

UPROAR

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madison central
high school

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BLAKE PEEPLES: LIVING IN THE FAST LANE

Elizabeth Barton
LAYOUT EDITOR

Imagine waking up at 4:30 a.m., driving yourself through the dark of the morning to jump into a cold pool... outdoors. Now imagine swimming for the next two and a half hours, while the majority of Madison is still asleep, and then driving yourself to Madison Central to face an eight-hour school day. As soon as the final school bell rings at 3:35 p.m., you then drive yourself to the Healthplex to lift weights until it's time for you to drive yourself back to the pool at 5:30 p.m. for another grueling swim practice until 8:00 p.m. or later. You finally drive back home, only to begin hours' worth of AP level homework and studying to maintain a 4.0 GPA. Imagine this cycle repeating day after day. This is the daily life of competitive swimmer Blake Peeples (11).

At eleven years old, Blake began swimming. His initial goal was to

lose weight, but he soon discovered an ardent passion for the sport and grew increasingly committed to it. Since his beginnings only five years ago, Blake has racked up a total of eight state records, and is only one second away from snagging two more. Last December, Blake qualified to swim at the Speedo Winter Junior National Championship, one of the most prestigious and competitive swim meets one can qualify to race in. Blake achieved astounding success by placing in the top thirty for both the 500 and 1650-yard freestyle.

However, it is important to note that Blake's massive success is directly proportionate to the

massive amount of work he is willing to put in to achieve his goals. Blake swims upwards of eight to ten miles per day, seven days a week, on a local club team known as Performance Elite Aquatics (PEAQ). "I would be lying if I said it wasn't hard," Peeples admits. "Most people wouldn't understand the schedule we maintain and the sacrifices swimmers have to make, so what really helps me push through is the support of my teammates who are dealing with similar challenges." The most difficult part for Blake is staying motivated on his road to success, despite the many obstacles and setbacks he has had to overcome.

"I've had to make so many sacrifices for this sport, from altering my diet to giving up countless moments with my family and friends. It's tough, but in my opinion, seeing all those hours in the pool pay off at meets is more than worth it. At the end of the day, there's no substitute

for hard work. There are no shortcuts."

It is this extremely driven mindset that is pushing Blake toward achieving his goals. Blake's motivation is his goal to swim in the Olympic Trials in 2020, and being only a mere ten seconds away from the qualifying time for the 800-meter freestyle, there's a high chance that this dream will turn into reality within the next year. Looking past 2020, Blake hopes to swim at an NCAA Division I college, and as the number one ranked male swimming recruit in the state of Mississippi for the class of 2020 (*collegeswimming.com*), he has already been in contact with a number of top tier Division I programs, all of which excel in both the swim world and the academic world—just like Blake.

Going beyond the pool, another aspect that makes Blake Peeples even more respectable as a student-athlete is his success in school. His self-discipline in the pool carries over to the classroom, as he still makes time to keep up his academic career with a 4.0 GPA, even with a class schedule loaded with the most challenging AP and advanced classes. He is also an active member in the National Honor Society, Beta Club, Mu

Alpha Theta, Advocates for Change, Spanish Club, French Club, and the MC Swim Team. Once again, maintaining Blake's academic success does not come without a price: his sleep. "I know many of my fellow students can probably relate, but many nights I only get four to five hours of sleep," Blake shared. His Advanced Math Plus teacher, Kristen Cooley, revealed that, "When you see Blake, you can't tell that he is functioning on minimal sleep or that that he performed some insane work-out four hours before he even got to school. He doesn't use these things as excuses; he uses them to be better. He's an enthusiastic learner and a great student that anyone would be lucky to have."

Outside of both school and swim, Blake enjoys "sleeping, eating, and doing something with friends if there's time." In the summer, he works as a swim coach for the Cypress Lake Swordfish summer-league swim team. He also takes pride in his eclectic music taste, and is an accomplished concert-goer for A-list artists including Ariana Grande, Katy Perry, Selena Gomez, Taylor Swift, P!nk, Miley Cyrus, Beyoncé, Ed Sheeran, and Lady Gaga.

In conclusion, although there still may be a long, onerous road ahead for Blake, his unparalleled work ethic and self-discipline will never fail to deliver him to the final destination. No matter what setting you see Blake Peeples engaging in—from school to the pool—one thing is for certain: Blake Peeples is bound for success.

FEATURE

Check out page 4 for insight on bipartisan parties here at MC. Photo by Kaitlyn Sills Uproar



SPORTS

Take a look at page 3 for a look where MC athletes have committed for college. Photo courtesy of Cale Nation.



CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE



Back pain is crippling American teenagers

Katie King
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

An annoying pinch. A dull throb. A stabbing ache. There are many variants of back pain, but no matter what the extent, 80% of people will experience some kind at some point in their lifetime (www.acatoday.org). Most of this pain is accredited to things as simple as poor posture, but sometimes it can be a symptom of a more serious condition like scoliosis. Cade Harrison (12) said "I probably experience some kind of back pain pretty much every day." Harrison is not the only Madison Central student who lives with the pain, and most definitely not the only teenager.

There are countless others. One of the rising causes of back pain is texting. Medical professionals are calling it "text neck." When one sits up completely straight, his or her head weighs anywhere from 10 to 12 pounds.

The catch is that whenever one tilts their head a little forward, his or her head creates a heavier stress on his or her spine. When the head is tilted at a 15-degree tilt, it is the equivalent of 27 pounds, a 30-degree tilt is 40 pounds, and a 60-degree tilt is 60 extra pounds of stress on the body (www.theatlantic.com). According to the Washington Post, the average American teen spends one-third of their day on their phones. The time spent on the phone and weight of the head is enough to cause an unprecedented amount of stress of one's body.

