

THE CURRENT

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SEX ED FOR ALL?

*The Current covers sexual education at MHS
Turn to page 10 for more*

Kai Brady
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

As second semester got underway at Malibu High School, *The Current* conducted an anonymous poll of the 10th, 11th, and 12th grade student body regarding the effectiveness of our school's sexual education. Here at Malibu High School, sex ed is taught over about two to three weeks in freshman seminar, and we sought to investigate how students felt about their sexual education. The poll questioned students on topics such as the extent of their preparedness following sex ed, whether they felt safe discussing their sexuality on campus, whether they felt they had an adequate degree of knowledge, and whether sex ed should be improved. The poll examined these results according to grade level, gender, sexual orientation, and sexual activity.

The poll resulted in significant differences in opinion based on these demographics, as well as many general conclusions. For one, the vast majority of students do in fact feel safe to talk about sexuality on campus, with 90 percent of males and 88 percent of females agreeing amongst all grades. The majority of LGBT+ students also feel safe, with 70 percent in agreement. While the lesser percentage of positive responses among LGBT+ students demands room for improvement, the overall result suggests the relative effectiveness of Malibu High School's sexual education and showcases that Malibu High tends to have a positive and accepting attitude toward sexuality.

One of the most interesting conclusions of the poll is

the disparity in opinion between students who are sexually active and those who are not. In general, sexually active students feel far more strongly that sex ed is inadequate, while most non-active students are of the opposite sentiment. The likely reason for this result is that students who become sexually active might realize that there is more to learn than what meets the eye, clearly suggesting a need for improvement.

On the topic of improvement itself, most students feel that sexual education must be improved (only junior males felt otherwise). Females were also more likely than males to desire improvement, with 78 percent of females agreeing and 60 percent of males agreeing. However, the fact that both males and females across all grades predominantly desire a change in sexual education again showcases the need for improvement.

The poll also asked students what they thought could be improved with Malibu's sex education. Obviously there is no singular answer to this question, but a few common solutions have arisen out of this need for improvement. Considering the fact that members of the LGBT+ community often feel more unsafe than others, many students desire greater inclusion of these communities in sex ed curriculum. We received multiple comments on the polls expressing that there was not enough taught about homosexual sex. Other common responses included a greater emphasis on the technical aspect of sex itself, as undesirable as it may be for teachers to explain. Students also predominantly desired a de-emphasis on abstinence, with a greater

focus on safe sex practices. Multiple seniors suggested in their comments there should be a "refresher" course on sex education taught later in high school, as the time most students become sexually active is later in high school, and by this time much of the information they learned freshman year has been forgotten. There were also multiple comments across all grades asking for a greater emphasis on consent and that rape culture should be addressed more fully in the course, as they did not feel like people left the class with an understanding of consent.

With all data compiled, it is the opinion of the editorial board of *The Current* that while sex ed at Malibu High is effective, there is room for improvement in order to reach its full potential and be inclusive of the student body. Although changes cannot occur unless the state of California changes its curriculum, we hope future changes will include a greater emphasis on LGBT+ students, de-emphasis on abstinence, and education on actual sexual practices. Freshman seminar teachers here at MHS can make additional efforts to include these topics for the time being as well. We commend and appreciate the work of the Westside Family Health Center for providing free and confidential sexual health services on our campus. They will be on campus March 2 and May 4 this semester. Ultimately, it is our hope that Malibu High can create a healthy sexual atmosphere where everyone is educated, informed, and included.

For more on this poll, turn to page 10.

Rain in SoCal

Emma Younan
STAFF WRITER

Rain is something special in California. As we are beginning our sixth year of the driest period to ever occur in California, most of California is out of the drought. A very rainy winter has alleviated the drought in Northern California, leaving Southern California merely “dry” or in “moderate drought.” 102 million trees have died because of the drought, 62 million in 2016 alone. Governor Jerry Brown installed state-wide restrictions for water use up to 25 percent in urban areas. The cost of water for farmers is over ten times higher than it used to be, meaning many farmers might go out of business. With climate change also factoring in, as well as multiple spills resulting in fresh water getting lost into the ocean, people had to drastically reduce their water consumption.

Student **Jason Leow** said, “I go on Boy Scout outings very often. We go to Lake Cachuma up by Santa Barbara, that’s the reservoir for the whole Santa Barbara county, and it’s a tenth of the size that it used to be. There used to be islands there but now there aren’t. The water is just so low, you can’t fish there, you can’t do anything there anymore. It’s really sad.” Jason said people can help by reducing the amount of water they use on watering their lawns and washing their cars. “You really don’t need to do that as much. Invest in gardens that run on native succulents. Rock gardens or cactus gardens, things that don’t require a lot of watering.”

Senior **Sienna Aiello** said: “Since school started... it seems to rain a lot more than it used to in the last several months.” Nevertheless, people should still “take shorter showers. Turn the faucet off when you’re brushing your teeth. Don’t get water at restaurants if you’re not going to drink it.”

Looking to the future, California should look to other countries that have suffered droughts in the past. Reporters from NBC travelled to Israel to find out more about the reason that, after experiencing the worst drought in 900 years, Israel now produces more water than necessary. “The country adopted advanced water recycling, emphasized efficient irrigation techniques that had first been invented 50 years ago, encouraged rain catchment systems at schools and on buildings, and aggressively began building and installing desalination plants,” wrote NBC’s reporters.

BEARS!

Jillian Wolf
STAFF WRITER

Extremely rare sightings of black bears found south of the 101 freeway in the recent months have wildlife conservationists excited about what the future holds for bear populations in southern California.

On August 4, the National Park Service caught video surveillance of a black bear wandering around Malibu Creek State Park. The image was captured on July 24 but was not seen until the later date. Bears have not populated and lived in the area since the 19th century but there have been pockets of bear populations living in the San Gabriel and Santa Susana mountains. However, sightings remain rare.

In 2014, a bear was killed after being run over by a car on the 101. This event marked the increasing

amount of bear sightings in the area. Joanne Moriarty, a National Park Ranger, in an interview with KTLA said that it’s “definitely a good thing” that bears are repopulating themselves around the area.

On June 10, the same bear found in Malibu Creek State Park was spotted near the Zuma/Trancas area about 2 miles from the coast in Malibu resident, Benton Ward’s, backyard. The Park Service doesn’t know any specifics about the bear but are continuing to try to gather information.

Kate Kuykendall, who works for the National Park Service said in an interview with NBC News with regards to the newly acquired animal resident of Malibu that “whether it actually physically crossed the 101 Freeway, or whether it found some kind of underpass or other way to get to the other side, we’re not sure.”

Bears used to live in plentiful

numbers in the greater Los Angeles area. However, with the influx of settlers to the California coast in the 1800s, their population dwindled. Specifically, the California grizzly bear was seen by many settlers as a threat that needed to be disposed of. Throughout the following century bears were hunted for not only their meat and fur, but also in hopes of driving off the population indefinitely. However, as the general public began to realize the crime committed by killing off thousands of bears, the native Yosemite black bear was introduced to southern California with hopes of reviving the bear population that once was.

Bears sightings have increased in other areas of Southern California as well. A bear cub was caught climbing a concrete slab in Duarte, California on April 24. Then again in early June, a bear was caught swimming in a pool

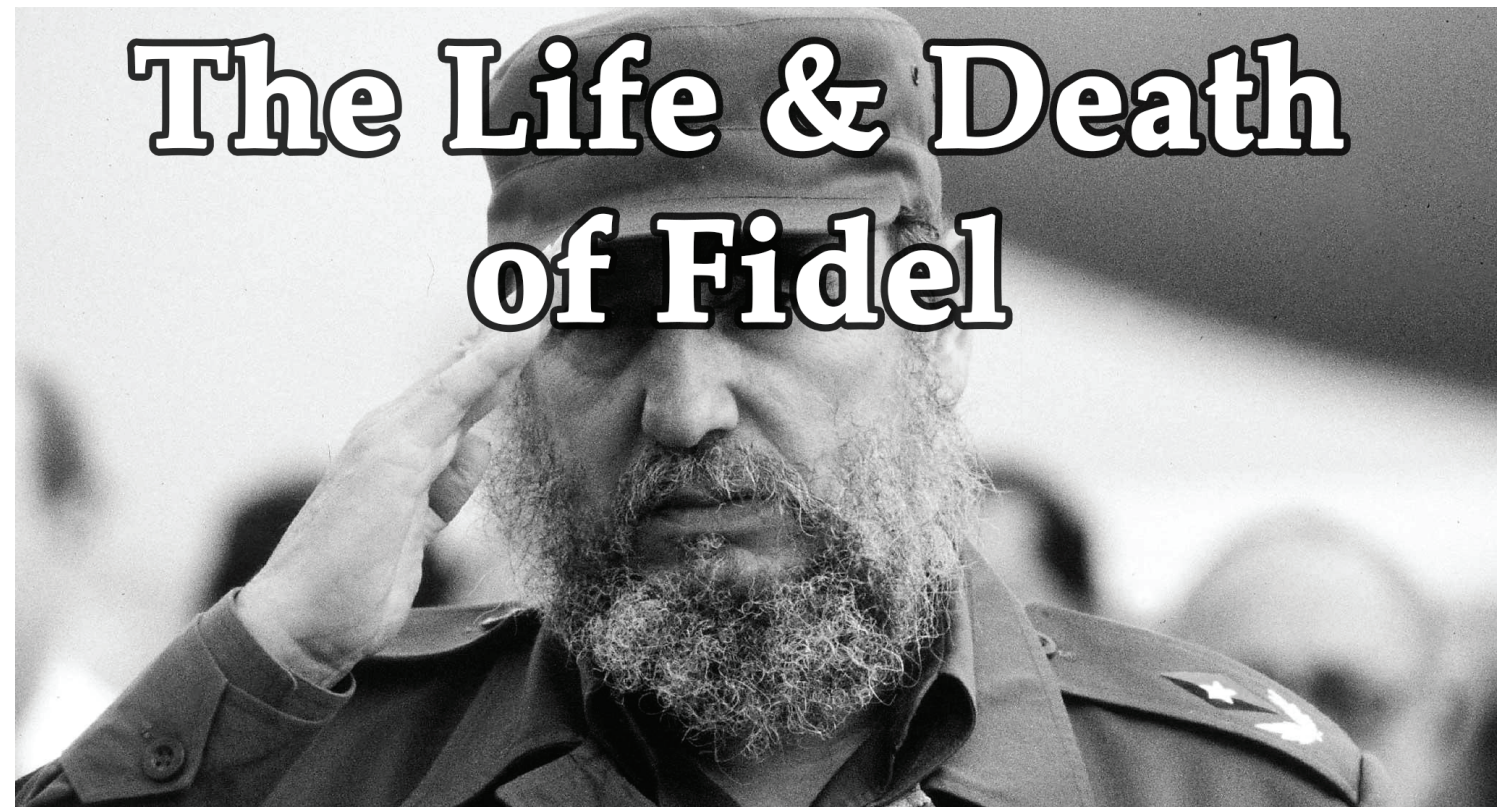
in La Canada, Flintridge. Andrew Hughan, of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife said in an article with the Daily News said, “We should probably expect several more of these.” Some expect that areas such as Duarte will be the epicenter for bear population growth.

Many have credited California’s severe drought with the recent bear sightings. With little water to drink, the bear population is looking to expand their territory in order to find prey.

Paige Barrett, junior, was intrigued by the reintroduction of bears saying, “maybe one day I’ll see a bear in my backyard.”

The future of bears in Malibu remains unknown but the recent sightings look promising for population increase within the greater Los Angeles area.

The Life & Death of Fidel



Jason Leow
OPINION EDITOR

On Nov 25, the world observed the death of the Cuban Communist leader Fidel Castro in his homeland of Cuba. Controversial in his methods of politics, Castro has warranted the attention of many governments and politicians as one of the few communist leaders still living into the twenty first century.

Fidel Castro was born near Biran, Cuba on August 13, 1926. Upon graduating from his high school El Colegio de Belen, Castro entered law school at the University of Havana and entered a climate of Cuban nationalism, anti-imperialism, and socialism, getting him involved in the world of politics. In 1947, Castro participated in a coup to overthrow the Cuban dictator Rafael Trujillo, which failed, but Castro still participated actively in anti-government riots and sought to expose the General Fulgencio Bastida. Castro continued to play

a role in Cuba’s politics, as well as marrying Mirta Diaz Balart from a wealthy political family, and in 1949 they had their only child Fidel. It was at this time that Castro began to take an interest in the teachings of Karl Marx and planned to run for a seat on the Cuban congress, but a 1952 coup by General Bastida overthrew the government and left Castro without a legitimate platform or means of supporting his family. Bastida declared himself dictator, and, in response, Castro led an insurrection on the Moncada military barracks, but the attack failed and Castro, his brother Raul, and several other insurgents were captured and jailed. Freed by an amnesty deal in 1955, Castro fled to Mexico with Raul to plan a revolution, meeting Che Guevara who helped to shape Castro’s political beliefs. Castro returned to Cuba in 1956 with over 80 soldiers and some weapons, but most insurgents were captured by Bastida’s forces while Castro, Raul, and Guevara fled to the mountains

with what few remaining forces they had. For the next two years, Castro led a campaign of guerrilla warfare against Bastida, and by 1958, Castro held a large amount of territory in Cuba, had a great amount of public support, and had won several victories over Bastida’s troops. In 1959, Bastida fled to the Dominican Republic, allowing a provincial government to form under which Castro was sworn in as prime minister within one month, while hundreds of members of Bastida’s government were tried and executed.

