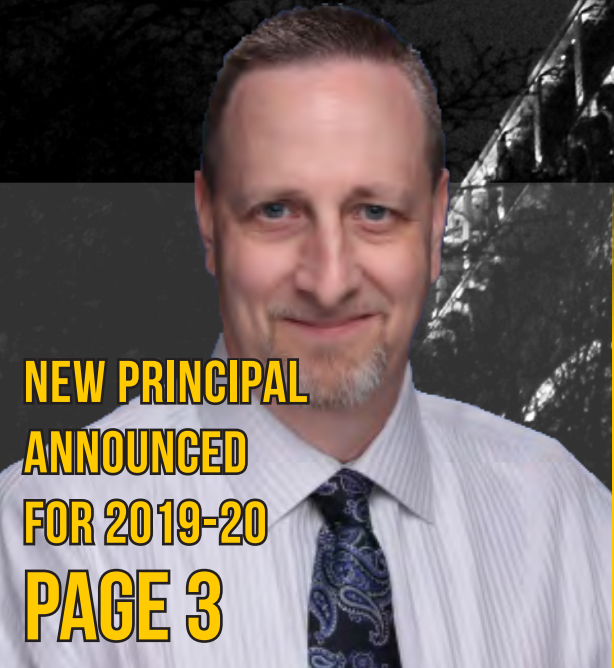


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# FRANCE

## STUDENTS VISIT FRANCE DURING SPRING BREAK

PAGES 8-9



**NEW PRINCIPAL  
ANNOUNCED  
FOR 2019-20  
PAGE 3**



**"CAPTAIN MARVEL"  
REVIEW  
PAGE 10**



**THREE ATHLETES  
BOUND FOR  
LOUISIANA  
PAGE 14**

# March Mammal Madness brings competitive atmosphere to OHS

By Nadeen Al-Ostaz

staff writer

March is here. That means the brackets come out, and the competition is on. March Madness is usually associated with basketball, but this year, animals have been thrown into the mix and now have their own spin on the competition.

Science teacher Nicole Roberson has sent the school into fun competition with March Mammal Madness. The bracket features animals competing against one another in a battle of survival of the fittest. The winner is picked by a team of experts at Arizona State University based off of diet, fighting habits, the ability to escape and many other survival characteristics about each animal. Twenty-eight people are participating, and the winner is expected to be announced April 3. Roberson heard about this bracket many years ago, and this year, she decided to introduce the bracket at OHS.

"I saw a post about it in the last few years and thought it would be really fun to do it with my Zoology classes a few years ago,"

Roberson said. "Then I wanted to do it with my AP Biology class last year, but I waited too late to get involved. This year, I was trying to stay on top of it, and they released the first bracket on March 1."

Each animal guessed correctly earns points for students participating in the bracket. Roberson is not sure what the winner will get yet. Junior Prowell Smith, who was in the lead during the first few rounds, decided to take part because he likes the original NCAA bracket that goes out every March. Roberson had her students put together stat cards for each animal with more information about the animal's diet and adaptations to better help students pick which animal they thought would win.

"I picked which animal I thought would survive in the wilderness longer than the other animal," Smith said. "I picked some wild cards and some upsets just because that is what I would do if I was filling out a basketball bracket."

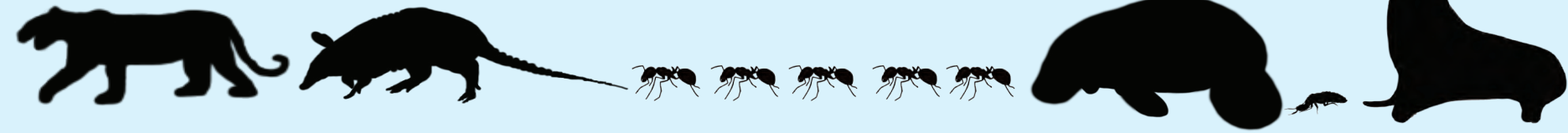
Senior Siena Cizdziel partnered up with Marawan Elgohry to make the team "Milk Duds" and is currently tied for first place with Coach Chase Goolsby. She first heard about March Mammal

Madness through Schoology. She read more about this competition through Wikipedia and thought it would be interesting and fun to take part in.

"I really like looking up the pictures of the animals. It was fun to see different types of animals that I've never seen before," Cizdziel said. "Also, I really like the fact that you don't know what's going to happen, and once you do find out what's going to happen, you're like 'Cool,' or 'Dang, I chose the wrong one.'"

Roberson is excited about the popularity of March Mammal Madness because it's "fun" and brings more "enjoyment to science." According to Roberson, she has had many students she has never even taught before emailing her and asking her opinion on which animal she thinks will win.

"We've had several little debate topics about like, 'No, I think this one's going to win,' 'No, this one's going to win,' and it's just been really fun," Roberson said. "They've really inspired themselves, so I hope I can keep carrying it on."



# Parade of Beauties helps students come out of their shells

By Wesley Warrington

staff writer

The annual OHS "Parade of Beauties," was held on Saturday, March 23 at 7 pm. All students are welcome to participate in this event in order to raise money for the OHS band department.

"The money that is raised in this pageant goes towards the band department," junior Mary Paxton Heiskell said. "It helps them to cover their expenses throughout the year and to fund some of their events."

According to junior Ann Michael Armstrong, the pageant helps girls, including herself, to step out of their comfort zones and gain confidence while also getting to meet new people and make new friends.

"The pageant is time I can spend having fun with my friends doing something new," Armstrong said. "It really helps me to step outside of my comfort zone."

According to Heiskell, this year the number of contestants was significantly lower compared to other years because it was less advertised, which led to many people not knowing about the event.

"Yes, it's a lot smaller than it has been in past years," Heiskell said. "My freshman year we had about 30 girls competing, and last year we had 17 girls, but this year we only had 11."

According to Heiskell, the contestants are judged by a group of three randomly picked judges.

"We are judged on a lot of different things," Heiskell said. "We are allowed to see exactly what we are judged on, but I think it's walking, dress, hair and makeup. Our bios are really important too."

According to junior Mary Allyn Eastland, they have an opening number, and then they walk in their dresses.

"Normally we have two rounds where we walk, and then the top 10

walks, but since the numbers are so small this year, we are going to do our opening number and then each only walk once," Eastland said.

Heiskell entered the pageant to get dressed up and be with friends.

"I wanted to do the pageant because I love to get dressed up sometimes and just have fun," Heiskell said. "And I love Jessica Mathias, our sponsor. She is the absolute best and makes it so much fun to compete."

According to Eastland, there are awards other than being a beauty or the overall winner.

"The final awards are the Glass Slipper and Miss Congeniality awards," Heiskell said.

Heiskell wants to encourage all girls interested to enter it next year.

"I have done the school beauty review since I was in seventh grade, and I plan to do it again next year," Heiskell said. "I love it so much, and everyone that competes is always so sweet. It makes me want to do it

again and again. Jessica Mathias does an amazing job every year, and I think that is also why a lot of girls come back because it is fun, and it's just a really good experience."



Junior Mary Allyn Eastland is named "OHS Most Beautiful," out of the 11 contestants who took part. Eastland was crowned by last year's winner, alumna Mary Victoria Sullivan.

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# Gray resigns as OHS principal, Hamilton to take over position

**By Molly Archer**  
editor-in-chief

The Oxford School District has been on the search to fill the position of head principal at OHS after Chandler Gray announced his resignation. Gray will continue working with the school until the end of the 2018-2019 school year, but a new principal will take over for 2019-2020.

"This is a very demanding job, and it is demanding both as a person and it's demanding as a professional," Gray said. "In this case, it comes down to when I look at my job I did here and the job I want to do in the future. I'm very appreciative for the opportunity to be here [OHS]. I'm thankful for Mr. Harvey and Mr. Roberson and all of the teachers and students here."

At the regular called board meeting on March 25, the school board made the announcement that Noah Hamilton will become Head Principal of OHS beginning July 1 of this summer. Hamilton previously worked as the principal of Resurrection Catholic School in Pascagoula, Miss. as well as Potts Camp High School in Potts Camp, Miss.

"The OHS principal search committee recommended Mr. Hamilton after the position was posted and interviews conducted," Superintendent Brian Harvey said. "Although Mr. Hamilton has not been a principal of a large public school before, he has served as the principal of both a public school and parochial school. His commitment to build collaborative relationships and engage students were evident during his interview."

Gray is hopeful that he will have more time to spend with his two children, Maddie and Parker, now that he has decided to resign.

According to Gray, being a full-time parent and principal was difficult to balance, which is what lead him to his decision to find another career path.

"When I look at moving forward in my life, I only have so many years with my kids and I'm excited to have that time with them that I would not be able to have if I stayed with this job," Gray said. "There is no big secret, no crazy reason that I resigned. A lot of times when things come out, people rush to find a reason. I'm aware there are a lot of rumors about the reason, and there's a reason they're called rumors and not facts."