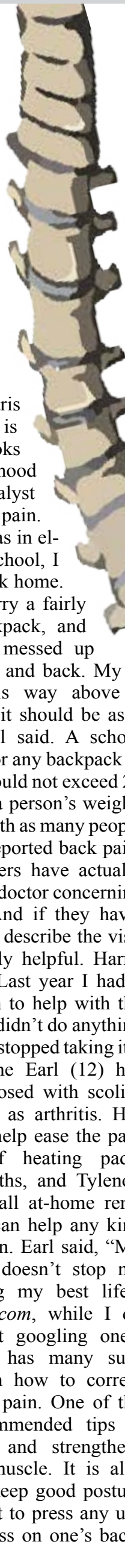
Sometimes students' back pain is caused by previous injuries or as a side effect of another medication. Courtney Reid (12) accredits her pain to a medication that she

is on. Haaris Patel (12) is one that looks to his childhood as the catalyst for his pain. "When I was in elementary school, I used to walk home. I would carry a fairly heavy backpack, and it kind of messed up my posture and back. My backpack is way above the weight it should be as well," Patel said. A school backpack, or any backpack in general, should not exceed 20 percent of a person's weight.

Even with as many people that have reported back pain, few teenagers have actually gone to the doctor concerning the pain. And if they have, they do not describe the visit as incredibly helpful. Harrison said, "Last year I had a prescription to help with the pain, but it didn't do anything for me, so I stopped taking it."

Katherine Earl (12) has been diagnosed with scoliosis as well as arthritis. Her routine to help ease the pain consists of heating pads, ice, hot baths, and Tylenol, which are all at-home remedies that can help any kind of back pain. Earl said, "My back pain doesn't stop me from living my best life."

Webmd.com, while I do not suggest googling one's symptoms, has many suggestions on how to correct one's back pain. One of the most recommended tips is exercising, and strengthening back muscle. It is also crucial to keep good posture in order not to press any unneeded stress on one's back.



Science behind mental health

Emily O'Reilly
STAFF WRITER

Stress is a common thing in students' daily lives, especially since it's the third nine weeks. Grades plummet and school just gets a lot harder. You shouldn't have to wait until you're close to breaking to take a break. "I usually listen to music or just go for a walk with my dog," said Walker Palmerton (12). There are different ways to deal with stress, whether it's taking a walk, reading, singing, or even just watching a movie. When you're feeling really stressed, take a

break. Your mental health should come first before school or other activities or work that are giving you stress. One in five teenagers have a diagnosable



Annie O'Reilly (10) is reading to de-stress. Photo by Emily O'Reilly Uproar

emotional, behavioral, or mental health disorder, reports The Association for Children's Mental Health.

Isabella Ragazzi (10), who has chronic anxiety disorder, knows the effects of too much stress and anxiety. "Usually if I have a really bad episode, I have to go and talk to one of my friends. Just being with my friends because they make me feel better," Ragazzi said. 41.6% of students have a form of anxiety, followed by depression with 36.4%, states the American Psychological Association. Stress can be good because it motivates students to be organized and do their work. Excessive stress can backfire and cause anxiety attacks and nervous breakdowns, states Bridges to Recovery. Students need to balance their workload and know when to stop and take a break. "If it's kind of late and I still have tons to do, I'll probably go and take a shower or play some music really loud since it's too late to bake," Ragazzi conveys. Music is a great way to help de-stress. Whether it's rap, hip-hop, rock-and-roll, metal, or pop, all music will help one immensely. "Listening to music can have a

tremendous relaxing effect on our minds and bodies, especially slow, quiet, classical music," Psych Central states.

According to the American Psychological Association, chronic stress can engender an array of health problems, including fatigue, irritability and problems with concentration. When left unmanaged, inordinate stress can also lead to more serious conditions like anxiety and depression. The risks emphasize how crucial self-care in students is. Self-care is "the practice of taking an active role in protecting one's own well-being and happiness, in particular during periods of stress," according to the Oxford Dictionary. "Self-care is something that fuels us, rather than takes from us," Psych Central states. Claire Elkin (11) loves "to journal and take a bath to destress." If you love to sing, sing. Put on some face masks and have a spa, if you like that. "Moving around or hanging out with friends can help with de-stressing," Palmerton mentioned. Talking to friends and family really helps de-stress. There are numerous ways to practice self-care. There's always time to de-stress. Even if you take 10 minutes to stop and breathe, it will still help.

Cyber security expert, Mark Chmielewski, visits Biomedical Research students

Sarah Elizabeth Johns
BUSINESS
MANAGER

Mark Chmielewski is the father of Madison Central's very own Erica Chmielewski, and he is employed by Cyber Secure, a company that helps medical providers stay within HIPPA regulations. If a health care provider is reported or found in violation of the HIPPA regulations, the OCR investigates and can charge the business serious fines. Any form of security breach of medical documents must be reported to the OCR, and the breach is also reported on the local media and can severely hurt business. Chmielewski explained this process in much more detail to Dr. Betsy Sullivan's biomedical research

class on January 17. His company works to prevent the security problems before the OCR has to get involved. The class listened attentively as he presented on the functions of his company, health records and security, and how the students could make sure to avoid any security problems in the future. This presentation was particularly useful for the students planning to enter the medical field. No matter what aspect of the medical field the students plan to enter, the security of health files and information is extremely relevant.

MC BLOOD DRIVE!