As the new leader of Cuba, Castro implemented communist reforms that created tension between American companies and Cuba, evolving into tension between the two governments. In January 1961, President Eisenhower broke off diplomatic relations with Cuba, and by April, Castro formally declared Cuba a socialist state. Three days after the socialist declaration, over 1400 Cuban exiles invaded the Bay of Pigs with support from the

US, but were quickly stopped by Castro’s forces, who killed hundreds and captured over 1000. The rising tensions between the US and Cuba climaxed to a point when Castro ended democratic elections in Cuba, denounced American imperialism, and announced that Cuba was adopting communist economic and political policies, to which the US responded with a full economic embargo in 1962. Castro continued to be a thorn in the side of the US as an ally to the USSR that was uncomfortably close to the US.

The Cuban missile crisis occurred under Castro’s regime, and served to only prolong US and Cuban tensions. With the collapse of the Soviet Union with its negative impact on the economy of Cuba, Castro began to limit some government restrictions slowly, until he retired due to health issues in 2008 and left command of the country to his brother Raul.



Image from El Debate

Emely Tario

STAFF WRITER

Early January, the price of gas in Mexico rose by 20%, appalling and infuriating the majority of the Mexican people.

This raise in gas price was part of the “Acuerdo para el Fortalecimiento Económico y la Protección de la Economía Familiar” as named by President Peña Nieto, while the general public has named this gas raise “gasolinazo.” Mexico’s poverty level is almost 50% of its entire population, this raise in gas prices causing a major change in their lives.

President Peña Nieto has stated that the raise in gas price is part of the Acuerdo, which translates to agreement. Peña Nieto and his administration have come up with this Acuerdo and claim that the raise in gas prices will keep the price of food, as well as other necessities, lower. Mexico has been experiencing inflation for the past few years, and the value of the peso, Mexico’s currency, reached an all time low at 20 pesos to the dollar at the end of 2016, and experienced a drop to 22 pesos equating 1 dollar in the beginning of 2017. Peña Nieto stated that another reason for the change was for the price of gasoline to reach international levels, as the price of petroleum also rises. Reportedly, Mexico has been producing less gasoline than it used to, hurting the economy and calling for a raise in gas prices.

The people of Mexico are greatly affected by the spike in gas prices as many of them are unable to afford the new price of the gallon. The new gas price is intolerable as the minimum wage in Mexico is 80 pesos per day in the main districts, which is equivalent to about 3 dollars and 50 cents. A Mexican citizen said that 80 pesos is “not enough for a family of four” and opinionated that, “the raise is bad, as the people have a low income.” The source also said that, “if they raise the price of gasoline, they should also raise the minimum wage.” While raising minimum wage would be a great help to Mexico as a whole, minimum wage was already increased this year to 80 pesos, as it used to be 70 pesos a day in 2015. Yet with the inflation that has occurred in the past few years, the increase has not had the impact it should have.

PEMEX, the Mexican national gas company,

allows the Mexican government to control the price of gasoline. Therefore the people recognized their government to be responsible for the price raise, and people took to protesting. Hundreds of Mexican citizens protested in the streets, including in the capital. These protests expanded to 28 of the 32 states of Mexico, displaying the magnitude the change holds. The people protesting demanded for President Peña Nieto to resign from office, which had also been a major theme in protest on Mexico’s Independence Day. In these protests many held signs with many variations of “Fuera Peña” and “No Al Gasolinazo.”

Along with these protests, stealing from markets and gas stations were another reaction. As people realized they would not be able to buy gasoline, or that they would not be able to buy other necessities with the raise in gas prices, they stole food and other items. The day the price was raised, many people were at gas stations stealing and saving gas in groups. Entire families went to markets and filled their hands with anything they could carry: toys for the kids, household items, and of course, food. The police were assisting to stop these riots, and eventually the military began to pile through the markets and line the streets to contain the riots as they began to spiral out of hand. Nevertheless, four policeman were fired after they were caught stealing as well. These riots led to over 700 arrests on the first day, as people were continually jailed to stop the commotion. The people who weren’t involved in the riots were forced to stay inside, afraid of the violence in their neighborhoods. This raised many questions as to how President Peña Nieto continues to believe the price raise is progressive, as it visibly affects the poor, and how jailing so many citizens could be good for the county’s economy, as less people go to work.

Mexico’s reaction to a raise in gas price is much different than that of the United States. Gasolinazo has not been a headliner in the United States, and many people, when asked, had no idea anything was occurring in Mexico. Yet still, there was the question of how gas prices affect people internationally. Mr. Panish said, “Well the raise of gas prices affects anyone, really, in the same way, as that people have a certain amount of money to

spend on things, and if they have to have gasoline for getting around as opposed to doing mass transit, that’s going to affect their spending on other things, and so that’s what really affects people no matter where they are.” In terms of mass transit, there is a subway, and other limited forms of transit, though some are private, including Uber, which is only available in certain states. Incidentally, part of the Acuerdo is to finally begin to create a stable public transit system, which is supposed to be more accessible and affordable than the current options.

In response to the riots and discontent, President Enrique Peña Nieto made public broadcast talking about why the prices raised, and what gasolinazo means. He talked about the international price of petroleum, and how keeping the old price of gasoline would mean that there would be cuts on social programs, a raise in taxes, and or an increase to Mexico’s national debt, which is already exceedingly high. President Peña Nieto, in this broadcast said, “Here I ask you: What would you have done?” Speaking to Mexico, Peña Nieto was implying that there was simply no other option, and that the raise in gas price, as conflicting it has been, is the best route to take.

President Peña Nieto ended the video talking about Mexico’s other pending worry, which is the United States’s new administration. President Peña Nieto has said that, “Of course not,” Mexico will not pay for the Wall that President Trump is imposing. Relations with the United States and gasolinazo are Mexico’s two major unresolved issues at the moment, and both hold a great impact on the Mexican people. Mr. Ervin said, “With the new administration coming in... what our trade deal is going to look like, and things like that,” when asked about how the rise in gas price will affect the United States, as it ripples internationally.

At home, MASECA, a company that primarily provides tortillas, a staple food of Mexico, has promised to keep their prices the same for the first part of the year. President Peña Nieto said the rise in gas would not affect other things, though it does. Gasolinazo is a continuing feat that Mexico is undertaking, and as prices are expected to rise continuously through the year, the rest is uncertain.

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On the Art of Wasting Time

with
Kristina Schmidt



Kristina Schmidt
STAFF WRITER

Douglas Adams, author of *The Hitchhiker's Guide To The Galaxy*, once said, "I love deadlines. I like the whooshing sound they make as they fly by." Sound familiar? You tell yourself you work better under pressure, or that the work you do when you're not in the mood is sub-par. Then the assignment is due and you end up rushing and doing a bad job, leading to sleepless nights, anxiety, and the consumption of large amounts of caffeine, a scenario that sounds all too familiar. But why do we do this? Moreover, why is it so hard for certain people to stop wasting their time? Tendencies to procrastinate cause these behaviors. We have often been told not to procrastinate on this chore or that assignment by our teachers and parents, so as not to have to suffer from the consequences. But what does this even mean?

Procrastination is the practice of putting off harder and less pleasurable tasks until a later time. Sometimes procrastination takes place as soon as a new task is assigned or needs to be completed, while sometimes it does not set in until the "last minute" before a deadline. More than simply school assignments or chores, procrastination can take hold of any aspect of life, from seeing a doctor to discussing a stressful issue with a partner or friend. It results in feelings of guilt while contributing to a universal sentiment among people that we are wasting our time with useless things.

So how do you know if you're a procrastinator? According to a study by psychologists and psychiatrists in the magazine *Psychology Today*, most procrastinators have several key indicators: They overestimate the time they have left to perform tasks and in turn underestimate the time it takes to complete those tasks. They overestimate how motivated they will feel the next day, the next week -- or until whenever they are putting things off to. They think that succeeding at a task necessitates that they "feel like" doing it. They deliberately look for distractions, especially ones that are easily accessible.

Guilty? That's okay, everyone procrastinates to some degree. However, 20% of people persistently avoid difficult tasks and purposely look for distractions—which, unfortunately, have become increasingly available. Some recent surveys suggest that 85-95% of students have problems associated with procrastination with an immense 70% of college students admitting to being procrastinators.

Procrastination has increasingly become a problem for the modern student as the workload and demands on the student have increased in difficulty. However, many students -- unaccustomed to the immense demand of them that comes with taking harder classes and making their own path in life -- do not yet have the skills to manage their time wisely. This results in greater levels of stress and sends stress hormones through the body, wearing it out faster. Moreover, prolonged exposure to stress can considerably damage and erode critical parts of the DNA over time, thereby shortening one's lifespan. It also weakens the immune system as a result of the sleepless nights spent working on assignments and the malnutrition resulting out of a lack of time to prepare necessary nourishments. Even worse, there is a likely delay in seeking treatment for medical problems as everything else has been delayed. Procrastination is not good for your health yet it is "very much the tendency of being a student to procrastinate and it just means that some of the work that is turned in is of lesser quality," English teacher **Bonnie Thoreson** said.

Sometimes our reasons for completing a task are not sufficient to motivate our action of actually doing the task. Inadequately defined intentions are part of the problem. We are not really in the mood to do the task, but we don't like the tension or dissonance it creates in us, so we declare vague intentions like 'I'll do that later' or 'I'll get to that this week,' making it impossible to control and regulate our actions against such a crudely defined guideline. Furthermore, we do not remove distractions that we know undermine our work. We make up lies while waiting for something to inspire

us or to motivate us to act, all the while knowing deep down that they are nothing but excuses.

We easily become distracted and sometimes are highly impulsive. "It will take me only a minute to update my Facebook page, read that blog.... Oops, it's already night?" In a world influenced increasingly by the economics of attention, we have to be careful where we invest our time. As we sleep away 1/3 of our lives there are only so many minutes in a day, in a year, in a lifetime, to which we can give attention. The whole world is competing for our attention with marketing designed specifically for each of us. It's personal, seductive, and distracting. The media is often seen as an escape from reality. It helps us forget and sedate our troubles and problems. We all need to escape from our responsibilities and daily stresses in order to restore ourselves to full power.

In a similar fashion, we all need to delay things to fulfill our priorities, making procrastination "inevitable as there is just not enough time to do everything. Also it affects [the students'] grades pretty drastically but some of them are pretty skilled in the ways of procrastination," said Junior **Sage Metzler**. These skilled students have developed their own tricks to keep their stress levels at a minimum and productivity at a maximum. Junior Stella Bloch said "I stress myself out in the moment and I get everything done then so then I don't have to do it later." Similarly, Junior **Kendrick Rivard** said "stick to a schedule and have people that you can rely on to consistently check on you to make sure that you are getting your stuff done."

The real issue also has more emotional roots. Although we may know intellectually what we should do right now, we do not feel like doing it, so we focus on short-term ways of repairing our mood: We want to feel good now and worry about that task later. Or simply put, short term gain, long term pain.

However, procrastinators are made and not born, which is good news. Good because it is a learned response, and what has been learned can be unlearned, but it takes a lot of emotional and intellectual energy to change. So

in order to make life a little easier, here are some tips for all you procrastinators out there:

Start somewhere. One of the most effective solutions is to just start. As soon as you begin thinking 'I'll do this later' or 'I work better under pressure,' acknowledge that you're making excuses. First, stop yourself, then start the task somewhere, such as writing an outline for an essay or sweeping a section of the floor.

Preempt that which tempts. The solution to distraction lies in recognizing what is distracting and then either eliminating the nuisance or declaring an aim to indulge it at a specific time. For example, turn off your distracting phone or other electronic devices and make a promise to use it again later after you have gotten some work done.

Estimate the amount of time it takes to complete a task, then increase that amount by 100%. People tend to be overly optimistic and underestimate the time it will take to complete a job. This makes them feel upset and angered when their underestimated time limit is not met as they had planned to do other things in the meantime, further delaying other assignments. Incorporate the possibility of distractions and mishaps occurring by, for example, changing the time limit to six hours for an essay that supposedly takes only three. Acting in a timely manner on tasks requires actively making choices and recognizing the enemy within, thereby moving forward to doing that which you intended.

Make a list of everything you have to do. Organize tasks by importance. Remember, organization is a key ingredient in completing any lengthy or overly complicated task with as little confusion as possible. Simply move down the list and complete each task one at a time.

Set realistic goals. Don't think too far ahead, just aim for a little progress. By establishing a minimum to a task, your engagement fuels motivation and changes your perception of the task, and you will find a task not as difficult as originally thought to be.