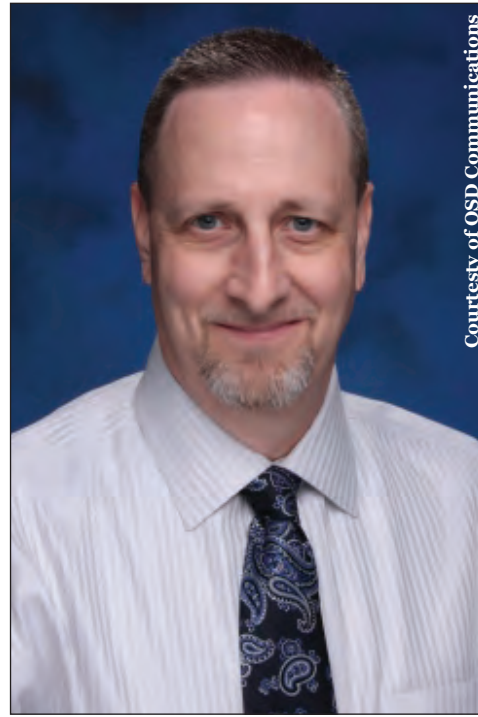
According to Hamilton, there are multiple reasons he applied at OHS. He is originally from Northeast Mississippi, graduated from Ole Miss and has family living in Oxford making the transition easier.

"I think what really made me apply was the opportunity to work for Mr. Harvey and be a part of something unique. Mr. Harvey has worked very hard in his time as the superintendent to make OHS a terrific place for students to grow and learn academics and life," Hamilton said. "He has put together a faculty/staff that, bar none, are the best at what they do. And I applied because I believe that I can successfully contribute to the continued growth of Oxford High."

Hamilton described the position at OHS as his "dream job," and is excited for the opportunity to be a part of the Charger Nation.

"I am extremely honored that Mr. Harvey and his selection committee believe that I am the right person for OHS," Hamilton said. "My vision is to continue to lead and guide Oxford High to be the best. I am tasked with carrying out the vision of the district, Portrait of a Graduate, and that will be paramount of what I hope to accomplish. Honestly, I want to ensure that every student has a voice at OHS. I want to guarantee that every student has the opportunity to be successful, and I want to be sure that the faculty and staff are pushed to even greater heights."

Though Gray is leaving next year, he still would like to offer his help and support in any way he can to the



Courtesy of OSD Communications

**“ I WANT TO ENSURE THAT EVERY STUDENT HAS A VOICE AT OHS. I WANT TO GUARANTEE THAT EVERY STUDENT HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE SUCCESSFUL, AND I WANT TO BE SURE THAT THE FACULTY AND STAFF ARE PUSHED TO EVEN GREATER HEIGHTS. ”**

**“ I WANT THE NEXT PERSON TO BE THE BEST PRINCIPAL TO EVER BE AT OXFORD HIGH SCHOOL. I WANT THEM TO BE SUCCESSFUL AND DO A GREAT JOB BECAUSE I TRULY BELIEVE THAT'S WHAT THIS SCHOOL AND ITS TEACHERS DESERVE. ”**



Courtesy of OSD Communications

district and is eager to see what Hamilton will accomplish during his time at OHS.

"I'm excited to see the direction OHS moves under Mr. Hamilton," Gray said. "I know under him, OHS will continue to be on the forefront of education in Mississippi and provide an exceptional educational experience for its students."

OHS will be the largest school Hamilton has worked at, but he is

ready for the challenge.

"Leading is about organization skills and prioritizing," Hamilton said. "It does not matter the size of the organization. What does matter is how the leader involves and empowers those working with him to accomplish the goals and vision that has been set. The size of Oxford High just means that I will have to empower more people to help me carry out the vision."

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Molly Archer • theCharger

German teacher Stephanie Beam has a discussion with the students in her German II class. Sophomore Downing Koestler and sophomore Coker Scott took the German exam with hopes of doing well.

## German students take national exam

By Eli Solinger

staff writer

OHS German students take a nation-wide exam for a chance to be awarded an all expenses paid trip to Germany over the summer. The difficulty of the exam is based on what level of German you are in.

"Everyone on each level of German took a different test for whatever level they were on. We took it in class about a month ago," sophomore German II student Alex Mobley said.

Mobley made a 93 on the exam, and many students did well on the exam, but other did not. He has applied for the award to go to Germany over the summer.

"I was able to do so well because we had taken practice tests in German class many weeks before so I felt prepared enough that I did not feel the need to study outside of school, as we did in class," Mobley said.

According to sophomore Downing Koestler, who is also a student in German II, German class is really enjoyable and the majority of the students really enjoy learning from the teacher, Stephanie Beam.

"I enjoy German a lot because it's always interesting to learn a different language and a different culture. It's also fun being in German with a lot of my friends that I can study with. It is always great to have other kids to learn with, in case someone needs help," Koestler said.

According to Beam, who teaches all of the German classes at OHS, the German exam is for schools to see how good their German program is based on how the nation does and how you rank as a school.

"Over 20,000 students nationwide take the NGE every year. They take the exam to compare themselves to other students around the country and to compete for prizes, including the Study Trip Award. 20 students will receive medals, and some of them will get books and other prizes, for being above the 70th percentile, and six students placed above the 90th percentile, which is the score needed to apply for the Study Trip Award," Beam said.

According to sophomore Coker Scott, the test was 50 reading and 50 listening questions. The test was given in class so

students had the time of the class period. The test was enough time to complete and have time to spare.

"I feel we had enough time on the exam to complete it but I was very worried when taking it. I did not want to make a bad grade but I felt I was ready for it," Scott said.

Both Mobley and junior Molly Samonds applied for the Study Trip Award, but only one person from Mississippi will receive the award. According to Beam, Samonds is the only one still left in the running.

"Students will get to go to Germany for almost four weeks in the summer, all expenses paid, stay with a German family, go to a German school, and travel to different German cities with other American students," Beam said.

According to Scott, although Beam will not be teaching German at OHS next year, her students plan on continuing their education in the German language and culture.

"Many kids will still be in German classes, even if Ms. Beam is not teaching it. She has taught us to like learning a new language and its culture."

## ACT now offered to sophomores

By Anna Barrett

associate editor

OHS administration decided to give the sophomore class the opportunity to take the ACT, which is an entrance exam used by most colleges and universities to make admission decisions. In past years, the administration has only offered the test to the junior class.

"I think it was a way to give them a score as early as possible, kind of a starting point, to get them thinking about what score they would want at an early age," ACT Prep teacher Anna Freeman said.

According to Freeman, this gives students the opportunity to know what they can score, and come up with an achievable goal to work towards.

"I think all sophomores should take it at least once, so a lot of sophomores aren't able to afford it so by giving every sophomore the opportunity to take it, I think it is important. We used to give them the pre-ACT, which costs a lot of money, but isn't an actual ACT score, so it just makes more sense to go ahead and give them a real ACT that counts to give them the whole experience of the ACT," Freeman said. "It gives them the opportunity to have a starting point at an early enough age where they can improve on their score; they have lots of time to improve on their score."

According to sophomore Hugh Callicutt, who will be taking the test for the first time when the school gives it on April 2nd, he is given the chance to just see what he can do without having any previous knowledge about the test.

"I have never taken a prep class," Callicutt said. "I'm going into this with little knowledge about what content is actually on the test, just to see where my starting point is. After this test, I plan on taking a prep course and studying to improve the score that I receive."

Freeman believes that the earlier the student's take the test, the better the scores seem to be. According to her, she has seen studies where the scores get higher with each test taken.

"I do believe that it does benefit kids to take the ACT earlier. It is proven the more time kids take it, the higher their scores are, so my recommendation is to take it once in 9th grade and twice in 10th, but at least once in 10th grade will help them achieve the score they want," Freeman said. "There aren't really any disadvantages, other than if you're going to a competitive college, you probably wouldn't

want your first score going to that college, but you can always opt out of sending your scores. Taking additional ACT's, there is always advantages. You get to take it 12 times, so you get a free-be in 10th grade, just to see where you are at, there are no disadvantages to that."

According to sophomore Courtney Woodard, she expects her score to increase because she now knows what to expect on the test, and can time herself better.

"I have taken the ACT once before, and I feel that since the school is giving the ACT to all sophomores it is going to do a great deal of improvement for those students taking it," Woodard said. I believe that my score will improve because of the much more familiar and also just because I know what to expect this time around."

Courtney Woodard  
sophomore

by the scores they receive. She believes everyone has the opportunity to improve on their scores with more practice.

"You can't expect to score your highest score you can get the first time you take it; its the starting point. It may be discouragement a little to the students. As long as they know and understand that it will not be their highest score, because it is a starting point, I don't even see that as an issue," Freeman said. "Usually when kids get scores back, that inspires them to improve or at least begin to work towards improvement."

Freeman believes that it is wise for students taking the test for the first time to find an old test online and look through in order to get an idea of what the test will look like.

"If you have never taken it before, you need to at least pull up an old ACT online and look through it. You need to understand the length of the day, how to time yourself a little bit. I wouldn't go to extremes if its the first time taking it, but you don't want to walk in blind. There is no reason to when there are all these resources out there. So, look at an old ACT, look at a few pointers from an ACT prep source online, and go in at least knowing what you are taking. Have an idea of which tests there are, how long you get and how many questions is probably ideal," Freeman said.

