

THE SENTRY

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Seniors take a walk down Wall Street

BY JANE GRAY BARBOUR
AROUND TOWN EDITOR

The Jackson Prep seniors who either have taken or are currently enrolled in the financial management class were able to take a trip to New York City from January 15th through January 19th. The chaperones that accompanied the students on this trip were Waynette Noe, Kimberly Van Uden, Lee Ozier, and Don Reagan.

The seniors started the trip on Wednesday with a long bus ride to New Orleans to catch a flight to New York. The next day they woke up and split into two groups. They all rode the

subway to either the Federal Reserve or MTA Arts & Design. They then ate lunch and hung out at the Capitol. After a long day, they got to have fun and eat dinner and go ice skating at Rockefeller Center. Afterwards, they were able to go to , and the top of the Rock.

On Friday, they started their day by taking the subway to Marymount School of New York, a private girls' school across the street from the Met. There, they met a former student, now a calculus teacher and a former student who is now a literary agent. Then the group went to Spotify Headquarters to meet a former student who works in advertising there.



The group spending some time at the Nasdaq headquarters at the New York Stock Exchange. Photo courtesy of Kimberly Van Uden



After that they went to Maverick Capital. The group went to John's Pizza for dinner, a tradition for the Financial Management trip, before going to see Mean Girls on Broadway and Shake Shack for desert.

Senior Kathryn Weir said, "Going to New York was a really fun and unique experience. I don't think I would ever have had the possibility to go to the meetings that we went to if it wasn't for Mrs. Noe.

The trip was an amazing experience, but the chaperones definitely didn't lie when they

told us we would end up literally so exhausted by the end of the trip. One night we literally got three hours of sleep it was rough."

On their last day in New York the group paid a visit to the 9/11 Memorial and the One World Observatory before they left for the airport.

The students disembarked in New Orleans at 8:45 p.m. and arrived home in Jackson at 12:15 a.m, departing the bus exhausted and ready to return to the comfort of their homes but with many fond new memories of their New York adventure.



The students standing in front of the Charging Bull statue on Wall Street, symbolic of capitalism and the "bull market." Photo courtesy of Kimberly Van Uden

Reveillon and Fusion host 7th annual Showchoir Masters Competition

BY LILY FLOWERS
PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Jackson Prep's show choir kicked off the season with hosting the seventh show choir master's competition, a two day event with junior high competing on Friday and high school Saturday.

After months of long practices and hard work, the students were finally able to give a sneak peak of their show. Junior Embry Hollowell said, "I'm excited for the upcoming Reveillon competitions. I can't wait to perform on the different stages and get to meet new people."

The competition was held in Fortenberry with people from all over Mississippi and Alabama. The junior high competition was

on January 24th with six teams performing.

Fusion was not part of the competition but gave a preview of their show. The following day the senior high competition occurred with twenty-two teams competing, ending with Reveillon performing and awards.

Finals were announced for high school with Grenada Visions placing first, Madison Central Reveille second, and Jackson Academy Encore in third.

For junior high, Jackson Academy placed first, Oak Grove Middle School second, and Madison Middle School Kaleidoscope in third.

This is the first year with new show choir directors, Ms. Thiel and Ms. Brumfield. Both

help coordinate the high school show choir Revellion and the junior high show choir Fusion.

Another change made this year was allowing sixth and seventh graders to join Fusion. The dance captains of Revellion this year are Aidan Mai, Olivia Clapp, John Sanders, and Thomas Swayze.

Aidan Mai who is a senior this year has participated in show choir for seven years. She said, "My favorite thing about show choir is most definitely the people. I've never loved a group of people more than I've loved my Revellion and Fusion family. I'm just excited to be onstage with my best friends, and more than anything I'll miss getting to spend this time practicing, performing,

and just bonding with them".

In the spring, Revellion will participate in the national show choir competition which is in Nashville, Tennessee.

If you want to see their full

show, they will be competing on February 1st at Jackson Academy's Show Choir invitational. Other competition dates are available on Showchoir.com.



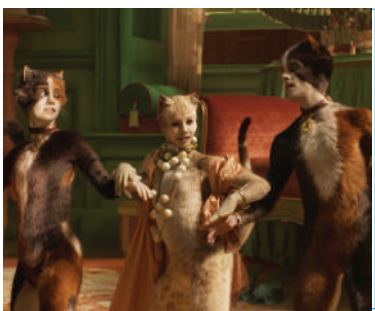
Reveillon performing at its exhibition. Photo by Hannah Grace Biggs

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Opinion



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WHAT IS YOUR CURE FOR THE
IN-SCHOOL BLUES?

“Going to talk with Mr. Younce.” - Nicholas Dean, 12th

“Procrastinating.” - Preston Speed, 11th

“Take a nap.” - Selah Ferguson, 10th

“I like to go to the cafeteria and catch up with people.” - Kimmons Shepherd, 9th

“Get checked out early.” - Hannah Polk, 8th

“I listen to ‘Lucid Dreams’ on repeat full blast.” - Lampton Moore, 10th

“Coffee!!” - Hayden Mathis, 11th

“I sit and stare at the ceiling.” - Andrew Purvis, 12th

“I look at Lampton.” - Wat Rutledge, 10th

“Order an iced caramel macchiato.” - Anna Cate Hays, 8th

“Just keep going because you know it’s almost over.” - Jeffrey Jordan, 10th

“Sleep.” - Molly Tipton, 9th

“Spikeball.” - Parker Wilkerson, 12th

“Distracting Thomas Wasson.” - Joseph Ciaccio, 10th

VIEWS



VOICES

SENTRY PICKS:
IF YOU COULD PICK A NEW NAME, WHAT
WOULD YOU BE NAMED?

Princess Consuela Banana-Hammock - Ainsley O’Quinn	Rimes - Cass Rutledge
Keyser Soze - Olivia Moore	Russtopher - Russ Upton
Ewan McGregor - Joseph Watts	Chuck - Charles Stephenson
Victor Lazlo - Mr. Lain Hughes	Herdunkachunk ClubberLang - Jake Lange
Toddfather - Tanner Gough	Daxtillion Murphel - Dax Murphy
Ragnar Gunnarsson Lefebvre - Alex Roberson	Brick Tamland - Walker Poole
Literally anything else - Mara Liston	Lil bug - Lily Flowers
pmac retrac - Camp Carter	lasjetsetter - Lauren Anne Smith
Mclovin - Haddon McLeod	Rooster - Joseph Ciaccio
Amy adam - Dylan Burkhalter	Kendall - Caroline Crumpton
Ron Burgundy - Sam Graves	Timothy - Thomas Wasson
Aristotle - Margaret Oliver	Xie Wei Zhi - Logan Huff
Mary Jackson - Bella Cole	Bucephalus - Caroline Huff
meb - Maggie Boswell	Lizzie - Julia Stradinger
Yorick - Selby Ireland	Fun guy - Wayne Hsieh

WHAT IS YOUR MOST
CONTROVERSIAL
OPINION?

“Ole Miss will win the national championship in 2021.” - Ashton William Heath, 12th

“Sweet tea is disgusting.” - Rebecca Burrow, 11th

“I think water is not wet.” - Jeffrey Jordan, 10th

“Mini M&M’s are better than the original.” - Anders Morgan, 9th

“Lemon-lime Gatorade is yellow.” - Olivia Patricia Smith, 8th

“Bacon is good dipped in milk.” - Sam Leggett, 10th

“Samsung’s Galaxy line is far superior to Apple’s iPhone lineup.” - Andrew Banks, 11th

“Tomatoes are vegetables.” - Paul Gregg, 9th

“Trevor Lawrence is NOT cute!” - Mollie Mozingo, 8th

“Cereal for breakfast is a no go.” - Mont Mitchell, 10th

“Pineapple is really good on pizza.” - Victoria Chough, 11th

The Sentry

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The Sentry is a student publication updated throughout the year. As student writers, we try to reflect the thoughts of our most important readers-- the students of Jackson Prep. Because of this, we attempt to approach many issues, some more controversial than others. Nevertheless, the Sentry staff serves the school--her students, her faculty, her family, and her community. The staff hopes to inform, to educate, to entertain, and to question for the betterment of Prep and the lives of people in the Jackson community. The newspaper is produced by the Sentry staff, consisting of students both in and out of the senior high journalism classes.

Find us online at
www.jpssentry.net

EDITORIAL POLICY

All opinion pieces are the views of the author(s), and the author(s) only, with the exception of staff editorials, which are unsigned and reflect the consensus view of the students in each individual Sentry class. Staff editorials are the only columns in the paper that express the majority view of either the Sentry I class or the Sentry II class. The staff editorial process is comprised of two main steps. First, each class talks about a topic and organizes a position on which all or most class members can agree. The editorial is then written, and run past the staff members for majority approval and editing.

The Sentry accepts outside editorial pieces for publication. Not every piece will be published. To improve your chances of being chosen for publication, please avoid merely ranting in

your piece. Specific proposals and solutions are preferable to generalities. You may request anonymity, but we do not accept unsigned editorials.

The Sentry allows and encourages humorous opinion pieces. Publication will be at the discretion of the editors.

To submit to The Sentry, simply type your opinion, double-spaced with a minimum of 250 words, and send, share, or submit it to sentry@jacksonprep.net.

Letters to the editor may be emailed to sentry@jacksonprep.net. You may request anonymity for the print edition, but we do not accept unsigned letters.

•Questions or comments? Our mailing address is P.O. Box 4940, Jackson, MS 39296. Let us hear from you!

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A Day in the Life of professional journalist Andrew Chung

BY LAUREN ANNE SMITH
MANAGING EDITOR

The Amtrak Acela from Penn Station to Washington D.C. is a familiar train for Supreme Court Correspondent Andrew Chung, who travels the route frequently to cover breaking news that will impact all Americans.

Andrew Chung grew up in a small town in northwest Alberta, the population of which is just shy of 3,000. From an early age, he has always been fascinated with journalism, as he would read *Time* and record himself on tape. He even started a high school newspaper. Andrew has an impressive education, as he's got a Bachelor of Science from the University of Alberta, a Masters in Journalism from Carleton University, and a Masters in Law from Yale.

Chung was intrigued by journalism because he was curious about finding the truth. Through journalism, you are able to seek justice, travel, and meet interesting people. "There are few jobs that can maintain idealism and journalists make the world a better place," says Chung.

His first official job as a journalist was at the *Toronto Star*, where he was a parliamentary reporter, investigative reporter and. Andrew's work took him across the globe. For instance, he has reported from China and covered

momentous events such as the earthquakes in Haiti, riots in Turkey, the terrorist attacks in France; he was also recounted the Arab Spring from Sudan along with the independence of South Sudan.

Andrew says the most interesting article he's written was when he followed and did a feature on a 70-year-old Canadian man who traveled to China. The man did so to verify a claim that his real mom was not the woman who raised him but rather a concubine. He remarked it was "unsettling and powerful all at once" when the man returned to Canada unsure of what to believe. Due to the article, Andrew was separately able to meet relatives on the mainland that he never met.

He made his way to New York after landing his current job as a legal correspondent for *Reuters*, where he is able to use his degree and write articles on the Supreme Court. The shift between Andrew's job at the *Toronto Star* and *Reuters* was spending less time on the ground interviewing people and more on reading, at the court, and on the phone.

What made Andrew want to write for *Reuters* was how "it's the largest international news organization" and prides itself on being trusted not only by readers and viewers but is also relied upon by other news organizations as well. "There's

an unparalleled reach of all sorts of opportunities offered you can't get anywhere else."

A day in the life for Andrew begins at 8:30 in the morning in the press room of the Supreme Court. The Court typically decides to hear a case, hears oral arguments, and finally issues a ruling. Orders with information on what cases they denied and granted start to come through to the public information office at 9:30. Andrew receives a sheaf of papers with the orders on them and rushes back to his workspace in the press room to see what they should put on the wire. This part of the job involves cardio with the race to put out the news first and even physical contact as people are sometimes falling down and pushing each other out of the way.

At 10 A.M., he gets his hands on rulings of previously argued cases, and this includes more scrambling to get the job done. From there Andrew goes to the ornate courtroom to hear new arguments, and that eventually leads him back to the pressroom before he calls it a day.

This time of the year is especially stressful due to all the high-profile and controversial cases being discussed: LGBT rights, abortion, DACA, the President's financial records, gun rights, a dispute on the Electoral College, and re-



Andrew Chung speaks at a panel. Photo courtesy of Andrew Chung

ligious rights. The worst part about being a journalist is the large workload and the oft-present stress, but, beyond even that, the profession itself is shifting.

For better or for worse, the internet has radically changed the job outlook of the journalist. Journalism outlets, especially local ones, have decreased in number over the years ever since the internet was introduced. Local news stations are struggling financially and seeing collapses in their profits, while small, web-based startups are shooting up as fast as they will fall.

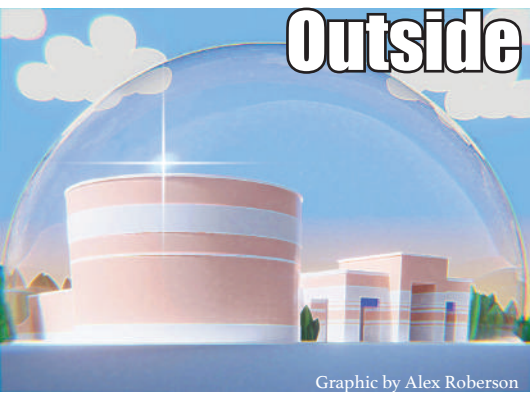
Chung's advice to anyone wanting to pursue Journalism is to ignore the verbal attacks on reporters, aspire to tell people's stories, be curious, and seek the truth. "You want to afflict the com-

fortable and comfort the afflicted. Be a Triple-A Journalist: adversarial, aggressive, always. Journalism is changing; the public needs more journalists, not fewer."