Thursday, March 7
7:45 am - 3:15 pm
IN THE GYM

- All donors will receive a t-shirt and a chance to win gift cards!
- You must be 16 years old and 110 pounds to donate.
- Please remember to eat prior to donating blood and bring ID.
- If MC collects 150 units of blood, one lucky Senior blood donor will win a \$500 scholarship. If 200 units of blood are collected, the scholarship amount will increase to \$1000.
- See Mr. Davis to sign up and receive a consent form.

More information at mejags.com

Soccer kicks their way to the top

Lauren Barham
COPY EDITOR

Madison Central has a long-standing tradition of excellence in the soccer world. Whether it be the boys' or girls' soccer team, there are typically high expectations where both are concerned, with the boys currently ranking number 2 and the girls ranking number 2 in the inaugural Central Mississippi Soccer Coaches Polls. The boys are also ranked No. 2 nationally in the MaxPreps National High School Soccer Rankings. "As a team, we handle the pressure of the high expectations by working harder and harder at every opportunity we can," said Audrey Eckerson (11). Kellen Fairburn (10) also said she handles the high expectations by "trusting [her] players and believing in them and myself." Much of this success can be attributed to Head Coach Cecil Hinds, who has been coaching soccer

at MC since 2011. Throughout his years at MC, Hinds has accumulated a record of 240-33-20 (@MC_JagsSoc).

Both the Lady Jags and Jags soccer teams have a rigorous practice schedule to accompany their success. "We practice every day for around two hours. We start with fitness normally and then move into ball work that's focused around either the next game or an area we need to build on," said Eckerson. The boys' team has a similar schedule, with practices on A days lasting from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. and practices on B days lasting from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Both soccer teams are also accompanied by soccer managers, including Zechariah Davis (12). At practice, Davis is responsible for "maintin[ing] equipment, such as balls, bibs, cones, and uniforms." He also tries to complete his tasks as soon as possible so he "can have more free time to watch practice." Before a game, Davis is responsible for field preparations, such as "mak[ing] sure

the game balls are pumped and get[ting] the uniforms prepared for the players." During the game, Davis "takes stats on the game."

One thing that most of the players can agree on is how amazing the relationships are that they have been able to build. Davis said, "I can't say much about the bonds between teammates for other sports, but for soccer, I can say we're family." Christian Berry (12) also expressed similar sentiments. "It isn't just a team, it's a brotherhood. I would trust each and every one of my brothers with my life."

The MHSAA 6A boys and girls State Championship Games will be on Saturday, February 9 at Ridgeland High School.



The soccer boys gather in a team huddle before the big game. Photo by Lauren Barham *Uproar*

Star Athletes Rise ☆ ☆ ☆ to the Next Level

Sarah Elizabeth Johns
BUSINESS
MANAGER



Mallory Dickey

School: University of Nebraska at Omaha
Sport: Swim

"Since I was six, I have wanted to swim in college and now that I have achieved that goal, I cannot wait for all of the new experiences and friends it will bring into my life."

Photo courtesy of Mallory Dickey.



Hallie Phelan

School: University of Southern Mississippi
Sport: Volleyball

"I can't wait to get to Southern Miss to continue my volleyball career. It's so exciting to know that I get to represent Madison Central athletics on the next level."

Photo courtesy of Hallie Phelan.



Adrian Harris

School: University of Louisiana Monroe
Sport: Cross Country and Track

"As a little boy first stepping on the track it was always a dream of mine to run at the next level in the sport I love, and now that I have accomplished it, I can't wait to get started with the new team and accomplish some great things in the future for the program."

Photo courtesy of Adrian Harris.

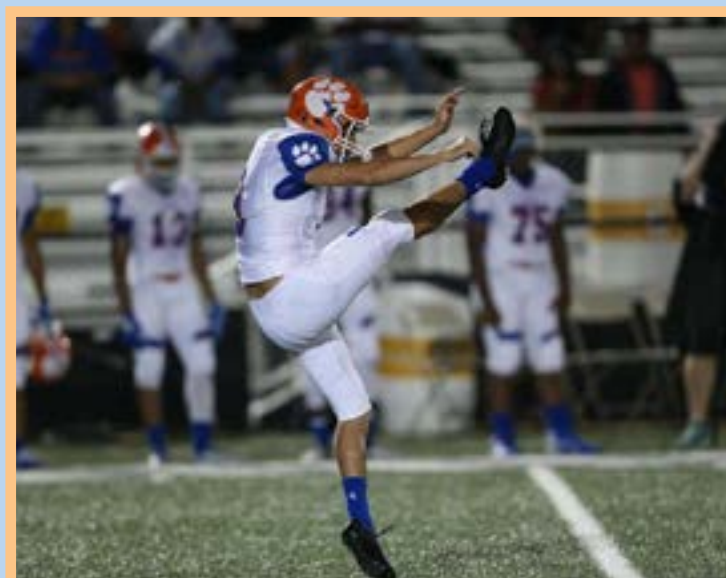


Elle Muirhead

School: University of Mississippi
Sport: Soccer

"Playing college soccer has been my dream for as long as I can remember, and the fact that I've found my home and get to play the game that I love at Ole Miss is incredible. I could not be more grateful to everyone who has helped me along the way."

Photo courtesy of Elle Muirhead.



Cale Nation

School: University of Mississippi
Sport: Football

"I am looking forward to playing at the D1 level, which is why I took a preferred walk on spot instead of other scholarship offers. I am looking forward to competing to earn a starting spot to get on the stage at Ole Miss."

Photo courtesy of Cale Nation.