Break the job down into specific tasks. People procrastinate more on unpleasant tasks, that's common knowledge. But, by reducing

the pain of working on a project by breaking it down into more familiar and manageable pieces, it effectively reduces procrastination.

Make your task meaningful. Apply some combination of increasing the value of the task and decreasing the influence of the distraction. Because people are motivated to maintain a positive self-image, goals that are connected closely to one's identity take on much more value. Connecting the project to more personal sources of value, such as life goals or basic values can fill the lack of emotional value that underscores procrastination.

Promise yourself a reward. Getting something done is a delayed reward, so it is not valued as much in the present. The further away the deadline is, the less appealing it seems to work on the project right now. One way to increase the value of completing an assignment is to make the finish line seem closer by vividly imagining a future reward.

Eliminate jobs you never plan to do. Let's be honest, doing unnecessary tasks is simply a waste of precious time that could be spent on completing the task faster and on leisure time.

Become more self confident. If students are confident in their ability, this leads to greater motivation and less procrastination, but motivation on its own isn't enough. Even with strong motivation to do homework, a child with low self-confidence is more likely to procrastinate than a child with lots of confidence. As this can be a very big difficulty for some people, here is some advice to boost your self confidence:

Believe in and live by a code of values

Prepare ahead of time - that might be mental rehearsal, learning new strategies and tactics to deal with difficult people, going on a public speaking course, etc.

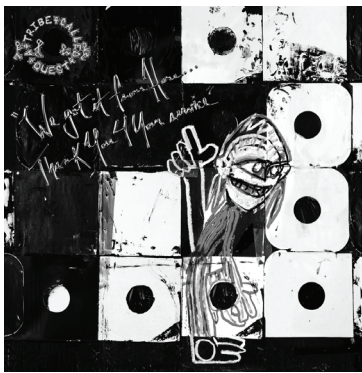
Anticipate other people's disagreements and practice responding to hostility so you are ready for it when it comes your way

Use positive assertions about your own strengths

Surround yourself with inspirational people and things

Last but certainly not least, have faith in yourself and the fact that you will ultimately triumph!

That's a Rap! Troy's Best Rap Album of 2016



We Got It from Here... Thank You 4 Your Service

Released November 11, *We Got It from Here... Thank You 4 Your Service* is A Tribe Called Quest's sixth and final release. The massively influential group broke up in 1998 after releasing *The Love Movement* due to relationship issues between the group members and went silent for 18 years.

The group reunited in 2015 to perform on *The Tonight Show* and felt "charged" to work on a new project in secrecy. The following year, lead rapper Phife Dawg passed away on March 22 due to diabetes. The public, not knowing about Tribes secret project marked Phife's death as the official end of the group, and an end to a golden age of rap that A Tribe Called Quest had created. Many rappers went to Twitter and Instagram to express their grief over Phife's death and to thank him for influencing a new generation of rappers.

Thankfully, a majority of Phife's verses were already recorded and the new project was almost complete. The album was officially announced on October 27 of last year. Fans were in disbelief due to the Phife's death but were filled with excitement and anticipation. The album was released November 11 and was met with high praise from fans and critics alike. The album's name *We Got It from Here... Thank You 4 Your Service* symbolizes the group passing the torch to a new generation of rappers and thanking the all love and support the group was given during their reign over hip hop. The album features other respected 90's rapper such as Busta Rhymes, Talib Kweli, Andre 3000, as well as new comer Anderson Paak and modern legends Kendrick Lamar and Kanye West. The album covers a range of topics, everything from the 2016 election to egos, racism, and hypocrisy. The group also takes time to shout out rappers they respect today such as Earl Sweatshirt, J. Cole, Joey Bada\$\$, and Kendrick Lamar.

Lastly, the group dedicates the final track, "The Donald" to Phife Dawg, as this was a rarely used alias of his. If you haven't given this album a chance yet I highly recommend it, as it was my top album pick of 2016, along with Isaiah Rashad's "A Sun's Tirade" which deserves an honorable mention.

13th Documentary

Emma Payne
STAFF WRITER

Have you seen the documentary by Ava DuVernay, *13th*? Why not? It's required watching for all Americans should know about the 13th Amendment and the loopholes behind it. *13th* is available on Netflix, and was nominated for Best Documentary at the Academy Awards.

The 13th Amendment states, "Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction." Anyone sent to prison can still be enslaved.

The U.S. government has locked up the black population over minor incidents in prisons to keep them enslaved for years after slavery was "abolished". Ava DuVernay, director of Oscar nominated *Selma*, uses footage and images from post civil war to modern day, as well as interviews, to highlight how slavery hasn't fully disappeared in America.

DuVernay makes her argument based on startling statistics, horrific footage and photos of lynchings, fire hosing, police shootings, prison fight footage, prison labor, the war on drugs police brutality, phone calls, civil rights activists, the three strike rule, and images of African Americans getting harassed and abused by Trump supporters.

The film chronicles the rise of the "War on Drugs" in the 1980s and 1990s, which included policies such as the harsher sentences for possession of crack cocaine over powdered cocaine. Possession of crack, which is a cheaper version of powdered cocaine, can carry the same sentence as the

possession of the quantity of cocaine that is 100 times larger. This caused an uproar between the poor and the rich, as crack was trafficked more in poor communities and inner cities, while cocaine was used in wealthier areas. The War on Drugs targeted poor and inner-city communities over the wealthy communities.

Thousands of African-Americans were thrown into prison with extensive sentences for small possessions of crack, while the wealthy and white were let off the hook for cocaine possession. The only difference between the two is that cocaine is a powder and crack is smokeable. During this time, media news, would use the term "super predator" for convicts of drug use. This led to the distrust of the justice system, as the modern justice system is considered the new institution of slavery.

Today, police brutality has caused protests nationally, starting the "Black Lives Matter" movement. This movement began after the shooting of Trayvon Martin, a 17 year old boy who was walking home from the gas station when George Zimmerman shot him because he perceived him as a threat. Thousands of unarmed African Americans have been killed by police, since then causing protests around the country. Also, many films, music, and other art forms are taking a stand in the Black Lives Matter movement, including *13th*.

Everyone should watch *13th* to learn about the injustices in this country, how they started, how they continue, and then maybe, we can figure out how to improve the future.

The Name of the Wind: Book Review

Josh Park
SPORTS EDITOR

Winter break had just begun and I decided to find a book to read over the break, so I went to Barnes and Noble. I quickly browsed the shelves and found this book. The cover seemed interesting and the blurb was not bad. Then I looked at the reviews and saw that it had high praise from well-known people such as George RR Martin, writer of the *Game of Thrones* series, and Lin-Manuel Miranda, creator of the hit musical *Hamilton*. In fact, many voiced comparisons to classics such as *Lord of the Rings*. Donna Bowman of the *AV Club* went as far as to say to "Shelve [it] beside *Lord Of The Rings*, *The Deed Of Paksenarri-on*, and *The Wheel Of Time*—and look forward to the day when it's mentioned in the same breath, perhaps as first among equals". Now, I do not know much about the other books she listed, but I do know about *Lord of the Rings*. So, I wanted to know, is Patrick Rothfuss' *The Name of the Wind* comparable to *Lord of the Rings*?

Patrick Rothfuss' *The Name of the Wind* is the first book in the series known as the *Kingkiller Chronicles*. First released in 2007, the book received widespread acclaim for its epic plot and beautiful writing, even winning several awards such as the quill award and the reading list award and reaching many top lists on sites such as Amazon and Barnes & Noble. If you are finally curious what this book is about, wait no longer, here is my attempt to shine a glimpse of light into the world of the *Kingkiller Chronicles*.

The book begins in a medieval world known as the Four Corners

of Civilization in a small secluded pub called the Waystone Inn. The innkeeper Kvothe, is a man who though in his early thirties, looks like a man who has been aged by the hardships of the world. Another man then arrives at the inn, a writer, who has been searching for Kvothe for a long time. He knows that Kvothe is the hero of the legends and wishes to write the true story of his life. Kvothe reluctantly agrees eventually begins his account, "My name is Kvothe. I have stolen princesses back from barrow kings. I burned down the town of Trebon. I have spent the night with Felurian and left with both my sanity and my life. I was expelled from the University at a younger age than most people are allowed in. I have talked to Gods, loved women, and written songs that make the minstrels weep. You may have heard of me". With these lines, the reader begins the epic adventure of Kvothe's life, a life filled with revenge, love, and coming of age unlike any other.

After finishing the five hundred page book in two days, I ordered the second book, *The Wise Man's Fear* immediately and proceeded to finish that one thousand page book in four days. The third book is not yet released, and despite being only partially finished, the *Kingkiller Chronicles* is one of the best series that I have ever read. It has aspects that are entirely original and beautiful, such as its descriptions of music, that captivates the heart and mind in ways that only the best of books can accomplish. On the other hand, in regards to whether it is on par with *Lord of the Rings*, I believe we shall have to wait until the whole series is completed to say.



Brent McKeever
STAFF WRITER

The lineup for the annual Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival was released on Jan. 3. The lineup includes well known artists such as Beyoncé, Kendrick Lamar, Travi\$ Scott, and Gucci Mane. Coachella is a major music festival hosted by Goldenvoice at the Empire Polo Fields in Indio, California. It has become known worldwide as one of the most popular music festivals of all time, as people wait to see the trendsetting fashion, music, and food that debut at the festival.

The festival is set to start April 14 to 16 for the first weekend and start again April 21 to 23 for the second weekend. Throughout the three days, over 100,000 people are expected to show up to enjoy the music, food, and art that the festival has to offer. Junior **Bridget Danley** said, "Last year at Coachella I had a blast! It was so much fun running around going to all the concerts with my best friends and seeing all of my favorite artists perform live."

This year is said to be one of the best due to the headliners, including Radiohead, Beyoncé, and Kendrick Lamar. This is especially exciting for many people due to the fact that Beyoncé has never performed at Coachella and has recently announced that she is pregnant with twins.

Sophomore **Alex Diggle** said, "I'm so excited to see my favorite artists and hang in the Sahara tent...there's nothing on Earth like Coachella." The festival will feature new art installations from underground artists as well as feature new food vendors. The festival rapidly sold out all passes within three hours, with general admission passes at the price of \$399 each and VIP passes at \$899 each. Although passes are sold out officially, resellers are selling passes on websites such as StubHub and Ticketmaster, but they have a considerably higher price than the original.

Upcoming Films of 2017

Timmy Thames

STAFF WRITER

Wonder Woman, June 2:

Wonder Woman follows the origin story of the Amazonian princess, Wonder Woman (Gal Gadot), and her discovery of a world run by men. It is a period piece set during World War I and gives audiences an interesting view of how a superhero can affect a war. Growing up on an island run dominantly by women, Wonder Woman is confronted by a world run by men and decides to fight in the war. Along the way, she meets deadly villains who can only be taken down by someone of great strength: herself.

Beauty and The Beast, March 17:

This live action adaptation of the Disney classic follows the original tale of an intelligent young

woman named Belle (Emma Watson) who is forced to be held captive by a Beast (Dan Stevens) in order to free her father. During this time, she begins to see who the Beast really is on the inside and falls in love with him.

Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Men Tell No Tales, May 26:

Captain Jack Sparrow (Johnny Depp) is down on his luck once more, this time running from ghost pirates led by his arch-nemesis Captain Salazar (Javier Bardem). In order to defend himself from the deadly grips of his rivals, he must go on a journey to collect the Trident of Poseidon.

Justice League, November 17:

Following the events of Superman's death, Batman (Ben Affleck) finally realizes what he really stood for and goes on a journey with Wonder Woman (Gal Gadot) in order to find other he-

roes to help protect the Earth from an incoming threat. After finally enlisting Aquaman (Jason Momoa), The Flash (Ezra Miller), and Cyborg (Ray Fisher) into the league, however, the team quickly realizes they may be too late.

Spider-Man: Homecoming, July 7:

After fighting alongside some of The Avengers, Peter Parker (Tom Holland) is forced to return back home and into his normal life. Getting more and more comfortable with his powers, however, Parker decides to put them to the test by stopping a few local robberies, under Tony Stark's supervision of course. Parker must use everything he's got to defeat a new uprising villain named Vulture, who threatens his city and everyone he loves.



Kate Lasky

STAFF WRITER

In a world full of chaos and uncertainty it is sometimes easier to give up and feel sorry for yourself than to stay strong and keep progressing forward. In times like these it is important to have role models to look to for inspiration and positivity. One person who leads by example is singer/rapper and social activist Destiny Frasqueri, more commonly known as Princess Nokia. Destiny has released a number of projects under her stage name as well as her birth name. Her most recent album 1992 was released in September of 2016.

At a recent concert at the Echo in Los Angeles, Princess Nokia made sure everyone understood one thing: it's okay to make mistakes and that society can't tell you who and how to be. She uses herself as an example sending messages to her fans through her music. The first track on her new album, "Bart Simpson", tells the story of her youth growing up between Spanish Harlem and Lower East Side of New York City. She tells of her experience in foster care when she raps, "Who I am and where I'm headed. Cutting

school and acting crazy. Foster care done got me crazy. Living with a crazy lady". She continues on saying, "I lie a lot from getting beaten and put off food, I'm not eating. Eczema so bad I'm bleeding, but I smile and keep it cheeing". While these lyrics are intense and hard to imagine for some, they are relatable to thousands of young girls all across America.

