

the WARRIOR beat



INSIDE

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A VIRAL VICTORY



THE
OAK
GROVE
OSCARS



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OPINION

SPORTS

ENTERTAINMENT

COMING
UP

- PRESIDENT'S DAY
February 17
- JV/V BASEBALL VS.
TAYLORSVILLE
@11:00/1:00
February 22
- ARCHERY COUGAR CLASSIC
February 28
- BEAUTY REVIEW @6
February 29

WANT TO KEEP UP?



@thewarriorbeat

OAK GROVE HIGH SCHOOL
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Night to Shine: Nothing can dim the light from within

by: Morgan Sudduth

Temple Baptist Church hosted the fourth annual Night to Shine on Friday, February 7.

Over 300 honored guests attended the event, with more than 500 student, parent and community volunteers helping make the night possible.

"It takes a village for this event to occur," volunteer Rachael Mayo said. "It truly is one of my favorite nights of the year."

Many throughout the community share that feeling, including sophomore Maddie Grace Lightsey.

"I volunteer because special needs has always been a huge part of my life, since my brother has a disability," said Lightsey. "Through my volunteer work, I have been able to see so many who have helped him, and I'm about to do the same for others."

"I volunteer because it always fills me with joy not only to see the honored guests having the times of their lives, but also to see the volunteers enjoying the night, too," junior Pacey Johnson said.

The event begins with the honored guest strolling down the red carpet to the dance floor to get their boutonniere or corsage. Then, the night is up to them. Whether they want to dance on the dance floor or spend the night playing games, Temple includes a room for every desire they may hold.

"My buddy and I had so much fun on the dance floor, but her favorite part was the red carpet," said Lightsey. "We went down it about five times, even when no one was there. She also loved to bowl in the game room, and she was so good at it."

The event closes with the crowning of the honored guest as "King or Queen of the Prom." As confetti rains down, the guests receive their tiaras or crowns. For most, this is their favorite time of the night.

"My favorite part of the event is definitely the crowning," said Mayo. "There are really no words to accurately describe the blessing it is to be a part of this event."

As the night came to a close, those who attended left exhausted from the night spent having fun but filled with

anticipation for next year's event.

"This was the first time I volunteered, but it will certainly not be my last," said Johnson.

"This was my third year to volunteer," junior Callie Anne McCarty said. "And I hope I'm able to help for many years to come."

Started in 2014 by Tim Tebow, Night to Shine is a prom to honor those with special needs. Since its start six years ago with just 26 participating states and three countries, the event has grown dramatically. It now takes place in all 50 states and over 30 countries around the globe.

It is no easy feat to accomplish such an incredible event. Every year, Temple Baptist Church must reapply to serve as a host.

Ultimately, Night to Shine is a special night for everyone involved.

"It is an amazing opportunity to celebrate that everyone is fearfully and wonderfully made," said Mayo. "God has gifted each of us with a talent and this night provides a magical experience that glorifies Him and celebrates others."



Photos by: Marlee Brewer

Principal Helen Price named to Hosemann's committee

by: Luke Antinnes

Oak Grove High School principal Mrs. Helen Price is one of 19 Mississippi public school administrators who has been named to Lieutenant Governor Delbert Hosemann's Administrator Advisory Council.

The Council consists of 19 administrators from all nine regions of the state.

"It's an honor to be selected to serve among all of these great administrators from around the state," Price said of her appointment.

The goal of the Council is to give Lt. Governor Hosemann feedback on items on Mississippi's legislative agenda from educators across the state.

"I really appreciate the fact that he is willing to get our input before he moves on those bills and has our thoughts in mind as they are developed

and selected," Price said.

The Council has already helped form Senate Bill 2001, which is a \$1000 pay raise for teachers. SB 2001 passed the state Senate unanimously, and now sits in the state House, waiting to be voted on by the state House of Representatives. If it passes, it would still have to be signed by Governor Tate Reeves.

"My main goal is to keep the burning issues on the forefront and moving in the direction we think is best for teachers, students, and education," Price said.

Some of the main issues Price wants to see pushed to the forefront are teacher pay, teacher shortage, and teacher retention. Some of the ideas she mentioned were increasing teacher pay to draw Mississippi closer to the national average and scholarship programs for potential teachers to come to Mississippi, by way of traditional scholarship or paying off a portion of student debt.

"I am honored to provide feedback from our great educators to our legislators and ultimately help serve as a bridge between the two groups where there has, in the past, drastically needed one," she said.

Photo Courtesy of Hattiesburg American



The great debaters: All-American award winners

by: Ethan Choi

Nine students from the Speech and Debate team have been awarded the distinction of being National Speech and Debate Association Academic All-Americans.

Students who received the award had to earn 750+ NSDA points and have a 3.7 overall GPA or a 3.5 with an ACT score of 27 or higher while also being in their fifth semester of high school.

Speech and Debate Seniors, Jackson Kennedy, Tavia Keys, Kevin Miao, Anna Philpots, Jude Sims, and Nahla Trotter all received the award for meeting these requirements and maintaining a successful debate career.

"[I felt] very satisfied", Sims said. "I'd known I'd met the qualifications for a long time, and it was very satisfying and humbling to finally receive it."

Sims currently sits at the top of the debate team point-wise and holds the position of Novice Debate Coach.

For some leaders of the debate team, the distinction was happily received.

"It felt great to be recognized for my hard work," Vice President Miao said. "In school and in Speech and Debate."

For some, the honor was bittersweet.

"I honestly felt pretty shocked," President of the debate team Kennedy said. "I was happy that I got it, but I didn't feel like I deserved it. I felt undeserving because of the fact that I had seen so many people that I looked up to receive this, and they were the people I would always see on stage during awards."

Many of the members were honored by this distinction and this sentiment extended to their fellow teammates.

"I felt they'd earned it as I had," Sims said. "You don't receive through lack of effort."

The rest of the recipients felt similarly.

"The people that got this award with me are the best of the best," Kennedy said. "They're my contemporaries, my fellow officers, my biggest

rivals, my teammates, and my closest friends. I'm more than proud of seeing all of them getting this award, and their hard work has not gone unnoticed."

