 42nd season with a phenomenal production of *The Who’s Tommy*.

The Who’s Tommy is a musical based on The Who’s iconic 1969 rock concept album, *Tommy*. It tells the story of an abused deaf, dumb and blind boy who triumphs over his misfortunes to become a pinball wizard.

This story has inspired and perplexed audiences since its initial Broadway run in 1993 and recently brought its magic to Hattiesburg.

This production of *Tommy* was directed by HCLO alumni Joseph

Vanzandt and was performed at the Thirsty Hippo March 1–12.

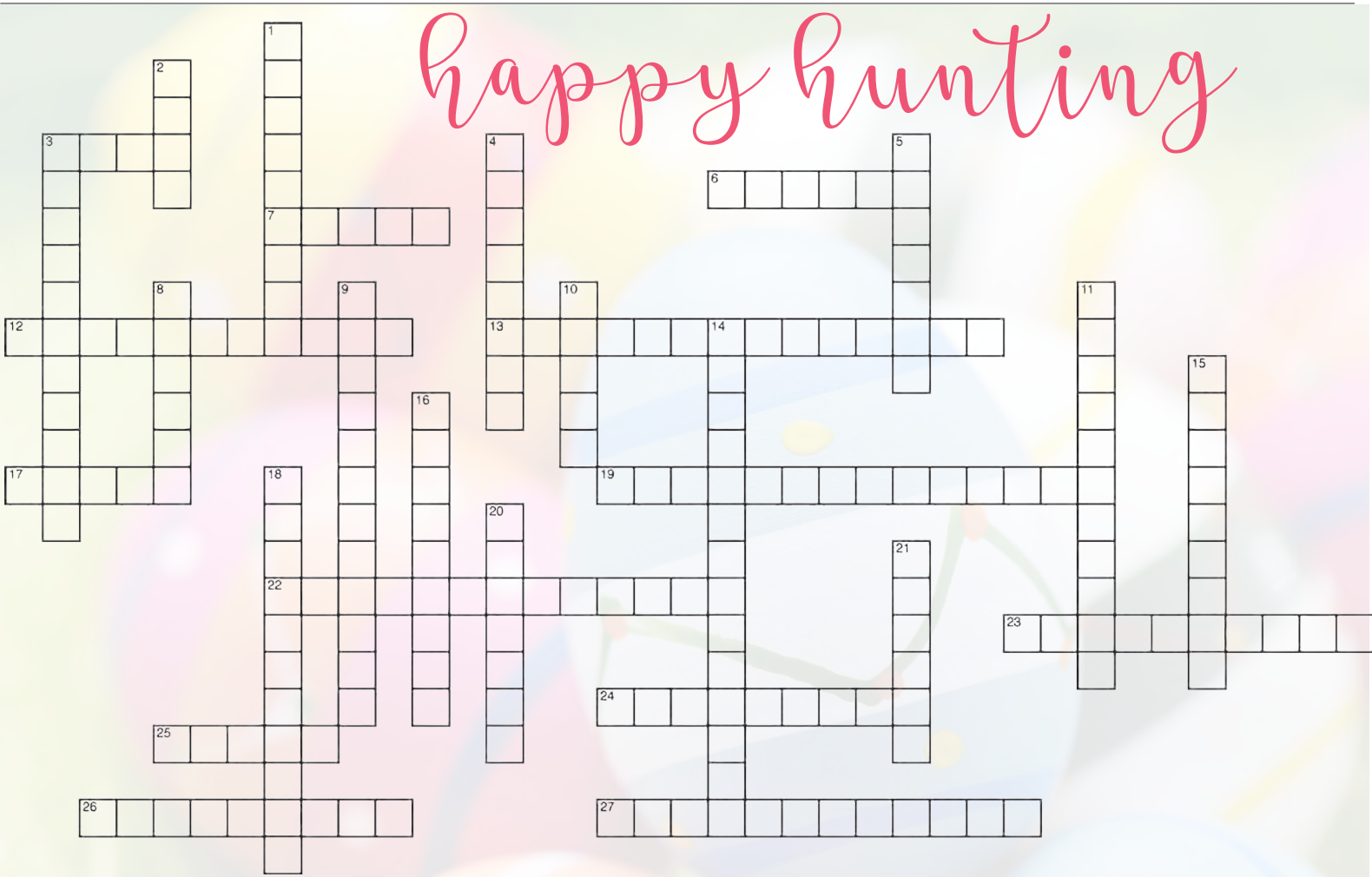
The show featured a cast and crew of remarkably talented locals, including Purvis High School senior Landon Marrow as the lead character. Marrow, who is no stranger to the stage, has savored his experience with the show.

“Tommy has been a very rewarding experience,” said Marrow. “It has made me a much better performer, and for that I am thankful.”