# whose fault is it anyways?

a look at the media's impact on society, politics, morality

**KLARIA HOLMES**

**OPINIONS EDITOR**

Whose fault is it?

It's important to note that the aforementioned "it" refers to this current state of instantaneous political and social uproar in America.

Whose fault is it? Minorities? White people? The government?

It seems as though nowadays, everyone just wants to find someone to point the finger at. And nine times out of ten, that finger gets pointed at journalists.

President Donald Trump has consistently bashed those that cross him, but no other entity so much as the American mass media; he has even gone as far as calling mass media the 'real enemy of the people.' And he's not the only one.

There have been several targeted attacks on journalists and news outlets big and small, ranging from bombs being sent to publications, and to the extreme of journalists being shot while in the middle of working.

Now, there are very few other occupations where one is subjected to the same treatment of journalists, nor are there so many where someone is so vulnerable.

So, who really is to blame? According to the past couple years, the media is.

Journalism, and good journalism at that, is hard to do sometimes, which is what makes the argument that the media is to blame a tricky, double-edged sword.

On one hand, the argument for holding the media a responsible entity is logical: certain media outlets do struggle to cover the news properly, an increase in attention could provoke more violence, and the search to find unbiased, factual news has become increasingly more difficult as the years go by.

But, all of those arguments can be debunked.

When did we start blaming the larger bunch for the actions of a few bad apples? Why should mass media and those affiliated with it be stoned, metaphorically or literally, for the actions of a few journalists and outlets? The media isn't at fault for how Americans perceive the news they give them,

but there is a correct and ethical way to cover it, and that's the journalists' responsibility. If the journalist or news outlet isn't reporting ethically, it's their own fault.

This ideology of blaming the entire group for the actions of a few is ineffective and outdated

Another important factor for the general public to realize is that while studies have shown that an increase in reporting violence such as mass shootings or other terrorists attacks could lead to an increase in such events, we must address the bigger problem that is the root of said events, and that's mental health.

Mass media has become America's scapegoat, an undeserved, unfair position for a group of individuals who, for the most part, have the best intent and want to inform.

As far as the terrorism and horrific events go, the mass media cannot and shouldn't be blamed for the increase in such events. Rather, we should blame the larger issues at hand. Global and national mental health is slowly declining and has been for years, but so has the budget for helping those dealing with mental instability.

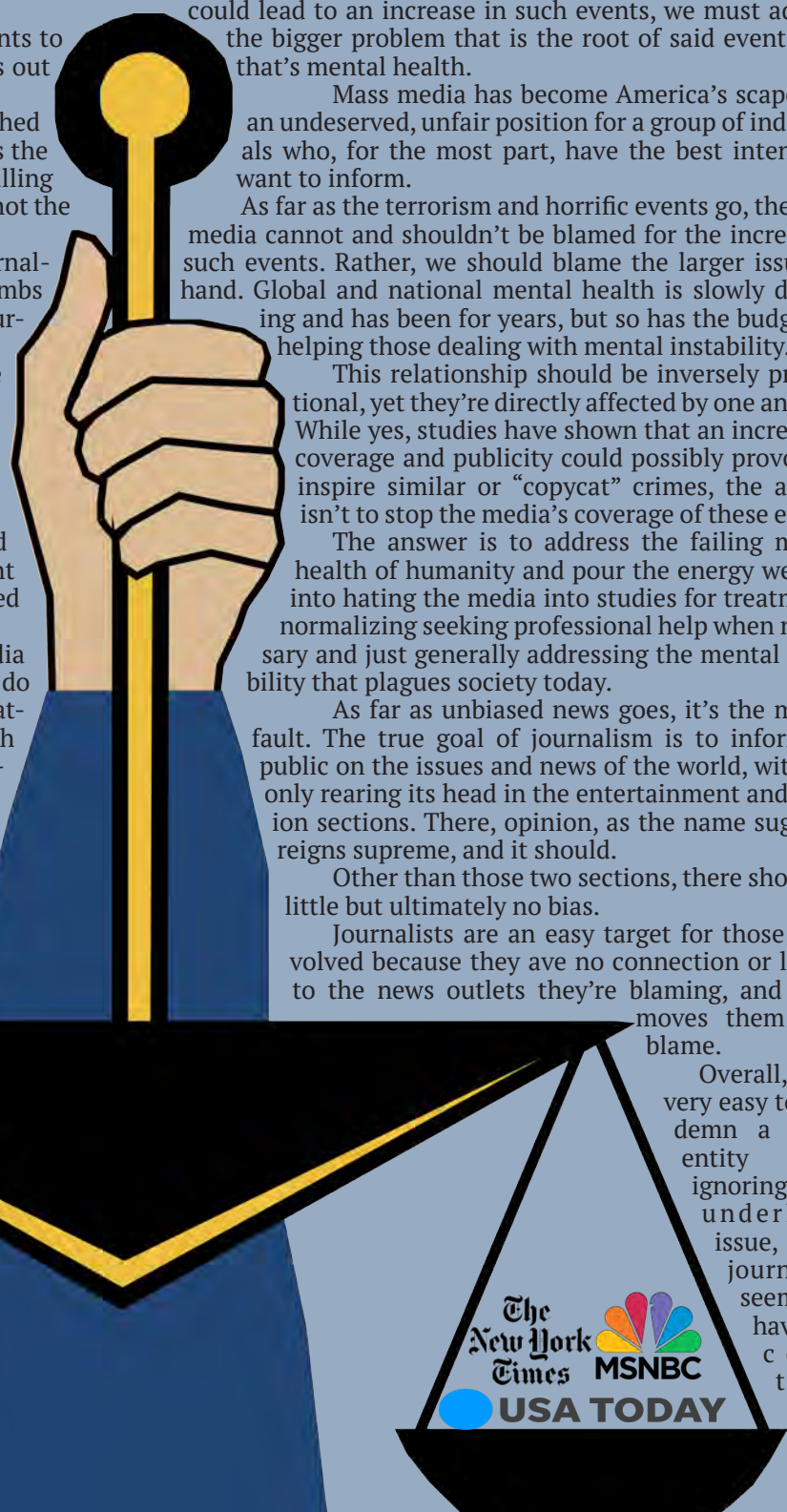
This relationship should be inversely proportional, yet they're directly affected by one another. While yes, studies have shown that an increase in coverage and publicity could possibly provoke or inspire similar or "copycat" crimes, the answer isn't to stop the media's coverage of these events. The answer is to address the failing mental health of humanity and pour the energy we have into hating the media into studies for treatments, normalizing seeking professional help when necessary and just generally addressing the mental instability that plagues society today.

As far as unbiased news goes, it's the medias fault. The true goal of journalism is to inform the public on the issues and news of the world, with bias only rearing its head in the entertainment and opinion sections. There, opinion, as the name suggests, reigns supreme, and it should.

Other than those two sections, there should be little but ultimately no bias.

Journalists are an easy target for those uninformed because they ave no connection or loyalty to the news outlets they're blaming, and it removes them from blame.

Overall, it's very easy to condemn a larger entity while ignoring the underlying issue, and journalism seems to have become the unnecessary target.



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# COLLEGE ATHLETES DESERVE FAIR TREATMENT, COMPENSATION

By Walker Bailey

sports writer

College sports have been a popular form of entertainment for a long time, and the amount of money that goes into making them happen is astronomical. The idea of paying college athletes has been presented time and time again, but no action has ever been taken.

The NCAA claims that student-athletes are students first, but the reality is that student-athletes have become employees.

While in college, athletics becomes a full-time job for athletes that are considered to be "amateurs" or "student-athletes." According to Forbes, the average division 1 college football player devotes 43.3 hours per week to their sport, which is three hours more than the average 40 hour work week in America.

The NCAA claims that being a student comes first for these kids, but their scheduling of events suggests the contrary. College basketball teams that advance to the NCAA Tournament are required to miss classes for nationally televised games, which generates a large amount of revenue for the NCAA.

According to USA Today, CBS and Turner Sports paid \$8.8 billion to extend broadcasting of the NCAA Tournament through 2032. According to Forbes, at a minimum players are required to miss six days of class for the tournament, and if your team makes a run, players could potentially miss a quarter of their classes for the spring semester. For athletes that are supposedly students first, that is a ridiculous amount of class to miss for someone who is a student first.

The NCAA also makes a ludicrous amount of money in the marketing department. Players are members of the labor force, but they also are inte-

grative pieces of school's marketing departments. According to USA Today, the average resale ticket price for the Duke versus North Carolina game at Cameron Indoor stadium was \$4,656. Duke's star tandem of Zion Williamson and RJ Barrett were most likely the reason for the driven up ticket prices, but they saw none of the money coming in to the schools.

Coaches play a large role in team success, but they also have ridiculously large salaries. According to USA Today, Alabama head football coach Nick Saban earned \$11.125 million dollars this past season, and his assistants will have a combined salary of over \$7.5 million for the 2019 football season.

Coaches are important, but they don't win games. If coaches are making ludicrous salaries like this, then the athletes deserve to make a portion of that money for actually playing the game.