The fact that she is able to remain strong and positive is an important message to send to teenagers all across the country who may be going through similar circumstances. When you hear her say, "Looking to my future is like looking at the sky. Inner city orphan with my hand in apple pie", one is filled with inspiration due to her unique sense of confidence and determination. If she can overcome the hardships in her life then so can we.

In addition to overcoming her own obstacles Princess Nokia strongly encourages young people to do that same. At the concert she was heard shouting out "this is a safety zone for all. We welcome all women, people of color and members of the LGBT community." Not only does she inspire her fans through her mu-

sic but also has worked to educate her followers on intersectionality and the importance of love and acceptance. Princess Nokia is co-founder of Smart Girl Club, "an urban feminist collective based in the arts and community outreach. Founded by Destiny Frasqueri and Milah Libin, Smart Girl Club aims to empower women of all shapes, sizes, colors, sexualities, and orientations by focusing on creative collaboration and celebration between women". Smart Girl Club has hosted workshops, led panel discussions at universities such as Harvard and The New School, held pop-up shops, hosted concerts, produced music videos, and plans on doing much more. Check it out at smartgirlclub.org.

The role Princess Nokia plays in the lives of many young people's lives is extremely important. Without mentors to look up to it is easy for young people to get lost. To see more of her work check out her website princessnokia.org, listen to her music on her soundcloud soundcloud.com/princessnokia, and check out her daily adventures on her Instagram, @princessnokia.

Movies Continue to Fail Bechdel Test

Maddie McVeigh

STAFF WRITER

We closed last year having had several successful box office hits such as *Deadpool*, *Zootopia*, and *Suicide Squad*. However, any of these movies fail to include women as central characters, instead choosing to focus on male storylines and characters.

A test developed in 1985 by cartoonist Alison Bechdel criticizes movies and filters them through three simple tests; 1) whether there are two named female characters, 2) whether those characters hold a conversation with each other, and 3) whether that conversation focuses on anything other than men. This test highlights the lack of female influence in media and fiction. Bechdel devised this test after noticing a huge absence of female characters in the media, but she largely attributes the idea for the test to her friend Liz Wallace, and further back to Virginia Woolf, who mentioned the absence of useful female characters in her books. The test brings light to the spotlighting of male characters in popular fiction and shows the staggering absence of useful female characters that revolve around anything other than men. A study conducted in 2015 filtered all the popular movies released from January to December and found that 45% of those movies failed to pass the Bechdel test. That means that almost half of all of the biggest movies released in 2015 failed to either portray more than one named female character, failed to have those characters speak to one another, failed to

have them speak about something other than men, or failed all three criterias. *Fifty Shades of Grey* passed the test, but other movies like *Mission Impossible: Rogue Nation* failed all three questions. *The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey* doesn't even pass the first criteria, failing to have more than one named female characters. These statistics seem to be influenced by whether the team writing the script for the movie are comprised of all male workers or not. Roughly 50% of movies written by an all male team from 1995-2005 fail the Bechdel test, while only 6% of movies written by an all female team fail the test. This creates a problem, as about 85% of filmmakers are men.

Junior **Sierra Todt** says she is "appalled by the lack of women in movies", and is "offended moviemakers don't make females a bigger priority." However, the Bechdel test isn't always the best filter for popular movies. Tumblr user Chalia devised a new test, also with three questions, in which for a movie to pass the test it must have a) at least one female character; b) who gets her own narrative arc; c) that is not about supporting a man's story. This test is centred around portrayals of feminism in movies, not just the broader generalization of women's conversation. Statistics have not been gathered on this test, though, as it was only introduced recently.

Both these tests highlight the obvious lack of feminine portrayal in movies, a problem that has not evolved, but will hopefully continue to gain notoriety and be addressed.

3 Great Albums of 2016

By Rebecca Clausse

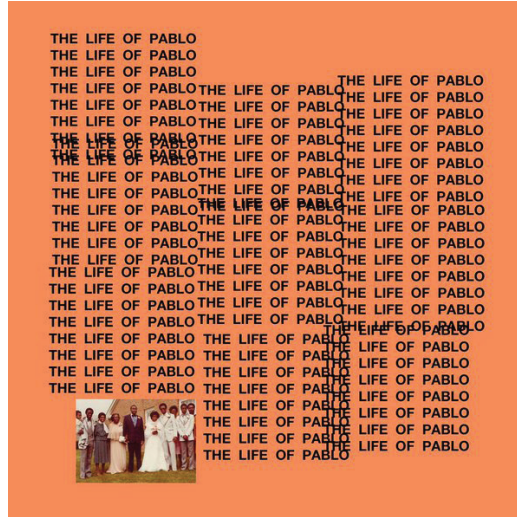


Blonde Frank Ocean

Released on Aug. 20, Ocean exposed his intimate, personal life experiences, aiming to create an album capable of reflecting, the difficulty of love, emotional highs and lows, and the complexities of life changing moments. All the while, presenting visuals commenting on today's society.

After taking a four-year break, Ocean shared a very personal piece of work, not qualified for the radio or Grammys. Featuring artists such as Beyonce and Kendrick Lamar, Ocean brings sentiments of depression and sadness, yet maintains an overall sense of joy at the albums core. Songs such as "Nikes", "Solo", and "Pink Ferrari" reveal Ocean's rejection of the egotistical standard of celebrities. *Blonde* is the ideal incorporation of Ocean's poetry and journey to self discovery in a polarized world.

"*Blonde* is the perfect follow up to *Channel Orange*. Ocean's blend of soulful ballads accompanied by upbeat rhythms reflects his old style music in a new light. Ocean's insightful writing style has resurfaced, reflecting controversial current events. Although I like the first half of the album more than the second, as a whole, *Blonde* has satisfied, and maybe surpassed, Ocean's expectations." said Malibu High senior **Delaney Faherty**.



The Life of Pablo Kanye West

Released on Feb. 14, West shared his passion and fascination for music, his wife Kim Kardashian West, and modern art, creating an hour length album, *The Life of Pablo*.

Kanye's album is filled with a gospel theme. Many influential rappers such as Future, Vic Mensa and Chance The Rapper add an intense harmony of rap, gospel, and funk to the theme. The 38 year-old rapper is still mocked and accused of being an "a**hole" by many artists following West's mentioning of him in multiple songs and his latest video, "Famous". However, West has created a new era of ambitious musical artists and continues his rise in the music industry.

With songs such as "Real Friends," "Ultralight Beam," and "Father Stretch My Hands," West exposes his view on his life journey, revealing his sense of paranoia, continuous phobias, and compulsions. He opposes the numerous attacks from the media and past experiences such as the death of his mother, Rhonda West, who is still important and present in his writings. *The Life Of Pablo* feels like the crescendo of Kanye's career that he has been building since *College Dropout*.

Senior **Ali Rezvan** said, "The [album's] gospel theme, raw emotion in songs such as 'FML,' and the influence of the many rappers, it makes it feel like a jam-packed album, that while hasn't been Kanye's most complete work, or necessarily his best, but it is definitely one of the more inspirational albums of the year, with its influences seen in works such as Chance's *Coloring Book*."



Awaken My Love! Childish Gambino

Released on Dec. 2, Donald Glover (aka Childish Gambino) shared his third project, ditching rap for an emotional funk theme.

Including the electric guitar, xylophone, and piano to the songs "Redbone" and "Riot," Glover embodies 1970s musical artists such as Prince and Stevie Wonder. Additionally, Glover comments on modern African American culture by exploring ideas of violence, solidarity, and nostalgia. Including both screams and delicate vocals from choirs and funk arrangements, Glover has taken the chance of releasing an album that is completely different from his past releases. It has inspired many, thanks to his strong ambition of sharing his creative yet mature messages. Glover shares the importance of history through his funk/soul sound and strong writing skills. "I think that *Awaken My Love!* is a perfect balance of Afro funk and soul while also incorporating alternative rock into his songs. While I don't love every song, 'Me and Your Mama' and 'Boogie-man' are two of my favorites because they perfectly capture Gambino's 60s funkadelic vibe" said Malibu High senior **Emma Brisinger**.

KONO'S FASHION TRENDS



1. Rihanna Creepers and Slides: Sold out in a short time, but a lot of people had a chance to get their hands on them. They've become very popular all around the world, and almost everyday I see people wearing either one or both.

2. Bomber Jackets have become a big trend in 2016. You see them everywhere. Along the streets, school, the mall, pretty much all over the place. A lot of people loved it, and you can see how many people wore them just by looking at instagram.

3. Chokers have become very popular recently and are the perfect accessory to pair with any outfit of your choice.

People started making different kinds of chokers, and they have become extremely unique over last year.

4. Denim Jackets were a very popular pick for a casual and semiformal setting. Denim jackets are versatile because they come in so many colors, and people could add patches or pins to them.

5. Off the shoulder tops or dresses became a really cute trend in 2016. They've popped up all over instagram as everyone began wearing different types of patterns and details, which created variety.



The Trump Cabinet

MIKE PENCE VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

- Former Governor of Indiana
- Identifies as "a Christian, a conservative, and a Republican, in that order"
- Has come out in favor of gay conversion therapy
- Believes global warming is a myth



REX TILLERSON SECRETARY OF STATE

- Former CEO of ExxonMobil
- Has close business ties to Russian President Vladimir Putin
- Fitting name for someone in the fossil fuel business
- Inducted into the Eagle Scout Hall of Fame in 2009



STEVE MNUCHIN SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

- Worked for Goldman Sachs for 17 years
- Executive producer of several films including The Lego Movie and Suicide Squad
- Estimated net worth of more than \$500 million
- Was criticized for excessively foreclosing homeowners



JAMES "MAD DOG" MATTIS SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

- Supports a two-state solution in the Israel-Palestine conflict
- Strongly supports John Kerry on his Middle East peace policies
- Has a personal library that once included 7,000 books
- Is nicknamed "The Warrior Monk"
- Has never been married



JEFFERSON BEAUREGARD SESSIONS III ATTORNEY GENERAL

- This dude's name is Beauregard
- Supported a national amendment to ban same-sex marriage
- Criticized by civil rights leaders
- Was rejected from a federal judgeship due to his civil rights record
- Claims "good people don't smoke marijuana"



RYAN ZINKE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR

- From Montana
- Served as a Navy SEAL
- Was on the board of an oil pipeline company
- Supports increased coal production
- Wants to act on climate change
- Opposes transfer of federal land to the states



SONNY PURDUE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

- Served as the 81st Governor of Georgia
- Was once accused of flying a state helicopter without a license
- Worked to improve Georgia's disaster relief programs
- Signed one of the nation's toughest laws on immigration



WILBUR ROSS SECRETARY OF COMMERCE

- Investor and former banker
- Net worth of \$2.5 billion
- Known for restructuring failed companies in numerous industries
- Known as the king of bankruptcy
- Once represented casinos owned by Donald Trump
- Originally wanted to be a writer



ALEXANDER ACOSTA SECRETARY OF LABOR

- Son of exiles from communist Cuba
- Twice named as one of the nation's 50 most influential Hispanics
- Attorney and dean of Florida International University College of Law
- Former judge for the U.S. 3rd Circuit court of appeals



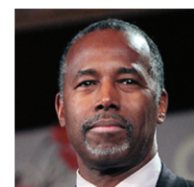
TOM PRICE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

- Former physician and representative from Georgia
- Opposes abortion and Planned Parenthood funding
- Believes birth control mandate of Affordable Care Act violates religious freedom
- Doesn't think tobacco is a drug



BEN CARSON SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

- Esteemed neurosurgeon
- Former 2016 Republican presidential candidate
- Vegetarian
- Recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2008
- Has more than 60 honorary doctorates



ELAINE CHAO SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION

- Served as Secretary of Labor under George W. Bush
- First Asian American woman and first Taiwanese American to serve on a Presidential Cabinet
- Worked for multiple cabinet departments, including as Director of the Peace Corps
- Wife of Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell



RICK PERRY SECRETARY OF ENERGY

- Longest serving governor in Texas history
- Ran for Republican Presidential nomination in 2012 and 2016
- Said "gays should choose abstinence"
- Said in 2011 he would abolish the Department of Energy if he could but couldn't remember the name of the department



BETSY DEVOS SECRETARY OF EDUCATION

- Confirmed with a 51-50 vote, a tie broken by VP Mike Pence
- DeVos family is the largest single contributor of soft money to the Republican party
- Said she bought her influence
- Opposed Trump undoing the protections allowing transgender students to use the bathroom they choose



DAVID SHULKIN SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

- Worked for multiple different health centers
- Shortest Wikipedia article out of any members of the Cabinet



JOHN F. KELLY SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY

- Former US Marine Corps general
- Hitchhiked from Boston to Seattle at age 16
- Distinguished Service Medal recipient
- Called in to help the police during the 1992 Los Angeles Riots
- Fought in the Persian Gulf War and the Iraq War



REINCE PRIEBUS CHIEF OF STAFF

- Former chairman of the Republican National Committee
- Also former lawyer
- Greek Orthodox Christian
- Supported immigration reform allowing illegal immigrants to become citizens
- Ugliest name in the Republican Party



NIKKI HALEY AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED NATIONS

- First female Governor of South Carolina
- Daughter of Indian immigrants
- Supports voter ID laws
- Pro-life
- Formerly supported flying Confederate flag over South Carolina Capitol but signed law to remove it in 2015



SEAN SPICER WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY

- Former communications director for the Republican National Committee
- Has had a "lifelong contentious relationship with the media"
- Worked for public relations companies
- Has come under fire for stating false facts to the press as Press Secretary



STEVE BANNON WHITE HOUSE CHIEF STRATEGIST

- Former executive chair of Breitbart News
- Served in the Navy for seven years
- Previously worked for Goldman Sachs
- Position appears to be closest to President Trump himself



Protests Around Nation Respond to Trump

Emilia Buckley
STAFF WRITER

Ever since Donald Trump was elected president on Nov. 8, protests and riots have been reported throughout the nation. Most of these protests were sparked by anti-Trump movements, angered by the surprising news of the Republican's election. In Portland, a three night peaceful protest occurred with over 4,000 marchers that police classified as a riot. The third night of this protest turned violent as "anarchists" started to throw objects at police and vandalise local businesses. In Los Angeles, as many as 185 protesters were arrested on suspicions of blocking roads and minors violating local curfew rules. Further north in Oakland, 11 were arrested after the windows of shops were shattered and illegal fireworks were set off in the streets. These protests are not

exclusive to the west coast, as ralliers camped outside of the White House for several nights and major cities such as Philadelphia and Minneapolis had road closures to guarantee protesters' safety.