The Speech and Debate team currently has 12 State wins and plans on taking their 13th this year. With this cast of well-versed and academically ambitious individuals, it's hard to see a future where they don't.



Photo by: Anna Philpots

Shipley's Ahoy: Donut shop to open in Oak Grove this Spring

by: Myles Hudson

After much anticipation, Shipley's Do-Nuts will finally open this spring, a mere half-mile away from the home of the Warriors. This will be Shipley's second location in the Hattiesburg area, with the original 39-year-old Shipley's located on Hardy Street near the zoo.

"For years we kept our eye out in the Oak Grove area for a new location," Shipley's Donuts owner Drew Kern said. "Ever since we first picked that building, we felt like it was the perfect location. Old Highway 11 is a prime spot for a new location. It is closer to the school, the old Oak Grove neighborhoods, Bellevue, Purvis, and that side of town. It is really just a good location for it to go."

Renovations on the new location, which be-

gan months ago, are nearing completion, following a brief hiatus. Plans are to open the doors this spring.

"We do not have a date set yet," Kern said. "It is hard to give a time frame, especially given everything that has caused us to postpone the opening, but hopefully it will open very soon. I think it will be very successful, partially because of how close it is to the school and partially because of the steady flow of traffic on Old 11 and partially because of how many people live in that area. I feel we will get plenty of business due to the school being so close."

Students are excited about the donut shop coming to such a convenient location. Fresh donuts and coffee will be available on the way to school.

"Whenever it opens you can count on me to

be the first in line," sophomore Katherine Hyer said.

Ever since rumors of a new Shipley's Do-Nuts store opening in Oak Grove began circulating over a year ago, it began to fill the hole The Donut Grove left when it closed its doors.

"We have needed a donut place close to the high school for a while now ever since The Donut Grove left us," Hyer said. "Now I can finally stop driving to the Hardy Street location all the way across town just to get a good donut. It will be more than worth the additional school traffic in the mornings."

"When I heard that Shipley's was opening this close to the school last year, I knew it was too good to be true," senior Sara Buti said. "Now that it is finally coming I cannot wait any longer to get a donut and coffee."



The new Shipley's location under construction. Photo by: Anna Philpot



The original Shipley's logo.

beat's bits

by: Staff Writers

Coronavirus outbreak causes global panic

The coronavirus has claimed over 1,000 lives in mainland China as of this week. Worldwide, the outbreak has led to the infection of about 40,000 people. The pandemic has led to panic amid speculation that the Chinese government is keeping the actual death tolls and total cases under wraps. "[the Wuhan coronavirus] holds a very grave threat for the rest of the world," WHO director-general Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said.



Kobe Bryant dies in helicopter crash

Kobe Bryant and nine others died in a fatal helicopter crash on January 26. He was 41 years old. The entire report has not been released yet, but most hypothesize the people on board were killed on impact. There have been hundreds of tributes and dedications pouring out in the days following the crash. His legacy lives on through his wife, three children, and millions of fans mourning his death.



Another death at Mississippi prison

An inmate at Mississippi State Penitentiary at Parchman died Monday. This is the sixteenth MDOC inmate to be found dead in just over six weeks. While there appears to be no foul play surrounding this incident, multiple other inmate deaths have involved foul play, inciting prison reform rallies and lawsuits. Recently, rappers JayZ and Yo Gotti publicly supported a lawsuit targeting the state's prison system.



Star-Studded: The Oak Grove Golden Spirits shine

by: Senton Granberry

The Golden Spirits represented the school in the annual State Competition in Jackson and the National Dance Competition in Orlando, Florida two weekends ago.

The first stop was State in Jackson. The team rocked the Mississippi Coliseum gathering nominations for nationals in three categories: kick, jazz, and gameday. On top of that, they received their third state championship in three years under Coach Casey Morrison. This one being in the jazz competition.

Many were excited for where they were heading, most notably the seniors.

“State was a blast this year, and the team had great energy throughout the day,” senior Chloe

Davis said. “I was excited to bring home my last state title ever in Jazz.”

After their glorious victory in Jackson, the team turned their attention to their next hill to climb: Nationals. For the next weeks, they worked to improve, and adjustments were made.

“We always look back at the judges’ scores for reference,” Coach Morrison said. “We adjust based on their thoughts on the dances whether it was something they didn’t get or didn’t work.”

After a fun day in Walt Disney World, the Golden Spirits were ready to triumph their way through preliminaries. Their first performance was kick. Being the second team on the ballot, the spirits came out the gate swinging, with a stellar performance that sure woke everyone up in the HP Field House. Around noon, the Spirits brought their grace to Nationals with their award

winning jazz dance on a national stage. Finally, the Golden Spirits rallied their supporters for their gameday presentation.

Even with their passion to finish strong, the Spirits unfortunately did not advance in any of their competition categories. Rather than mourn their losses, Morrison hopes this becomes a learning experience for her upcoming dancers.

“I want them to know this is the standard,” Morrison said, “and we try to raise that standard each year.”

Even with the early exit, the team enjoyed their experience at the happiest place on Earth.

“Nationals was a blast,” Davis said. “I wish I could do it next year.”

“It was lots of fun,” sophomore Lauren Valentine said. “We’re learning, and I believe it’s going to get better for us in the future.”

Cheering at the ‘happiest place on Earth’

by: JED™

The varsity cheerleading team placed seventh in the nation last weekend at the National High School Cheerleading Championships at Disney World. They competed in two categories: Medium Varsity Division 1 Performance and Large Varsity Gameday Division 1.

The squad dominated in the Performance category on Saturday, winning their preliminary round, immediately securing them a spot in the finals. Only four teams out of the 70 in their division earned that distinction.

Riding on a wave of excitement, the girls took to the mats one more time in the finals. Their performance there brought them the honor of being ranked seventh in the nation.

“This 2019-2020 cheer team has by far been the best year yet,” senior Tavia Keys said. “We have come so far not only in skills, but as a sisterhood. This year has literally flown by in the blink of an eye, and I will forever cherish these memories I get to share with the other 19 girls and Burdine. I’m proud to be an alumni from the best high school cheer team in the nation.”