The NCAA shouldn't go to a complete free market approach, but they should investigate putting in a salary cap which would combine ideas from both the free market approach and the current stance of the NCAA.

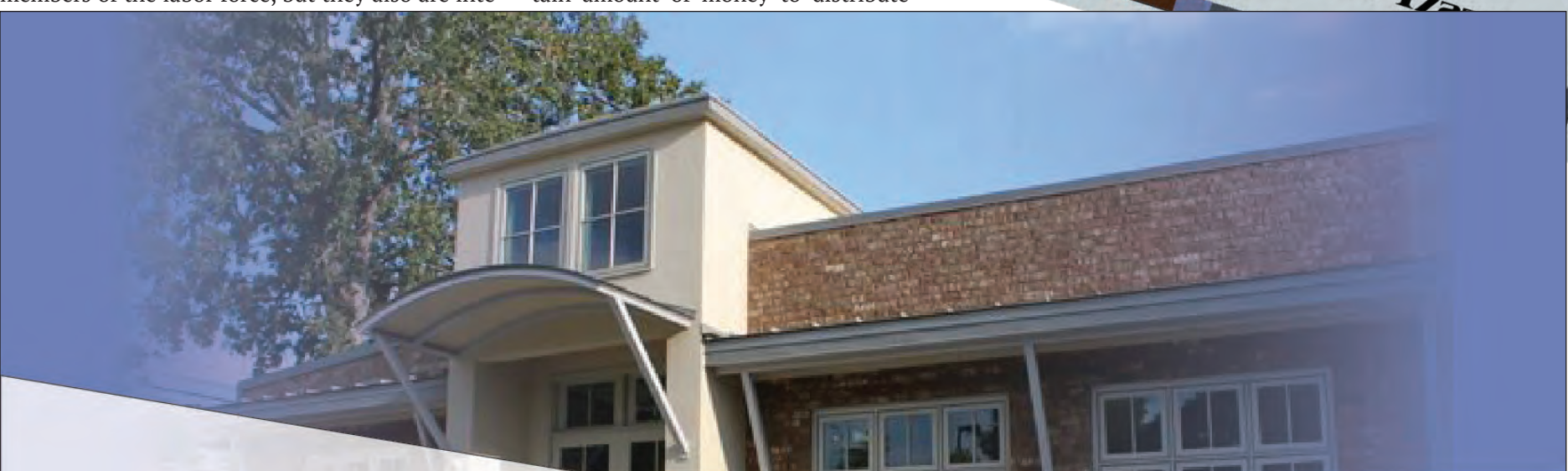
The idea of a salary cap would allot each school's major athletic programs a certain amount of money to distribute

to players each year. The cap would be set by the NCAA during each sport's offseason, with an assigned minimum salary that would guarantee that all players see equal treatment.

The rest of the cap could be used on the recruiting trail in respective sports. There would be no contracts, so there would be nothing binding players to their universities and preventing them from turning pro.

Many pro leagues, such as the NFL, MLB, NBA, NHL and MLS have put in salary caps and have found success with it.

The NCAA has been a corrupt and unfair organization for a long time, and it's time to fix a broken system and pay the labor force that makes these people billions of dollars. If the NCAA doesn't adjust sooner rather than later, it could be the end of college sports as we know it.



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# Jayla Price wins North Mississippi Youth of the Year

By Heath Stevens  
staff writer

Junior Jayla Price has recently been named Youth of the Year for the North Mississippi region and third place overall for Youth of the Year for the entire state at the awards ceremony in Jackson, Mississippi.

Director of the L.O.U. Barksdale Clubhouse, Kenorus Wilson, while knowing Price, has taught many lessons. One lesson being that though Price may not have placed first, when she made it to the district awards, she had already won in his mind.

"She was a bit discouraged her first time when she wasn't chosen [for the state], but she just kept going back and trying again. Even to make it to district contest, you've already won. Before you even leave the building you've already won," Wilson said. "Even when she made it to state, she may have wanted to win there, but she'd already won."

According to Wilson, even with her success, Price has always been able to remain extremely humble to the others she competes against.

"I watched how she was excited when she won the award, but she turned around and encouraged the others that felt the same way she did when she previously lost," Wilson said.

One of the biggest things Price has done at the club was helping start the nation's first Excel Club, a club to advocate against child abuse.

"She has become a very vital and important leader. Not only amongst her peers but also in the

community. She served as the president of our Excel Club, which was the first Boys and Girls Club Excel Club in the nation," Wilson said. "Excel is a branch of the Oxford Exchange Club, which works towards child abuse prevention."

To win the Youth of the Year award, an applicant needs to show they participate in both the club and throughout their community. One of the ways Price participates in the community is through the OHS community service club, Key Club.

"The Key Club is a student-led, student-organized volunteer group," Key Club advisor Tuesday Arizaga said. "They can choose what they want to do around the community to help out."

According to Price, the club has impacted her greatly through the people she has met as well as the lessons and experiences she has received since joining.

"The Boys and Girls Club is important because it has helped me grow as a person. It helped me to be the person that I am today. It has helped me learn how to speak better and just how to live life and get to know people better," Price said. "It has made me see better things, do better things, learn better things and to just meet new people. If I didn't go to the Boys and Girls Club, I would still be a shy child just sitting on the couch."

When Price first joined the Boys and Girls Club five years ago, she joined just because she was bored and wanted to meet new people.

"I never thought I would win any awards for go-

ing to the Boys and Girls Club because when I first started going, I was really shy," Price said. "I really didn't have any friends that were going; then, I made some friends."



Junior **Jayla Price** is overjoyed over her name being announced as the North Mississippi Youth of the Year. She was announced as the Youth of the Year in Jackson, Miss.

Courtesy of Jayla Price

# IPPF Team reaches top 16 in international debate writing

By Eve Gershon  
features editor

Three hundred schools entered, hailing from all over the globe. Sixteen teams remain. And one of those teams is right here at OHS.

Over the past year, seniors Elias Addy and Gillian Meyers and juniors Jupiter O'Donnell and Zuzu Al-Sherri have competed in the International Public Policy Forum (IPPF), a competition in which students exchange letters with other schools and debate a topic, which this year is "U.S. abdication of international leadership creates dangerous global instability."

"That means that the U.S. stepping down as a world leader would create instability," O'Donnell said. "So you have to argue whether it would or would not."

The group had to compete in many different rounds before getting to the point they are at today.

"We write an essay negating [the

topic], and then somebody else from another school writes an essay affirming it," Al-Sherri said. "We send each other these essays and then refute them. We go back and forth, and eventually we have a panel of three judges, and they decide which essays and which arguments ultimately win. After that, we move on, and it's kind of an elimination-like competition, so they start off with people from all over the world, and they narrow it down to 64 people and then 32, and now it's 16."

O'Donnell believes that competitions like these are beneficial for students and can teach them a lot about topics they might not have looked into otherwise.

"It's important to talk about these kinds of things in an educated way," O'Donnell said. "It's a topic that people don't think about a whole lot because it's very broad, but it's important to talk about, I think, and to have facts on."

Al-Sherri learned a lot about the influence of U.S. power and what would happen if the U.S. were to leave their position of power in the world.

"Researching the topic for IPPF has definitely expanded my knowledge on global issues and what's going on," Al-Sherri said. "I had a lot of misinterpretations about different countries' roles and how it would be affected if they were to stop providing aid in some areas or stop having an influence over some areas, but now those have been cleared up for me because of this topic."

Meyers also felt she learned a lot about international relationships.

"I learned a lot about what role the U.S. plays in international organizations like the IMF and the UN," Meyers said. "I wasn't aware of the extent of that role before now. I always thought that U.S. influence pales in comparison to U.S. sanctions. I figured that that would create a more concrete result, but I think after doing the research that I've done for IPPF, I realized that U.S. soft power is also really important too."



Addy, who also competed in IPPF last year, says that he has learned a lot from both of his years of participating.

"It's definitely helped teamwork skills, group work skills for sure 'cause it's very difficult to

write an essay with a group of people," Addy said. "It's just not something that people would normally do, and it requires really good communication, good collaboration between people that you normally wouldn't have."

Meyers agrees that she has gotten a lot out of the experience and is pleased with how far the team has made it.

"It's been really crazy, not just because we've left it to the last minute like every single time, but also because the team that we just defeated; one of the girls on that team is already committed to Harvard," Meyers said. "It's just crazy to think that my team from Oxford, Mississippi, is competing and beating teams who are going to Harvard."