If you want to read Andrew Chung's stories, scan the QR code below:



The developing situation in the Middle East with the US



BY HANNAH GRACE BIGGS
COPY EDITOR

January 2, 2020: not yet a week into the new decade, and the United States has committed a military act that could result in a serious escalation of tensions for foreign relations with several Middle Eastern countries, primarily Iran and Iraq. Outside of an airport in Baghdad, Iraq, Major General Qassim Soleimani of Iran was killed by a United States drone strike. Prior to the strike that killed Soleimani, President Donald J. Trump had ordered several airstrikes in other regions of Iraq and Syria targeting members of the Kataib Hezbollah militia group, whose attacks on a military base killed one American and wounded several others. Supporters of Hezbollah also stormed the American embassy in Baghdad. Following these attacks, Trump stated that Iran would be held fully responsible for any further actions against Americans.

The White House claims that Soleimani has been the brains behind many operations and attacks against Americans over the past twenty years, and

President Trump stated that the airstrike was ordered because Soleimani was "plotting imminent and sinister attacks" against American citizens living in the Middle East. The airstrike was executed without Congressional approval, legal under U.S. law because the White House made it clear the attack prevented an imminent threat to Americans.

Shortly following the airstrike, Iran launched over two dozen ballistic missiles at two Iraqi military bases housing American troops. Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif later stated that Iran "does not seek escalation of war" with the United States, a statement seemingly at odds with Iran's antagonist military actions and Iranian officials' declaration that the attacks were in retaliation for the killing of Soleimani.

Many of Iraq's citizens worry that the escalating tensions and actions between the United States and Iran could bleed over into their country, a concern supported by the Iranian strikes on Iraqi bases stationing U.S. troops. With Soleimani's death could come a deterioration of cooperative relations between the



Map of Iraq and Iran.

United States and Iraq, as Iraqi officials consider pushing the nearly 5,000 American troops stationed in Iraq out of the country.

On January 11, a Ukrainian passenger airliner was struck by an Iranian surface-to-air missile minutes after taking off from Tehran, Iran. For several days the Iranian military maintained that the plane went down to human error—"Human error at a time of crisis caused by US adventurism led to disaster," stated Foreign Minister Zarif—before finally admitting that the Boeing 737-800 had indeed been hit by one of their missiles. Iranians flooded the streets to protest their government's actions. Though the plane was hit by an Iranian missile, the Iranian military still maintains that the tragedy was an accident, a result of the plane supposedly making a turn toward a sensitive military base. However, later an Iranian official would state that "the plane was flying in its normal direction." Iran continues to blame the escalating tensions and

paranoia resulting from the United States's airstrike on Soleimani for the mistake, a mistake that resulted in the death of all 176 passengers on board the plane.

Most recently, on Monday, January 27, a U.S. Bombardier E-11A aircraft crashed in the Ghazni province of eastern Afghanistan. Currently conflicting reports surround the incident—U.S. officials claim the crash was a result of a mechanical malfunction while a spokesman for

the Taliban claims the group shot down the plane, a claim the U.S. has continued to refute--adding further uncertainty to the rapidly escalating tensions between the United States and the Middle East.

As a result of the killing of Soleimani and subsequent events, rumors of "World War Three" have made their rounds on the internet. While it cannot be denied that the actions of the United States and Iran have escalated in the region, it is unlikely that Congress would officially declare war and another world war would break out. Furthermore, it even less likely that Congress would implement a draft as many younger citizens have joked about. Despite the memes and jokes, the topic's prevalence indicates the concern of America's younger population about the future of the country's foreign relations, a well-founded concern considering the many airstrikes and threats that have occurred in only the first month of the new year.

If you want to read about more politics, check out our frequently updated presidential candidates guide online at:
jpsentry.net

PRESIDENTIAL RACE
★2020★



Pacers perform at Disney

BY SAYLEY CRAWFORD
FUN AND GAMES EDITOR
&
AUBREY SCOTT MOAK
AROUND TOWN EDITOR

This January, the Jackson Prep Pacers had a once in a lifetime opportunity to perform in Disney Springs. They departed for Orlando on a Wednesday in their matching t-shirts excited to experience the magic of Disney. Before departing on Wednesday, the Pacers had to perfect their dance. The average Pacer dance is 3 minutes, but the criteria for Disney required them to have a fifteen minute performance. Mary Virginia, Mary Pettey, and Alice Ann spent weeks preparing dance moves and mashing music together for this performance. The Pacers worked all week perfecting

the dance in order to impress the visitors of Disney Springs. Upon arrival, Pacers checked into Disney's Port Orleans Resort and were divided into rooms based upon requests. They were given the opportunity to use their park hopper passes for all the days they were there. The only requirement was that they must travel in groups, including one adult. Adults there included Pacer sponsor Christina Jackson, Kimberly Van Uden, and volunteer Pacer moms. Pacer Olivia Moore said, "Disney was so much fun because it was my first time to go with friends. I think it was a really great bonding experience for all of us." Disney was an incredible opportunity to further their dancing careers and further their friendships within the team.

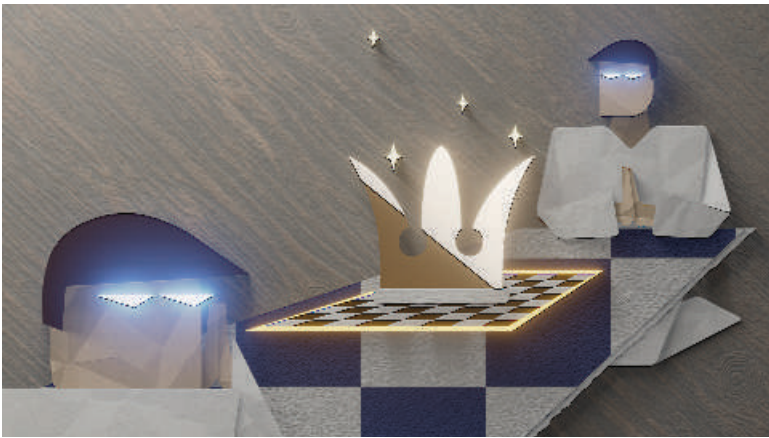


Sophomore and junior Pacers stand in front of Cinderella Castle in the Magic Kingdom. Photo courtesy of Pacers

Chess team places 2nd in state

BY SELBY IRELAND
OPINION EDITOR
&
JOSEPH WATTS
NEWS EDITOR

On Saturday, January 25th, the Jackson Prep's Chess Club competed at the Mississippi Chess Association's Scholastic Team Chess Championship. Prep brought three teams: a senior high A-team, a senior high reserve team, and a junior high team. The senior high A-team finished second in the championship division; the senior high reserve team finished first in the reserve division, and the junior high team finished fourth in the junior high championship division. Team tournaments put the best players from each team against each other at board one, the second best players from



Chess team recently competed for state title. Graphic by Alex Roberson

each team against each other, etc. for the top four players from each team. The first team to get two and a half points out of 4 wins the match and gets a team point. At the end of the tournament, the team with the most team points wins. The senior high Championship team was composed of club captain Selby Ireland at

Students to tour Ole Miss and MS State

BY JOHN HENRY ANDRESS
MANAGING EDITOR

This spring, Jackson Prep will facilitate two college tour visits: one to Mississippi State and another to Ole Miss. However, many of these details are still subject to change due to scheduling issues, and the final details will be posted once everything is finalized between these two universities and the college counseling office of Jackson Prep. The trip to Ole Miss will be a full day of learning about the academic opportunities that the University of Mississippi provides. Ms. Megan Thomas, the Assistant Director of Admissions at Ole Miss, looks forward to hosting the junior class at the campus of the university. The date of this trip is forthcoming as Ms. Thomas works with both the "campus visit staff and Jackson Prep's Department of College Counseling to find the best date for the visit." This trip will include many events that will give Jackson Prep students a greater insight into the campus and the university overall. This trip will provide an "in-depth look at Ole Miss, including an overview of our academic offerings, tours of campus and facilities, and interaction with current UM students." This trip will be a great tool for the juniors of Jackson Prep as the Class of 2021 begins to look

for the steps that will follow after graduation at Jackson Prep. Ms. Thomas would also like to state that she, along with the university, "are appreciative of the Jackson Prep administration in allowing us this opportunity and can't wait to see everyone on campus this spring." The Mississippi State tour, which will also take place this spring, looks like it will be on March 25th at this time. This will be a time for the juniors of Jackson Prep to look at the many options provided by Mississippi State University, such as its well-known agricultural program. Also, Mississippi State is popular for its engineering program, so prospective engineer-

ing students may want to look further into that program during the tour. This tour will provide an opportunity for students to see the campus and ask questions that will allow a further insight into both that university and what they want in a college experience in general. Both of these tours will occur during a week day, which shows how much the school values these trips. Both of these great schools offer many different opportunities for prospective students, so it is great that Jackson Prep gives students the chance to look at both of these schools this spring.



Above: Ole Miss campus. Below: Mississippi State campus.

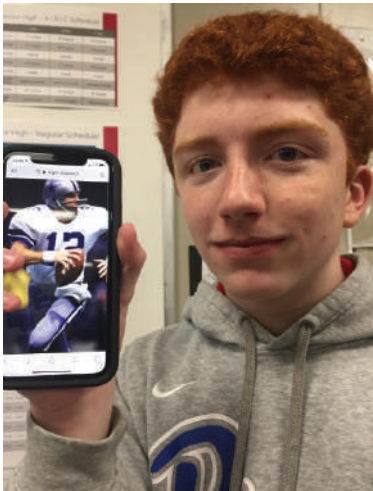
Who is your Hero? For Jake Vineyard it's Roger Staubach

BY MAGGIE BOSWELL
STAFF WRITER

Heroes don't always wear capes or have superhuman powers. A hero is a person admired for their courage, outstanding achievements, or noble qualities. Everyone has a role model that could be compared to a hero. Heroes come in all shapes and sizes, ranging from lifesaving physicians to political leaders to parents.

Sophomore Jake Vineyard's hero is Roger Staubach. Staubach played for the Dallas Cowboys in the 1970's. Jake admires Staubach's "incredible character" throughout his career as a football player and his outstanding leadership on and off the field. In college, Staubach won the Heisman football trophy, which recognizes an exceptional athlete who exhibits diligence, perseverance, and hard work. Jake respects Staubach's deep faith and kindness he shows to others. Also, Jake applauds Staubach's frugality with his National Football League (NFL) earnings and how he continued to make money after retirement, which established Staubach as one of the most successful retired NFL players.

Jake concluded that Roger Staubach is an "all around great guy" and his hero.



Sophomore Jake Vineyard holds up a picture of Roger Staubach. Photo by Maggie Boswell



(on the right) Seniors Spencer Byrd and Cade Engels take on players from Franklin County reserve team. Photo by Selby Ireland

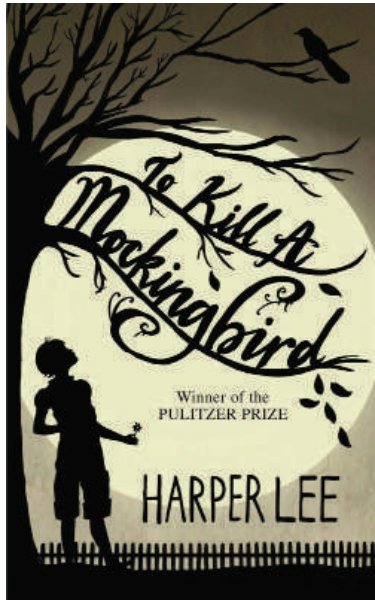
Auditions, performances set for *To Kill A Mockingbird*

BY LIZZY KELLUM
STAFF WRITER

To Kill a Mockingbird, the play, is based on the famous book by Harper Lee, and will be put on at Jackson Prep on April 26th, 27th, and 28th. Auditions will be held on February 4th and 5th. To sign up to audition go to the Jackson Prep website. There are roles for all grades, 6th-12th. Anyone can be in the play even if they have never been in one. There is going to be a choir in the play, so singers are needed.

Director Ms. Jessica Wilkinson chose to put on this play because it is her favorite book. She even named her dog Boo Radley after one of the main characters in the book. She has always wanted to put on a production because of her love for it, and her love for acting. Her favorite characters are Atticus and Scout because Atticus is so noble and Scout is the story teller.

Having been in multiple plays, commercials, and movies, Mrs. Wilkinson has much experience with the acting world. The play will be almost exactly like the book. There are going to be some things left out because of the time limit, but it should please the book's many fans.



Cover of the *To Kill a Mockingbird* book.

GLI hosts forum featuring Inky Johnson

BY JOSEPH WATTS
NEWS EDITOR

On January 16th, inspirational speaker Inky Johnson came to speak to students as part of the Global Leadership Institute's forum speakers.

Inky Johnson was a defensive back for the University of Tennessee football team until he was injured in a game against Air Force in 2006. A tackle left him with nerve damage, resulting in paralysis of his right arm. That moment of learning that he could never play football again led him down a path of becoming an inspirational speaker.

During his speech, Inky talked about his life story and how people were able to impact his life to make him who he is today. One example was his 8th grade basketball coach and math teacher who encouraged Inky to do well in school, by picking him up everyday for school and reading a Bible verse to him. This led Inky to become a hard work-



Inky Johnson speaks to the students. Photo by Hannah Grace Biggs

er and, eventually, he received scholarships to play football at Tennessee, making him the first in his family to graduate from high school, and eventually, the first from his family to graduate from college.. He became a football star and was guaranteed to be a first round pick in the NFL draft. That dream came to an end when he tackled a player and got injured, preventing him from every playing football again. Although that dream was dead, the drive in him was not. He pushed onwards

with help from his friends and family and graduated from college.

Inky decided to become an inspirational speaker because he wanted to share his story with others to help them overcome tough times in their life and succeed like he did. His speech seemed to work. Sophomore Wat Rutledge said, "It was very cool to see how the people in his life impacted him and motivated him to achieve his goals."

What students found through Pursuit

BY JOHN HENRY ANDRESS
MANAGING EDITOR

Pursuit, a three day worship series lead by students, was held on January eighth through tenth. It was a time to grow closer to the Lord and pursue a relationship with Him, which is where the name originates. The series was made possible through the leadership of upperclassmen and the lead speaker, Johnathon Gatewood, a youth pastor at First Baptist Church of Jackson.