When watching the cheerleaders’ final round performance livestream on Varsity TV, their surprising stunts and jaw dropping leaps may seem natural, but don’t be fooled! These golden girls worked hard to get to where they are – practicing

ing two to three hours a day, five days a week (and sometimes more).

Prior to Nationals, the squad won the MHS-SA Championship (for the thirteenth time in Oak Grove’s history) in December.

“I was really excited but also really nervous,” senior Laundin Lang said. “I’m really happy that we were able to push through the fear and do our jobs so we could win!”

Nationals brought a greater set of challenges, some out of their control.

A flawless performance in the Gameday category at Nationals on Friday earned the team a second place ranking, with zero deductions, in the preliminary round. Unfortunately due to a judging system error, a subsequent review resulted in an unexpected two-point deduction, costing the squad their place in the finals.

Although OG’s cheerleaders certainly garnered trophies and prestige, they were the only thing they won for their hard work, exceptional leadership and inspiring dedication. They also won memories everlasting.

“My favorite thing about coaching is watching the girls grow as athletes and individuals over their time in the program,” coach Ashley Burdine said. “It’s truly a family. Every year, our alumni come back to support the team and that means so much. Seeing the girls’ faces when they know they’ve been successful is an amazing feeling. I

love this sport. It’s who I am. And I love to share that passion with my girls.”

There are people that say Disney World is the happiest place on earth. Obviously none of them have ever been in OG Cheer’s arms.



The varsity cheer team was ranked seventh in the nation at the National Championship held at Disney World last week. Photos Courtesy of Ashley Burdine

Jay Barnes scores 42 points and a viral video

by: Mitchell Keyes

The Oak Grove varsity boys basketball team faced off against cross-town rival Petal on January 10, at Oak Grove. Riding an eight-game win streak, the Warriors showed out, defeating Petal 88–53, in front of a standing-room-only crowd.

Rising to the occasion and playing with consistency was key for the Warriors.

“The mindset didn’t change just because it was a rival game,” senior Blake Roberts said. “We knew Petal was going to come at us hard and we had to be ready for anything they threw at us. We played unselfishly and were having fun.”

The team played consistently for the entirety of the game, and proof was in the result. The crowd was ecstatic throughout the game and showed support packing the gym to its capacity.

In addition to stellar team performance, junior Jay Barnes totaled 42 points with 12 three-pointers.

“Once I felt like I had it going, I told myself to keep shooting because I couldn’t miss, and I kept on going because my teammates trusted me,” Barnes said. “I wouldn’t have been able to do any of this without my teammates, because they were the ones who trusted me with the ball. Usually people back down from the moment, but I embraced it because you never know when you will be able to play in a situation like that.”

As icing on the cake, Barnes also made an appearance on Overtime Sports, a nationally recognized sports social media organization. A video of him crossing over an opposing player dribbling between the legs of another player and scoring a layup went viral, receiving 935K views and 165K likes on TikTok alone.



Junior Jay Barnes adds two points to the scoreboard helping the Warriors defeat Petal. Photo Courtesy of Jesse Jones

“It was a great experience, a kid coming from a small town like Hattiesburg, to be featured on Overtime like that was amazing,” said Barnes.

A sense of pride was felt by teammates and the student body alike. There are so few opportunities for this positive social media presence, in a monopolized system.

“People have always doubted Oak Grove when it comes to basketball so when Jay’s video went viral, most people realized that we were legit,” said Roberts. “Being on Overtime is a once in a lifetime experience so it was cool to have a teammate represent the school on there.”



by: Luke Antinnes

I hated Kobe Bryant. I said it. All I knew was I liked the Boston Celtics, hated the Los Angeles Lakers and really hated Kobe Bryant. He seemed unfair – like a cheat code.

And then he retired. I watched Kobe’s last game. He scored 60 points after the struggles the Lakers went through for the last three and a half years. Kobe, somehow, made me a fan of his. His career had come full circle, and we could both live long, happy lives outside of basketball.

And then, January 26.

I felt a weird emptiness, but it passed fairly quickly. I knew other people would be really beaten up about it, but I didn’t know it would be everybody. I saw all kinds of people saying how much Kobe meant to them, each way violently unique. And it taught me something: the world’s alright.

That night, I’m scrolling through Twitter, and my eye catches Kobe looking me right in the eyes. I clicked on it, and he gave me one final piece of advice. Love what you do. It may take time, but once you find it, never stop working at it. And I cried. Like a baby. It meant so much to me that someone I used to hate as a kid would still try and guide my life in the one place I needed, even after death. And he made me a fan all over again.

Thanks, Kobe.

1978-2020



2.29.20: Happy leaping birthday Ms. Folkes

by: Myles Hudson



History teacher Ms. Folkes "turns seven" this year.

Photo by: Marley Brewer

Every four years, February gets an extra day known as Leap Year. 2020 ushers in this phenomenon. February 29, 2020 is Leap Day.

So, what is the point of having this extra day? Technically, an entire trip around the sun is about 365.25 days. Adding a full day to one month every four years makes up for the time that is lost.

Leap year dates back to when Julius Caesar ruled over Rome. In order to keep seasonal festivals around the same time, he decided to add an extra day to the month of February every four years, thus creating Leap Year.

The chance of being born on any given day of the year is 1 out of 365. Since Leap Year occurs once every four years, the chances of being born on Leap Day are 1 out of 1461 – that's 0.068 percent. Using this statistic, it can be estimated that roughly 224,000 people are born on Leap Day in the United States. These people have been given the nickname "leaplings."

Out of the entire population of Oak Grove High School, there is only one leaping – Ms. Sarah Folkes. **HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MS. FOLKES!**

"Having a leap year birthday definitely made me feel unique," Folkes said. "Now that I am getting older, I appreciate the fact that I am only turning 'seven.' A leap year birthday was always a little extra special celebration because I had to wait four years to see it come around again."

The extra day of the year also carries a load of superstitions with it. In Russia, Leap Year is associated with crazy weather and an increased chance of death. According to legend, February 29 is the day a woman should propose to a man without him saying no. For the leaplings, the day is said to bless them with good luck.

"I think being born on a leap year makes a person unique," Folkes said. "I have never lacked for an interesting fact about myself during an ice breaker activity."