Colleges, high schools, and middle schools also expressed their displeasure by staging walkouts in the middle of classes. Local colleges such as UCLA and USC saw mass outcomes as demonstrators left their classes in favor of walking down the streets of LA chanting sayings such as "not our president." In Menlo Park, California, the seniors of Menlo-Atherton High School left their school in the middle of 3rd period causing road blockages throughout the area.

On Nov. 12, a protest in Los Angeles spanned a total of 6 miles. When asked why they were attending the protest, most expressed their concern for their rights. President-elect Trump says

that he would like to repeal the marriage equality law, as well as make abortion illegal, strip away women's rights, and restrict immigration to America. Many are scared of what this may mean for them, their families and others of the same race, gender, or sexual preference.

"I'm scared that I won't be able to control my own body anymore, which should be a right to everyone," said college sophomore Bianca Foster. Foster is currently attending Otis School of Art and Design as visual arts major. "My tuition will go up with [Donald Trump] as president. I can barely afford this school now."

Many share Foster's views on college tuition, especially after the President-elect released his plans for this issue, saying that it will become harder for liberal arts majors to pull loans from the bank. Others also expressed their fears on how abortion will

be affected by our new president. Trump has outwardly stated his distaste for the controversial topic several times, and has said that he is pro life on multiple occurrences.

"My school is diverse, this is the first time I've ever felt really connected [to them]" said senior of Menlo-Atherton, Siena Hooper. Hooper helped to plan and spread word of the walkout. "Our plan was to originally meet in the senior quad and listen to each other's prepared speeches, but soon everyone was moving and before I really knew what was happening we were walking down the middle of the street."

President-elect Donald Trump tweeted shortly after the first protests about his distaste for the demonstrations. "Just had a very open and successful presidential election. Now professional protesters, incited by the media, are protesting. Very unfair!"

Trump Plays Politics with Women's Health Around the World

Zoe Detweiler
EDITOR IN CHIEF

On Jan. 23, the Trump administration reinstated the Mexico City Policy, also known as the "Global Gag Rule," to cut all federal funding for NGOs worldwide that "counsel people on family planning options that may include abortion." The policy was first introduced in 1984 by Reagan, and has been revoked and then reinstated by every Democrat and Republican in the Oval Office since.

According to the Guttmacher Institute, the United States spends over \$600 million a year in foreign assistance for family planning, which allows about 27 million women and couples worldwide to receive contraceptive supplies and services. This money, instead of increasing the number of abortions, actually averts 2.3 million abortions per year, with about 2 million of them typically being unsafe, and preventing 11,000 maternal deaths.

White House Press Secretary Sean Spicer said, "I think the reinstatement of this policy is

not just something that echoes that value, but respects taxpayer funding as well, and ensures that we're standing up not just for life of the unborn, but also for taxpayer funds that are being spent overseas to perform an action that is contrary to the values of this president."

However, the Helms Amendment, passed in 1973 following the decision made in *Roe v. Wade*, already prevents the use of US federal aid for abortions. The Mexico City Policy instead cuts funding for any organizations that even discusses abortion with women, even if they provide many other health services, such as birth control or sexual education.

History has shown that abortions are never prevented by making them illegal, getting rid of clinics, or cutting funding to health providers that may provide them. In collaboration with the World Health Organization, a Stanford University study found that after George W. Bush reinstated the Mexico City Policy in 2001, abortion rates in sub-Saharan African countries increased instead

of decreasing.

The cutting of funding to health organizations will create 2.1 million unsafe abortions and 21,700 maternal deaths in Trump's first term, according to Marie Stopes International, a global family planning organization that works in 37 countries.

The Mexico City Policy also hinders prevention of HIV and AIDS in developing nations, as frequently the only organizations that provide condoms in certain nations were defunded, as was the case with Planned Parenthood in Lesotho in 2001.

President Trump signed the Mexico City Policy on Jan. 23, surrounded by cabinet members and staff, including Vice President Mike Pence, White House Chief of Staff Reince Priebus, Senior Advisor Jared Kushner, and Chief Strategist Steve Bannon. Although the policy being signed primarily impacts the lives of women of color in developing countries, the signing was attended mainly by white men, showing how such important issues in society are decided by those they affect the least.

Measure H: Addressing Homelessness in LA

Nick Kianpoor
OPINION EDITOR

On Mar. 7, voters in Los Angeles will be casting ballots in a special county election on Measure H, a ballot measure designed to address the increasing amount of homeless citizens in the county. If implemented, Measure H is expected to get nearly 45,000 citizens off the streets, while preventing a further 30,000 from losing their homes in the first place. The funds for the relief programs will be raised through a one-quarter of a cent increase in the county's sales tax, which will remain in place for 10 years.

The increase in the sales tax is expected to raise \$355 million, with the money being invested into educating, rehabilitating, and resituating the homeless. This money would be supervised by a five member Citizens' Oversight Advisory Board, which would be responsible for reviewing the distribution of funds twice a year. The money raised from the tax would be placed in a special account, and solely allocated to homelessness relief and prevention.

Although the measure will raise the sales tax in Los Angeles County, the aggregate tax

rate would not surpass the tax limit established by prior ballots. However, opponents of the bill contend that the funds raised by Measure H will be distributed to the same institutions which, in the past, have failed to effectively confront the homelessness crisis. Others object with regard to the fact that there are already enough funds available to confront the homelessness crisis but that these funds have been spent ineffectively.

Regardless of their support for measure H, communities and citizens have reached a general consensus that Los Angeles is experiencing a severe homelessness crisis. In January, 2016, there were an estimated 47,000 homeless people within the county, with tens of thousands of others at risk of soon becoming homeless. This figure shows a 19% increase in the homeless population from 2013, a number that shows no signs of declining.

If Measure H does not receive more than 66% of the vote it will not pass. Whether you support the Measure or not, the Current actively encourages its readers to make their voices heard and cast their ballots on Mar. 7. The location of your nearest polling stations can be found online.

Trump's Immigration Executive Order

Robert Popp
STAFF WRITER

On Jan. 27, 2017, President Donald J. Trump issued an executive order restricting immigration from seven terrorist prone countries, taking the nation by surprise. It has been a key campaign message of Trump to suspend immigration from countries that pose a threat to America's National Security. The countries that are affected by the ban are Iraq, Iran, Syria, Somalia, Sudan, Libya, and Yemen for 90 days.

In Section 1 of the executive order it briefly states that deteriorating countries that suffer from strife increase the likeliness that terrorists from these countries will use any means necessary to enter the United States. Not only does the order speak out against terrorists or any ties to terrorists, but also mandates that the United States needs to be vigilant in implementing a visa-issuance process that also screens Islamists, Jihadists, or anyone that places their own ideology before the American Law and is not willing to uphold to the Constitution.

Section 2 briefly states that it is the policy of the United States to protect the citizens of the country.

Section 3 explains that the U.S. should suspend all issuance of vi-

sas in the countries of concern. It also stated that the Secretary of Homeland Security will consult with the Secretary of State to review the information the country needs to safely ensure that the visa issuance program can properly screen people that have any intention of harming the United States. In order to reduce investigative burdens on agencies during the review period, section 3, subsection c officially states that immigration from the seven countries of concern will be temporarily suspended for 90 days to ensure that the reviewing period is smooth and effective. This statement excludes those who travel on diplomatic visas, North Atlantic Treaty Organization visas, C-2 visas for travel to the United Nations, and G-1, G-2, G-3, and G-4 visa). The remainder of Section 3 suggests that the Secretary of State and Secretary of Homeland Security will brief the President if there are any other countries that deserve the same treatment. On the other hand, if there is a specific situation where it is in the nation's interest and benefit to issue visas to any of the countries that have been blocked, the United States will do so. The Secretary of State will give a report every 30 days on any progress.

Section 4 issues that the Secretary of State, Secretary of

Homeland Security, Director of National Intelligence, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation will develop a screening program that successfully detects people that will potentially harm the United States. This includes uniform screening with personal interviews, the ability to ensure that fraudulent documents that are used by multiple applicants are detected, forming questions based on whether the applicant will cause harm to the U.S., a mechanism to ensure that the applicant is he or she claims to be, and a process to detect whether or not the applicant will be a positive contributor to society.

Section 5 deals with the Refugees Admission Program and that it will suspend the USRAP for 120 days. During this time, the order says that the Secretary of State and Director of National Intelligence will review the USRAP to decide if there needs to be a change in the application process for admitting refugees into the United States. In subsection B, it states that to the extent permitted by the law, the U.S. would prioritize in letting in refugees that are religiously persecuted and are a religious minority in their country. This section hereby announces its claim to deny all syrian refugees and the entry of 50,000 refugees in the fiscal year

of 2017. Subsection (e) states that it will allow refugees in even from the seven listed countries if it is proven that it is in the Nation's interest and will not burden the welfare or security state.

Section 7 calls for the completion and implementation of the Biometric Entry-Exit Tracking System which is recommended by the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States.

Section 8 calls for the retraction of the Visa Interview Waiver Program and instead have all individuals seeking a nonimmigrant visa be required to undergo an in-person interview.

Section 9 orders that the Secretary of State shall review all non-immigrant visa reciprocity agreements to ensure that they are truly practicable with respect to their validity period and fees.

Section 10 calls for the transparency of policies used for data collection.

Section 11 finishes off the order with the statement that the order is not intended to affect the authority granted by law to an executive department or agency or affect the Director of the Office Management and Budgetary.

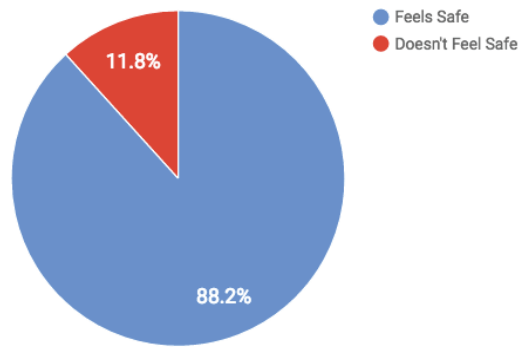
The legality of the ban has raised some questions to the public but under Title 8, Chapter 12, Subchapter 2, Section 1182 of U.S.

law, it quotes "Whenever the President finds that the entry of any aliens or of any class of aliens into the United States would be detrimental to the interests of the United States, he may by proclamation, and for such period, he shall deem necessary, suspend the entry of all aliens or any class of aliens as immigrants or nonimmigrants, or impose on the entry of aliens any restriction he may deem to be appropriate." According to U.S. law, the ban should be legal when reviewed under these terms, however, the Department of Homeland Security has temporarily halted the enforcement of the law and has ordered border security to return to procedural checks of immigrants entering the United States. The halt on the ban was implemented by the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals and they will not determine whether the ban remains constitutional but whether the halt remains in action. Whether or not the ban will be successfully and legally implemented will be determined by the Supreme Court. This fact may slow down the confirmation of Trump's Supreme Court Justice appointee, Neil Gorsuch. Trump also has the option to re write the order completely or he has the option to challenge the 9th Circuit.