Four separate events were held, three of which were during activity period. The largest event was held on Thursday night, which involved free Chick-fil-a, a scavenger hunt, and a message followed by small group time. The groups were made up of juniors and seniors who led a group

of younger students.

On Wednesday, the event started with the younger children meeting their small group leaders in the Fortenberry Theater. Music followed, led by Walker Jay Patterson, along with a message from Johnathon Gatewood. During the day event on Thursday, only music was played due to the much larger event and message that night. Friday had music, donuts, and hot chocolate to finish out the series along with more fellowship.

The leaders this year were Blakely Amis, Cassidy Zum-Mallen, Miriam Cochran, and Mackenzie Shoemaker. Miriam Cochran "loved getting to be part of the Pursuit leadership team." She felt that the week went well, and her favorite part of this year's Pursuit was leading her seventh grade girls small group.



Above: Senior Walker Jay Patterson plays the guitar, while junior Hayden Mathis rocks the house on keyboard. Photo by Hannah Grace Biggs



Senior boys serve as leaders during Pursuit. Photo by Hannah Grace Biggs

To Kill A Mockingbird SPRING PLAY AUDITIONS

When: February 4-5
Who: Any student grades 6th - 12th

To get information and sign up for your audition
click the link in the announcements!

Seniors scoot out of school sooner

BY JULIA STRADINGER
STAFF WRITER

For the second semester of the 2019/2020 school year, seniors at Prep have had the option to participate in "senior out." This means that during the fixed carrier at the end of every day, seniors don't have to be signed up for a class. Instead of sitting in a drawing class or study hall that they don't need the credit for, seniors can enjoy an extra forty-five minutes of their day to rest, do homework, or do other things.

To participate in senior out, a senior must miss no more than three class periods of their fixed carrier during the first semester. Other than this, there are no other requirements, which makes it easy to partake in.

This is the first year senior out has been available for seniors at Jackson Prep, and many underclassmen look forward to participating in it in the future. Sophomore Lilly Grace Sites said she "would love the opportunity because it's a really nice extra time after school to have." Other sophomore Maggie Bo-



Senior Jimmy Underwood is outta here, thanks to "senior out." Photo by Selby Ireland

swell said, "I look forward to potentially having a senior out when I'm a senior."

For the upcoming seniors of the 2020/2021 school year, senior out will be available the entire year, not just the second semester. In addition, there will be no requirements to participate in senior out, as long as the senior has all the credit they need to graduate.

Many seniors enjoy having this early dismissal. When asked what she thought about senior out, senior Campbell Perkins said, "It's nice to have senior

out especially when you have a sport after, so you have a little time to clear your head and get homework done." Senior Allie Wise also said, "Senior out will also be really helpful when basketball ends because I could use that time to get a job." Other senior Julia Zoubokous also said, "It's amazing," and claims it "makes my school hours seem to be shorter even though there not really that much shorter." This goes to show that an extra forty five minutes is very beneficial, even though it's not a long amount of time.

Reeves inauguration welcomes 65th Mississippi governor

BY TANNER GOUGH
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
&
DAX MURPHY
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

January 14, 2020 ushered in a scene Mississippi had not seen in 8 years: the inauguration of a new governor. Tate Reeves, the 65th Governor of Mississippi, was sworn in at the State Capitol building in downtown Jackson

amidst a joint session of the Mississippi Legislature. Reeves took the oath of office in the House chamber alongside his wife, Elee, and his three daughters, Tyler, Emma, and Maddie.

Rain canceled the planned inaugural parade through downtown Jackson, which would've included the Jackson Prep Pacers and Cheerleaders, and forced the swearing in ceremony to be moved inside. This did not put a damper on the

inaugural ball as it was held later that night at the Mississippi Trade Mart.

Anybody who was invited and attended was greeted with great food and good music. Throughout the night, a jazz band played popular hits until Tate Reeves and his wife had their first dance as Governor and First Lady. Afterward, country music singer Randy Houser came out and performed hits that had everyone on the dance floor jump-

ing up and down.

Although a fun night was definitely had, anticipation stands in front of Governor Reeves. The citizens of Mississippi yearn to see what Tate Reeves has up his sleeve that is different than his previous position of Lieutenant Governor. While pressure looms over Reeves, excitement builds as the population of Mississippi is about to learn what's in store for our new Governor.



Tate Reeves, the new governor.

Enrich MS coming to Prep

BY MAYRANT GONWA
STAFF WRITER

Enrich Mississippi, founded by Jill Gordon, is a nonprofit organization focussing on different categories to help better the youth in our community. Jill started Enrich MS because of an experience her son had at his school. She went to the principal and made clear how it was not the faculty's fault but her son's. Jill decided she wanted to make kids aware of the harm vaping can cause to their bodies.

Even though vaping is what sparked her idea for Enrich MS, Jill also focuses on suicide prevention and social media's impact on highschoolers. A few students in the local area have started volunteering to represent their school through Enrich MS. Enrich MS is hoping to spread to many schools throughout Missis-

sippi and spread awareness for many causes.

Enrich Mississippi is hosting a vaping summit February 5th from 1:00-5:30 pm. Jill encourages parents and students to come and learn the effects of vaping on people's lives. There will be multiple subject matter experts from the local area attending and speaking.

Here are some of Enrich MS's statics for e-cigarettes: e-cigarette are used among high school students almost doubled over the past year. All JUUL e-cigarettes have a high level of nicotine. According to the manufacturer a single JUUL pod contains as much nicotine as a pack of 20 regular cigarettes. To learn more check out the 2018 Mississippi Youth Tobacco Survey Data. For more information on Enrich Mississippi check out there Tik Tok @enrichmississippi. It is the account with 3.2k followers.

2020 Vaping Summit

Hosted by Enrich MS and funded by The Mississippi State Department of Health.

To register, visit enrichms.org/vaping-summit.

EnrichMS
ENGAGE. INFORM. PREVENT.

FEBRUARY 5
1:00-5:30 PM
JACKSON PREPARATORY SCHOOL
The Centre for Arts & Leadership

Banner for the Enrich Mississippi vaping summit.

Pro Chess League kickoff

BY SELBY IRELAND
OPINION EDITOR

For many people, "Sports in January" means either the start of track and field, the end of the NFL season, or the end of College Football. However, for many individuals, myself included, January marks the start of the PRO Chess League (or PCL for short) season. So, what is the PCL, and how does it work?

Well, the PCL is an online league of 36 teams across the world that play a match every week for a few months starting in

January. Each team is made up of 4 players who play 4 in rounds per match, with every member of every team playing every member of the opposing team. The winner earns a point for their team. Since there are 16 separate chess games, the first team to reach 8.5 points is the winner.

In the 2019 season, the Saint Louis Arch Bishops were the overall winners, but the competition this year will be harder than ever because of the skill of the teams. If you are interested in watching the PCL live tune to ChessTV, or go to their website at www.prochessleague.com.

WESTERN DIVISION Monday, Feb 3				EASTERN DIVISION Wednesday, Feb 5				CENTRAL DIVISION Thursday, Feb 6			
Canada CHESSBRAHS	10:00 A.M. PST	Saint Louis ARCH BISHOPS	6:00 A.M. PST	India YOGHIS	6:00 A.M. PST	China PANDAS	9:30 A.M. PST	Germany BEARS	9:30 A.M. PST	France ROOSTERS	
New York MARSHALLS	12:15 P.M. PST	Apartina KRAKENS	8:15 A.M. PST	Armenia EAGLES	8:15 A.M. PST	Turkey KNIGHTS	9:30 A.M. PST	Italy GLADIATORS	9:30 A.M. PST	Sweden WASABIS	
Chicago WIND	12:15 P.M. PST	U.K. LIONS	8:15 A.M. PST	Israel COUNSELLORS	8:15 A.M. PST	Croatia BULLDOGS	9:30 A.M. PST	Holland HUSSARS	9:30 A.M. PST	Norway GNOMES	
California UNICORNS	12:15 P.M. PST	Brazil CAPYBARAS	8:15 A.M. PST	Russia WIZARDS	8:15 A.M. PST	Hungary HUNTERS	9:30 A.M. PST	Netherlands MOSQUITOES	9:30 A.M. PST	Spain RAPTORS	

An example of the Pro Chess League division bracket

Students head to camp for break

BY ELIZA MAXWELL
SOCIAL MEDIA EDITOR
&
AUBREY SCOTT MOAK
AROUND TOWN EDITOR

With the new year starting, January is an extremely popular time for weekend Church retreats. After being back at school for a few weeks, many Prep students need time to relax with friends away from home.

This year many students attended retreats in Mississippi and Alabama including Breakthru with Christ United Methodist, Alpine with First Pres Church Jackson, and D-now with First Baptist Jackson.

Churches and youth groups love this weekend because it is still the beginning of a new year, a great time to make changes in your life. Plus, students have



Juniors Hunter Yelverton, Graham Speed, Alex Roberson, Drew Laird, Selby Ireland, and Cass Rutledge ride to Alpine. Photo by Cass Rutledge

an extra day off of school for fellowship.

Breakthru is a church retreat in Pulaski, Mississippi at Timbercreek Camp. The theme this year was relationships. One of the Jackson teams even won the recreational competition!

At Alpine Camp in Mentone Alabama, students slept in

cabins and got a glimpse into the camp environment of the summer. Students left the camp one day and went to Chatanooga to tour the town and grab a quick bite. Walker Poole, who went to Alpine with FPC, says "It was fun, and I enjoyed getting closer with God and my friends. It was also cold."

At last a state lottery for Mississippi

BY CAMP CARTER
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

You may have noticed a new addition to your local gas station counters this year; among the king size Kit-Kats and chapstick is a form of entertainment recently created in Mississippi, scratch off lottery tickets. The lottery was legalized in Mississippi under the Alyce G. Clarke Mississippi Lottery Law in 2018 during the Senate's extraordinary session. The Mississippi Lottery Corporation started selling scratch off tickets on November 25, 2019, with more

games coming out as time goes on. The first 80 million dollar in profits from the lottery are going towards infrastructure repair and maintenance, and any extra profits after 80 million will go towards education funding for the first ten years of operation; after that it will go into the State's General Fund.

The first six days of sales brought in over 8.9 million dollars, which shows the excitement of players and retailers over the lottery's arrival. The introduction of the lottery stimulates the local economy, with the increased traffic to gas stations and conve-

nience stores resulting in more transactions done overall, as well as a 6% store commission on lottery ticket sales. Traditionally, lottery tickets are sold at gas stations, convenience stores, and groceries, but are also available in places such as barber shops, salons, and other retailers.

People twenty one years or older can participate in the lottery and can pay for tickets with cash or card. Rewards can be claimed anonymously, and the deadline for receiving a prize is 90 days after the winner is announced.

Former COO of Nissan flees by night

BY ALEX ROBERSION
GRAPHICS EDITOR

Carlos Ghosn, former COO of Nissan Inc, has come under the international spotlight in recent months for his alleged financial crimes while executive of one of the world's largest auto companies and his subsequent escape from Japanese custody. Ghosn (pronounced Goan) was being held in Japan under house arrest, accused of falsifying income reports and misusing company funds amounting to millions of dollars.

The Japanese justice system is notable for its overwhelmingly guilty verdicts, and Ghosn, determined to maintain his plea of innocence, has repeatedly appeared before the press to criticize the proceedings. "I don't

think a system in which 99.4% of people are convicted is viable in a democracy. Maybe it's viable in North Korea," Ghosn says in response to the judicial system's notably high conviction rate.

Determined to take matters into his own hands, Ghosn formed a team while under house arrest and hatched a plot to be smuggled out of the country by private jet. Shut inside a specially modified audio-equipment case (holes were drilled in the bottom for air), Ghosn was transported through the Osaka-Kansai International airport through the private jet lounge without additional security screening.

Stopping briefly in Turkey, the jet then made its way to Ghosn's homeland of Lebanon, where he was reunited with his wife, Carole. "I have not fled justice—I have escaped injustice and political persecution," Ghosn



Carlos Ghosn former chief operating officer of Nissan Motor Co.

says of his escape. Although Japan has since issued an arrest warrant, Lebanon does not extradite its citizens, and Ghosn will likely be able to stay indefinitely. Seen largely as a national hero in Lebanon, Ghosn plans to settle into retirement with his wife in a formerly Nissan-owned mansion.

Mac Miller swims in *Circles* on his final album

BY DAX MURPHY
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Whether or not you have heard of rapper Mac Miller, most were devastated to hear the news of his passing on September 7th, 2018 after a drug overdose. Practically only a month after his believed-to-be final album, *Swimming*, released on August 3rd, the late rapper's death caused a surge of interest in his music. According to Billboard.com, streams of Miller's music catalog climbed 970% following his death. It was incredible seeing new and old fans alike sympathizing with his music and hearing the story of Malcolm McCormick through his detailed discography.

The story of this posthumous release entails the fact that

it is a companion album to *Swimming*. The phrase "Swimming in Circles" is the premise of this narrative Miller puts out.

A story of the monotony of life; the dread of a never-ending loop. This is the central theme of the combination of the two. *Swimming* explains Mac's contentment using a swim through isolation and taking on his problems by himself, and it takes *Circles* to conclude this tale by finishing his dive with a stroke of personal growth and understanding. Saying *Circles* is at the top of Mac's catalog is not a bad take. After seeing others' reactions to the album since it's come out, it's safe to say the album has been well received because of what it has to say about Miller's life and the realness of the whole record.

If *Swimming* is an album showing Mac with a clear conscience finally coming to terms with himself, *Circles* is a showcase of Mac's final thoughts: a chilling sendoff that Miller's family put "...was important to Malcolm for the world to hear it." With beautiful production from Jon Brion, an established producer who vowed to finish this album after Mac's passing, *Circles* combines meaningful lyrics with soft production to produce a story of self-reformation and one that fills fans with a sense of contentment.

Personally, I give it an 8.5/10. *Circles* shows musical growth of Mac as a person and an artist. It completely concludes his story with passionate mixing by producer Jon Brion and thoughtful lyricism by Miller himself.



Mac Miller during one of his emotionally resonating performances, outpouring his emotions.