Where are they now?: Catching up with December grads

by: Kelsey Terrell

The senior class said goodbye to 38 of its own in December, as these students successfully completed the requirements to graduate early. These December graduates shared a motivation to get an early start on the next chapter of their lives.

For most of the December graduates, the next chapter began immediately – with some beginning college, some moving, and some starting full-time jobs.

"I decided to graduate early because I had well over enough credits and had already taken all the classes I needed, so I did not need another semester in high school," Ethan Galloway said.

"I graduated early to move to the state I plan on attending college in to start a job and start saving money early," Nataleigh Crowe said.

It did not take long for the newest members to the Warrior Alumni to notice the changes that come with life after high school.

"College is so different from high school," Claire Trussell said. "The biggest change was how much freedom and independence you get, which is not always fun when it comes to deciding whether to wake up in the mornings or not. Living alone is wild."



Photos Courtesy of C Studio

Although they have moved on, the three still miss certain aspects of high school and Oak Grove.

"I mostly miss the people," Galloway said. "In school, you are in classrooms with dozens of people for eight hours sometimes. When you graduate early, most of your friends are still in school, so plan to make new ones."

It is human nature for one to feel sentimental, and considering these graduates left Oak Grove only two months ago, it's only natural that they miss certain aspects. One thing was unanimous, however – none of them regret graduating early.

"If I am being honest, I would not change a thing," Galloway said. "I am satisfied with the way I left Oak Grove."

"I do not think I would change anything really good or bad because those things are what make high school memorable," Trussell said.

They have already planned out the next year of their future and are looking forward to everything that comes with it.

"My plan is to take a break from the past 13 years of school and work on my hobbies and what interests me," Galloway said. "While also bettering myself to prepare for college and the future."

"In the next year, I will be halfway through my college career," Crowe said.

"Honestly if I get married within the next year, no one will be surprised," Trussell said.

They would all recommend graduating early for qualifying, able students.

"I would highly recommend graduating early, but only if you have all your ducks in line," Galloway said. "Being an early graduate, I have an extraordinary amount of free time. There are times I have to remind myself to do something or anything, because I'll often drift into boredom. So make sure to keep yourself busy."

"I would only recommend graduating early if you have a job and/or good grades throughout high school- not just because you did not like it," Crowe said.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

BLOOD OF MARTYRS
SHED FOR EQUALITY

BEAUTY AND VEGETATION
OF HOMELAND

WEALTH & GOLD
OF HOMELAND

Design by Devin Gann



Protestors march for voting rights at the Forrest County courthouse on Freedom Day – January 22, 1964.



Harold Dahmer surveys the remains of his family home, which was burned by KKK January 10, 1966 – killing his father.



The 1966 murder of Vernon Dahmer by the KKK led to protests in the streets of downtown Hattiesburg.



The dedication of the Vernon Dahmer statue at the Hattiesburg courthouse.

VERNON DAHMER'S FIGHT FOR THE RIGHT TO VOTE

by: Aaron Phillips



Mississippi has one of the largest general turn arounds for African Americans in terms of voting rights and the wide expansion of civil liberties.

The Freedom Summer of 1964 was largely based in Southern Mississippi – including Hattiesburg. This Civil Rights Movement began in Hattiesburg with the arrival of Hollis Watkins and Curtis Hayes, two volunteers from the Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee, to organize a movement encouraging African Americans to register to vote in Forrest County.

At the time of their arrival, only about 50 African Americans were able to vote in Forrest County. Most African Americans were denied the ability to even register to vote by Theron Lynd, the county's circuit clerk. Amazingly, the Hattiesburg Court ruled in favor of the activists, placing an injunction on Lynd to cease his discrimination.

Even more surprisingly, a group of African Americans and white clergymen banded together during this time to fight for change. Those activists included Rev. L. P. Ponder of St. John's Methodist Church, Virgie Robinson, Rev. J. W. Brown, and Victoria Gray Adams. This inspired many other churches and locals to agree with and encourage the movement for the right to vote.

Vernon Dahmer was a local leader of the Civil Rights Movement and president of Forrest County's NAACP chapter. He helped African Americans secure their right to vote by paying their poll taxes. As a result of his fight for equality, Dahmer was killed in a surprise attack on his home by the KKK on January 10, 1966. The hate group set fire to the Dahmer residence, and he perished in the inferno. Dahmer's wife later commented on her late husband's legacy, noting how he saw the good in all people – regardless of race.

A monument of the slain civil rights leader was installed on December 3, 2019, in front of the Forrest County Courthouse to pay tribute to his life and contributions to the Civil Rights Movement. The NAACP reported that Mississippi, with 37 percent, had the highest percentage of African American voters in the country during the 2018 November elections.

Photos Courtesy of:
MDAH, MPB, The Clarion Ledger, Jackson Free Press, USM, George Bollis



● OAK GROVE HIGH INTEGRATED IN 1970

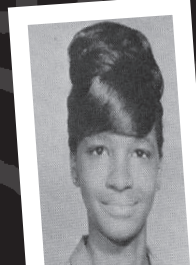
"I think we are fortunate to have a lot of diversity, there are so many different kinds of people and different races making contributions to our district. I think, in terms of where we are, the south, Mississippi, we are at top of the list for doing what it takes to be successful."
– Coach Harry Breland



Clyde Kennard (left), with fellow activists Dorie Ladner and James Travis, after his release from prison in January, 1963.



Kennard-Washington Hall was dedicated at USM in 1993.



Gwendolyn Armstrong



Raylawni Branch



Raylawni Branch and Gwendolyn Armstrong attend the dedication ceremony for their plaza on USM's campus.

CLYDE KENNARD PAVES PATH FOR USM INTEGRATION

by: Kelsey Terrell

FREE
DOM
SUMMER

To know Clyde Kennard and Walter Washington is more than to see their names on a building.

Kennard was born in 1927 in Hattiesburg, and when he was eighteen years old, he joined the U.S. military. He served for seven years – first in World War II, then the Korean War. Following his service, he was admitted to the University of Chicago. When his stepfather passed away during his junior year, Kennard returned to Mississippi to support his mother, helping run her farm.