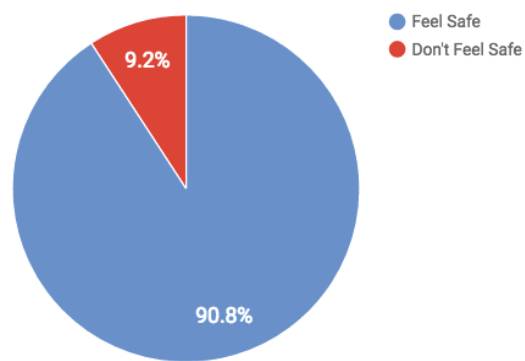
Sex and Sexuality Poll

For complete data and analysis,
turn to the front page

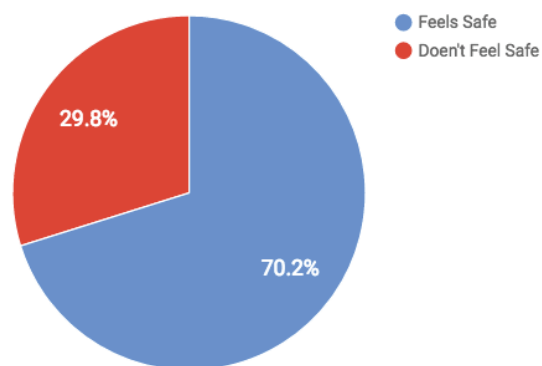
Females: Do You Feel Safe Talking About Your Sexuality on Campus?



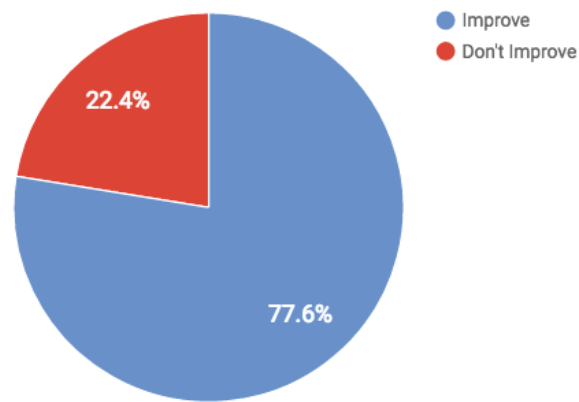
Males: Do You Feel Safe Talking About Your Sexuality on Campus?



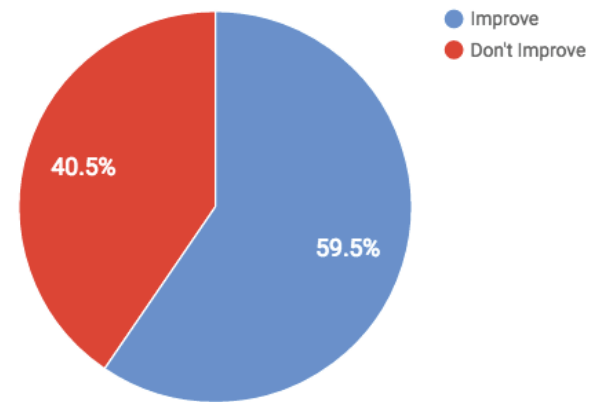
LGBTQ+ Students: Do You Feel Safe Talking About Your Sexuality on Campus?



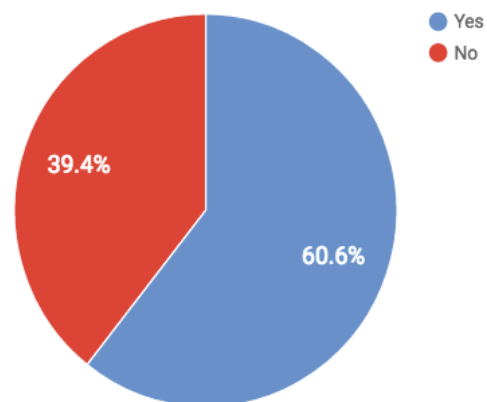
Females: Should Sex Ed be Improved?



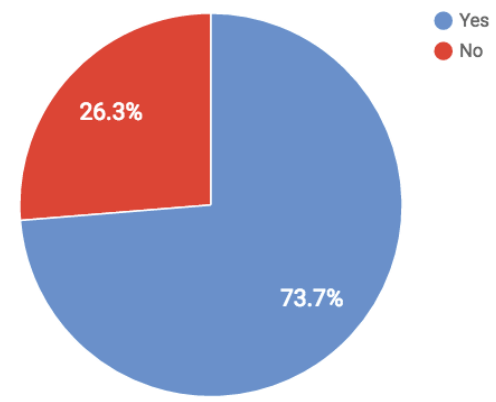
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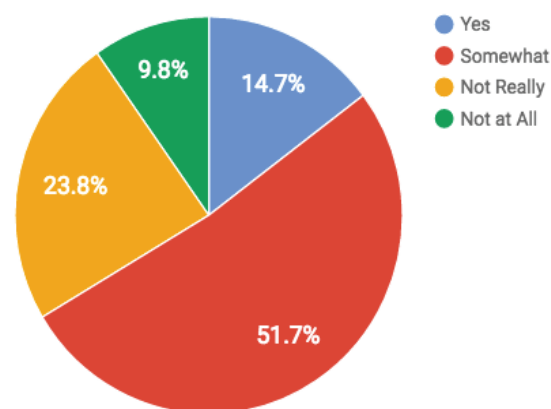
Females: How prepared do you feel to deal with sexual situations as a result of your MHS sex ed?



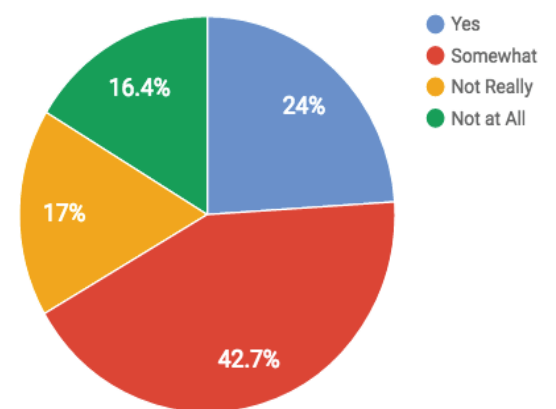
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Sexually Active Students: Was Your School Provided Sex Ed Adequate?



Sexually Inactive Students: Was Your School Provided Sex Ed Adequate?



Queertionary: A Guide to Sexuality & Gender Terms You Should Know

Coco Joelle
STAFF WRITER

A guide to understanding the most common LGBT+ community terms. Please be respectful and come to me with any questions. I've included a few celebrities in the LGBT+ community as well.

Queer:

1) An umbrella term sometimes used by LGBT+ people to refer to the entire LGBT community.

2) An alternative that some people use to the labels and categories such as lesbian, gay, bisexual, etc.

Actor Ezra Miller identifies as queer.

*It is important to note that the word queer is an in-group term, and a word that can be considered offensive to some people, depending on their generation, location, and relationship with the word.

Sexuality

Lesbian: Females that are sexually attracted to other females.

Think Ellen. I love Ellen.

Gay: Males that are sexually attracted to other males. (Occasionally used by female-female).

There are many gay celebrities! Neil Patrick Harris is quite popular.

Bisexual: People who are sexually attract-

ed to two genders.

Like Cara Delevingne, Angelina Jolie.

Heterosexual: People who are sexually attracted to one other gender.

Like Bill Gates!

Asexual: People who feel no sexual attraction. Asexual does not always equal asexual. Asexual people can feel romantic inclinations towards others, yet they do not biologically desire sex. Refer to me for questions.

Like Tim Gunn from *Project Runway*

Pansexual: People who basically don't look at gender, attracted to all genders. (Men, women, genderfluids, androgynous, everyone!) Gender doesn't decide their attraction.

Like Miley Cyrus, rapper Angel Haze.

Polysexual/Polyamorous: People who are romantically or sexually interested in having multiple relationships at once.

Demisexual: People who do not desire sex or feel sexual attraction until they develop a strong emotional connection with someone. Basically they never want to have sex until they really connect with someone, and then it is only for that person.

Romantic

Different than sexuality, for example: a girl that may be sexually attracted to other girls, yet would not be in a romantic relationship with them

Aromantic: People who lack romantic feelings. Not to be confused as a synonym to asexual, they are different things. Aromantic relates to desire for romantic relationships, whereas asexual relates to desire for sex biologically. An aromantic person may be sexual and not romantic, where an asexual person may be romantically attracted to others yet not sexual.

Bioromantic: People who may be romantically interested in both sexes.

Panromantic: People who may be romantically interested in people of all genders.

Heteroromantic: People who are romantically interested in one other gender.

Gender

*Not to be confused with one's biological sex)

Cisgender: Identifying with the biological sex (male or female) you were born with.

Like Bill Gates!

Transgender: Identifying with a gender/sex different from the one you were biologically born with.

Laverne Cox from *Orange is the New Black*, Caitlyn Jenner are both transgender.

Transexual: A person whose gender identity is different from their biological sex, who may undergo medical change to their biological sex, often times to align it with their gender identity. Same examples as above.

Intersex: A person whose sexual anatomy or chromosomes do not fit with the traditional markers of "female" and "male."

Genderqueer: Genderqueer people possess identities which fall outside of the widely accepted sexual binary (i.e. "men" and "women") (Genderfluid, agender, etc.) Like actor/model Ruby Rose.

Genderfluid: People who identify with different genders depending on the time. Essentially, some days they feel particularly "male" or particularly "female", other times in between.

Also Ruby Rose!

Androgynous: partly male and partly female in appearance; of indeterminate sex. Could also be Ruby Rose, Jared Leto, David Bowie, Annie Lennox.

Agender: A term literally translated to "without gender". Also called "gender neutral".

If you have any further questions, refer to the GSA club in Carrier's classroom on Wednesdays, or contact me personally! I feel it is necessary for these terms to be incorporated into society. As junior Samuel Thatcher said, "It's okay to be confused by gender. It's confusing. Yet don't use your confusion as an excuse to say it isn't real. That's like saying 'oh it's snowing- there must be no global warming!'"

Should Tampons & Pads Be Free?

Scarlett Craven
STAFF WRITER

On average, a woman will spend a combined \$3,500 on tampons and pads during her lifetime, depending on lengths of periods and preference on what to use. The cost of most things for women is typically more than what a man would pay for the same product, and while there is no male counterpart for tampons or pads, the products are still taxed and highly priced. The average box of tampons costs about eight dollars and the average price for a box of pads is around seven dollars. As a girl who gets her period, I find it unfair that I spend around nine dollars every one to two months for something that I cannot control. While there are people who choose to protest the price of pads and tampons by simply not using them and rather using “period panties”, I personally am opposed to this based on comfort. I find pads and tampons are the easiest choice for most women. The price of sanitary products is a burden for women who are homeless or cannot afford them due to financial hardships, but pads and tampons cannot be bought on food stamps.

I believe that pads and tampons should be free because the menstrual cycle is a biological function that women cannot control. Junior **Bonnie Higginbotham** says, “Of course I believe they should be free, a period is not something I as a woman can help. Sorry.” This idea is shared globally, as more and more women are starting to grow tired of the high prices they have to pay about 12 times a year. Junior **Axel Romero** says “Tampons and pads should be free. They are a basic necessity, and it is inhumane that they are not.” Tampons and pads are necessary for women and not

something that women should have to pay for.

Worldwide, women are paying increasingly expensive prices for tampons and pads, including sales tax. Tampons and pads are heavily taxed in the U.S, including California, which taxes about \$3. With the exception of the 10 states that do not tax tampons at all or have no sales tax on them, women in the other 40 states are being taxed for having a basic biological function.

Over the summer in 2015 after an online petition gained traction, Canada lifted the tax on feminine hygiene products completely, showing that the federal government can get involved to make the prices more reasonable for the average woman. It makes sense that the government should supply free products to women because they are a necessity. **Romero** says “It would be difficult to get the government to pay for them, but it should be the government’s responsibility. It’s a medical necessity.” It is true that it would be difficult to get the government to pay for tampons, especially because menstruation is a taboo in many cultures.

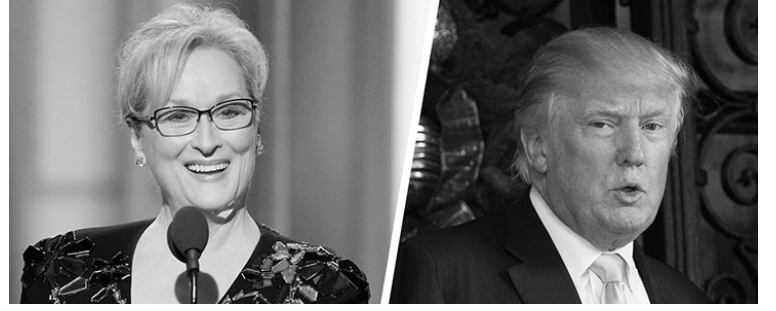
With Trump’s administration’s conservative agenda, I do not see pads and tampons becoming free in the near future, although it could be determined by state government. **Higginbotham** adds that “The government should pay for tampons, because they are so expensive and there are women on the streets who cannot afford to pay for them, and if you have a period it is a nightmare to not have any supplies.” Women who live on the street or are struggling financially have no access to pads and tampons. Women on food stamp programs cannot buy pads and tampons with them, as they are not considered an “absolute need”. Women who are homeless

have to resort to using rags or toilet paper from public restrooms to make makeshift pads in order to get through their period.