Cats : An utter "Cat"astrophe

BY HANNAH GRACE BIGGS
COPY EDITOR

This past Christmas break, my best friend and I took it upon ourselves to watch the horror movie *Cats* which premiered on December 20, 2019. Now, *Cats* is not branded, marketed, written, or labeled as a horror movie. BUT IT SHOULD BE! Seriously, this movie is centrally located in the pit of the uncanny valley, a concept suggesting that the more humanoid a figure is without being a perfect replica of a human, the greater the feelings of discomfort it will evoke. I can not begin to describe the extreme unease with which I viewed this film.

The most disconcerting aspect of *Cats* was the visual design and movement of the characters. Watching cats with human fingers and toes, with human proportions, who dance and move like people, was one of the most disturbing experiences of my life. When confronted with such a monstrosity, everyone responds differently. My response was to laugh. My brain had no precedent for processing what it was

seeing. These "cats" are actually actors who, with the use of advanced special effects, sang and danced with CGI fur to mimic the appearance of a cat. What the directors and editors failed to factor in was the fact that these actors still had human proportions and therefore were more recognizable as humans than as cats; however, the use of CGI made them just inhuman enough that many who viewed the film found the effects creepy. The *Cats* Broadway musical utilizes costumes, makeup, and practical effects, creating a less disturbing effect due to the lack of CGI and the clearly recognizable human performers.

I questioned several students who had viewed the film, and the majority agreed that the movie would have been less disturbing, even possibly enjoyable, had the creators decided to create fully animated cats, complete with cat-like features and proportions. I must also mention that all students interviewed stated they did not enjoy the film. I am personally at a loss to understand why, with the precedent of such movies as *Lion King* (2019) using

advanced animation to create realistic animals, the creators of *Cats* didn't take a similar route. Senior Anna Reagan Mask questioned, "Why can't they just make them cats?!" Senior Olivia Moore disagreed, saying, "I think that no animation is the only real way to do it without things getting really weird and creepy, even though it's literally just making a copy of the musical." The Broadway musical *Cats* was widely praised for its elaborate costumes, and many think that the movie would have been less disturbing had the filmmakers taken the costume route.

In conclusion, I do think everyone should see *Cats*, not because it's a masterpiece of cinematography or has a compelling storyline, but because it is a bizarre cultural phenomenon and you will likely bond over the ordeal with any friends who accompany you. Senior Virden O' Brian says "*Cats* is undeniably a film. Brimming with a score, cinematography, and performances, it's a motion picture made by a team of filmmakers that can irrefutably be described as existent. Truly one of the films 2019 has to offer."



Three of the titular CGI cats performing a dance routine, much to the discomfort of the audience.



Shoplifters share information on YouTube

BY CAMP CARTER
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Shoplifting is a form of larceny and is a prosecutable criminal offense this article is meant to cover both sides of shoplifting and is not meant to encourage it. In Mississippi shoplifting merchandise worth less than 500 dollars for a first or second offense is a form of petit larceny, or petty theft, and is punishable by a time no longer than six months in the county jail, a fine of no more than \$1000, or both. My purpose, as always with this column, is simply to inform you about the weird stuff that is out there.

People of all races, genders, social classes, geographical areas, and time periods have shoplifted. Because of the potential economic gain and thrill from shoplifting, it has become one of the more pervasive crimes that store owners and law enforcement try to deal with time and time again. People have taken to sharing about their shoplifting experiences online, whether it be recounting the time they almost got caught or how to best remove magnetic tags from jackets in dressing rooms. Online content can be posted anonymously, without danger of being identified, shoplifting enthusiasts can do what the internet does best, spread information.

These are rough categories

of content that is posted online about shoplifting:

Hauls-these are primarily forum posts or vlogs, and consist of people showing off the results of their haul, usually with a price tag as a point of comparison. Stolen merchandise is usually smaller items which are more easily concealed in purses or pockets

Guides-these posts usually give out information to potential shoplifters, offering tips on how to avoid being caught. Common tips include how best to remove tags from clothing items, how to hide small items in purses and pockets, and how to avoid detection/getting caught. On the other side, many companies and news networks will put out guides to help store owners and employees deter thieves.

Storytimes-These videos are usually in a vlog or blog format and consists of someone admitting to their shoplifting habits, attempting to apologize for them, or recounting them in a dramatic fashion for entertainment.

Shoplifters usually justify their acts through believing that large companies are bad for the local economy, mistreat people, or are greedy. They also believe that their punishments are light. While these accusations are not necessarily untrue, they should not be used to justify illegal behavior.



For research purposes, I attempted to carry off several books from the school library. Photo by Olivia Moore

Jumanji 2 “Rock”s the “Hart”s of the audience

BY JULIA STRADINGER
STAFF WRITER

Jumanji: The Next Level was released on December 13, 2019. As the sequel to *Jumanji: Come to the Jungle*, a successful 2017 film, it had high expectations, and definitely met them with a very gripping film. (The original *Jumanji* movie, starring Robin Williams, was released in 1995. All the movies are based on a 1981 children's book by Chris Van Allsburg.)

In the 2017 *Jumanji*, four high school students accidentally embody avatars inside of a game (called *Jumanji*, hence the title), played by Kevin Hart, Dwayne Johnson, Jack Black, and Karen Gillan. These high school students, before they enter the game, are played by Alex Wolf (as Spencer), Morgan Turner (as Martha), Ser'Darius Blain (as Anthony),

and Madison Iseman (as Bethany).

A new twist, which provided excitement and made the movie interesting, was added to *Jumanji: The Next Level*. Spencer, Bethany, and Anthony accidentally embody different avatars this time - Bethany enters the game as a black horse instead of the Jack Black avatar, Spencer enters as the Awkwafina avatar instead of Dwayne Johnson avatar, and Anthony enters as the Jack Black avatar instead of the Kevin Hart avatar. While this twist made the film more interesting, it also adds a little confusion - if you haven't seen the 2017 *Jumanji*, then *Jumanji: The Next Level* may not make much sense.

A few new cast members are featured in the movie. Danny Glover (old-best friend of Spencer's grandfather in real life), accidentally enters *Jumanji* and embodies the Kevin Hart avatar. Danny Devito (Spencer's Grand-

father) also accidentally enters as Dwayne Johnson's avatar. The two's back and forth conversations add a hilarious element to the story. Awkwafina is also added to the cast, as Spencer's new avatar. The three well-known actors were a great addition to the *Jumanji* cast.

Overall, *Jumanji: The Next Level* does a great job of following up the last film, and definitely lived up to its expectations with an interesting plot. The setting of the *Jumanji* game and the goal to escape it were a little different, but it was still a familiar scene. The combination of new and returning cast was also well balanced.

In addition, the movie ends on an exciting cliffhanger, which adds a thrilling sensation. *Jumanji: The Next Level* is a great movie if you're looking for a humorous and action-packed film, and is currently still in theatres!



From left to right: Karen Gillan, Dwayne (The Rock) Johnson, Kevin Hart, and Jack Black.

Music Monthly: Unknown Mortal Orchestra

BY JANE HURST
STAFF WRITER

Each student at Jackson Prep is unique. Everyone has a hobby or special interest. Some people are devoted to one singer or band and want to share their love of their music with other people. This is an opportunity for students to voice their passion for

their favorite music. This month, Music Monthly is highlighting Sophomore Annie Jicka and one of her favorite bands, Unknown Mortal Orchestra.

Unknown Mortal Orchestra is an indie rock band that formed in 2010. It consists of singer and guitarist Ruban Nielson and bassist Jake Portrait. Annie discovered Unknown Mortal Orchestra through the radio station Sirius XMU, as well as her dad lis-

tening to them. Her favorite songs by them include: “Multi-Love”, “American guilt”, “So Good at Being in Trouble”, and “Necessary Evil”. Annie said, “I like how their lyrics are simple, but they also have a deep meaning”. She also likes the electronic elements of their music and the use of the organ. Annie also recommends Tame Impala, Jungle, Toro Y Moi, and MGMT if you enjoy Unknown Mortal Orchestra.



Members of Unknown Mortal Orchestra.

Juice Wrld: dead at 21 but not forgotten

BY JOSEPH CIACCIO
&
THOMAS WASSON
STAFF WRITERS

Jarad Anthony Higgins, also known as Juice WRLD, passed away on December 8, 2019, sparking controversy throughout rap culture. Born in Chicago, Illinois, he was known for his singles “All Girls Are the Same” and “Lucid Dreams” which helped him land multiple record deals leading Juice WRLD to be a multi-millionaire by the age of twenty-one. Unfortunately, three days after

his 21st birthday Juice wrld had a seizure due to the overdosing on painkillers.

In an autopsy, Juice WRLD's death was confirmed as an overdose on oxycodone and codeine. Police entered Juice WRLD's private hangar at Midway Airport in Chicago where he passed. On board the plane, they found forty-one bags of marijuana as well as six bottles of prescription codeine cough syrup. Two bodyguards were arrested for illegal possession of firearms and ammunition, with two 9 mm pistols and a .40-caliber pistol on board the plane.

Juice WRLD is just one of several rappers meeting an early death. The most famous rapper death was September 13, 1996, with the murder of Tupac Shakur. Tupac's exact death remains a mystery to this day, leading many to form conspiracy theories about his death. These conspiracy theories have continued over the years, with each death gaining a conspiracy theory before dying off in the months to come. In recent years, other rappers such as Lil Peep and XXXTentacion have both had early deaths, defining rap culture as, once again, one of overdoses and murder.

Bombshell drops allegations

BY CASS RUTLEDGE
OPINION EDITOR

Bombshell, the movie based on the true story of former Fox anchor Gretchen Carlson (played by Nicole Kidman) trying to take down one of the most powerful men in cable television, Roger Ailes (played by John Lithgow), details daily life at Fox News working under an accused sexual assaulter.

The movie begins with Megyn Kelly (played by Charlize Theron), the former host of *The Kelly File* on Fox News, narrating what it was like to work at the network and under Ailes. Ailes controlled everything that happened on the shows. He monitored the channel and made sure that everything was running smoothly—fixing chyron typos, controlling the news cycle narrative, and making sure that the women looked good to the viewers.

Kelly and Ailes had a good working relationship, and Ailes provided Kelly with high security and protected her after she got into a feud with then presidential candidate Donald Trump over debate questions.

However, Ailes did not treat women like that all the time. Kayla Pospisil (played by Margot Robbie) goes to Ailes's office to ask for a promotion, where Ailes creepily makes her twirl and pull up her skirt. It is implied that Ailes tries to assault her later in the film.

Chaos ensues at the network after Carlson files a lawsuit against Ailes for firing her for refusing his sexual advances. Megyn Kelly tries navigating the new Fox landscape, while trying to avoid the Ailes controversy and hiding an experience of her own.

While, it is important to remember that there were some exaggerations in the film and that it was only based on a true story, the movie effectively displays the grip of a powerful man, Roger Ailes, on so many women in a work environment. Megyn Kelly has pointed out some of the inaccuracies in the film, but she agrees that the main storyline is consistent with what really happened. Ailes's eventual downfall at Fox News was the first, but definitely not the last. *Bombshell* documents the beginning of the #MeToo era and the first of many powerful executives being held accountable.



Bombshell stars Charlize Theron, Nicole Kidman, and Margot Robbie.w

Harry pops off with Fine Line

BY AINSLEY O'QUINN
VIDEO EDITOR

Harry Styles's long awaited second album, *Fine Line*, is finally here. The album features 12 songs including the popular singles “Lights Up” and “Adore You”. This is Styles' second album; his first was released in 2017. I have been looking forward to this album for so long, and it definitely did not disappoint.

You can hear the influence of 70s music on many of the songs in this album, which I think is a cool thing you don't get in a lot of music today. The vulnerability of songs like “Cherry” and “Falling” was a pleasant surprise. The lyrics are so real and sad, showing a side of Styles he has never re-

vealed in his music before. There is a wide range of styles and types of songs on the album.

One of my favorite tracks is “Golden”. It is just the perfect song for a riding in the car on a summer day. “Canyon Moon” is a fun, upbeat bop that sounds like it is made for a road trip. I was really excited to hear “Treat People With Kindness” because that has been Styles' motto I guess you would say since he started making music on his own. TPWK is a feel good song about, obviously, treating people with kindness. On the opposite end of the spectrum, “Falling” is a really sad, vulnerable track, but it is my favorite on the album. I think this album really showcases Styles' range as an artist and will be a fan favorite for years to come.



Harry Styles relaxing in his promotional album photo.

Allie & Ainsley's appetite: Senior Lunch



BY ALLIE WISE
STAFF WRITER
&
AINSLEY O'QUINN
VIDEO EDITOR

Welcome back! We hope your 2020 is off to a great start. This issue is going to be a little different. We will be using our experience from the first semester, as well as our fellow classmates' opinions, to give you the best and most popular restaurants to eat at for senior lunch. For all you non seniors, read this and look forward to the highly coveted privilege of eating off campus once a week.

We will start out with restaurants for forum schedule days, aka restaurants you can get to quickly. One of our favorite restaurants close by is Schlotsky's. The quality of the food is really surprising considering it is fast food. Our favorite thing to get is the margarita flatbread. Chick Fil

A is obviously a classic. Panda Express is a good option if you want something a little different. OEC is also a favorite of many students. Some more quick options are McCalisters, Panera, Canes, and Subway.

Basil's is one of our favorite restaurants to go to on regular schedule days. Pro tip: eat at La Brioche instead and get your food much faster! Roosters is another option if your friends are eating at Basil's, and you want a burger. A fun place to go if you can't decide what you are in the mood for is Cultivation Food Hall. You have to hurry a little bit because it is a little further away, but most of the restaurants are pretty quick. Primos, Chicken Salad Chick, Vitality Bowls, Newks, and Five Guys are also great options on Lakeland. They are quick and easy to get to. In conclusion, there isn't one restaurant that is the best for senior lunch. Because we are given so much time, there are many great options!