In 1955 he decided to continue pursuing his education and applied for enrollment at Mississippi Southern College, now known as the University of Southern Mississippi. He was denied because he did not meet the suggested requirements of the five white graduates from his county. In 1958, he applied again, but William D. McCain, the school's president, conservative African Americans, and the governor convinced him that the school was not ready for forced integration.

Kennard decided to apply again in 1959, but the president again refused him on a technicality.

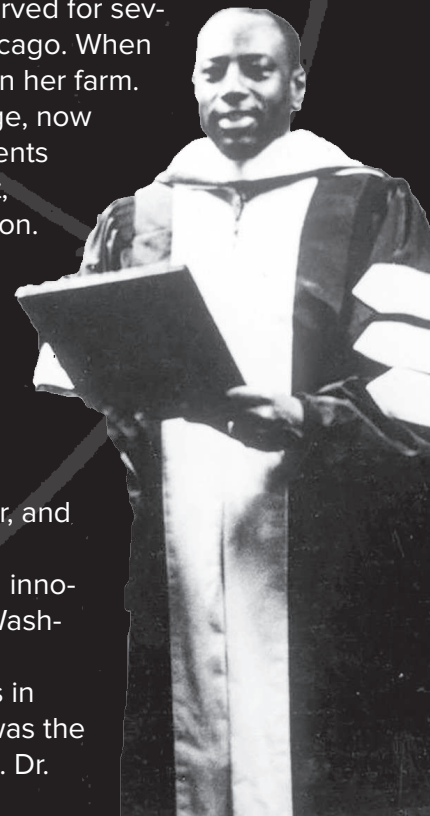
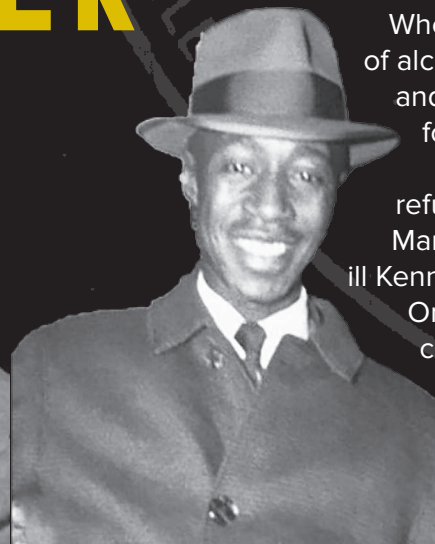
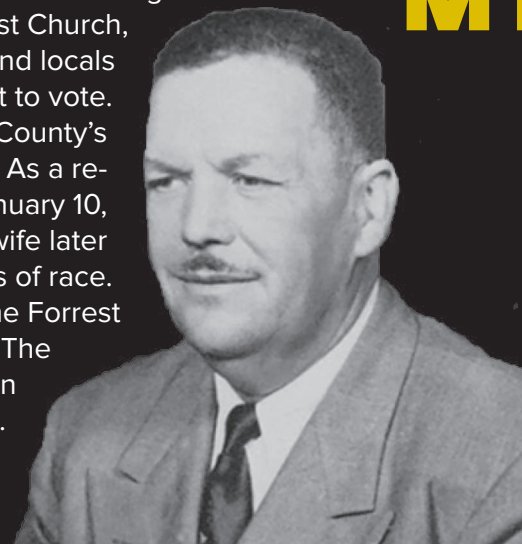
When he left, he was met by two policemen who arrested him for speeding and possession of alcohol in a dry county. Kennard, who did not drink, was convicted on account of no evidence and fined \$600, which is the equivalent of \$5,271.28 today. In the fall of 1960, he was framed for a heist of \$25.00 of chicken feed, and was sentenced to seven years by an all-white jury.

Kennard was diagnosed with cancer while imprisoned at Parchman Penitentiary. He was refused treatment and forced to continue working in the fields.

Martin Luther King, Jr. and other activists threatened to accuse the state of Mississippi of murder, and ill Kennard was finally released in January, 1963. He passed away a mere five months later.

On May 16, 2006, Forrest County's presiding judge Robert Helfrich declared Mr. Clyde Kennard innocent. The University of Southern Mississippi renamed its Student Services building Kennard-Washington Hall in honor of Kennard (and Dr. Walter Washington) in 1993.

The University of Southern Mississippi admitted its first two African American students in 1965 – Raylawni Branch and Gwendolyn Elaine Armstrong. In 1969, Walter Washington was the first African American to receive a doctorate degree in Mississippi, and it was from USM. Dr. Washington is the other namesake of Kennard-Washington Hall.



Shaking up Hattiesburg's restaurant scene

by: Kelsey Terrell

For the love of burgers and fries, Steak 'n Shake has opened their new Hattiesburg location. On January 13, after months of anticipation, the doors finally opened in just enough time to break your new year's resolutions of being healthier.

Once I made it through the wrapped lines of cars into the parking lot and got inside the packed building, my wildest diner-themed dreams came true.

Due to the immediate popularity of the new location, it took a few visits to even get a parking spot, but as we say where I'm from, "fifth time's

the charm." The wait times are substantial, especially for larger parties which I'm always in – it is so hard being a public figure. I discovered that the best chance for getting a table is between 2 and 4 o'clock. While you wait, look around and take in all the aesthetics of the building. Unfortunately, my live performance was denied, but there is still cool music played over the speakers. The atmosphere is welcoming to everyone from couples, to families, and friend groups.

The staff were attentive and polite – the famous chain has always been known for quality service. When the first Steak 'n Shake opened in 1934, founder Gus Belt would haul in sir-

loin and T-bone steaks and personally grind them in front of customers which lead to the slogan "In sight it must be right."

With so many burgers styles and shake flavors on the menu, it may be hard to make a choice.

I recommend the patty melt with parmesan fries, and a cookie dough milkshake on the side. This melt should be renamed the Hattiesburger. I may be biased, considering the best burger I've ever had is a quarter-pounder, extra mustard, but I thoroughly enjoyed the quality meat and gooey cheese – despite my lactose intolerance, which I left at the door because I knew I needed to try a shake.