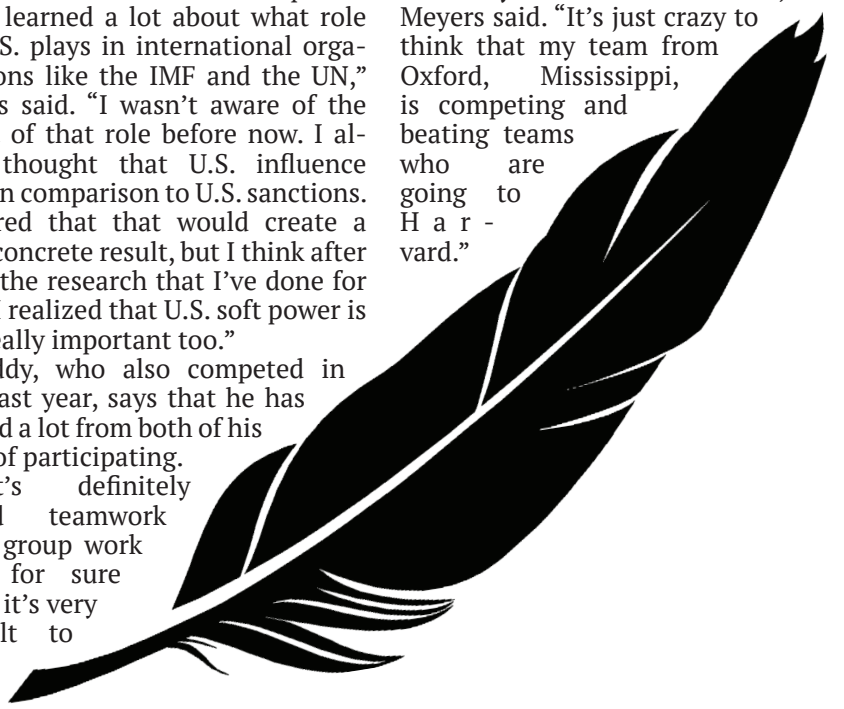
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# FRANCE

## OHS French students travel to France on school trip

By Karina Patel  
staff writer

On March 7–17, French teacher Chelsea Shaffer and 12 OHS students traveled to multiple cities and landmarks in France, including Paris, Rouen and the American Cemetery, as a part of a school trip.

Shaffer began the process of organizing this trip over a year ago, but this was an idea that she had had in her mind for a while.

“Even before I started working here, I wanted to take a group of students to France. I studied abroad in college, and it was life-changing for me,” Shaffer said. “I think traveling to other places and interacting with people from different cultures and kind of seeing a way of life that is different from your day-to-day routine is extremely beneficial and powerful in showing that there are other options, and there are other ways and that people are similar everywhere.”

When Shaffer proposed the trip to her students, any student that was taking French was allowed to enroll. However, it turned out that the students interested in the trip were her upper level French students, which Shaffer thinks was for the best.

“[After] our experiences there, I do think that the students need a little more background knowledge in the language before they go,” Shaffer said. “We did an exchange with another high school and other students, so they had to go to school in French, and they had to interact with French families, so I think just being in that third or fourth year gives more than a strong ability to communicate.”

Shaffer taught at a high school in France before coming to OHS. She reached out to that school and proposed the idea of pen pals for the students, and the French school sent a list of students that wanted to participate.

“The American students had to record a video in French introducing themselves and post it onto a Google Drive, and the French students had to record a video in English,” Shaffer said. “After that point, they were able to get in touch through social media. It depended on the person, but they had the ability to be in regular communication up until we went.”

The students that went on the trip also

had the opportunity to do a homestay with their pen pal if they chose too. According to junior Amya Franklin, this experience was very beneficial.

“It was really amazing to experience a family that speaks another language and is a part of another culture,” Franklin said. “Her family was really sweet and so amazing, and they were all really supportive and welcoming.”

As a part of the trip, OHS students spent the day with their pen pals, which included attending a French high school. According to junior Sophie Quinn, the French school was very different than OHS.

“In the high school, they don’t have computers, and they aren’t allowed to have phones out in classrooms, which I liked,” Quinn said. “Also, students there bring their own scissors and glue and rulers and other school supplies. They don’t have French flags in every classroom, and they don’t have a pledge.”

Shaffer believes that her students handled the communication aspect of the trip amazingly and that this trip really helped her students use the skills they have learned.

“The beginning was a little hesitant, timid, people trying things out,” Shaffer said. “But by the end of it, I think everyone was pretty confident, especially after staying with our pen pals and getting to spend time with them.”

Franklin was surprised to see how calm and understanding French people were with them as they spoke.

“The people in Rouen had like southern hospitality,” Franklin said. “They were very kind and very understanding, and whenever they would hear this broken French with this accent, they thought it was very cute.”

Along with adjusting for the language barrier, the students noticed that the importance of food and meals in France is far different from that in America.

“Part of the meal is to take your time and talk with people and socialize and enjoy your food. I think every night that we went out to dinner we spent at least two hours,” Shaffer said. “The European Union and France, in particular, have a lot stricter guidelines on what things can go into your food, what preservatives and what chemicals. So, everything is fresh and homemade.”

Shaffer also noticed that the French

have a completely different mentality when it comes to work and having a job than Americans.

“In the United States, we have this idea that our purpose is to work, and if you have a good job, then, you are fulfilled,” Shaffer said. “The French mentality is the opposite of that. They say if you work too much, you don’t have a life. They put a lot of value on having a life outside your job and doing things that fulfill you outside your work.”

Shaffer would like to work with the French school to have their students visit America, which she believes would be beneficial for the French students since the French education system has an emphasis on Civil Rights during high school.

“They are kind of struggling with the financing of it. The French education system is much more concerned with equal opportunity, so this trip would be a large financial burden, and they can’t really offer that to their students unless they have a way of offering it to everyone,” Shaffer said. “But they might be able to send students on an individual basis, and we could do an exchange that way. The long-term goal would be that we would go to them one year, and then, they would come to us the next, and we would alternate back and forth with different groups of students, and they would get to make more long-term connections and see the United States.”

Overall, Shaffer and her students believe the trip was a success that gave them new experiences.

“Ms. Shaffer put in so much hard work for this trip,” Quinn said. “I think this trip was a unique opportunity because we got to see the tourist side and a more inside view of France.”



Grace Logan • theCharger



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**Row 1:** Senior Gillian Meyers and juniors Sophie Quinn and Amya Franklin share lunch and smile for the camera. Junior Grace Logan stands with French students from a school they visited on their trip called Lycée Thomas Corneille. **Row 2:** The students on the trip pose in front of the Seine River. The students on the trip smile for a picture outside of the Louvre before going in. **Row 3:** OHS students take a picture with the students from the French school. Students on the French trip received pen pals prior to the trip and were able to meet them in France. Juniors Christina Evans and Grace Logan smile as they bake French macarons. The trip left Mar. 7 and got back Mar. 17. The students also visited many famous French landmarks.



# “CAPTAIN MARVEL”

## FINDS SUCCESS WITH FIRST FEMALE LEAD

By Max Mobley  
staff writer

“Captain Marvel” is the 20th movie to come out of Marvel’s Cinematic Universe. 10 years after the release of “Iron Man,” the franchise has finally produced their first movie with a female lead. “Captain Marvel follows” Carol Danvers (Brie Larson), a warrior and defender of the galaxy called Kree, as she pieces together her forgotten past and learns about the forces of evil that surround her.

With Marvel’s 10th introductory film, they decided to put a twist on the classic layout of the origin movie. Viewers begin the film knowing that Carol is a part of a warrior race of people called the Kree, who are defenders of the universe. We also know that she has powers and a will to help people, but how she got to this point is very unclear. Carol is just as unaware as the audience as to how she has become part of this force of warriors, but is continually searching for answers. Subtle hints are dropped that suggest there are secrets being kept from

her, but the motivation behind this is hazy. This confusion creates an entertaining tension with the audience, as it encourages you to find clues and try to piece the puzzle together before the truth is presented.

Of course, with any Marvel movie, part of the overall quality is based off of the quality of their fast-paced, intense action scenes. This movie delivers the normal goods with well-choreographed fight scenes with lots of acrobatics, but adds flare and style to all of her moves when the glowing lights burst from her hands as she uses her powers. This touch not only enhanced the look, but also reminded us of the level of hero we were dealing with. “Captain Marvel” is an incredibly powerful superhero and even when things would seem to slow down, you would have it proven to you once again.

People tend to be driven towards superhero movies because of the action, but as a fan you know there is much more to making a good superhero movie than the punching, kicking and shooting. In “Captain Marvel,” viewers

are lead on a heartwarming journey of someone who just wants to be able to be honest with herself and do the right thing. Brie Larson brings out a lovable cheekiness and also a dangerous edge to the personality of Carol Danvers (Captain Marvel). This also complements the intense, but not over the top intense, Nick Fury (Samuel L. Jackson). The dialogue between these two is very open and works well in varying emotional situations. The cast in this movie made it very easy to convey a story that felt important but fun at the same time.

As I see it, it is impossible to talk about a Marvel movie without talking about the effect it has on the rest of the Marvel universe. In “Captain Marvel,” the studio decided to take a page from their own book—“Iron Man 3”—and drastically change an extremely popular villain. For those that don’t know, the Skrulls are a shapeshifting alien race that in the comic books, have a habit of invading planets in order to take them over. One of Marvel’s most popular stories ever released is about a secret Skrull invasion on Earth. In this film,

we are lead to believe at first that this is the case again, but as Carol learns more about her past, she finds that she is the one who was on the wrong side of the war between the Skrulls and her people, the Kree. Now, I am not usually one to approve the ignorance of source material, but in this case, the purpose is clear and was essential to the type of story that was being told. In a time where people are mistreated all around us due to prejudgements that others might make on them, it is good to see someone wanting to tell the story of someone being able to find the good in their self to be able to realize that they must go against their own prior belief to do what is right.