Seniors dine at Cultivation for their off campus lunch. Photo by Ainsley O'Quinn

New Malco in Renaissance

BY LILLY GRACE SITES
STAFF WRITER
&
JANE HURST
STAFF WRITER

Recently, the Malco Renaissance Cinema Grill opened in a newly constructed area of Renaissance in Ridgeland. This Malco Theater has a few key differences from Malco Grandview in Madison. The new theater offers full meal dining options as well as traditional movie theater snacks. The theater is also smaller than Malco Grandview, and, overall, it offers a more modern viewing experience. The theater is overall much cleaner than the others in the Jackson area, and it's features such as the bar and music-synchronized water fountain distinguish it. Junior Aubrey Scott Moak stated, "Going to the theater was a unique experience and I plan to go back." Another difference between the two the-

aters is that the new Malco has reclining seats. While buying a ticket, customers must reserve which seat they want to sit in before they get into the movie.

Since this is a newer development, people should be aware that the prices are higher. An adult ticket for the renaissance theater is \$9.50, opposed to \$8 dollars at Malco Grandview. This includes movie tickets, food, and refreshments. One of the factors of an expensive ticket is the comfortable seating. The reclining chairs are very enjoyable and make for a relaxing movie experience. These new seats are one of the many things drawing an audience to check out the new theater. Since the new theater has attracted so many people, we recommend buying tickets ahead of time or getting to the theater early. Overall, the location of the theater makes it convenient for people to see movies and enjoy their experience.



The entrance of the brand new malco theatre. Photo by Lily Grace Sites

Lila Murphy crowned Junior Miss Dixie National

BY LILLY NOBLE
FEATURES EDITOR

Coming soon to the Mississippi Coliseum, the 2020 Dixie National Rodeo will bring in people from across the country for country music, barrel racing, and bull riding on February 6-12. A section of the competition many people don't know about is the livestock show. This has been going on since January 30 and will continue on until February 16. At the opening of the shows, the rodeo queens and princesses are presented. The glitter and sparkles surrounding them leaving young girls in awe. This year the Prep family has a student participating as Junior Miss Dixie National, Lila Murphy.

While preparing for the pageant she made sure to study all about the Dixie National Rodeo and its history, which includes when it began, who founded the rodeo, the different events, and so on. She studied the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association that sanctions rodeos all across the United States, even the Dixie National Rodeo. She needed to be familiar with the Wrangler National Finals Rodeo including the 2019 professional World Champions are.

There were other topics

she had to study besides rodeo information. Lila studied about our state government and our federal government and everything about horses, like body parts, diseases, vaccines, and so on. Lila shared that, "As Junior Miss Dixie National, I have the amazing opportunity to serve as an ambassador for the Dixie National Rodeo and serve as a link between the rodeo and the public. I will ride in every opening ceremony for the Dixie National, along with other amazing rodeo queens, attend schools, hospitals, and so on! Be sure to buy your tickets for

the Dixie National! I would love to see you there!"

Following the opening ceremony, national anthem, and prayer, the greatest show on dirt begins. By the 12th, the participants will be narrowed down to determine the winner in each category. At the end of each night, a country star will take the stage on the dirt. Some of these performers including Hardy, Craig Morgan, and Russel Dickerson. Whether you go to see the livestock, sing along to the performances, or support Lila, it is sure to be a week full of fun!



Lila Murphy, Junior Miss Dixie National. Photo courtesy of Lila Murphy

Pet of the Month: Oliver Francois Johnson

BY SAYLEY CRAWFORD
FUN AND GAMES EDITOR
&
MARA LISTON
VIDEO EDITOR

This issues Pet of the Month is a dog that you might have heard of. His owner is none other than the Patriot Man, Ben Johnson. Oliver Francois Johnson is a Bichon Frise and has been in Ben's family for twelve years. The family always wanted a small white dog, so they looked into a bunch of different breeds. They choose the Bichon Frise because they are hypoallergenic and are known for having great personalities. The subject of how Oliver

got his name is up for debate. Ben Johnson says it comes from a name in a TV show they watched growing up, but his sister Olivia thinks otherwise. Olivia says it was her brilliant idea to name the dog Oliver after herself. Oliver is a fluffy boy who is very friendly and is always the first to greet visitors. Olivia Johnson's favorite thing about her dog is how happy and energetic he is. When asked if his dog has any special talents, Ben responded saying, "He's not very smart. However, he certainly makes up for it because he is so cute." Ben is in love with his dog, but Ben isn't Oliver's favorite. Awkward. Oliver's favorite person is Olivia. Maybe a dog is a girl's best friend after all.



Ben and Oliver. Photo courtesy of Ben Johnson

Doughnuts: New and improved

BY LAUREN ANNE SMITH
MANAGING EDITOR

Doughnuts have been trending around town recently due to two restaurants opening. Campbell's Craft Donuts and The Dapper Doughnut are mixing things by showing that there are more options than a basic glazed doughnut.

Campbell's Craft Donuts is located in the new Belhaven Town Center and has been gaining popularity with its massive doughnuts and array tacos. You only need one doughnut to fill you up due to their size. The doughnuts are definitely the cream of the crop on the menu, as customers can see them being made by the staff. The doughnuts are soft and dense, and the icing

has a rich finish The daily made doughnuts with toppings are \$2, and the filled ones are \$2.75 to \$3.50.

The Dapper Doughnut is a franchise that can be found in Flowood, where you can order or create your own mini doughnuts. My first impression of trying the doughnuts are that they taste similar to beignets, especially the powdered sugar ones. Their bite-size adorableness makes for a great photo opportunity as well.

The pricing starts at \$4.99 for 6, then 12 at \$7.99 and 24 for \$14.99. I would recommend getting the 6 pack, as it's a perfect size and the best price point.

I would recommend Campbell's Craft Donuts if you were in the mood to grab breakfast or lunch and The Dapper Doughnut for a snack. Both establishments did an excellent job on creativity and originality with their variety of doughnuts available.



Campbell's Craft Donuts. Photo by Lauren Anne Smith

Boys' basketball starts conference play

BY OLIVIA MOORE
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

With the start of the new year, the Jackson Prep boys' basketball team has moved from its usual games into a new season of conference play. This game transition started on Friday January 11th in their game against Presbyterian Christian, and the switch have raised the stakes for the team games and made the matches more intense.



Jackson Prep Boys Basketball started the new year playing matches that weren't conference against Bayou Academy, Brookhaven Academy, and the Jackson Victors. Then, the team lost their first conference match against Presbyterian Christian, losing thirty five to forty three. They then traveled to Parklane Academy and won their game there. Their next game was against Madison Ridgeland Academy where they lost fifty to fifty seven. The next game was a home match against Copiah Academy, where they won their next match. The team then played Copiah Academy at a home match, and won against them. Their most recent match was against JA, where they lost by two points in an intense JA match.

The starting lineup consists of seniors Andrew Purvis, Sam Buchanan, and Alexander Payne, and Sophomores Cam Brent and Lampton Moore. As they progress towards the conference tournament, their matches grow in importance. You can watch their matches in person or on the Jackson Prep Sports livestream.

Left: Lampton Moore looks down the court to see his options.
Below: Cam Brent crosses over his opponent

Photos by Hannah Grace Biggs



Girls' basketball starts winning season

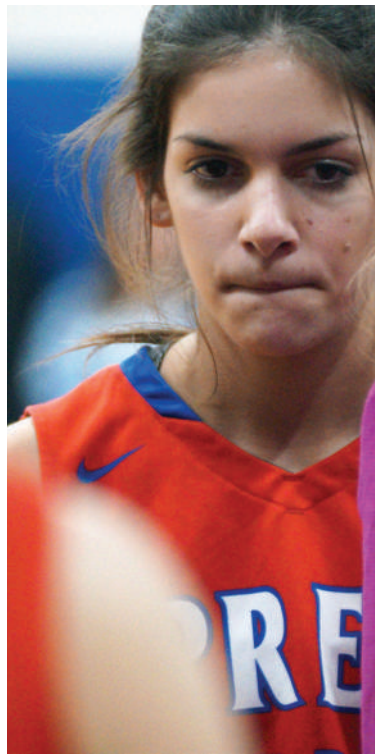
BY MASON NICHOLS
SPORTS EDITOR

The Jackson Prep girls' Basketball team has set an impressive winning standard this season. Coach Michael McAnally's squad is stringing together one of the most impressive regular season resumes in recent memory. As of Tuesday, January 28, the Patriots had amassed a record of 18-7, including three conference wins compared to two losses. Here's how they got there:

Beginning the season, guards Campbell Perkins, Olivia Sasser, and Olivia Smith teamed with forwards Anna Grace Morgan and Julia Zouboukos to round out the starting five. However, an unexpected injury to Morgan left a hole in the lineup. That hole was quickly filled by Mackenzie Shoemaker, who, along with Zouboukos, has secured key rebounds for the Patriots down the stretch.

The return of talented sophomore Andie Flatgard from a leg injury has been a positive storyline thus far. The youthful guard has provided shooting and ball-handling support off the bench for the Patriots since her return. Additionally, ever-consistent junior Olivia Sasser continues to live up to her reputation as

a dangerous scoring threat. Despite their talented young players, the Patriots are undoubtedly held together by their senior leadership. The squad boasts six upperclassmen, each of whom will need to use their experience if they hope for a deep playoff run.



Speaking of playoffs, the Patriots have a chance to improve on their imposing 18-7 record with several upcoming conference games. These games, often against rivals like Jackson Academy and Madison-Ridgeland Academy, are extremely import-

ant, as they determine playoff seeding. Beginning conference play, the girls walloped Presbyterian Christian 52-28 and Parklane Academy 41-31. Yet, their nine-game winning streak was soon broken in a 31-44 loss to MRA.

However, the Patriots bounced back to their winning ways four days later with a 53-36 thrashing of Copiah Academy. A matchup with rival and perennial powerhouse Jackson Academy loomed large on the schedule. Accompanied by boisterous student sections on both sides, the Patriots lost the tough matchup 33-41.

If they maintain the tendencies they have shown this year, Prep will rebound well after the upsetting result in Sheffield. You can support your Patriots at home on February 4 and 11 for revenge matches against MRA and JA.

The most important games of the season are yet to come for the talented bunch, so continue to show your support in upcoming games. As for right now, the Patriots will continue to march towards the conference playoffs at Mississippi College.

Above: Julia Stradinger plans her next move during a timeout.
Below: Julia Zouboukos shoots a freethrow.
Photos by Hannah Grace Biggs

Young Athletes to Watch: Allen Rebich and Gracie Atkinson

BY WALKER POOLE
SOCIAL MEDIA EDITOR

Allen Rebich

Allen Rebich is in eighth grade and he plays football, basketball, and baseball at Prep. He started at center for the junior high football team as an eighth-grader and was one of the only eighth-graders to start for the team. Coach Triplett, junior high offensive line coach, was very proud of how Allen played this year and is looking forward to having him back next year.

On the basketball court, Allen plays center for the team, using his big body to snatch rebounds. As if playing two sports wasn't enough, Allen also made the baseball team this year, play-

ing first and third base. He is excited for the upcoming season and hopes to make his presence felt on the diamond.

Not only is Allen a great athlete, but he has appeared on

the high honor roll all year, truly defining what a student-athlete should be. Whatever the future holds for Allen, we can surely expect something amazing.



Allen Rebich engages in a block. Photo courtesy of Allen Rebich

Gracie Atkinson

Gracie Atkinson is another multi-sport athlete at Prep, playing soccer and basketball. She also runs cross country and track. Gracie just came to Prep from PCS with her older brother Ben, who is on the football team. On the soccer field, Gracie plays right midfield. Additionally, she plays guard for the basketball team. Gracie looks to finish her basketball season strong by winning the junior high conference tournament that takes place in a few weeks at Jackson Academy.

Gracie plans on running the one mile, two-mile, and the 4x800 relay in track. With coach Burke in her corner, the sky is the limit. In the classroom, Gracie excels, making all A's and B's. Jackson Prep is excited to see Gracie's development over the next few

years. Only time will tell what her future holds.



Gracie Atkinson finishes a 5k. Photo courtesy of Ben Atkinson

BY SARAH CORY
SPORTS EDITOR

The boys' soccer season is in full swing. The playoffs are getting closer, with the end goal being the State Championship on February 22nd. There are only a few guaranteed games left for the regular season. Expectations are the same as they have won the Championship nine years in a row.

This year there are a total of eight seniors helping to lead the team. Sam Drennan and Blake Painter play in the midfield, helping create chances for their teammates. Blake Painter had some thoughts on his senior season saying, "My senior soccer season has been a great experience. I'm looking forward to playing these remaining games with the team and hopefully coming out with another State Championship." JC Polk is a leader on the defensive side of things and has been consistent all year.

The Patriots defeated rivals JA on January 21. In the second half, Sam Drennan scored



Lewis Knotts scoring a header against JA. Photo courtesy of Beverly Oden



Blake Painter going for the ball against an MRA player. Photo courtesy of Beverly Oden

giving the Patriots a 1-0 lead. Shortly after that, sophomore Lewis Knotts scored a header, extending the lead to two. "It's been a fun experience getting to learn from the seniors. It's a lot different from JV but in a good way. Scoring against a rival like JA was cra-

zy. We were already up one goal but scoring that 2nd felt great." JA kept fighting but was not able to pull off a comeback. Another big win in the regular season was beating MRA 2-0. Most recently, Prep played PCS on the 25th, with a decisive victory, beating them 8-1.

Finishing the season strong is the main priority for the remaining games. Head coach Jon Marcus Duncan said, "I am really pleased with our progress through the season. We know that we have four weeks left of soccer and understand it's going to take a 100% team effort and commitment to achieve our ultimate goal of winning another State Championship. We expect to be in the championship, as those are always our expectations."



Graphic by Alex Roberson

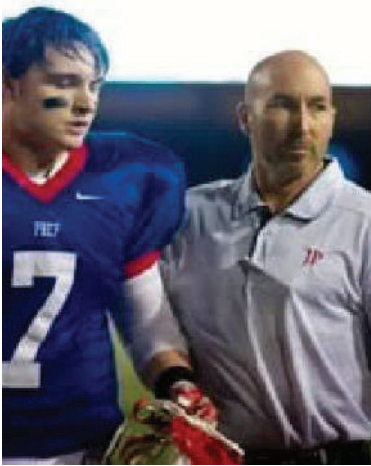
BY LAUREN ANNE SMITH
MANAGING EDITOR

The thundering voice and the constant motivation are just some of the few ways Prep students describe Rusty Burke. Wherever you are on campus, you always will find Coach Burke ready to give you a high five or a fist bump to brighten your day.