My cookie dough milkshake was flavorful, and the consistency was spot on. I know what you are wondering – no, this does not mean I am no longer loyal to Sonic. This meal was just definitely one for the books.

No matter what you order, you will get excellent food without breaking your wallet. From the kids meals to the largest sandwiches, there is something every burger lover will enjoy. The meat is tender, the lettuce is fresh, and there is nothing as refreshing as a milkshake in your favorite flavor.



Steak and Shake opened its doors to Hattiesburg on January XX.
Photo by: Zoe Gafford



Patrons place their orders for the newest burgers in shakes in Hattiesburg.
Photo by: Zoe Gafford



The line inside Steak and Shake rivals the line in the drive thru.
Photo by: Zoe Gafford

TODAY

in History

by: WB Staff


Alexander Graham Bell submits patent for telephone


Arizona admitted as 48th state


Merchants Parcel Delivery becomes United Parcel Service and operates nationwide


Seven gang members murdered in Chicago's St. Valentine's Day Massacre


Domain youtube.com activated

1876

1912

1919

1929

2005

Shakira and JLo bring the heat to halftime

by: Senton Granberry

The Super Bowl has always been a special occasion even if you are not a fan of the sport. But most importantly, it is the only game in the year where people will think do not want to leave the room to get food at halftime. Ever since the mid-game concert was performed in the first Super Bowl, the halftime show has created its own legacy, from Micheal Jackson raising the standard of the show in Super Bowl 27 to Prince singing "Purple Rain" in the rain in Super Bowl 41. Fortunately, I was an attendant of the latest Super Bowl and can recall from memory of almost everything that happened behind the camera details of the halftime show.

As you probably already know, the halftime show this year was headlined by Latin pop stars Jennifer Lopez and Shakira. Being that the game was held in Miami, it was likely that they would portray the Latin American Culture of

South Florida.

As soon as the second quarter clock hit zero, stage crew members sprinted from the 49ers' endzone at blazing speed. You see, there is putting up and striking a set; then, there are these guys.



Jennifer Lopez and Shakira celebrate a spectacular halftime performance.
Photo by: Jeff Kravitz/Getty Images

They ran out and completed the stage (even though a circular puzzle) in about 3-4 minutes.

Shakira started the show off with a bang, upholding the regular routine of Halftime shows: have a strong song to start off then go to a slow song. After the slow song, Shakira continued the momentum with "Whenever, Wherever" and an epic drum solo. The show moved on with Bad Bunny coming out for "I Like It," and then it became JLo's turn.

She wowed the crowd with her performance from her entrance to the end with Shakira. In the middle of it, J Balvin, another Latin star, came out and performed "Mi Gente" with JLo. Overall, I thought it was a great display of the Latin culture, and people agree.

"I do like the incorporation of the Latin culture for where it was," said sophomore Clayton Harvey.

"It was entertaining to watch the halftime show," said sophomore Ava Bloomington.



by: Anna Philpot



Vogueing Billie Eilish

After leaving the Grammys with five awards, I wasn't sure how much better it could get for Billie Eilish... I mean she already met Justin Bieber! The 18-year-old has passed another milestone, being on the cover of Vogue. On three unique covers, Billie is serving with outfits and attitude. I love Billie and her music and I stand by that.



It Ain't G-Eazy

Renowned poet and CEO of Hot Women in Music, Megan Thee Stallion, split from her boyfriend Moneybagg Yo earlier this year. Much to the internet's surprise, last Sunday G-Eazy posted an Instagram story of the two boo'd up. Now, if G-Eazy makes her happy, then that is amazing news. But Megan, we expected the rebound to be better.

by: Matthias Gustafson and Aden Adamick

beat's bits

Oscars go on without a host, again

The Oscars did not disappoint this year and did not mess up any names or mix up any winners. Yet one recurring pattern is the problem of The Oscars not accepting a host. But this year (Once again) had no host for the second time in a row, but the third time in all. This has increased The Oscars Viewers between 2018 and 2020 (This year's Oscars).



Elon Musk drops a single

Billionaire Tesla founder, Elon Musk, unexpectedly released an EDM track recently. He wrote the lyrics and performed the vocals for a four-minute song titled "Don't Doubt ur Vibe". "This song is hard," he wrote on Twitter. The track is apparently not too bad, registering more than 660,000 plays on the streaming app Soundcloud. The artwork for the song shows the new Cybertruck floating over Mars.



Bad Boys for Life remains on top

"Bad Boys for Life", was once again found at the top of box office after bringing in \$17.675 million in ticket sales last weekend. It's the third straight week that the action comedy film, with Will Smith and Martin Lawrence, has been at the top spot. This brings the film's total North America total to just over \$148.05 million.