Overall, “Captain Marvel” was a great time at the theater and I would recommend it anyone who likes superhero movies. It is not my favorite Marvel movie, but that bar is pretty lofty. I was definitely just glad to see that the studio was able to deliver on another film and also succeed with their first movie with a female lead. I’m definitely excited to see more of the “Captain Marvel” story in the future.

## Peele’s ‘Us’ is highly-anticipated thriller, exceeds expectations

By Jesse Edge  
staff writer

The successor to Jordan Peele’s “Get Out” brought a new twist to the horror genre. Peele’s sophomore film, “Us,” has the potential to establish itself as one of the greatest horrors of all time. Branching off from his satirical horror during “Get Out,” Peele reaches past what horrors are thought to be. He spends little time building up to the meat of the film, but he manages to make sure it does not feel rushed. The fast-paced plot is perfect for the movie that it is. Its not meant to be horrifying and leave viewers shaking, but rather meant to have us leave with questions.

Toying with the idea of an underground society, a previously tapped storyline in the genre, the film uses different elements to make it unique. The cast, lead by Lupita Nyong’o and Winston Duke, deliver their characters perfectly both playing the roles of the Wilson family parents and their alternate personalities.

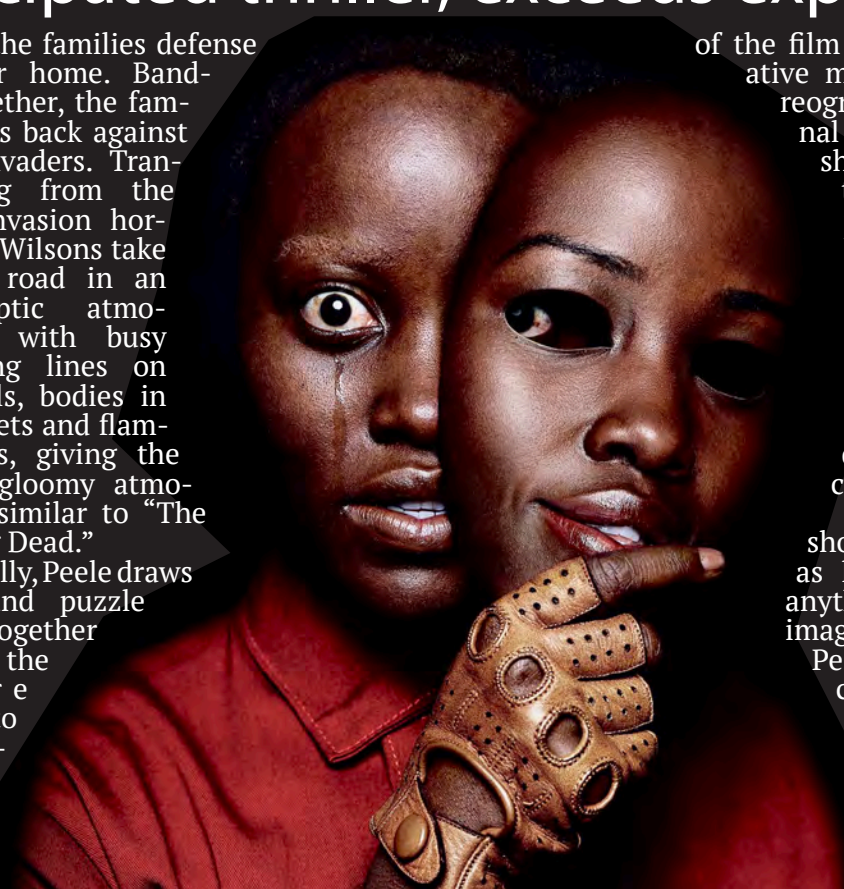
The cinematography is nothing new or extraordinary—reaching into his cinematic toolbox, the image of the film heavily reflects “Get Out.” What truly makes this film unique is its pacing and structure. In the course of two hours it feels as though three films are watched. The beginning is a home-invasion horror focus-

ing on the families defense of their home. Banding together, the family fights back against their invaders. Transitioning from the home-invasion horror, the Wilsons take to the road in an apocalyptic atmosphere, with busy operating lines on 911 calls, bodies in the streets and flaming cars, giving the film a gloomy atmosphere similar to “The Walking Dead.”

Finally, Peele draws clues and puzzle pieces together from the entire movie to his finale. The third and final section

of the film is where Peele’s creative mind went wild. Choreographed to a T, the final scene is marvelously shot against subway tile in an abandoned tunnel. White rabbits encaged within the walls, drawing parallelisms to cloning, remain dormant in the back ground while Nyong’o and her clone fight to the death in a beautifully choreographed ending.

The film fell short of its expectation as horror, but exceeded anything and everything imaginable as a thriller. Peele, while staying comfortable cinematically, took a deep and risky dive into an untapped branch of the thriller genre. “Us” is not the horror movie we asked for, but the thriller we deserve.



# QUEER EYE

Season three of Netflix's 'Queer Eye' is emotionally packed, focuses more on connection instead of politics

By Livvy Cohen  
editor-in-chief

Avocados on hand? Check. French tuck? Check. Box of tissues? Check. The third season of Netflix's *Queer Eye*, a revival of Bravo's *Queer Eye for the Straight Guy*, brought just as many, if not more, emotions than in the past.

Released on March 15, this reality show follows the Fab Five—food aficionado Antoni Porowski, fashionista Tan France, life coach Karamo Brown, design diva Bobby Berk and groomer Jonathan Van Ness—in a fresh new setting: Kansas City, Mo. Each episode, viewers are introduced into a new nominee in dire need of change in their lives in some form or fashion.

The Fab Five spends one week at a time with different participants who were nominated by a family member or friend. Throughout their time spent with the Fab Five, nominees learn how to better their day-to-day lives. Every aspect of their life is covered, whether that be an extra five minutes choosing an outfit they feel confident in with the aid of France, learning from Porowski how to make quick and healthy meals for themselves and their families, a step-by-step guide from Van Ness for a more beneficial self-care and grooming routine, and a makeshift

therapy session with Brown. And, to top it all off, their home is redone by Berk.

Season three seems to be the most emotionally tolling yet, while it is less politically charged than in the past. The first two seasons featured nominees such as a transgender woman and devout southerners who frowned upon homosexuality, but the closest viewers get to any conflict in season three is during the fifth episode, "Black Girl Magic," which follows the transformation in the confidence of a young, black, lesbian woman in the South abandoned by her family. Earlier on in the series, the Fab Five focused on acceptance in the South as five gay men, but now we see participants quick to accept these five men invading their lifestyles for a week.

During this new season of *Queer Eye*, the group seems to focus more on the touching stories of participants, relying solely on somber storylines rather than political discourse. Viewers meet the Jones sisters in the third episode, "Jones Bar-B-Q," and witness a shocking transformation of these two women who, alone, run a small yet successful barbecue joint. By the end of the episode, these sisters are glowing with confidence versus hiding their smiles at the beginning; it's hard not to get emotional after seeing their growth within one week.

Later on in the season, we also meet Elrod in episode six, "Elrod and Sons," a recent widower who lost his wife to cancer and is trying to navigate his new life as a single father of two young boys. The Fab Five aid in the grieving process, all while assisting Elrod in making changes towards a healthy, positive day-to-day life while raising his sons. From start to finish, the episode is a tear-ridden rollercoaster of emotion, and truly showed the impact the Fab Five is capable of having on someone.

Season three of *Queer Eye* encompassed all that the show stands for: acceptance, fellowship and camaraderie. The progression of acceptance of the LGBT community from the first season to now is notable, and the show is less focused on making a political statement now, instead focusing on making positive changes in anyone's life who welcomes them.



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# Archery to become official sport, elective next school year

By Preston Hooker  
sports writer

Archery is set to become an official sport at OHS next school year. It became a club last year, and a sport must be a club for two years before it can become an official school team.

The club just finished their second year, making it eligible to become an official part of OHS athletics as soon as the next board meeting.

"I've been trying for several years. I think we got certified in 2011, so I've been fighting for an archery team since then," head coach Rose Hickey said. "I'm glad that it's finally going to happen."

The club went to two competitions this year. At competitions a team can bring twenty four shooters, and the top twelve scores are taken. At least four of the scores must come from boys, and four must come from girls.

"My team is dominant girls. That's just the way it worked out. We had seven guys out of twenty three total," Hickey said. "I see it really picking up. Water Valley was the top scorer at the last competition we went to, and they said the program just grows."

Sophomore Brent Lee is one of the team's top shooters. He's got previous experience in archery, as his mom was an archery coach at Amory High School before his family moved to Oxford, and he started shooting as early as elementary school.

"I think we need to practice more and get more people. There's people here that say if they knew we had archery they would shoot," Lee said.

Lee noted that the team improved significantly from their first meet to the second, with his



Junior **Marc Mercier** lines up at the archer line to take his shot. The team's second meet score earned them third place overall.

individual score making a sizable jump as well.