High School Democrats, TeenAge Republicans create political socialization for students

Kaitlyn Sills
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

For many, politics may seem like a void subject until one is able to vote. However, many students across the nation have established outlets for political socialization within schools. The High School Democrats of America and the National Teenage Republicans have established themselves as the premiere organizations for laying the groundwork for teenagers' political involvements. Madison Central has its own chapters of each of these groups. The High School Democrats of America chapter is sponsored by teacher Rachel Clapper and led by Mississippi HSDA chair Jack Day. It is the first chapter of the organization in Mississippi. Day said, "I have been passionate about government and politics for years now. I didn't have much of a way to directly get involved in the community in a way which

my voice could be directly heard. I figured that it was up to me to change that."

HSDA meets on most Monday mornings in Clapper's room to discuss upcoming projects. The club is currently working to initiate a school-wide recycling campaign.

HSDA's mission is to "ensure that youth have a voice in government", according to HSDA 101 handbook. It is organized into three levels: national, state, and local. MC's chapter falls under the local level and is focused on classic grassroots politics. "We're told that we're too young to understand how the world works and that we should wait to get involved. I ardently disagree with this mindset. I think young people need to learn as soon as possible the power that their voices have," Day said.

Political involvement doesn't separate at party lines, however. The National TeenAge Republicans also has an active local chapter at MC. TeenAge Republicans

(TARS) is sponsored by Government teacher Susan Shivers. The mission of TARS is to establish a "great opportunity to serve their community and country while learning about the political process."

Reggie Black leads this organization's chapter at MC because he is "all about political activism no matter what side or party a person agrees with." Black also added that, "I see conservatism on a declining path, and I don't want to be alive to see it die. I want the Republican party to be around a long time, and there's no better place to start than home."

Each of these organizations are based nationally in Washington, DC and offer summits and conferences to encourage a full political socialization. Black added that the goal of all of these organizations is "all about people knowing their rights, and a say in their legislation."

Many students are involved in both political organizations. Jessica Styres said, "I'm in both because I

promote political compromise, and I believe in an educated voter. That's the only way to reach true democracy." This said, democracy is a unique feature in America, and involving pre-voting students is something that fuels this system. Susan Shivers frequently notes in her government classes that "This is America. You are the party you say you are."

Each of these organizations is a stepping stone to the College/Young Democrats and Republicans. Day noted that "politics have the potential to get nasty. However, it doesn't have to be that way. I believe two logical people can come to different decisions" and advised students not to get involved "out of hatred for the ever-present 'other side', but instead get involved because of a genuine care for your community." More information for either of these organizations can be found on their respective national websites or by contacting Day, Clapper, Black, or Shivers.

the Uproar

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Minority Student Union celebrates Black History Month

Ella Bursi
STAFF WRITER

Black History Month is an annual celebration of the contributions, culture, and events of the African American race. This year, Black History Month will take place all throughout February, with events and gatherings planned all around the country. Each year has a theme that focuses on a particular part of history, such as this year's, which is "Black Migrations" and the effects of them. The theme encompasses migrations all throughout history, inclusive of past centuries up through modern times, and how the migrations caused a mixing of cultures. According to the ASALH website, which is the foundation that organizes Black History Month, black

migrations caused interracial changes in societies all around the world that eventually caused social change and created more black industries and entrepreneurs.

Black History Month also has a more emotional impact, in that many view it as a time to remember past history and reflect. "We need to know our culture, as well as the culture of others," said Chasity Kent, a teacher and sponsor of the Minority Student Union, a Madison Central club that celebrates all minorities. Black History Month is an important part of each year in that it celebrates all aspects of black history, including the people who moved it forward. "It is so important today to know what past leaders or people of any race have done and said so that we can choose how we act too," Vertreace Sanders (12) said. "I need to know



The Minority Student Union celebrates minorities' cultures. (photo from madison-schools.com)

that there are people, just like me, that I can look up to."

The members of the Minority Student Union are among those who celebrate Black History Month, and even try to spread the word. "The Minority Student Union focuses on Black History Month by exploring different places and museums that deal with the history of African Americans and explains to the students why it is important what that per-

son did and how it is different now than back then," said Markez Jordan (12). The club helps all students understand different cultures and how they mix, and Black History Month is an excellent example of that. "Students need to know about all the incredible things that people, all kinds of people, have done. It's about knowing where you've been so you can see where you're going," said Kent.

Cameron Fowler takes on D.C.

Jillian Russell
SOCIAL MEDIA
MANAGER

Only a scarce few ever get the chance to stand on the Senate floor- let alone a high schooler from Mississippi. However, Cameron Fowler made it happen. He will be leaving for D.C. in mid-January and starting his job as a page for the U.S. Senate.

A regular day for Cameron will consist of going to school from 6:15-9:45 a.m.; then he will leave and walk just three blocks to get to the capitol. For the rest of the day, he will work two shifts at the capitol, which are set to end at 10 p.m.; though, with all the current controversy surrounding the White House at the moment, it is more than likely that sessions will run way over time. Luckily enough, if the sessions go over 10 p.m., school is canceled for the next day. "Hopefully Senate will run over to 10:01 every day so I won't