OAK GROVE
OSCARS

BEST PICTURE



AVENGERS: ENDGAME

WORST PICTURE



CATS

BEST ACTOR

JOAQUIN PHOENIX -
JOKER

BEST ACTRESS

SCARLETT JOHANSSON -
AVENGERS: ENDGAME

BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS

BRAD PITT -
ONCE UPON A TIME IN HOLLYWOODZENDAYA -
SPIDER-MAN: FAR FROM HOME

BEST SOUNDTRACK



FROZEN II

BEST ANIMATED FEATURE



FROZEN II

BEST OF THE
DECADE

BEST PICTURE

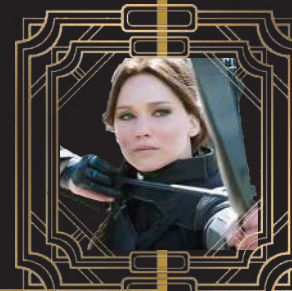


THE GREATEST SHOWMAN

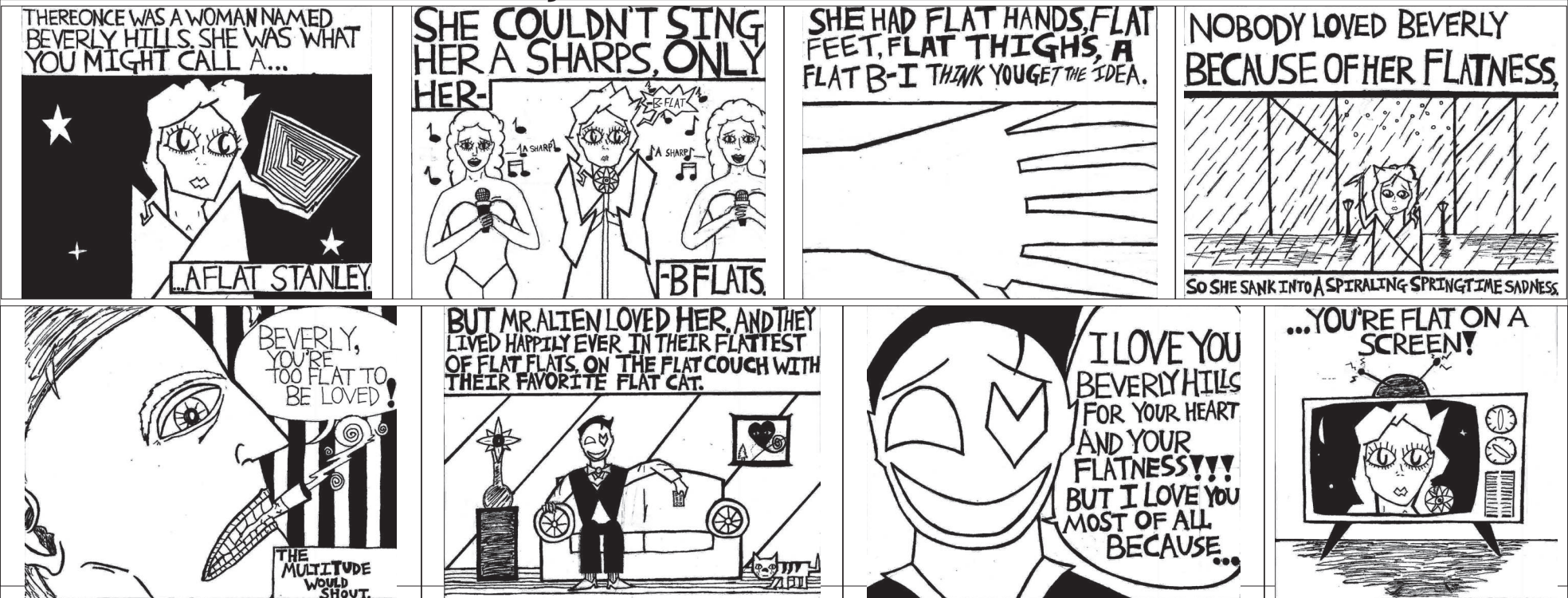
BEST ACTOR

LEONARDO DICAPRIO -
THE WOLF OF WALL STREET

BEST ACTRESS

JENNIFER LAWRENCE -
THE HUNGER GAMES TRILOGY

Jed's World: Portrait of a lady on fire



- across -

2. Gesture of love from one person's lips to another's cheek or lips
5. A genre of writing that often rhymes and can be used to express love through words
6. The V-Day candy gift box was invented by Richard _____, whose namesake is most known for his chocolate Easter egg
9. The items Cupid carries and uses to cast love spells
10. Made from cacao, this treat is brown in color and usually given in a heart-shaped gift box
11. A type of bird often associated with Valentine's
13. Candy that recently dethroned chocolate as most popular V-Day sweet treat
15. The shape commonly associated with V-Day
16. Origins of V-Day can be traced back to this ancient Roman celebration
17. More than 50 million of these flowers are given on Valentine's Day each year
18. These sweet treats include a message of love and are sometimes sold at schools for \$1

- down -

1. The month we celebrate Valentine's Day
3. Phrase a person says to another to show affection
4. Bundle of flowers often given as a gift on V-Day
7. February "holiday" celebrating love
8. This state produces 60% of roses grown in USA
10. Small, winged boy who carries a bow and arrow
12. Mythological god of love



by: Lyric Church

As students go through their high school years, they will eventually be offered the opportunity to take either AP or DC classes. They will hear from multiple people that it does not necessarily matter which they take because they can earn college credit from both. So, if they both give you the same thing, what's the difference, and which one is better?

Advanced Placement, or AP, classes are classes offered at your school that you can take for free. At the end of the course, you can choose to take the AP exam for about \$94. If you pass with a score that is considered acceptable by your future college, you will not be required to take that course once enrolled. The AP classes offered at Oak Grove are Language, Literature, US History, Government and Politics, and Calculus.

Dual Credit, or DC, classes are courses that cost around \$150 to take, and may be offered at your school through a local college. There is an exam at the end of the class that you are required to take, but unlike the AP Exam, it does not dictate whether or not you get college credit for that class. As long as you pass with what your future school deems an acceptable grade, you get the credit. The DC classes offered at Oak Grove are Chemistry I, Biology I, Calculus, Algebra, Western Civilization, Music Appreciation, Speech, Composition I, and Spanish.

College credit is not guaranteed by simply enrolling in and completing either AP or DC classes.

Receiving college credit in a DC course is a bit easier because even though the course material is more difficult than the average high school class for that subject, all you have to do is pass the class. However, every college sets different standards for their courses, and the courses offered at the high school may not meet your future

“EVERY COLLEGE SETS
DIFFERENT
STANDARDS FOR
THEIR COURSES.”

school's standards – meaning they won't accept the credits. With AP courses, the course material is also more difficult than average, but you have to pass the exam with a specific score in order to receive credit.

The school currently has nine DC courses and five AP courses, and next year, it will have fourteen DC courses and eight AP courses. It is becoming clear that the school is putting effort into having more DC classes than AP classes. But why?

From what I have heard, our school, and many other schools in the country, are working

on making it possible for students to graduate high school with an Associate's Degree. It would make obtaining a degree a lot cheaper and easier for those who are not able to go to college. But would the degree stand?

All of our DC classes are offered through multiple schools throughout the area – so which school would the degree be from, and would it be nationally accepted as an official degree? There is also the possibility that this is to help students graduate college earlier. Fewer foundational courses required during the first two years of college allows students to begin working on their major's curriculum sooner – which means less time at school.