Coach Burke is very involved with the school, as he has tons of jobs on campus. He is a linebacker coach for the high school football team, the Head Girls Track Coach, the head of sports performance, and the Assistant Strength Coach.

Coach Burke is originally from Brandon, where he grew up playing football and baseball. His love of baseball led him to play at Hinds Community College and, eventually, the University of Georgia. Something students may not know about Coach Burke is that he used to be a rodeo clown.

Before Rusty Burke became Coach Burke, he was known for helping with Sports Performance for physical therapy at Prep. "In 2002, I came to Prep as a volunteer and the following year I joined the coaching staff." With track season on the horizon, his input on the season "is to



Coach Burke with one of his players. Photo courtesy of Rusty Burke

run the girls at their best potential." Burke says, "We have a great distance team and a brand new sprint team. I'm excited about with the younger girls coming in and the others trying out the field events."

The most memorable moments for Coach Burke are watching students succeed in athletics. Some of the highlights include school record holder Laura Lee Smith finishing up her senior year, the boys' track team beating PCS by half a point thanks to Hamel McGraw winning the mile relay with a photo finish, seeing Jerriion Ealy go through his athletic career, and being apart of seven straight state football championships.

The most important part about the Prep family to Coach Burke is that everyone is so close-knit. "Everybody is trying to work together to make everyone else better. It's a team effort just like a family would be. We're helping each other to reach our goal, and that's what matters."

Mississippi universities strike gold with coaching searches

BY HADDON MCLEOD
STAFF WRITER

The Ole Miss football program has been disappointing over the last couple of years. Some of the failure has been due to sanctions by the NCAA. Those sanctions are gone now, and there are no excuses anymore.

This year, Ole Miss brought in two new coordinators and a good amount of young talent. The season was a disappointment to say the least. The Rebels went 4-8 and 2-6 in conference play and lost many winnable games to Memphis, California, Missouri, Texas A&M, Missouri, and Mississippi State. The Rebels lost the Egg Bowl in dramatic fashion. Elijah Moore scored to put the game at 21-20 but committed an unsportsmanlike penalty. The flag backed up the rebels and lead to a missed PAT. It was a very bad look for the school and the program. The loss was an embarrassing one, and it was the last straw for Matt Luke.

Athletic Director Keith Carter decided it was time to move on from Luke. The Rebels led a productive and quick coaching search. Athletic Director Keith Carter held a press conference on December 2nd. Carter said that he was going to find the right coach for Ole Miss no matter where he was from. Carter

said that he was grateful for all Coach Luke did in the midst of all the NCAA violations. He said that it came down to not enough success on the field. Carter said that this decision needed to be made also to try to re-energize the program and regain the support of more fans.

Ole Miss hired Lane Kiffin, who was the head coach at Florida Atlantic University. Kiffin was serenaded by fans and students upon his arrival. Someone even handed him their baby. Kiffin is one of the most well known names in college football, so this hire was national news. His coaching stops have included the University of Tennessee, USC, and the Oakland Raiders.

His hiring has definitely ignited and re-energized the Ole Miss fan base. Although he has struggled with some off the field issues, he says he has matured a lot at Alabama with Coach Saban. His high octane offenses have been very effective everywhere he's been. Kiffin said at the press conference, "We didn't come here to be good, we came here to be great." Kiffin has definitely excited fans and students. Kiffin's fun personality and twitter trolling should be fun to watch for the coming years. Regardless, Ole Miss just may be relevant in football again.



Lane Kiffin speaks at a press conference.



New head coach Mike Leach rings a cowbell.

BY WILL GIBBS
STAFF WRITER

Recently, Mississippi State announced the hiring of Mike Leach to be the 34th head coach of their football program. Leach has spent the previous seven seasons as the head coach at Washington State University. At Washington State, Leach led his teams to a record of 55-47. Before his time at Washington State, he was the head coach at Texas Tech, where he got the Red Raiders a ranking as high as second in the nation. He has won everywhere he has been and has a history of taking over programs which historically have struggled and made them competitive in tough conferences.

The hiring of Leach came exactly a week after MSU announced the firing of former coach Joe Moorhead, who failed to meet fan expectations in his two years as coach. Mike Leach is looking to elevate Mississippi State to a level they have been at only a few times in their history and hopes to sustain that level of success. Leach brings a style of offense that is very new to SEC fans and especially new to Mississippi State fans. His teams have ranked top 10 in the nation in passing yards every year he has been a head coach except for one (they were ranked 11th). Leach runs a system widely known as

the air raid. His teams throw the ball nearly 80% of the time. An adjustment period will definitely be necessary for the team to get accustomed to throwing the ball, but once Leach is able to bring his recruits in, his offense should be successful in the SEC.

Leach has brought his entire offensive staff over from Washington State to be with him in Starkville. Among these is former Cougar wide-receiver coach Steve Spurrier Jr., the son of legendary Florida and South Carolina coach Steve Spurrier. Defensively, Leach has brought some of his assistants from Washington State but not all. The defensive coordinator position was given to former San Diego State assistant Zach Arnett. Arnett was the defensive coordinator at SDSU for two years. Last season, his defense ranked in the top ten nationally in seven different categories. This is viewed as a solid hire in the SEC and around the nation.

MSU fans had little to no hope after State lost its bowl game against Louisville. Luckily, MSU athletic director John Cohen was willing to make the best long term move for the future of the program by hiring Mike Leach. Leach's interesting personality as well as his successful coaching stops have MSU fans finally feeling a sense of hope that they have not felt in years.

MLB Cheating Scandal

BY MASON NICHOLS
SPORTS EDITOR

Upon initial thought, baseball conjures up many images. Molded leather, hickory bats, and freshly-cut grass serve as the beloved reminders that spring is just around the corner, bringing America's pastime with it. However, tucked neatly away is baseball's scandalous history, hidden from sight like an ugly stepchild. Recently, scandal reclaimed its spot in the limelight, showing once again that cheating is as much a part of baseball as a box of crackerjacks.

This time, steroids and gambling are out of the equation. Enter cameras. The Houston Astros, owners of one of the greatest turnarounds in baseball history, went from worst to first in just four years. Their astronomical rise fueled by innovative strategies, young talent, and statistic-based managing, the Astros were the clear team of the future. Still riding on the coat-tails of their 2017 World Series victory, the public's attention was shifted to several ugly allegations from former player Mike Fiers.

Supposedly, the Astros employed a system for decoding the opposing team's signals in the 2017 season. Aiming a live camera at the other squad's catcher, players in the dugout would tell the hitter which pitch was coming by banging on a trashcan. Soon after, rumors surfaced that Astros players, including former



A.J. Hinch walks off the field. Photo courtesy of UPI.com
MVP Jose Altuve, wore bandages interwoven with buzzers that alerted them of which pitch was coming during the 2017 postseason. As a result, the team posted other-worldly numbers at the dish, slugging home runs at a historic rate while keeping strikeouts near the league minimum. Which, for well-paid professional athletes, is easy when they know what is coming.

Caught in the scandal are several high-profile baseball staffers. A.J. Hinch, Houston's manager, and Jeff Luhnow, Houston's general manager, were fired and handed year-long suspensions from baseball as a result of their supposed involvement. Additionally, Alex Cora, Houston's former bench coach, was fired from his position as the Boston Red Sox's manager. The cheating scheme has thoroughly shaken up Major League baseball, making baseball's "model organization" its most deplorable.

Rumors and accusations continue to circulate at baseball's highest level. And truth be told, no one, not even the Astros, knows what comes next.

College Football season in review

BY JAKE LANGE
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The 2019-2020 College football season was without a doubt one of the best seasons in recent memory. We had the greatest individual season of all time by heisman trophy winner Joe Burrow. Burrow shattered every college football passing record facing the toughest schedule in college footballs 150 year history. They beat the preseason top 4 and 7 top 10 teams, all by double digits.

It was a season of redemption for the tigers to say the least. after bouncing around college football and being turned down by many programs, Coach O finally won the big one in his home state. LSU finally beat Alabama after not beating the tide for nearly a decade en route to the title. And Joe burrow won the heisman after being told he wasn't good enough at Ohio State.

Another huge factor this year was the transfer portal. In college footballs version of free agency, student athletes can make themselves available to recruitment without officially leaving their universities until they have signed somewhere else. 3 of the 4 quarterbacks in the CFP, including Burrow, were transfers from other power 5 schools.

We saw Alabama struggle this year as well, opening up opportunities for other teams across the country to compete. After losing

to LSU, Alabama was still expected to compete for a playoff spot. Even though star quarterback Tua Tagovailoa missed the rest of the season after a dislocated hip against MS State, they still had a chance to get in until losing to Auburn. They missed the playoffs for the first time in the history of the CFP, which started in 2014.

While this year's Iron Bowl was certainly one to remember, it was one of many great games of the year. Alabama vs LSU became an instant classic and solidified Joe Burrows heisman status. The 2019 edition of the Egg Bowl became a game many fans will never forget. The Fiesta bowl, featuring Clemson and Ohio State was arguably the best game of the year.

After a first quarter of Ohio State dominating with running back JK Dobbins, a tar-

geting call by Ohio state shifted the momentum. Clemson QB Trevor Lawrence preceded to tear apart Ohio state with his arms and legs. Ohio state got the ball with a minute left down 6, until Quarterback Justin Fields threw an interception that looked like a miscommunication between him and receiver Chris Olave. That INT sent the tigers to the title game.

In recap, the 150th college football season gave us the greatest individual season ever (Burrow), greatest team ever (LSU), and one of the best games of the decade (Clemson vs. Ohio State). The 2020 season will be even more exciting, as the evolution of the transfer portal and the dedication to success among the elite programs in the country will create intense recruiting battles that will shape the college football landscape for years to come.



Joe Burrow lifts the National Championship trophy after their victory over Clemson. Picture courtesy of BleacherReport.com

Chiefs vs 49ers: Super Bowl 54 preview

BY CHARLES STEPHENSON
SPORTS EDITOR

With the 100th year of the NFL coming to an end, the AFC champions take on the NFC champions in Super Bowl LIV (54). The big game will be hosted in Miami, Florida, on February 2nd, and televised on Fox at 5:30 p.m. The Super Bowl will showcase the Kansas City Chiefs and San Francisco 49ers.

The Chiefs, led by 2018 MVP winner Patrick Mahomes, comes into the game as the 3rd ranked offense in yards per game through the postseason according to NFL.com. Madden 20 cover athlete Patrick Mahomes has led the Chiefs to one of their best seasons to date, with a 12-4 regular season record and additional wins in the divisional and confer-

ence rounds of the playoffs. With arguably the fastest receiving core and one of the best tight ends in the league, the offensive side of the Chiefs has proved to be critical throughout their 2019-2020 campaign. Wide receiver Tyreek Hill whose nickname is "Cheeta" is the fastest receiver in the NFL. Hill's speed is accompanied by fellow wide receivers, Sammy Watkins, and Mecole Hardman. Veteran tight end Travis Kelce is one of the biggest assets to the Chiefs offense as he is the favorite target with 97 receptions on the season. Running backs Damien Williams and Lesean McCoy have helped the offense with their quick and powerful running game. Mahomes, known for his no look passes and strong arm, is looking to lead the Chiefs to their second Super Bowl victory.

The defensive side of the

Chiefs proves to be a strong force in the big game, as they have recorded 45 sacks, 3 defensive touchdowns, and a +8 turnover ratio during the regular season. Defensive tackle Chris Jones, from Mississippi State, leads the team with 9 sacks. The defensive end position is likely the most dangerous for opposing teams. Defensive end Terrell Suggs has 6 sacks and leads the team with 4 fumbles. Fellow end, Frank Clark has 8 sacks, 3 fumbles, and 1 interception throughout the regular season. Other defensive weapons include Anthony Hitchens, Tyrann Mathieu, Reggie Ragland, and Damien Wilson.

The 2019 Chiefs look very strong coming into the big game, and look to claim the Lombardi Trophy on Sunday night. Following the AFC Championship victory over the Tennessee Titans, Head Coach Andy Reid celebrated with a burger and then went to bed, as he told reporters in an interview. Reid came short of the Lombardi Trophy in Super Bowl XXXIX (39) as his former Philadelphia Eagles lost to the New England Patriots. Reid has returned and is looking to secure his first Super Bowl Victory.

The San Francisco 49ers head into the Super Bowl with a 13-3 regular season record. After advancing from the divisional and conference rounds, the 49ers are looking to claim their 6th Super Bowl victory. Head coach,

Kyle Shanahan has brought the team back to the championship as he is part of the new generation of young coaches. At just 40 years old, Shanahan has brought in many star athletes to the team. Both sides of the ball have proved to be dominant, but the strong defense is ranked 2nd throughout the NFL's postseason.

With the second pick of the 2019 NFL Draft the 49ers picked up the powerful edge rushing defensive end out of Ohio State, Nick Bosa. Bosa has 9 sacks and 1 interception through the regular season. Fellow defensive ends Arik Armstead and Dee Ford as well as defensive tackle DeForest Buckner add to the already strong defensive line. Behind the line are Kwon Alexander, Dre Greenlaw, and Fred Warner, who all play vital roles as linebackers for the 49ers. 8 year veteran cornerback Richard Sherman played his first 7 seasons with the Seattle Seahawks, but was picked up by the 49ers in free agency of 2018. Jaquiski Tartt and Jimmie Ward also accompany Sherman in the secondary. This defense proves to be a strong threat to the powerful chiefs offense.