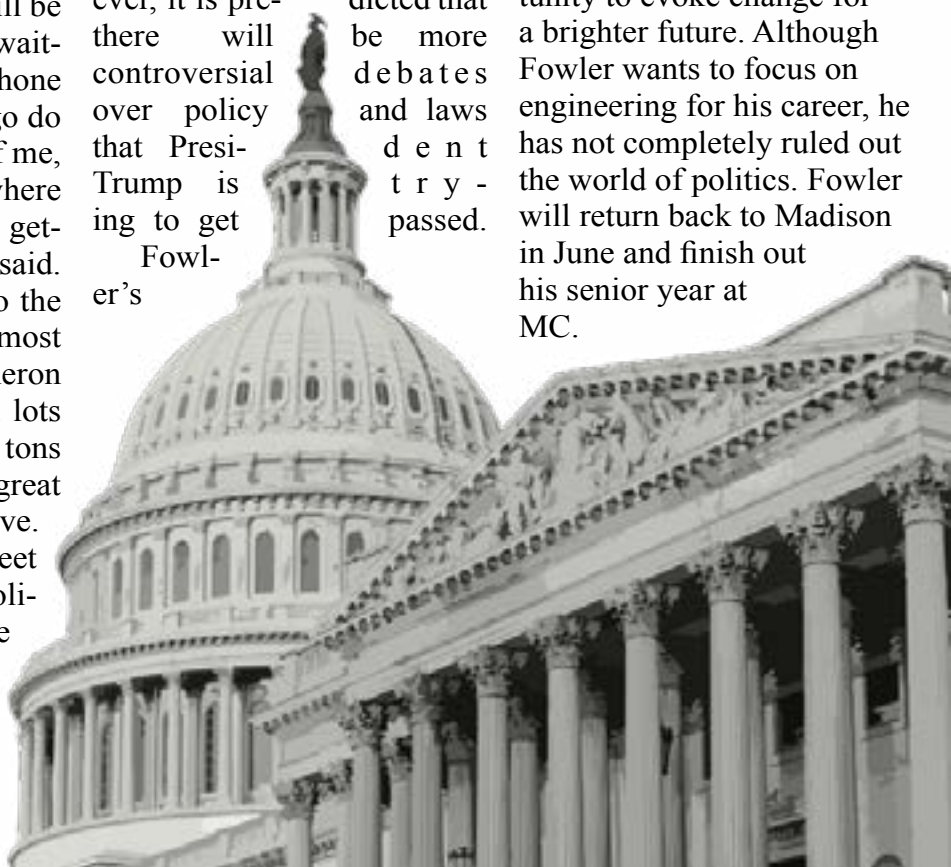
have to go to school," Cameron Fowler (11) added comically. In the political sphere, it is foreseen to be an eventful next few months for the fate of the United States, and Cameron will have a front row seat to everything that will be discussed. "I will be waiting in line and as the phone rings I will answer and go do whatever task is asked of me, which could be anywhere from making copies, getting water, etc." Fowler said.

With an open door to the world of the country's most influential leaders, Cameron will be able to establish lots of connections and gain tons of experience. "This is a great opportunity for me to have. I'm excited to maybe meet some of my favorite politicians and see the State of the Union address," Fowler explained. The State of the Union address is set for January 29 and will be Fowler's second day on the job.

The address is said to establish the tone for the rest of Congress's work for the term. The recent government shutdown will not affect Fowler's job; he will still get paid and Congress will go on. However, it is predicted that there will be more controversial debates over policy and laws that President Trump is trying to pass.

Fowler's

move to D.C. is the first of many for the up and coming generation. Young people in the U.S. are becoming more and more involved in politics. Teens like Fowler are being given the opportunity to evoke change for a brighter future. Although Fowler wants to focus on engineering for his career, he has not completely ruled out the world of politics. Fowler will return back to Madison in June and finish out his senior year at MC.



What's coming up next:

2/4-8:

Beauty and Beau

3/2:

Reveille Showchoir competition

3/11-15:

Spring Break

3/21-24:

Showchoir Nationals in Nashville, TN

3/25-26:

Volleyball Try-outs

3/28:

Variety Show

3/30:

Prom

Jungle Buddies: the helpers of the school

**Piper Patterson
STAFF WRITER**

Jungle Buddies is a club that was created four years ago to impact the lives of the special needs students. The club meets on Tuesday mornings for 30 minutes and spends time with the special needs students, including doing crafts and playing games with them.

Raegan Gourley (12) is the co-president of Jungle Buddies, alongside Maggie McKinnis (12). Gourley joined the club because she is planning on majoring in Special Education and believed it would be a great experience. As co-president, Gourley helps organize membership and volunteers. She also makes sure the club has a craft to do every week. Gourley said, "Jungle Buddies has affected me in infinite ways; the students brighten my day every time I see them." She thoroughly enjoys seeing the students in the hallway and being able to give them high fives. Gourley said, "They truly make some great friends to have." She believes one can get a lot out of spending 30 minutes with the special needs students.

Kate Male (12) is the Vice President of this club. Male joined the club because her mother was an assistant in one of the special needs classes. As she started meeting the special needs students, she decided to join the club. The club has helped her learn many social skills. Male said, "It's helped me get some of the students to do more things, but they have

also given me so much more happiness and joy." As Vice President, she makes sure things run smoothly during the meetings and answers any questions people have about the club. She also said, "It is such a filling experience. It helps you make new friends and leaves you feeling so happy as well." Both Gourley and Male agree joining Jungle Buddies will leave one with a very pleasant feeling and is worth the experience. If any student has questions about the club, or joining, they can ask Kellie Fox, Carrie Bruce, or any officer of the club.

In February, the special needs students sell paper flowers that students can send to friends, significant others, or even their crush. The flowers were started as a vocational lesson for the special needs students to learn how to run a business. The students associate different colors with different meanings. In previous years, yellow meant friendship, red meant love, pink meant secret admirer, orange meant "I want to date", blue meant "you're sweet", white meant "thinking of you", and purple meant "you're cute". The students begin making the flowers once they return from Christmas Break and continue making them until they deliver them on Valentine's day. The flowers are a good way to show affection for one another and to help put money towards new supplies and vocational supplies for special needs students. Students can purchase the flowers on February 8, 11, and 12 for 50 cents each.