Now, for those who wish to climb the class ranks, AP classes are the better way to go. For AP and DC classes, you get a weighted grade which essentially means your grade being calculated into your GPA is higher than what you made for the class, and AP has the greater weight. AP classes have a weight of 1.10 which makes a grade of 95 a 104.5. DC classes have a weight of 1.05 which makes a grade of 95 a 99.75.

As a senior who has taken both AP and DC courses, I can not vouch specifically for either one. Both have benefited me in a majority of ways. The course material is a lot harder than what a high schooler would be used to, but the teachers at Oak Grove have made the material easy to understand and the exams passable.

I think you need to make a choice for one or the other.

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thewarriorbeat



LIKE: Instagram removes public likes

by: Anna Philpot

Ever since its launch in 2010, Instagram has been used to share ideas, art, and most of all memories. In the early stages of the app, pictures were posted spontaneously, without any hesitation or doubt, but these days, it seems as though everyone is striving to have the perfect profile. Each picture posted has been cropped, smoothed, whitened, brightened, and filtered to perfection to receive as much traction as possible on the timeline.

Social media has repeatedly proven to be detrimental to mental wellness due to the way it causes users to make comparisons between their seemingly mundane lives and the perfect lives they see online, consciously or subconsciously. A study done by the U.S. American Journal of Preventive Medicine showed that people who visited any platforms at least 58 times a week were three times more likely to feel socially isolated, whether or not it was accurate. For a student at Oak Grove High School who is active on social media, their feed would be filled with highly edited photos featuring friends and family, capturing only the happiest of memories.

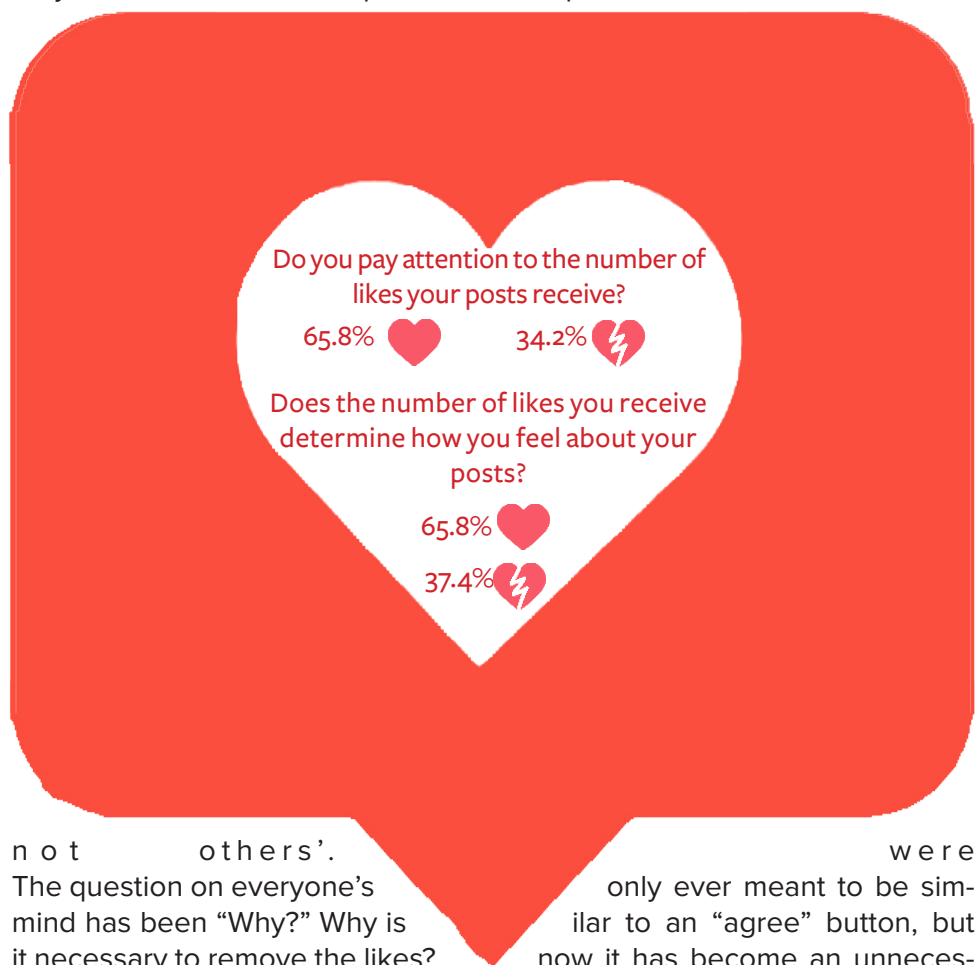
Instagram has decided to expand on its month-long trial to remove the number of likes from under peo-

ples' photos, but it wouldn't take away the notifications completely. A user may see how many likes they received on their own post, but

app. Upon hearing the announcement, Nicki Minaj said that she would no longer use the app, and she has not posted since November. Likes

not be the main topic on my mind when I share moments from my life. In an online poll conducted by our staff, 65.8% of Oak Grove students reported they pay attention to the number of likes their posts receive, and 37.4% reported that the number of likes determines how they feel about their posts. I think the update will relieve a lot of the pressure to post at the right time, with your pictures in the right order, with the perfect caption.

Recently, the trend has been to post candidly, marked with the hashtag "#makeinstagramcasualagain" which displays people posting their silly selfies, self-timer photos, not-so-edited, and relaxed moments -- instead of the picture perfect ones. This trend has made my feed look way more interesting, but it still seems as though the pressure of "getting everything right" is still there. Even the natural moments look staged and planned, which just isn't needed; it's your profile, so be yourself! The reality is that if we all know that social media does not represent who we really are, then why are we still allowing it to rule how we feel about our pictures and ourselves? Hopefully, one day society will let go of its notion that if you don't have enough followers then you are not enough.



not others'. The question on everyone's mind has been "Why?" Why is it necessary to remove the likes? But I would beg the question, why was it necessary in the first place? Influencers on the platform are apparently worried about the update since it would pose challenges to those who make a living through the

were only ever meant to be similar to an "agree" button, but now it has become an unnecessary symbol of approval.

I'm excited for the update (which has not graced my phone yet) because I believe that how well others react to my post is reflected by how many likes I receive. That should



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