Ranking 2nd overall in total points, points per game, total rushing yards, and rushing yards per game, this impressive offense could lead them to victory. Former New England Patriot backup quarterback, Jimmy Garoppolo, leads the 49ers offense. After

his departure with the Patriots in 2017, Jimmy G came in as the backup, but was bumped up after the starter, CJ Beathard, was hurt. In the backfield with Garoppolo are running backs Tevin Coleman, Raheem Mostert, and Matt Breida. Each running back has gotten plenty of touches, which is quite impressive. Tevin Coleman dislocated his right shoulder in the NFC Championship game against the Green Bay Packers. Coleman is expected to return for the Super Bowl, but with such an impressive backfield, there will not be too much concern if he is not available. Wide receiver Emmanuel Sanders is no stranger to the Super Bowl, as he appeared in 2011 with the Pittsburgh Steelers and in 2015 with the Denver Broncos. Sanders helped the Broncos win Super Bowl L (50), and will look to win yet another with the 49ers. Rookie receiver Deebo Samuel has also helped this wide receiving core come alive this season. Arguably the most talented player on the offensive side of the ball is tight end George Kittle. With a total of 85 receptions and over 1,000 yards in the regular season, Kittle is making a name for himself and is one of the best tight ends in the league.

With both teams having some of the best offensive and defensive play in the league, this highly anticipated matchup should be one to remember.



Patrick Mahomes chats with Jimmy Garoppolo at the Super Bowl 54 media day. Photo courtesy of trentonian.com

“Hard work” doesn’t matter

BY TY USEY
STAFF WRITER

I’ve been observing debates between conservatives and socialists for quite some time, and when they argue over the nature of capitalism two words seem to come up very frequently: hard work. Generally, American conservatives tend to state that economic redistribution is bad because it punishes wealthier people, who these conservatives believe to have totally earned their success through hard work, making it immoral to raise taxes on the rich and such. Socialists take a similar concept but apply the opposite logic to it; to them, most of the rich, and especially billionaires, do not deserve their monetary success precisely because they haven’t worked hard enough.

Both of these arguments are wrong for very different reasons, and both neglect to see the real way free-market capitalism is meant to function. You see, socialists aren’t necessarily wrong when they claim that the kind of money billionaires receive is vastly disproportionate to the amount of labor they put in. The socialists may not be wrong here, but their arguments are still worthless. “Hard work” is irrelevant in a free

market. Nothing about making work “hard” suddenly gives it legitimacy it did not have before.

The idea that one’s wealth should be directly proportional to his or her labor is based off of a now archaic concept known as the labor theory of value. This theory states that all economic value should be proportional to the amount of work one does, in simplified terms, how much “hard work” is done. And this idea, that hard work should be the main determinant of economic value, was traditionally a hallmark of radical socialist movements.

Many can see that there’s one glaring flaw in this idea: the value of hard work is subjective. One man’s work can be totally useless to another. I could bang my head on a table for ten hours a day, and no one would deny that I am hard at work. But my work is also useless, and no one would want to pay me for this. There are much more complex reasons as to why the labor theory of value is problematic, such as how it could theoretically eliminate finance as we know it and cause mass inefficiencies with this near-destruction of private investment, but many economists much more informed than I am have researched these reasons in greater depth.

The ultimate goal of my editorial is to try to give us all a

more accurate view of how our free-market capitalist system actually works, without so much of the defensive rugged individualist dogma that guides these conversations so often. Jeff Bezos makes hundreds of thousands of times the money the average American worker does. Yes, Jeff Bezos has worked hard, but in no way has he worked anywhere remotely close to hundreds of thousands of times harder than the average American.

And this is why we need to stop acting like capitalism is about hard work—it doesn’t matter. Markets are about what is valuable, what is in demand. Markets do not care whether it took you thirty minutes or two days to make a bench; they will demand the same price no matter what. Maybe this reality scares people; maybe the fact that a market economy may not respect the amount of work you have done makes people feel as if they have less control over their livelihoods than they already do. But make no mistake, this is reality, and the sooner we face this terrifying yet dynamic feature of our capitalist economy, that our labor and hard work is and will always be subjective, the better we will be equipped to succeed in this world.

A modest proposal for better communication

BY ELI VENARSKE
STAFF WRITER

How can they learn except they be taught? How can they be taught except there be a teacher? How can the teacher learn them some knowledge except they communicate? Clarity in communication at school is paramount in order to facilitate education. Knowledge cannot be imparted or received without clear words, reasoning, and purpose.

Outside of the classroom, this theory manifests itself in school wide communications having to do with such things as sporting events, class and club meetings, lockdowns, and other scheduling. The only way students can participate in these events is if the school clearly communicates what is expected of students and what new opportunities are being offered.

Today, the change I am calling for is intricately connected with the issue of communication at school. Often times, the front office will make a school wide announcement. In theory, a loud beep will announce the

presence of a mouth at the speaker, the message will be delivered, and students and teachers will proceed with class. There are, however, two major issues with this process.

The first is that there is no discernable difference between the chime of the announcement and the sound the bell makes. They have the exact same duration and number of repetitions, as regulated by the Mississippi Department of Private School Bell and other Various Announcement Devices Maintenance and Distribution Services (MDoPSBaoVADMaDS). This causes mass confusion in every classroom on campus. As soon as they hear the announcement chime, students begin to pack up as though it were the bell.

The second issue is the timing of the bell. With no clocks, watches, or other time telling devices allowed in the classroom, students and teachers have no point of reference to tell if the chime is an announcement or the bell based on when they occur (time telling devices were banned in 2018 when Jackson Prep switched to a rotating bin, drawer, dresser, cabinet, and

shelving system. The administration decided that the increments of two minutes between classes were easy enough to follow, so time telling devices would be an unnecessary distraction in the classroom. Some styles of pocket sundials are still permitted on a teacher-by-teacher basis). These issues together create a recipe for scheduling and communication disaster.

It is time for a major reform in the school wide announcement system at Jackson Preparatory School. There is chaos in the classrooms. Some teachers have become so paranoid about impending confusion during class that they hear the bell when there is no bell or announcement at all. All this could be prevented with one simple action: when the speaker chimes for an announcement, the first thing that needs to be said is “This is not the bell,” followed shortly after by “any student or faculty member who acts as though this were the bell will be sentenced to lifelong detention in the Patriot Dungeon.” Together, we can inspire change and work to foster a better learning environment at our school.

New Year’s Resolutions are NOT overrated

BY LAUREN ANNE SMITH
MANAGING EDITOR

“New year new you” is a common phrase thrown around during the dreary month of January when people want to change for the better. Resolutions get a bad wrap due to the lack of commitment. Studies have shown that 60% of people make resolutions, and only 8% follow through. With the low statistics, it seems useless and cliché to even make resolutions. I believe that resolutions are not overrated but benefit people to some extent.

Ring in the new year is exciting with ideas of what the year might bring dancing in our heads, and resolutions are a way of making the year the best one yet. The significance of resolutions is how they help people reach their goals and is a confidence booster for some. Even if you are the best version of yourself, there is always room for improvement since nobody’s perfect.

The most common resolutions made concern dieting and exercising. The purpose of these two resolutions is to live a healthier lifestyle and get in a routine. Another popular one is to find a better way to cope with stress. Some attempt yoga, take a trip, or try some techniques from Google.

Halfway through the year, resolutions lose their momentum due to life weighing people down and the lack of enthusiasm. People hate resolutions because they don’t see the point of making them if they won’t accomplish their goals, but to me, that’s not the point. I believe the purpose is to try your best.

Life is tough and throws stuff at you can’t avoid, but if you tried to improve yourself and attempted it for a while, that’s amazing. You gave it a shot and wanted to be the best version of yourself, go you! If you get closer to achieving your resolutions each year, that’s progress, so you shouldn’t beat yourself up if you didn’t complete it.



Jackson Prep’s weight room. Photo by Charles Stephenson

Letter to the Editor: MS State Flag

Dear Editors,

We can all agree that the issue of changing the state flag is a difficult one, and there is not a way to make all parties happy. If we change it away from the battle flag, then groups like the Sons of Confederate Veterans will be upset, as we are “erasing history.” If we don’t change it, then businesses will continue to hesitate to bring new factories and headquarters to the state.

I do not think the flag is a major factor in the decision to not bring new headquarters/factories to Mississippi but rather the workforce or lack thereof.

There are, however, a few disgraceful things associated with the state flag. The worst one? Not a single college out of eight funded by the state of Mississippi will fly the state flag. In my personal opinion, this means that state funding should be withheld from these schools until they fly

it once more. However, given that college campuses are some of the most liberal places in America, this might result in fewer students. Therefore, withholding funding is not a viable option.

I think that the best option for the state is to change the flag. However, I do think that the voters should be directly involved in the form of a referendum. Regardless of what happens, a referendum would solve the issue, as a decision would be made and we could quit talking about it. Well, for a year or two, that is. At the end of the day, it doesn’t matter all that much. The state has so many other more important things to focus on, like healthcare, infrastructure, poverty, the opioid crisis... the list goes on and on. I think our legislators’ time is better spent tackling these issues than changing a symbol of the state.

~Andrew Banks, 11th

Dear Fellow Students,
Our school, community, state, and country are all great, but are also in constant need of improvement. By voicing your opinion in The Sentry, you may be the first step in setting into motion much-needed change. We provide two ways for you to do this. You can write a shorter Letter to the Editor or a longer Guest Editorial. Both of these will need to be emailed to sentry@jacksonprep.net for submission. We look forward to hearing your voice. For more information, please view our editorial guidelines at jpsentry.net/about or on Page 15.

Selby Ireland and Cass Rutledge

Impeachment: How “sad and somber” it is

BY CASS RUTLEDGE
OPINION EDITOR

“Sad and somber” is how Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) described her actions when she began the process to impeach the president. “Nobody comes to Congress to impeach a president,” she said. Fast forward a few weeks, and the Democrats are displaying a vastly different attitude. They posed for pictures gleefully; they passed out party favor pens; and they cheered when the articles were passed without a single Republican vote. But why be “sad and somber?” After all, the House Democrats accomplished a goal that many of them campaigned and fought for since before the president was even elected.

Impeachment and a Senate trial are serious. We are dealing with removing a president who, according to the Mueller Report, is duly elected (saying otherwise would be repeating false Russian talking points) from office and disqualifying him from any future government service, something that has never happened in the history of our country. All of these investigations and time funded by taxpayer dollars, come at great cost to the American people. What makes it even worse is that we are not even a year away from an election, where the electorate could decide the fate of the president. Impeachment is in case of dire emergencies, when democracy is truly at stake. This impeachment does not fall into that category. In fact, it does not even fit Speaker Pelosi’s require-

ment of being “overwhelming”, “compelling”, and “bipartisan”.

“I’m concerned if we don’t impeach this president, he will get re-elected.” Rep. Al Green (D-TX) said on MSNBC during the impeachment inquiry. This rare moment when a Democrat told the truth highlights the true motives of this sham - to overturn the will of the people for political gain. Democrats know that their presidential front runners are a corrupt boomer, a socialist, a wannabe socialist, a couple of old white male billionaires, and a failed mayor. The truth of the matter is that the Democrats do not trust voters at the ballot box, and impeachment is their only chance to give them an edge in November.

This last attempt to overturn the 2016 election and influence the 2020 election has been an attempt to distract the president and the American people from the good work that has been done and is still being done since the president’s election. Thankfully, it is not working.

While the Democratic Congress is busy covering up an Obama-Biden scandal with another hoax, President Donald J. Trump is focused on keeping his promises. The one hundredth mile of the border wall has been built, already slowing illegal immigration. The economy is the best it has been in over fifty years with minorities and women benefiting the most. The stock markets have reached record highs with no signs of stopping. The USMCA is about to replace the disastrous NAFTA trade deal. Phase One of a Trade Deal with China has

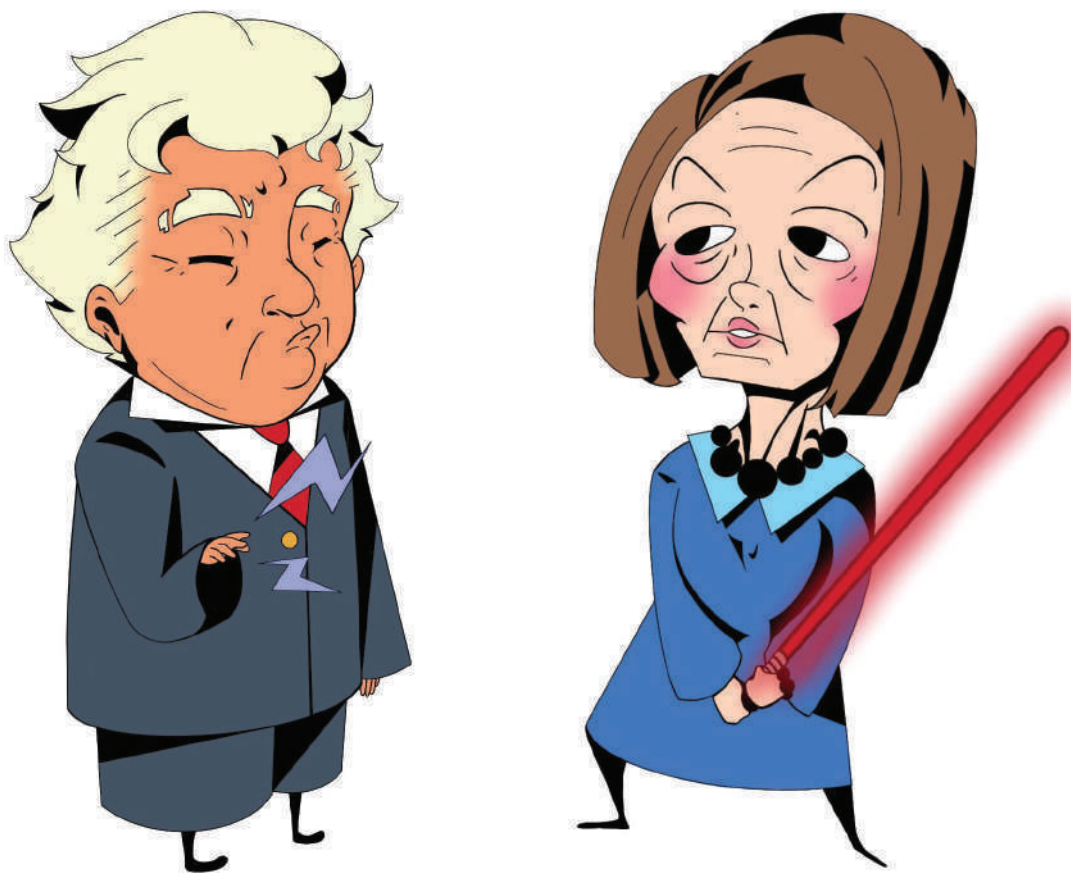
been signed, ending the Obama era practice of letting Americans get taken advantage of by foreign companies. Qassem Soleimani and Abu-Bakr Al Baghdadi, the world’s most notorious and evil terrorists are now dead, preventing the deaths of our soldiers bravely serving abroad. The Space Force has been created, protecting America’s interests outside of our atmosphere. Paid family leave has been secured for federal workers. The U.S. embassy was moved to the rightful capital of Israel, Jerusalem. Tax cuts have been secured for the middle class with more hopefully on the

way. The First Step Act has been signed into law, giving inmates a second chance at life. One in four federal judges are now Trump appointees, including Justices Gorsuch and Kavanaugh. The best news about all of these accomplishments, however, is that President Trump is far from done.