**Vanessa Anguiano
STAFF WRITER**

Reveille introduces themselves with new competition show

**Audrey McDonald
STAFF WRITER**



Kaiyln Gardner (12), Shantavia Robinson (11), and Mary Grace Nelson (11) strike a pose on stage at the 2019 Reveille Reveal. Photo by Audrey McDonald *Uproar*

Madison Central's Reveille show choir is set to perform in a number of competitions this year and has worked countless hours on a brand-new show. Reveille is always growing and striving towards success, and this year's show title is "Hello My Name Is", which is composed of five songs all pertaining to the theme of names.

Members in Reveille work tirelessly throughout the year, starting at camp in July through the final showcase in the spring. "From planning the concept, selecting and arranging music, learning choreography and staging, along with choosing and ordering costumes and many rehearsals, it takes months to plan," said Leigha Nix, one of the directors of the choir. During competition season, students rehearse during the class period, as well as for several hours after school twice a week, in preparation for upcoming performances. "During rehearsals we start with going over music, then we stretch and run the show and stop to clean up parts along the way. Time usually goes by pretty fast," said Rob Embry (10).

Reveille also could not put on such a production without the help of the Stage Crew. On top of the pieces for the Reveille show, Crew

also builds props and works the lights and sound for the school musical. They also help out with the singers/dancers when needed and load the truck for show choir competitions. "I enjoy the environment and feeling like I'm doing something helpful. Everyone has to pitch in in order to get something done, most of it is all-hands-on-deck," said Abby DeVille (11). The Reveille band also makes MC's show choir unique, since they play all of the music for the show live, and it is made up of mostly students.

Reveille competes in three to four competitions a year, this year traveling to Jackson Prep, Jackson Academy, West Jones High School, and Show Choir Nationals in Nashville, TN. MC will also be hosting the very first Deep South Classic on March 1-2, which will also be the first competition ever held at the school. Raegan Gourley (12) is one of the senior dance captains this year and said "my favorite part of show choir would be our competition day traditions. Our pre-show huddle has to be one of the most hype things on the planet." The work leading up to competing is intense, but the product pays off in the end. "Being on Reveille is a rollercoaster

“Being on Reveille is a roller-coaster that mostly goes up.”

Chris Ogburn (11)

that mostly goes up. You have so much fun with the people, and you love the feeling of accomplishing something after working so hard on it," said Chris Ogburn (11).

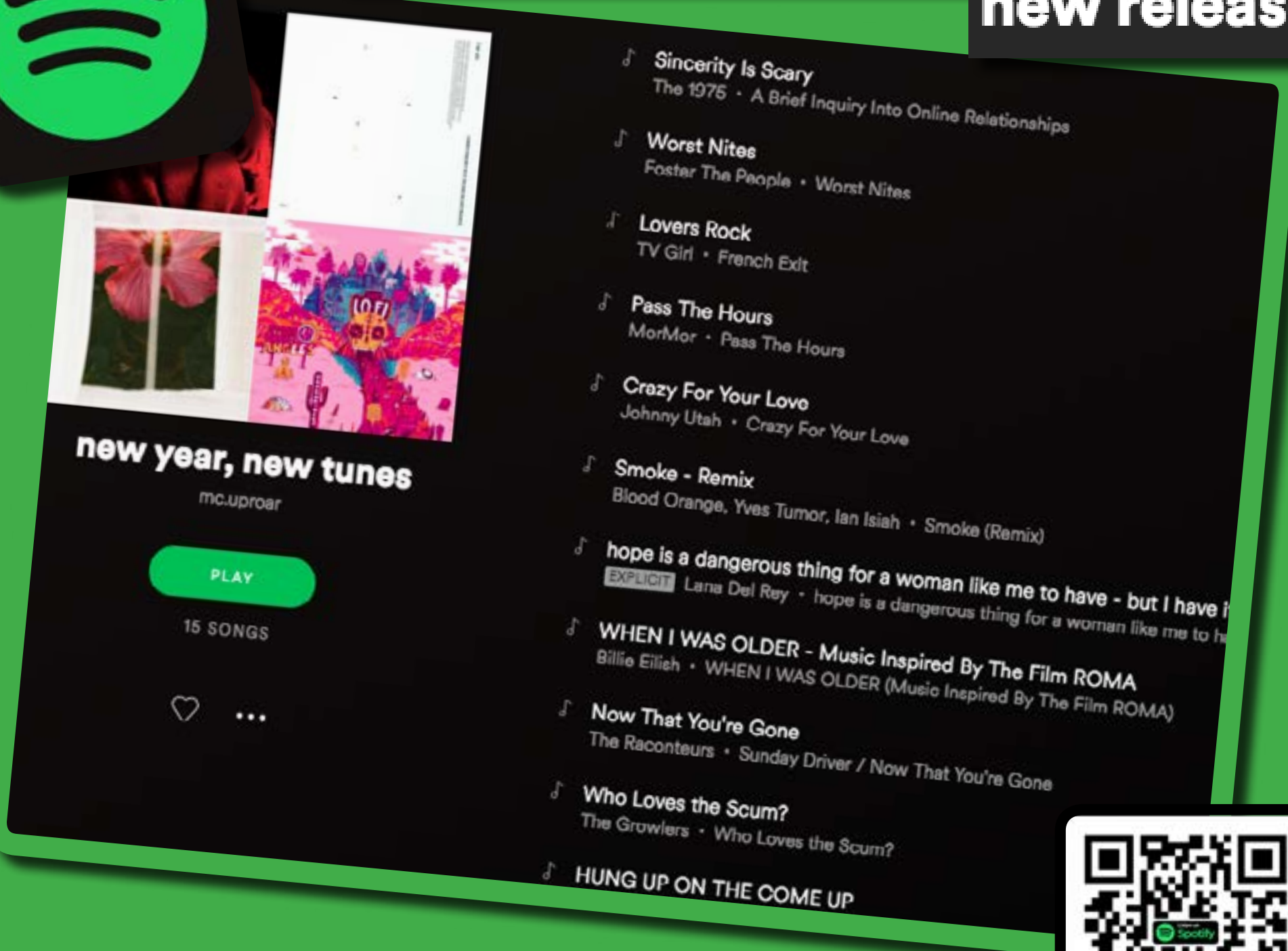
The show choir is not only a team, but it is a community and family working toward a common goal. "My favorite part about being in Reveille are the bonds you create with other members. We feel like one big family, and everyone is always looking out for each other. I'm very grateful to be apart and lead such a special group," said co-captain, Elexis Ollie (12).