HCLO’s *Tommy* was met with overwhelming and deserved praise from its audiences. If this production is any indication of how HCLO’s future shows will be, these shows will continue to be successful and entertaining.



Landon Marrow performing as Tommy in *The Who’s Tommy* musical.
Photo Courtesy of Landon Marrow



ACROSS

- What “non-school-sponsored” event is April 14?
- What did Kylie Jenner name her baby?
- The color most associated with St. Patrick’s Day
- This internet-famous cat died on March 8
- What world-renowned scientist died on March 14, 2018?
- Which celebrity musician joined the Fortnite universe when he recently teamed up with “Ninja” for a night of games?
- Which airline is in “hot water” for its role in the death of a passenger’s pet?
- This artist will be performing at Hangout Festival
- What trendy phenomenon is used to invite a date to prom?
- This NFL player celebrates his birthday on March 26
- True or False: St. Patrick removed all snakes from Ireland
- Owner of the New Orleans Saints and Pelicans who died March 15, 2018
- This rapper’s newest album is entitled “?”

DOWN

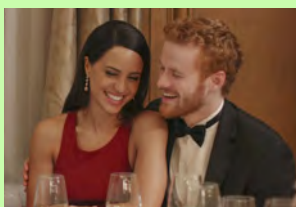
- Rumored to be at the end of the rainbow
- This unknown team took out Virginia in the NCAA tournament
- Who is the next member of the royal family to be married?
- A nickname for classic rock
- This online currency is soaring on the stock market
- What is the newest platform to offer Fortnite?
- The title of a song by rapper Future, and the nickname of the sporting event that occurs this month
- One of the most popular spring break destinations
- The name of the new taco shop that opened in Hattiesburg
- This college sporting event happens during March
- What former Disney actor will play Ted Bundy in an upcoming movie about the infamous serial killer?
- The Reverend Saint of Ireland, actually rumored to have been born in England
- This NFL QB signed a three-year \$84M contract with Vikings
- #1 _____ Royale
- This rapper will perform this year at Bonnaroo

beat’s bits —————/ ENTERTAINMENT /

by: Kate McNeese / @katemcneese

REAL LIFE FAIRYTALE BECOMES A MOVIE

Lifetime’s upcoming movie “Harry & Meghan: A Royal Romance,” showcases the love story of Prince Harry and his fiancée.



Lifetime shared an official teaser trailer featuring Murray Fraser and Parisa Fitz-Henley cast as the lovers. A film was released in 2011 about the romance of Harry’s brother Prince William and his wife Kate, simply titled “William & Kate: The Movie.” The film airs on Lifetime May 13, days before the couple unite in marriage.

GREY’S PULLS THE PLUG ON DOCTORS

Two popular characters from ABC’s medical drama series “Grey’s Anatomy” will be leaving. April Kepner, played by Sarah Drew, and Arizona Robbins, played by Jessica Capshaw, will be written off this season. Creator/executive producer, Shonda Rhimes, has confirmed these rumors through her social media accounts writing, “It is always hard for me to say goodbye to any of my characters. They will always be a part of our Shondaland family.”



LOVATO STANDS A SOBER WARRIOR

Demi Lovato shared on social media that she is now six years sober writing, “a huge part of my recovery was learning to love myself and to give back to others.” The 25 year-old singer has been very public with her addiction and treatment over the years. Lovato became emotional on stage during her performance in Brooklyn as DJ Khalid shared words of inspiration, which brought her to tears. The star admits her sobriety is something she works on everyday.



WRITTEN IN THE STARS

by: Bella Massenburg
@bluebellaicecream



ARIES

This is the time for healing and feeling, Aries. Lean on others for support, they will be there for you.

TAURUS

It’s time for reflection. Past months may not have gone well but there’s always time for a new start.

GEMINI

You may not want to, it’s time to tie up loose ends. You may not be ready but the results will be worth it.

CANCER

Adventures are in store for you. You may be wary of this, but you should continue following your heart.

LEO

This month you are likely to be found hiding in your room. Leo, it is time for some deep emotional reflection.

VIRGO

This is a perfect time to slow down and process what is going on around you. You may be feeling motivated.

LIBRA

You have a busy month ahead of you, Libra. It is a perfect time for organization, health, and fitness. .

SCORPIO

It is time to change things up a bit, Scorpio. Experiment with new looks this month, maybe a new hair-do.

SAGITTARIUS

Slow down and savor the little things. This month is looking to be busy, pace out your responsibilities.

CAPRICORN

Meeting new people is important this month. When doing everyday tasks, try to be more approachable.

AQUARIUS

This year has had a crazy beginning. Take this month to organize and be productive, Aquarius.

PISCES

You’ve got extra fuel in your tank to take you through a busy month. This could bring major turning points in some of your relationships.

MIDNIGHT EDITION

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