Junior **Zara Schuvester** says “There should be lady toiletry stamps, to allow women to be sanitary and comfortable.” Since the government has done nothing to help, small independent organizations, such as Distributing Dignity, are starting to offer free supplies to those in need. However, the reality of getting pads and tampons to be completely free is not very plausible because of the large amount of support it would take to have free products. One possible idea is to tax people extra to be able to pay for the free distribution of pads and tampons, **Romero** to which adds he “Would be completely fine paying more taxes to make tampons free, as they’ve become excessively expensive.”

However, getting people on board with raising taxes to pay for feminine products would be a struggle, especially with a large portion of the population already concerned with the current tax rate. Instead, eliminating the tax on tampons would be more plausible and just as helpful. A big step, especially in the United States, would be to remove all taxes on tampons and pads, which has already happened in a few states. There should also be free tampons in public restrooms, not only for those who get their period with no supplies on hand, but just to make them more accessible for those who cannot afford them. I would also like to see a greater effort to ensure that homeless women and those who cannot afford tampons can get free supplies. Hopefully in the years to come women will not have to pay as much for pads and tampons just because of a normal bodily function.

Streep vs. Trump



Katie Loftus
STAFF WRITER

The Golden Globes were held on Jan 8 this year. Despite all of the amazing movies and actors who got rewarded for their part, the most memorable part of the night occurred when Meryl Streep turned her acceptance speech into a public service announcement. Throughout her speech she mentioned the hometowns of the actors in that room, most of which were not from the United States. She then proceeded to talk about the President-Elect and his astonishing actions during a speech where he mocked New York Times reporter Serge F. Kovaleski, who has arthrogyriposis, which visibly limits the functioning of his joints.

“It was that moment when the person asking to sit in the most respected seat in our country imitated a disabled reporter,” Streep said, “someone he outranked in privilege and power and the capacity to fight back.” Streep elegantly said what many Americans have been thinking about the President-Elect without even mentioning his name. The fact that someone who is aiming to be the most significant and respected person in the United States could not even have the decency to respect a human being is disheartening and sad.

Streep then touched upon how journalists must be protected and respected. “So I only ask the famously well-heeled Hollywood foreign press and all of us in our community to join me in supporting the Committee to Protect Journalists,” she said, “cause we’re going to need them going forward and they’ll need us to

safeguard the truth.” Since Trump has threatened to take away journalists’ rights even though the journalists are the only ones whose jobs are protected in the US Constitution, Streep is advocating just how vital and important journalists are to our world. It is appalling that Trump could think he can remove the rights of those who simply want to get proper information out to the public in a non-biased way. Trump sure did get Streep’s message, and decided to retaliate later that evening on Twitter in the petty manner of calling her out and denying what he was accused of, contrary to video evidence of him mocking the reporter.

Trump tweeted: “Meryl Streep, one of the most overrated actresses in Hollywood, doesn’t know me but attacked last night at the Golden Globes. She is a....Hillary flunky who lost big. For the 100th time, I never “mocked” a disabled reporter (would never do that)...” Trump is attacking Streep to cover up his flaws and knowledge of the truth, there could not be a more immature way for Trump to do so.

After this tweet showed up on Trump’s twitter feed, many celebrities, such as Ellen Degeneres began tweeting that they love Streep and support her speech. Now there are many pictures and memes circulating around the internet, congratulating Streep and her bravery to stand up, in the hopes of reminding everyone who our new President will be. Streep gave everyone a dose of reality in a mature manner. Streep’s speech conveyed a strong combination both of respect and criticism for the current situation in the United States.

A Fall for the Times

Phoebe Little
STAFF WRITER

While most of us aren’t necessarily waiting for the Sunday paper to know what’s going on in our world, the newspaper is still a significant source of current events and local stories that keeps people updated and informed. Readers are usually focused on what the newspaper puts out, trusting that those behind the scenes are doing their best to deliver us honest, relevant news. However, what’s happening behind the scenes at the *LA Times* has ironically become front page news. Editor-in-chief Davan Maharaj has been deemed ‘what’s wrong with the *LA Times*’ as he allegedly is running the paper into the ground. Applications for a job at the *Times* have been unavailable for two years now and the paper has lost a number

of its most respected employees during that time.

The public’s first glimpse at the paper’s internal struggle was revealed with the publication of Maharaj’s refusal to pass a story proposed by one of *LA Times*’ ‘most talented investigative journalists’, Scott Glover. Glover and his longtime partner Matt Lait set out to research the nation’s drug epidemic, and released several stories on rogue physicians writing painkiller prescriptions for cash, grabbing the attention of the *Times*’ readers. In 2010, Glover teamed up with veteran *Times*’ healthcare writer Lisa Girion pursuing the investigation on the link between these rogue physicians and opioid-related deaths, with the final product being published in 2012 under the title “Dying for Relief”. In 2013, Purdue Pharmaceuticals, a leading OxyContin maker, caught the attention

of Glover as it pleaded guilty to fraudulent marketing practices. Glover and others spent hours analyzing leaked memos, e-mails, and court documents of Purdue, piecing together a remarkable pattern of wrongdoing in Purdue’s past. The final product was sent to *Times*’ editor-in-chief Davan Maharaj, who inexplicably delayed the article for more than 15 months, disregarding some of the *Times*’ most valued writers, driving them to quit out of frustration. Glover moved on to *CNN*, later stating that Maharaj has done nothing in the *Times*’ best interests and uses his power to delay numerous stories that would only be beneficial to the *LA Times* and its readers.

Glover’s story is unfortunately not a unique case, the *Times*’ newsroom is now a third of the size it was 16 years ago. A member of the Paper’s staff says “these

people are not quitting the *Times*, they’re quitting to leave their boss”. A majority of the *Times*’ ex-staffers have been given severance payouts in exchange for their signature on a nondisclosure agreement, making them contractually prohibited from voicing anything negative about Maharaj. Following the recent breakout on the topic of ‘Fake News’, the condition of the *LA Times* raises a new concern for the public: are our newspapers still trustworthy? How do we know that the people working behind our nation’s news sources are to be trusted with keeping us up to date with all that they can. A story on OxyContin isn’t necessarily breaking news, but it certainly makes you wonder what other stories have been held back by power hungry leaders. When asked whether or not he trusted that the newspaper was doing all it could to provide us

with breaking news, Senior **Declan Sheridan** said “Of course. I trust the newspaper because they have actual sources and a good reputation. It’s also been around forever”. When I asked Declan whether or not he’d feel deprived if the newspaper was no longer a source of news, he said, “I get most of my news from *CNN* because I know I can trust it, so I wouldn’t really be affected if the *LA Times* was discontinued, but I’d feel betrayed if it was keeping things from it’s readers. You trust the people behind the paper to be honest and deliver your news efficiently”. It’s hard to know what will become of the *LA Times*, but under the leadership of Davan Maharaj, things will only get worse.



Moonlighting

AN OSCARS SPECIAL
WITH MS. STOWELL

Ms. Stowell

FACULTY ADVISOR/OUR EVERYTHING

It is rare that the film chosen as Best Picture by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences is truly the best film made that year. Although we dare to dream that films are chosen on their merits, it is more truthful to say they are chosen through a combination of their ubiquity, marketing campaigns, and some unknowable forces in the zeitgeist. This year was different.

A true Best Picture film requires two absolute traits - near perfect execution of filmmaking and transcending the medium. That transcendence can come in many forms - style, content, pure filmmaking feats of magic, etc. *Titanic* (1997) meets these criteria for its incredible representation of a sinking ocean liner, *Gladiator* (2000) for its near perfect filmmaking (the melding of screenwriting, acting and directing into a flawless film), *Lord of the Rings: Return of the King* (2003) for the unmatched trilogy that brought a beloved canon in western civilization to the screen in a way that is still unmatched by any other director. These films rise above mere movie-making to demand that we understand and

feel something more than we did before we stepped into the movie theatre. I now know how it might have felt to stand on the Titanic as it sank into the freezing abyss. Best Picture Oscars should go to films that break new ground.

On the flip side of this are films that won Best Picture and clearly have not stood the test of time. When was the last time anyone watched *Chicago* (2002)? How about *Crash* in 2005? That won purely because Hollywood loves to believe it is self-reflective about its racism (fun fact: it's not). Or *The Artist* (2011). It was a wonderful little film, but it won the Oscar because the Academy loves looking back on its heyday in a fog of nostalgia - LA's own version of "Make Hollywood Great Again." In fact, in the last 5 years, films about acting or filmmaking have won 3 out of the 5 Oscar statues (*The Artist*, *Argo* and *Birdman*). All 3 are fun to watch, but are they in the same category as *Lawrence of Arabia*, *Casablanca*, or *The Godfather*? Not even close.

Inevitably this year the question on people's minds was Damien Chazelle's *La La Land* or Barry Jenkins' *Moonlight*? Both are well crafted films made by directors at the top of their game (Chazelle's *Whip-*

lash was my favorite film of 2014). Both are smaller films (costing between 5 and 30 million) that captured a moment in the national collective consciousness. And both speak to the two things that Hollywood does best, escapism and realism, respectively. Yet I would argue that it is only *Moonlight* that actually transcends its genre. Although *La La Land* is a fabulous film, it is ultimately a throwback to earlier movies, and it doesn't bring anything new to them nor does it do it as well as they did. Go watch *Singin' in the Rain* and *Top Hat* to see what I mean.

Moonlight tells its hard tale with silence, through lush saturated cinematography, evoking time and place. It deconstructs a young life fraught with addiction, violence, and homophobia. Yet none of these themes are presented in the usual way. There are no diatribes against the institutions that created them. No raw images of the devastation of incarceration. No long pronouncements on the wreckage addiction brings. In fact, it's the absence of the usual tropes that makes *Moonlight* so unique.

It's a quiet, beautiful study of life, giving us a glimpse into the emotional world of a gay, black boy during the 80's crack

epidemic. Even the ubiquitous drug dealer does not get the same treatment here. For once, the black community can tell its story without it being a metaphor. One boy does not need to stand in for the entire black experience. It does not need to tread with reverence on the story of Chiron because *Moonlight* is a film about a boy growing up in present-day America. Who is also black. It does not preach. It does not make him reverential in his fight. He is able to be a part of the fabric of experiences in this country, for maybe the first time. A story about a boy/man trying to find who he is. And his blackness is part of who he is. And so is his sexuality. *Moonlight* asks the seemingly innocent question, "I'm just trying to find out who you are, little man?" And throughout the remainder of the film, Chiron tries to answer that question for himself. *Moonlight* makes us feel and understand Chiron's life in a way we never could have without sitting in that theatre. This is what we ask of our storytellers, we do not just want to be entertained, we yearn to be moved.

BURGERFI Review

Washington Irving
FOOD CRITIC

Malibu finally has a burger place! Situated on the upper level of the Lumberyard, Burgerfi opened after months of anticipation (mostly mine) last week. Because of previously stated anticipation, I had to check it out for myself. And I am the first one to admit, I might have went a little overboard on the amount of food I ate, especially considering I was with a gluten-free friend who couldn't eat a single thing on the menu. Anyways, despite my selfishness fueled by my ravenous hunger, I ordered the CEO, a double wagyu brisket blend burger with homemade candied bacon-tomato jam, truffle aioli, and aged Swiss. I also got a red velvet milkshake and fries.

First, let's talk about the burger. The first few bites were quite a rollercoaster; the truffle flavor gets the mouth watering, which is quickly combatted by the sweetness of the bread. This might be an entirely boring way to characterize a burger, but in the end the bread was the best part. It was sweet and fluffy and most

amazing of all, it stayed dry the whole time. By the end of the meal it only felt slightly greasy, which can sometimes be a difficult thing to find in a burger bun. It was also very sweet which perfectly complemented the Swiss cheese. My biggest critique of the burger is how it was cooked. It was way too well-done for my taste, and I would have enjoyed it a lot more if it was medium-rare, which could have been easily accomplished if I were asked "How do you like your burger cooked" when I was ordering. Overall, the burger was reminiscent of the truffle burger at Umami, which to be frank, is not very original. The only thing to set it apart was the candied tomato bacon jam. The tomato part was delicious, but I found the bacon simply over the top. It added unneeded salt to the burger and ultimately makes me wonder if the bacon was only added to extend the list of well-liked ingredients. Nevertheless, it was quite tasty so I will rate it as a 7.

Since the fries weren't very interesting, I will move on to the red velvet milkshake. My, oh my. I'm having trouble recalling the details of the shake because

it put me in such a state of bliss, my brain only wanted to live in the moment. But alas, I did take notes. Now, I'm not a milkshake expert, but this was one of the best (if not the best) milkshake I have ever tasted. The flavor not only accurately replicated a classic cake flavoring, but the cream cheese was there as well. It was such a perfect version of red velvet cake; I wanted to cry since I knew it would end soon. Life was whole again; the futility of happiness disappeared. It even had bits of visible red cake in it to create more texture. I would not be surprised if I order that milkshake every week until I go off to college, so I will thus give it a 9.5. Ladies and gentlemen, I do not give around 9.5s everyday but this milkshake literally changed my life for the better. (BONUS: dip the fry into the milkshake--trust me)

Overall, I enjoyed my venture to BurgerFi and I hope the people of Malibu feel the same.