Financial staff prepares for Beauty and Beau

Every year Madison Central hosts the Beauty and Beau pageant. "Beauty and Beau is a yearbook fundraiser highlighting students in grades 9-12. Girls wear long formal pageant dresses while boys wear tuxedos. Judges, from the Mississippi Association of Pageant Judges, come and judge students in each grade where beauties and beaux are recognized each night," Vicky Williams stated. Vicky Williams is the yearbook sponsor, and she is in charge of planning Beauty and Beau. According to Williams it takes a full year to plan, design, and organize this event. The beauties are determined based on the numbers of entries per class. Beauties are scored on poise, beauty, and dresses. This year Freshman Beauty and Beau will be on February 4, Sophomores will be on February 5, Juniors will be on February 7, and Seniors will be on February 8.



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Created by Jillian Russell and Elizabeth Barton



MARDI GRAS 2019

MC students celebrate Mardi Gras

Cameron Nester
STAFF WRITER

Mardi Gras refers to events of carnival celebrations that are mainly popular in New Orleans, Louisiana. The origins of Mardi Gras can be traced to medieval Europe, passing through Rome and Venice in the 17 and 18 centuries to the French House of the Bourbons. Mardi Gras will be celebrated on March 5 this year, but parades in New Orleans will be going on from January 6 to March 5. New Orleans and some other cities in Louisiana take this holiday very seriously, as some schools get this holiday off. Many people celebrate this holiday in a lot of ways. Some celebrate it by going to New Orleans and seeing the many parades they do for Mardi Gras, while others just celebrate by the very popular tradition of buying a king cake.







Gras parades,” said Collins. New Orleans is so popular for their Mardi Gras festivities that people come out from all over the country just to see how amazing they really are. Arthur Dampier (10) and his family celebrates by buying a king cake. “My family and I always buy a king cake for Mardi Gras, and it is always very competitive to see who gets the baby,” said Dampier. The king cake has been an ongoing tradition for people to buy or bake. Mackenzie Rainey (12) said, “A tradition that will never die in my family is getting a king cake for Mardi Gras. Whoever gets the baby gets the most beads at the parades.”

As seen by the many traditions and festivities that go into Mardi Gras, it is a very enjoyable holiday, particularly in New Orleans. A lot of work goes into these parades each year, and they never disappoint. Although most people do not go to New Orleans for Mardi Gras, there are still other traditions that can make Mardi Gras feel special. Photo by Rachel Kaiser

Uproar.

Six Ways to Stay on Top of Your Assignments

Emily Rhea

-  If given any free time in class (even if it is just five minutes), use it to work on any homework assignments.
-  Do not wait until 10:30 to begin working on homework assignments. Instead try and get it done as soon as you get home.
-  If you have room in your schedule, consider taking a study hall. This allows for time to work on assignments while at school.
-  Do not go out with friends until all assignments are completed. This will give you motivation to get your work done.
-  If you do not have homework one night, use that time to get ahead in other classes.
-  Get a planner. Writing down your assignments and plans helps you mentally prepare for the week ahead, and therefore, do things more efficiently.

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Student Spotlight

Samantha Dunn
STAFF WRITER



Ian Garrett (11) poses as The Uproar's student spotlight. Photo by Samantha Dunn Uproar

In an attempt to shed light on the diversity of Madison Central, The Uproar has brought back one of its favorite traditions. Students are randomly selected and then asked questions to get to know them better. This month's student is junior Ian Garrett.

- Q: If you didn't have to sleep, what would you do with your spare time?**
A: Play video games.
- Q: What hobby would you get into if time and money weren't an issue?**
A: Horseback riding, Horses are cool.
- Q: What is a song that you have completely memorized?**
A: Baby by Justin Bieber; ironically.
- Q: What is something you are interested in that many people haven't heard of?**
A: Drill team.
- Q: Where is the furthest you've gone from home?**
A: New York, Chicago, and Arizona
- Q: What could you give a presentation on with no preparation?**
A: ROTC
- Q: What is something you would rate 10/10?**
A: ROTC
- Q: What are you most likely to be famous for?**
A: ROTC
- Q: If you could turn any activity into an Olympic sport, what would you choose and why?**
A: Videogames simply because it requires so much team effort in it, especially for some of them and some of the higher-level skill areas require so much brain power, concentration, focus, and training over all these years that it is equivalent to some of the more professional athletes. Even though it's not as athletic as other things, it still would be as mentally competitive as everything else.
- Q: What game, movie, or book universe would you most like to live**

Paying the price for education

Jordan Carter
BUSINESS MANAGER

It is a widely known fact that one of the biggest financial burdens one can take on is paying for college. From books to housing to classes, the expenses quickly add up, often leaving people scrambling to find a way to pay for everything. While some are blessed to have the funds to pay for everything out of pocket, most people rely on financial aid and scholarships. Financial aid can seem good at first, but over time the debt adds up, often leaving the person in a worse financial state than before. Scholarships and grants are often the preferred method of paying for college because they are given

receiving this scholarship would change your life is required to apply. The deadline to submit is May 31, 2019.