"At our first meet, we did really bad, but we all did a lot better on the second one. Our

score jumped up 200 points in total," Lee said. "I jumped up from 258 to 276, which was third in the entire meet."

Sophomore Katie Bruce thinks that archery provides an chances for people who aren't necessarily "athletic" to be part of a school sport.

"I've met a lot of new people from different schools, and that was really fun. I'm a very social person, so meeting other people is really good."

**Katie Bruce**  
sophomore

She also thinks that it provides athletic opportunities for people who suffer from medical issues, as the sport doesn't involve much physical activity.

"I'm not a very athletic person, but I do like being in an athletic sport. And archery is kind of athletic,"

Bruce said. "It's something that I enjoy doing because it's athletic in a sense."

Bruce said that her father has history in archery, which makes her more interested in the sport. She also said that her favorite part about archery is getting the opportunity to meet new people at competitions.

"I've met a lot of new people from different schools, and that was really fun. I'm a very social person, so meeting other people is really good," Bruce said.

According to Hickey, archery is a "very individual skill." She says she could see the sport growing quickly over the next few years.

"Lafayette's been doing it for seven years. South Panola I think five, and Water Valley is right in there as well," Hickey said. "Once we become a team, I think we will have a lot of people turn out for tryouts."

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# Captains

Track captains proud to lead team in junior year



Courtesy of Walt Johnson

**By Edward Brown**  
sports writer

In just their junior year, Byron “Tank” Pearson, Sam Shelton and Walt Johnson were selected as captains of the track team for the 2019 season. Both Shelton and Johnson are also members of the cross country team, and specialize in long distance for track. Pearson starts for the football team, basketball team and sprints for the track team.

Shelton feels proud and takes pride in the fact that he was chosen as a captain before his senior year.

“I’m honored to be selected as a captain in my junior year,” Shelton said. “Many captains in the past have been seniors, and I’m blessed to be in this position this early in high

school.”  
Johnson also takes pride in being chosen to lead his fellow students. He credits being named a captain as a motivating factor that pushes him to become better at his skill.

“It feels really good to be picked as a captain,” Johnson said. “It motivates me to work harder each and every day to not only make myself better but also make the team better.”

Head coach of the track team, Chris Patton, is proud of the leadership Pearson, Shelton and Johnson have shown so far this track season.

“Captains were chosen to help oversee and give input to different areas of the team,” Patton said. “They have done pretty well so far, and the most important part is to lead by example and be great role models for those who are following.”

For both Johnson and Pearson, the beginning of track season has brought about challenges concerning getting in shape for track. Johnson

says that the transition from cross country to track is a difficult transition while Pearson is fresh off of playing on the court for basketball.

“Before I came to track I was playing basketball,” Pearson said. “So just getting back into track shape has been the hardest thing this season so far.”

So far this season the team has competed in a practice meet and the Daily Journal Relays at Tupelo High School on March 29. With a strong team showing at Tupelo, the team is looking to carry that success into the Oxford Eagle Invitation on April 6 and throughout the rest of the season. Shelton is confident in how the team will compete at the rest of the meets and the state meet.

“I feel like the team will excel at state. We have sprinters that are some real athletes,” Shelton said. “Our team is very deep, so our relay teams are guaranteed to get us some points at state.”

In last year’s state championship, Clinton was victorious in 6A for girls track, and Pearl came out on top for the boys. Johnson believes that the state championship this year could spell out differently than last year’s event.

“I feel that we are going to surprise many teams at state this year,” Johnson said. “I think that we have a good balance of good sprinters and long distance runners, so I think we will do well.”

Patton also believes that the team will show their true potential at the end-of-season as long as the team is able to stay injury-free and on task.

“My goals for this season, as for every season, are to help the guys reach their individual goals as well as the team overall goals,” Patton said. “If we stay healthy and focused I think we can accomplish these goals.”

A team blended together with a mixture of upper and underclassmen, this track team and its runners believe that they can win it all. Shelton has high hopes for the team, as long as they do their job and keep working towards their goals.

“One of our challenges is that our team has a lot of talent in the freshman class,” Shelton said. “I think if we work hard everyday and run on our own time, our distance team and the whole team can be something special.”



Courtesy of Sam Shelton

Junior **Sam Shelton** competes in a cross country meet in September of 2018. Shelton runs the 1-mile and the 4x800 for the track team.



Courtesy of Byron Pearson

Junior **Byron Pearson** sprints during an event in 2018. Pearson also stars and plays an important role on the basketball team as well as the football team.

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# THREE OHS STUDENTS HEAD TO LOUISIANA FOR COLLEGE ATHLETICS

By Grace Logan  
sports editor

Three athletes from Oxford have committed to play Division I sports at Louisiana universities. Junior Kathleen Myers and senior Bo Gatlin plan to attend Southeastern Louisiana University while junior Sam Bianco plans to play baseball at University of Louisiana at Lafayette.

"[University of Louisiana at Lafayette] offered me a scholarship in my sophomore year, and I didn't decide until this past fall," Bianco said. "I went down there twice. I liked it the first time, but my parents didn't get to see it, so I had to wait a little bit before deciding I wanted to go there. Then we found time so my parents could both go down there to see it."

For Gatlin, ultimately choosing to play baseball at Southeastern Louisiana University was a long process.

"It was pretty hard because for a long time I had a lot of junior college offers, and I wasn't really sure what to do," Gatlin said. "I really liked Southeastern for a long time, and I have a lot of family down there. As soon as they offered me, I wanted to go on an official visit first, but I knew that I would end up there. I thought about it for a while and decided that that is where I wanted to be."

The state for the three athletes means something different but they

all have one thing in common: family.

"It [Louisiana] is important in my life," Bianco said. "I never lived down there, but right before I was born my family moved from there, and I still have a lot of relatives who live there, so it is definitely a big part of who I am and a big part of my family."

Myers, who has committed to play soccer for head coach Christopher McBride and the Lions, decided after much consideration and communication to attend Southeastern Louisiana in the 2020-2021 season.

"I got in contact with Coach McBride, the coach at Southeastern, and he talked to my travel coach a little bit, and then I emailed them before I went to a showcase and told them I was interested in their school and stuff like that. He just kept watching me play and told me to come down for a visit, and then he called me and offered me," Myers said. "I am really excited; it is going to be so fun."

Both Gatlin and Myers committed the same year for the same college and according to Myers, having someone from their town helps with the transition to a new state.

"That is really weird because I don't think anyone else has gone to Southeastern from Oxford, and now there are two people going, so it will be really cool," Gatlin said. "We talked about it for a while."

Myers has already been communicating with her future teammates

and looks forward to her college career and her new coach.

"Finding a good group of girls is lucky I guess," Myers said. "[The team] just love [McBride's] practices and how he coaches. I went to go watch a game to verbally commit in person because I thought that would be the right way to do it. I watched the game, and some coaches yell, but he doesn't. He wants you to learn and be better. He knows yelling doesn't help and especially with girls."

From a coach's perspective, head baseball coach Chris Baughman believes that their offers demonstrate both Gatlin and Bianco's characters.

"I think it is a testament to their work ethic, how hard they've worked, their abilities as a ball player and as competitors, and I just think it shows people the work that they have put in has paid off and that has been all their dreams. They've all wanted to play D1 baseball and by working as hard as they have the past six years and probably longer than that," Baughman said. "I think they all deserve being able to do that."

Head girls' soccer coach Hunter Crane looks to Myers for leadership going into her last season at Oxford.

"Girls will look at her to lead, and that's really what we want to see her do," Crane said. "We want her to really step up from a vocal standpoint and example standpoint and just go out and lead a team, but also we are

going to lean on her offensively since we are losing Morgan O'Connor, and we look to our senior Division I athlete, and that's Kathleen."

Crane looks forward to the three students' futures in Louisiana.

"I think it was an exciting time for [Myers] to go to Southeastern Louisiana, and I think it's cool that Bo is going as well. It will be interesting to see how they all get acclimated, and you know I'm excited for Sam too. It's exciting to be able to not just be in the boundaries of Mississippi and that people are coming to look at our kids from out of state, and you know that's a blessing," Crane said.

Bianco and Gatlin have the possibility of playing each other at the collegiate level along with Bianco's brother who is a player at LSU.

"It will be entertaining for me, if not for the people that come and see us," Bianco said. "I played with Drew [Bianco] but never against him and same thing with Bo. Me and Bo grew up playing together. I think it will be fun. It will be different, but all around fun."

Similarly, Gatlin believes being able to play his former teammates will be really cool.

"[I've been] playing with them for the last three, four, five years and I'll get to play against both Sam and Drew a couple of times each season," Gatlin said. "It will be a good reunion and seeing familiar faces."

"[LOUISIANA] IS IMPORTANT IN MY LIFE. IT IS DEFINITELY A BIG PART OF WHO I AM, THAT STATE AND A BIG PART OF MY FAMILY."