While President Trump is working, the Democrats are dragging America through a divisive unnecessary process without proof of any wrongdoing on the part of the president. Lead Impeachment Manager Adam Schiff, a power hungry, self obsessed liar, has spent hours lec-

turing senators on what it means to be honest and fair, even after he denied the president and Republicans basic rights, such as a minority hearing, in the House chamber.

Speaker Pelosi said that the impeachment was “urgent.” Then why wait over three weeks to transmit the articles to the Senate? In reality, this impeachment is not urgent at all. It is so. President Trump has an asterisk by his name and in the words of grinning, joyful Pelosi he is “impeached forever.” How sad. How somber.



President Donald J. Trump and Speaker Nancy Pelosi duke it out... *Star Wars* style.
Illustration by Kalyn Giesecke

Should Mr. Peanut have sacrificed himself?

BY HUNTER YELVERTON
STAFF WRITER

Recently the snack food company Planters, a division of the Kraft Heinz Company known for their processed nuts, announced the death of their esteemed mascot, the cartoon, always professional and classy Mr. Peanut. During his one hundred and four year life span, Mr. Peanut filled the hearts of nut lovers around the world with pure joy. I can personally say that seeing

will only help Planters. Although this has hurt many consumers’ spirits, this can only be a good thing for the Planters’ sales and will bring them more money than Mr. Peanut’s life ever cost.

When examining how this affects us and whether this was a good decision or not, we must examine the three major categories that Mr. Peanut’s death changes. The first category and the one that immediately comes to our minds is how he impacted our emotions. When any person

in which viewers watched a recording of Mr. Peanut’s demise, my fellow peanut lovers and I have experienced all five stages. It started with us denying that Planters could have done this to one of our childhood heroes and then a sense of anger towards the company. We then proceeded to bargain with the peanut gods for Mr. Peanut’s life. When this did not work, we fell into a deep state of depression because all hope was lost for the return of our top-hat-wearing icon. After pulling

gory that the tragedy of Mr. Peanut affects is our imaginations. Once our Jackson Prep peanut lovers were able to pull through the grieving process, we began to look towards our favorite snack company’s uncertain yet bright future. Although Mr. Peanut will never leave the sensitive place in our hearts that he has held since Antonio Gentile’s conception of him in 1916, his death opens our minds to new ideas for a mascot who can sell us more peanuts and have an even better hat. This possible new mascot is not just limited to the peanut. There are many other types of nuts that Planters produces such as almonds, cashews, hazelnuts, walnuts, or pecans. Planters also has the option to make a team of mascots like the Nut Avengers. This team would showcase a lineup of multiple nut mascots that could all represent Planters the way Mr. Peanut did for decades. The opportunities are infinite for the future of the marketing department with Planters.

The third and final category is the economic effect Mr. Peanut’s surprising death has and will have for Planters. Though on the surface it seems as if the company is throwing away years of fun advertising and popularity with it, they are actually helping themselves. As the great Irish poet and playwright Oscar Wilde once said, “The only thing worse

than being talked about is not being talked about.” All publicity is good publicity, even if it means millions of people witnessing an American corporate icon sacrifice himself to help his two friends, Wesley Snipes and Matt Walsh, live. It is a sad reality that he is gone, but this had to be done for the direction that Planters’ marketing team wants to take their company.

After examining how Mr. Peanut’s death has affected our minds, hearts, and wallets, we truly understand how much this fictional character has impacted us. Even though we have never and will never actually meet the peanut in the top hat and monocle, we somehow felt as if he was our friend. This is what led to such devastation when he sacrificed himself so that two other men could live. He made the hardest decision someone can make, not for himself, but for the greater good of the people that he has inspired for the last century. Even though this tragedy may hurt when you first hear about, as time goes on it becomes clear that it had to be done and is for the better interest of the company and its consumers. Mr. Peanut will forever live on as an American hero and will never truly be replaced, but it is best for the interests of peanut lovers everywhere that we move on to better and brighter things.



The beloved Mr. Peanut falls to his doom to save Wesley Snipes and Matt Walsh after an accident involving an armadillo.

that monocle and top hat for the last sixteen years of my life has filled me with immense joy and fueled my appetite for peanuts. The death of Mr. Peanut has left peanut lovers everywhere in a state of despair, but this sad news

experiences the death of a loved one, they go through a five step grieving process. These steps go as follows: denial, anger, bargaining, depression, and finally acceptance. In the last few weeks since the commercial’s release,

our spirits out of such a low place, we were able to accept this tragedy. Though those first few weeks hurt tremendously, our eyes were open to a hopeful future for Planters.

The second major cate-

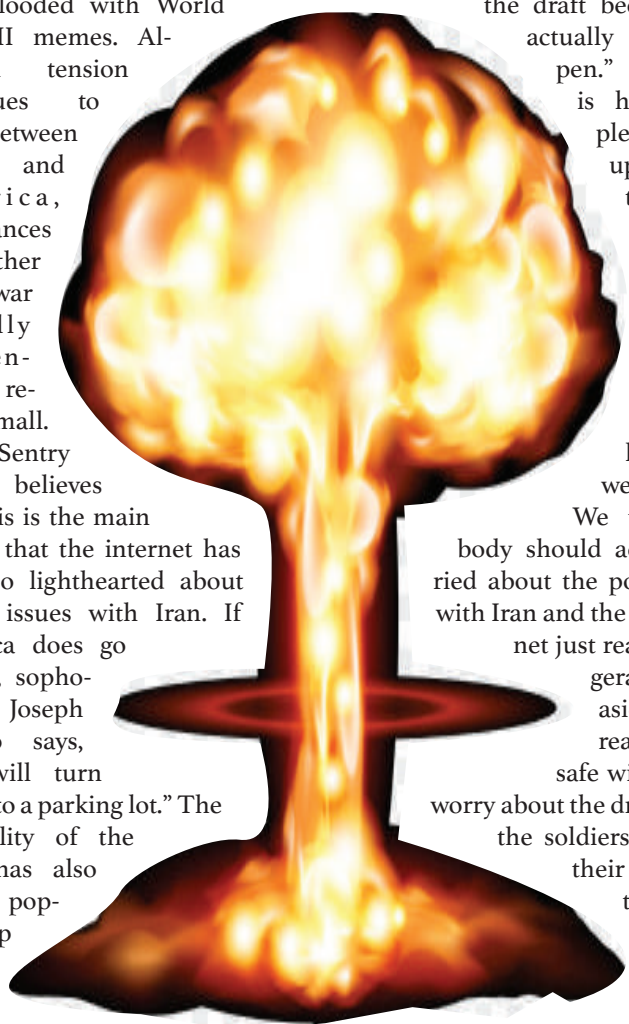
Staff Editorials

Sentry I

Sentry II

WWIII: Don't worry, it's only a #MEME

Ever since the American attack on Iranian general and terrorist Qassem Solemani, the internet has been flooded with World War III memes. Although tension continues to grow between Iran and America, the chances of another world war actually happening are really small. The Sentry I class believes that this is the main reason that the internet has been so lighthearted about recent issues with Iran. If America does go to war, sophomore Joseph Ciaccio says, "We will turn Iran into a parking lot." The possibility of the draft has also been popping up on the internet,



net, even though there hasn't been a draft since 1973. Walker Headley says, "There's no sense in worrying about the draft because it's never actually going to happen." Although this is how most people feel about an upcoming war, the memes and jokes are still enjoyable. The hashtag #WWIII on Tik Tok has had 1.8 billion views in the last couple of weeks. We think that nobody should actually be worried about the possibility of war with Iran and the draft. The internet just really like to exaggerate things. Jokes aside, the only reason we're home safe without having to worry about the draft is because of the soldiers who volunteer their lives to protect the country.

Required classes have potential to help

Many students are frustrated with being forced to take mandatory electives and feel like their time is being wasted during their limited time in high school. While we understand that the state requires certain classes to be taken, like Mississippi Studies, students would appreciate more of a choice in how they spend the majority of their school day.

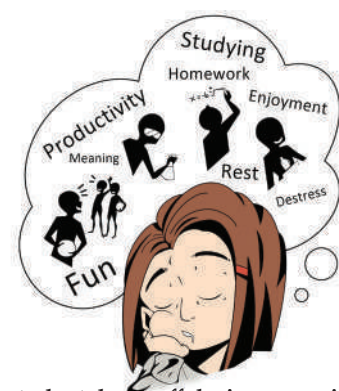
An excessive amount of required electives limits students' opportunities to get involved with more clubs, teams, or activities—something that Prep actively encourages students to do. Students taking a language must be involved for a minimum of two years, and students involved in performing arts or publications classes usually take them for multiple years. These classes often get as much attention as core subjects.

For example, if a student is a member of the yearbook staff and are in show choir, then they are forced to take a required elective; they have no more room in their schedule to get out of their comfort zone and try something new. Often, required classes will discourage a student from taking a third year of a foreign language or getting a much needed study hall.

Another issue with required electives is the broad generalizations it gives to students. In all honesty, freshman and junior seminar are going to help to some students, while others could better spend their time doing something different or participating in

something to build their resume. Students and their parents can be trusted to make the decision that is best for them individually. Implementing a one-size fits all mandatory elective policy is unreasonable and puts some students at a major disadvantage.

A proposal for addressing the complaints against mandatory fixed carriers is to implement them on a once-a-week basis throughout the year. A student would pick two semester electives or a yearlong elective to take during fixed carrier, and once a week they would take a now-required class, such as junior or freshman seminar. For example, students taking chess for fixed carrier would have freshman seminar on Fridays and chess every other day of the week for the first semester. This new system would allow students to take more classes of their choice while also experiencing the fixed carrier in condensed and consistent format.



A student dozes off during a required class. Illustration by Kalya Giesecke

Sentry Editorial Policies

All opinion pieces are the views of the author(s), and the author(s) only, with the exception of staff editorials, which are unsigned and reflect the consensus view of the students in each individual Sentry class. Staff editorials are the only columns in the paper that express the majority view of either the Sentry I class or the Sentry II class. The staff editorial process is comprised of two main steps. First, each class talks about a topic and organizes a position on which all or most class members can agree. The editorial is then written, and run past the staff members for majority approval and editing.

GUEST EDITORIALS: *The Sentry* accepts outside editorial pieces for publication. Not every piece will be published. To improve your chances of being chosen for publication, please avoid merely ranting in your piece. Specific proposals and solutions are preferable to generalities. You may request anonymity, but we do not accept unsigned editorials. *The Sentry* allows and encourages humorous opinion pieces. Publication will be at the discretion of the editors. To submit to *The Sentry*, simply type your opinion, double-spaced with a minimum of 250 words, and send, share, or submit it to sentry@jacksonprep.net.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: If you have a question, comment, or concern, feel free to write a short letter, emailed to sentry@jacksonprep.net, to the paper that will be published in the next print edition upon the approval of the opinion editors. You may request anonymity for the print edition, but we do not accept unsigned letters.

Medgar Wiley Evers, a true Possibilist from Mississippi's past

BY JIMMY UNDERWOOD
GUEST CONTRIBUTOR

America's Civil Rights Movement was a time of incredible change. People of all races and backgrounds came together to fight for a common cause: equal rights for the African American population. Martin Luther King Jr., the face of the civil rights movement and whose legacy is celebrated in the holiday we recently observed, had many great followers who also rose to the challenge and put their lives on the line in the name of change. One of those such persons was Mississippi's own Medgar Wiley Evers.

He exemplified what was possible: an attainable future where everyone could live freely and fairly. Many things are named after him including the Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers Airport. February is Black History Month, and I'd like to share a few

things about Evers you might not know.

-Medgar Evers was strongly involved in the NAACP, or the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. In fact, he was the first person to hold the position of field secretary in the South.

-Evers was a soldier in WWII and participated in the Normandy invasion. After his assassination, he was given a funeral with full military honors.

-While serving in the NAACP, Medgar Evers was involved in the investigation of the murder of Emmett Till.

-Just hours after President Kennedy delivered a speech about the moral obligation to desegregate the South, Medgar Evers was shot in front of his home.



Painting of Mississippi Civil Rights Icon Medgar Evers. Courtesy of Jason Bouldin

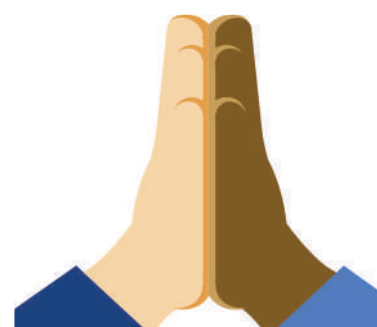
-Evers' house was designated as a National Historical Landmarker in 2017. It is open for tours. The address is 2332 Margaret Walker Alexander Drive, Jackson.

-The accompanying photo of the painting of Mr. Evers was painted by Jason Bouldin and can be viewed at the Mississippi Museum of Art.

Few Mississippians can discuss the groundbreaking significance of the Civil Rights movement without discussing Medgar Evers. As citizens of the United States, I believe it is our responsibility to learn more about the great men and women who helped form and grow this nation for the better.

"You can kill a man, but you can't kill an idea."
- Medgar Wiley Evers

The Possibilists



CANDID & RANDOM



Don't Forget to Look for the Gnome!

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