The Citizens Bank scholarship is a \$1000 award available for high school juniors and seniors. During the last week of June 2019, students bring in their report cards and for every "A" they are entered in a drawing to win the scholarship.

The NISS- Nissan Scholarship pays for full tuition, required fees, and book allowances and is awarded to a current high school senior. The winner must demonstrate leadership and financial need and must also write and sign an essay about how their future career will impact the automotive industry. Application and essay are due by March 1, 2019.



back. Here are a few scholarship opportunities coming up soon.

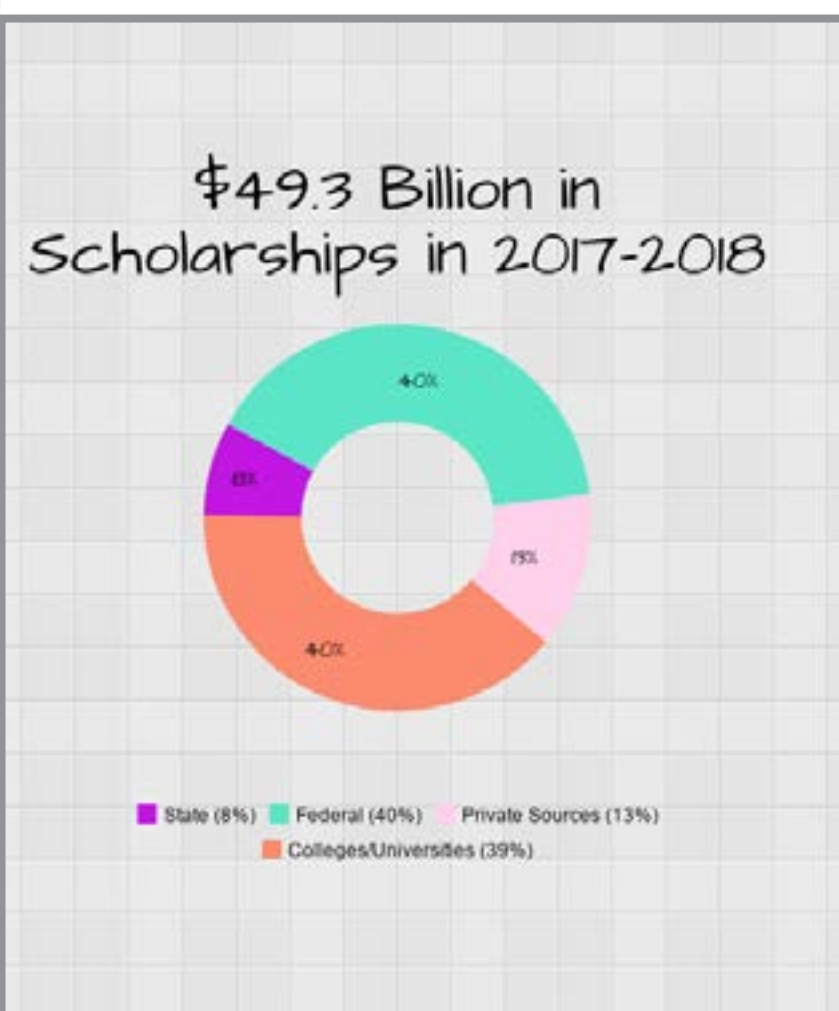
The American Society of Human Genetics Scholarship requires a well thought out essay about the question they provide. There is a first, second, and third place and also honorable mention. Scholarships range from \$100-\$1000, and the deadline to submit is March 8, 2019.

The Blake Rubin Foundation Scholarship is a \$1000 scholarship awarded to a high school senior. A 500-word essay about how

The Tommy Smith Scholarship is a \$1000 award open to high school seniors who have been accepted into a college or university. The only requirement is a 500-word essay on the question: "If you could start a business while in college or afterward what would it be and why?" The deadline is May 31, 2019.

Applying for and receiving scholarships could mean paying thousands of dollars difference throughout your college career. Remember that there is no harm in ap-

Above: A diploma comes at a cost. Scholarships are the best way to combat rising student debt. Below: Between the state and federal governments, private sources, and colleges/universities, a total of \$49.3 billion was given out in 2017 and 2018. Graphic by Jordan Carter via Piktochart.



Mememes sum up 2018

Phoebe Waters
STAFF WRITER



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Photo via imgflip.com



FEBRUARY
Photo via Katie King Uproar



MARCH
Photo via imgflip.com



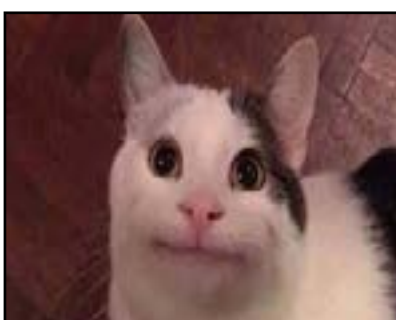
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