KATHLEEN MYERS, JUNIOR



SAM BIANCO, JUNIOR



BO GATLIN, SENIOR

"I REALLY LOVE LOUISIANA. SINCE I'M FROM SOUTH MISSISSIPPI, WE GO THERE A LOT AND HANG OUT A LOT. I LOVE THE CULTURE AND THE COLLEGE TOO. "

"I KNEW THAT I WANTED TO BRANCH OUT FROM MISSISSIPPI BECAUSE YOU KNOW I'VE BEEN HERE ALL MY LIFE AND I JUST KIND WANTED TO DO SOMETHING DIFFERENT."

# STORIES FEATURED IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE, NOW IN SPANISH

## Los estudiantes franceses viajan a Francia durante las vacaciones de primavera

Por Livvy Cohen y Sophia Wheeler

redactora jefe y escritora colaboradora

Durante 7-17 de marzo, la profesora de Francés Chelsea Shaffer y doce estudiantes viajaban a Francia, incluyendo París, Ruan y el cementerio Americano.

Mientras el viaje estaba abierto a todos estudiantes de francés, la mayoría de estudiantes que estaban interesados eran de nivel superior.

Según Shaffer, ella pienso que estudiantes con más años en clases de Francés tienen una habilidad más fuerza para comunicarse.

Ella enseñaba en un escuela en Francia antes de venir a OHS, y estudiantes de Oxford tiene la oportunidad ser amigos de la pluma con estudiantes de esta escuela en Francia.

Los estudiantes americanos tuvieron que grabar un video en francés se presentando ellos mismos y los estudiantes francés grabaron un video en inglés. Ellos podrían ponerse en contacto entre sí y tuvo la habilidad ser en la comunicación regular.

Los estudiantes que salieron en el viaje también tuvieron la oportunidad de hacer un alojamiento en familia con su amigo de la pluma. Los estudiantes de OHS también pudieron asistir a una escuela francesa durante el viaje.

Según junior Sophie Quinn, la escuela francesa era muy diferente. No tenía computadoras y los estudiantes no pueden tener los celulares en el aula. También, no tenía las banderas francesas en todos aulas y no tenía un juramento.

Shaffer cree que sus estudiantes manejaron bien la comunicación y pudieron usar las habilidades que aprendieron en clase.

Ella dice que todo el mundo tenía más confianza al final del viaje, especialmente después de quedarse y pasar tiempo con sus amigos de la pluma.

Franklin estaba emocionada de ver lo tranquilo y lo comprensivo que fueron todos los estudiantes de Francia cuando hablaron con los americanos.

Junto con el ajuste para la barrera idiomática, los estudiantes se dieron cuenta de que la importancia de la comida en Francia es muy diferente de

los Estados Unidos.

La Unión Europea y Francia tienen pautas mucho más estrictas sobre qué cosas pueden poner en su comida, qué conservantes y qué productos químicos. Por lo tanto, todo es fresco y casero.

También, Shaffer se dio cuenta de los franceses tienen una mentalidad completamente diferente de los estadounidenses cuando se trata de trabajar y tener un trabajo.

En los Estados Unidos, tenemos una idea que nuestro propósito es trabajar. Si tiene un trabajo bueno, entonces, está cumplido. La mentalidad francesa es lo opuesto. Los Francés ponen mucho valor en tener una vida fuera del trabajo y en hacer cosas satisfechas fuera del trabajo.

A Shaffer le gustaría trabajar con la escuela de Francia e invitar a esos estudiantes a visitar los Estados Unidos. Sin embargo, la escuela tendría que ofrecer el viaje a todos los estudiantes, y esto demuestra ser una gran carga financiera.

Shaffer y sus estudiantes creen que el viaje fue un éxito que les dio nuevas experiencias.

## OHS ofrece ACT a ambos sophomores y juniors por la primera vez

Por Kevin Quintana

escritor colaborador

La administración de OHS decidió darle a la clase de segundo año la oportunidad de tomar el ACT, que es un examen de ingreso utilizado por la mayoría de las universidades para tomar decisiones de admisión.

Según la maestra de ACT prep, Anna Freeman, era una manera de darles una puntuación a una edad temprana. Les da a los estudiantes la oportunidad de saber las calificaciones que recibirán.

Según Freeman, todos los estudiantes de segundo año lo deberían de tomar al menos una vez, porque

muchos estudiantes de segundo año no pueden permitírselo. Solíamos darles el pre-ACT, que cuesta mucho dinero, pero no es una puntuación real de ACT, por lo que tiene más sentido seguir adelante y darles un examen real que cuenta para darles toda la experiencia del ACT. Les da la oportunidad de tener un punto de partida a una edad suficientemente temprana donde pueden mejorar.

Según Hugh Callicutt, estudiante de segundo año que va a tomar el examen por primera vez cuando la escuela lo da el 2 de abril, se le da la oportunidad de ver simplemente lo que puede hacer sin tener ningún conocimiento previo sobre la prueba.

Según Freeman, se ha comprobado que cuanto más tiempo los niños lo toman, mayores son sus puntuaciones, por lo que recomienda es tomar una vez en su primer año y dos veces en el segundo año, pero al menos una vez en el segundo año les ayudará a lograr la puntuación que quieren.

Según Courtney Woodard, quien ha tomado el ACT una vez, y siente que ya que la escuela les está dando el ACT a todos los estudiantes de segundo año, va a hacer una gran cantidad de mejoras para los alumnos que lo toman.

Ella cree que su puntuación mejorará debido a la mucho más familiar y también sólo porque sabe lo que es-

perar en esta ocasión

Freeman cree que si usted está tomando la prueba por primera vez, es aconsejable mirar en línea para ver una vieja prueba sólo para tener una idea del formato, número de preguntas y el tiempo que va a tener para cada sección.

No iría a los extremos si es la primera vez que lo toma, pero usted no quiere caminar en ciego. No hay razón para cuando hay todos estos recursos por ahí.

Por lo tanto, mira un viejo ACT, mira algunos consejos de una fuente de preparación ACT en línea, e ir al menos sabiendo lo que estás tomando.

## Los estudiantes alemanes toman el examen nacional

Por Maggie Livingston y Gema Peña

escritoras colaboradoras

Los estudiantes de alemán de OHS toman un examen para la oportunidad de ir a Alemania gratis en el verano. El examen es diferente para cada clase.

Alex Mobley, un estudiante en la clase de alemán 2, dijo que su clase tomaron el examen hace un mes.

Mobley hizo un 93 en el examen, ha solicitado el premio para ir a Alemania. Muchos estudiantes hicieron bien, pero otros no.

Mobley dijo que había tomando el examen de prueba para el examen para preparar.

Downing Koestler, un estudiante también en la clase de alemán 2, dijo que la clase es muy divertida y a la mayoría de los estudiantes le gusta aprender de la profesora, Stephanie Beam.

Koestler dijo que le gusta alemán porque es muy interesante para aprender una lengua diferente y una cultura diferente. También tiene la clase con algunos

de sus amigos.

Beam enseña todas las clases de alemán en OHS. Ella dijo que el examen muestra qué tan bien está el programa alemán en su escuela en comparación con el resto de los Estados Unidos.

Ella dijo que más de 20,000 estudiantes toman el examen cada año. 20 estudiantes reciben medallas y algunos recibirán libros y otros premios si están por encima del 70 por ciento. Los estudiantes necesitan más de 90 por ciento para calificar para el viaje gratis.

Coker Scott dijo que el examen se compuso de 50 preguntas de lectura y 50 preguntas de escucha.

Ambos Mobley y Molly Samonds solicitaron el viaje gratis, pero solo una persona puede ir.

Los estudiantes irán a Alemania por casi cuatro semanas en el verano, se quedarán con una familia alemana, asistirán a una escuela alemana, y viajarán a diferentes ciudades alemanas.

Beam no estará enseñando en OHS el próximo año, pero sus estudiantes dicen que continuarán su educación en alemán.

## Los capitanes de pista lideran en el tercer año

Por Joseph Robinson

escritor colaborador

Como solamente estudiantes del tercer año, juniors Byron "Tank" Pearson, Sam Shelton, and Walt Johnson fueron seleccionados como capitanes del equipo de atletismo (track) para la temporada 2019.

Ellos están orgullosos de ser capitán antes de su último año en la escuela secundaria. Cada dice que este logro los motiva trabajar más duro durante la temporada. Además, el entrenador en jefe del equipo de atletismo, Chris Patton, está orgulloso del liderazgo que los tres han mostrado hasta ahora.

Para ambos Johnson y Pearson, el comienzo de la temporada de track ha revelado retos con estar en forma. Johnson dice que la transición desde cross-country (carrera a campo traviesa) a track es difícil. Pearson dice que para comenzar track después de solo jugando al básquetbol es una transición difícil también.

Con algún éxito en encuentros temprano en la temporada, los capitanes tienen mucha confianza que el equipo competirá en un nivel alto este año. En el campeonato del año pasado, el equipo de atletismo de Clinton ganó en la división de chicas y Pearl ganó en la división de chicos. Johnson cree que este año el campeonato resultará en una manera diferente. Patton también cree que el equipo mostrará sus habilidades siempre que no haya ninguna herida.

Como un equipo con una mezcla buena de seniors y juniors, los capitanes y los corredores del equipo de atletismo de Oxford creen que ellos pueden ganar todo.



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