John Luke Pietro
STAFF WRITER

In 1922, Hermann Hesse wrote the following: “Wisdom cannot be imparted. Wisdom that a wise man attempts to impart always sounds like foolishness to someone else... Knowledge can be communicated, but not wisdom. One can find it, live it, do wonders through it, but one cannot communicate and teach it.” In this brand new series, “Fireside Chat with Evensen,” featuring Thor Evensen, it will be helpful to meditate on Hesse’s words, almost as a mantra. While Evensen can put forth words of his own knowledge and experience, some of which you may agree with and some you may not, he cannot give you his knowledge and experience, as perhaps acknowledging our limitations is the only way to truly surpass them.

Now, I will ask you, the reader, to suspend your disbelief and let your mind wander to a place of safety, warmth, and security. Consider a small, protected log cabin snuggled firmly between an old pine tree and a gentle flowing river. You are freshly bathed, reclined in a plaid armchair, wearing a soft bathrobe, reading a nice book as you notice an occasional crackle coming from the fireplace. As you begin to go in for another sip of your favorite warm beverage, you hear a quiet knock at the door, one that does not startle you, as it is deeply familiar. You mark your place in your book, put down your cup, sit up straight, releasing a low, much needed grunt, as you slide your warmed feet into your slippers, and walk towards the door. You reach for the handle and slowly pull open the door, revealing, the only person it could have been, **Thor Evensen**, wearing a calm and knowing face.

Evensen and I cozied on down atop two stools, heated warmly by a distant fire seen only in one’s mind, to chat about one of the central issues of our time: distractions away from the truth through the institutionalized manipulation of information.

Evensen: The “theory of misinformation” is that we get our information from turning on the TV, you listen to these news people and you read the paper or

magazine, but is the information correct? Or is it misinformation? Let’s take for example this election. Everyone was talking about Trump and Clinton and Trump and Clinton, that was all the information we were getting. But was there other information that they were leaving out and not giving us? More important issues like poverty, equal rights, justice, and other real social issues that affect millions of people.

Evensen claims that the media spent, and continues to spend, too much time focusing on shallow, day-to-day stories, while neglecting the more critical issues; this is not unfounded. A recent study was conducted to find the top receivers of media attention during the 2015-2016 primary season. Hillary Clinton received \$746 million in free advertising, coming in second on the list, Taylor Swift landed just shy of \$500 million, Kim Kardashian and Kanye West cumulatively reached \$450 million, Senator Bernie Sanders received \$300 million, and Donald Trump topped the list receiving over \$2 billion worth of media attention. Bernie Sanders, amidst running one of the most successful and historic campaigns in American history, received less attention from the media than the West family.

Evensen: People are always complaining that there is no money for this, or no money for that, but you never hear this in the media, ever: “we spend this much money on these battleships, and we spend all this money on the military.” If we stopped spending so much on the military we would have all of this extra money and we could pay our teachers more and fix up our schools. But if you bring that up they’re probably gonna say, “well if you take away our military then other countries are gonna attack us and then we’ll be destroyed and it’s all because you guys wanted to have better schools.” So, if you want to go really deep with this, it’s the military. The military takes all of the money, and everyone is complaining that there is no money, but no one ever talks about the reason that there is no money. It’s because all of the money is being spent on the military, when we don’t really need that much money to be spent on the military.

We could not spend money on the military for just one year and give that money to the schools, and we’ll see how much better the schools get in just that one year.

In 2015, the United States Defense Budget, the amount of money spent on our military, was \$609 billion. If you were to rank all of the countries in the world according to their military spending the United States is way, way at the top. How high at the top? The United States military budget is equivalent to the entire military budget of China, Saudi Arabia, the United Kingdom, Russia, Japan, India, Germany, France, Italy, South Korea, Brazil, Australia, Turkey, Israel, Colombia, and Spain combined, with a few billion dollars left over. The very same United States has the highest childhood poverty rate of any industrialized nation, the highest rate of incarceration in the world, there is \$1.3 trillion owed in student debt, it has the highest wealth inequality of any major country, and it continues to spend hundreds of billions of dollars on its military every year.

Evensen: People have got to realize that the more we do, the more change happens, and the less we do, the less change happens. If we let them give us misinformation then we’re gonna keep spiraling down into this pit of injustice and inequality.

It is important, I believe, for us to take responsibility in the way that we receive information, how we use that information to challenge our own beliefs, and ultimately, how we translate that into the way we treat others, particularly ones with stories much different than your own. Our generation will be running the world sooner than we think, and we owe it to the future generations to not grow up like some of the egotistical, greedy, violent, and heartless people we see in charge today. While this will be a shared goal, each one of us will set out to achieve it in very different ways. I enjoy writing, so I write these articles, Evensen enjoys speaking, so he speaks his mind every chance he gets, what is it that you enjoy? If life is an ocean, and you are a ship, let your passions be the sails and your imagination the winds, and in stormy seas let’s all remember; tomorrow could be beautiful.

HUNTER NELSON: LOBSTER LORD



Natalie Welles
STAFF WRITER

Hunter Nelson, MHS sophomore and water polo player, spends his free time running a company called Lobster Taxi. Hunter is no stranger to the world of entrepreneurship. According to his website, he has been running multiple businesses since he was age eight. LobsterTaxi.com. From repairing iPhones and selling hoverboards, to his current business of shipping lobster from Maine overnight, Hunter is probably the most experienced 15 year old businessman you’ll ever meet. Not only does Hunter offer lobster on his website, but he also offers Maine lobster tails, deserts, shellfish, and fresh fish, all delivered from Maine.

Hunter also sells lobster “Dad Hats” and various other accessories like lobster bibs, place mats, sea salt, and picks all found on his website. What’s his reasoning for selling lobster, shellfish, and fish from Maine specifically you might ask? Under his about page on LobsterTaxi.com, Hunter says, “The difference in taste between supermarket lobster and Lobster Taxi’s is enormous. If someone has never had Lobster from Maine, they may not ever find out how good they really are.”

I’m sure many people, including myself, are curious about Hunter and his company, and interested in more than just the information about lobster from his site. I sat down with Hunter and was able to discover more about him, his position in the company, and his preoccupation for business.

What is your source of lobsters?

“All of my lobsters come out of Casco Bay in Portland, Maine.”

How is your business better compared to your competitors?

“We guarantee our lobster to arrive alive and fresh. Customer service is also our top priority.”

What inspired you to start Lobster Taxi?

“My grandparents have a house in Maine. Every summer I go out there. I love Maine lobster and I wanted to share that same Maine lobster experience to friends and family all over the country.”

Compared to other lobster businesses, would you consider your prices expensive?

“My prices are very comparable but my service is the best.”

How did you become an entrepreneur?

“I’ve always been fascinated by business and logistics, how something gets from point A to point B in such a short amount of time. *Are you planning on expanding your business?*

I add new products when I can, one step at a time.”

How does your business dynamic work?

“Once we receive an order online, we immediately send it to the warehouse in Maine. Allowing us to offer very fast fulfillment and shipping.”

What are your responsibilities as CEO of the company?

“I am always working. Customer service is top priority for me. I am always enhancing the ordering process and adding new features.

If you’re interested in ordering Maine lobster or anything else seafood related, check out Hunter’s website! LobsterTaxi.com provides the freshest Maine lobster, and don’t forget about those lobster dad hats. Support a fellow peer and his growing business by stopping by his website and checking out what he has to offer!”



MMA:

The Fastest Growing Sport



Cooper deNicola
NEWS EDITOR

What is MMA? A quick rundown of the 'Fastest Growing Sport'

Recently, Mixed Martial Arts, or MMA, has become the fastest growing sports in the world. MMA is a sport, similar to boxing and wrestling, where opponents fight using techniques from a variety of martial arts and combat sports, including both striking and grappling techniques.

MMA originated as a sport when it was brought from Brazil to the United States by the Gracie family. Members of the Gracie family, all masters of Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu, offered the 'Gracie Challenge' to other martial artists. The challenge was an open invitation to fight in a vale tudo match (Portuguese for 'anything goes') an unarmed full-contact sport with few rules. This led to the creation of the Ultimate Fighting Championship, the UFC, in 1993. The first UFC event, now called UFC 1, was "supposed to be a one-off," said today's UFC president Dana White in an interview with How Stuff Works. "It did so well on pay-per-view they decided to do another, and another. Never in a million years did these guys think they were creating a sport."

Initially, the UFC did not resemble the organization it is today. Fights were unstructured and matches were unorganized. While at its beginning, the UFC used the tagline "There are no rules!" it did, in fact, operate with limited rules to protect the fighters. However, many dirty and cheap techniques, such as headbutting and hairpulling, were allowed under the initial rules. The sport's violent nature drew the attention of U.S. Senator John McCain (R-AZ), who led the campaign to ban the UFC. As a result, 36 states banned vale tudo fighting. In response, the UFC redesigned its rules to rebrand itself as a sport while still maintaining the core elements of striking and grappling. Becoming safer and more structured, the UFC became a proper sport, with weight classes added in UFC 12 and five-minute rounds in UFC 21. Additionally, gloves became mandatory in UFC 14, while hairpulling was removed in UFC 15. This reform in rules led to a surge in popularity for the UFC, becoming the fastest growing sport in the world.

At the competition level, fighters were divided into 10 weight classes: Strawweight, up to 115 lbs; Flyweight, up to 125 lbs; Bantamweight, up to 135 lbs;

Featherweight, up to 145 lbs; Lightweight, up to 155 lbs; Welterweight, up to 170 lbs; Middleweight, up to 185 lbs; Light Heavyweight, up to 205 lbs; Heavyweight, up to 265 lbs; and Super Heavyweight, anything above 265 lbs. While a fighter is allowed to fight up in class, for example a fighter from Featherweight fighting in Welterweight, a fighter can not fight down without losing weight.

Regular fights are organized into a maximum of three five-minute rounds, while Championship title fights and 'main event' fights are a maximum of five five-minute rounds. Between rounds, fighters receive a one-minute rest period. Additionally, UFC fights are staged inside an eight-sided enclosure, 'The Octagon', to separate the fighters from the audience. For attire, competitors must fight shirtless (except in the women's division), shoeless, and wear shorts. The gloves used by fighters are lightweight and open-fingered, allowing for grappling and striking. The gloves must have at least one inch of padding around the knuckle. This is done to prevent injury to hands, which are commonly broken in bare knuckle boxing. Finally, fights are judged by three judges

who decided the outcome in case a fight finishes without a winner.

A fight can be won in a variety of ways. Matches may end in submission, in which a fighter 'taps-out,' verbally submits, or loses consciousness. Knockouts occur when a fighter is knocked unconscious during the fight, while a technical knockout occurs if the referee decides the fighter can not continue. Technical knockouts can either be called by the referee, a ring-side doctor, or the fighter's own corner man. Judges' decisions occur when a all the rounds have ended and there is no clear winner. The most common judge decisions are either unanimous decisions, all the judges score a fight for the same fighter, or split decision, where two judges score for one fighter and one judge scores for the other. Lastly, a fight can be decided due to disqualification, in which one fighter is disqualified and the other is deemed the winner; forfeit, in which a fighter ends the fight early; or no contest, an outcome reserved for unforeseen circumstances.

Training for MMA requires both learning a variety of martial arts techniques as well as training one's body. The most common martial arts utilized in MMA are

Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu, Muay Thai, Judo, and kickboxing. Sage Metzler, a Malibu High Junior, said, "MMA means mixed-martial arts, it does not specify a specific fighting style. At my school, we practice several different styles that all work together."

Junior Frankie Churchill, who has trained in MMA, said, "I've played a lot of sports, but MMA is something special. It has the best competition feeling."

MMA is about more than just fighting, for many practitioners fighting is about discipline. Sage Metzler said, "A focused atmosphere is essential for training, and that can only be achieved through discipline. The discipline we establish can be transferred and applied to all aspects of life." But fighting at the competitive level has its risks. Many fighters have suffered from concussions and long-term brain damage. Muhammad Ali was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease due to being hit in the head during his long career.

Even with these risks, MMA is growing rapidly as a sport, with the potential to overtake other popular sports as a worldwide phenomenon.



Logan Moore
SPORTS EDITOR

Now I know what you're thinking: "Luge racing? Haven't the Germans been dominating that event in the Olympics for the last 10 years? Is there even a glimmer of hope for the Americans to luge competitively?" Well do I have news for you! I have conducted some research on this sport and have been scouring the internet to form a list of my top 5 potential American luge racing champions. Here's what I came up with:

Ronda Rousey: One of the best things Ronda Rousey has up her sleeves is her athletic experience. Ronda started training in judo when she was 11 which means she's an experienced athlete. Her judo background also means she has the upper body, abdominal, and lower body strength necessary to guide a luge sled. Add the possibility she may retire soon and Rousey becomes a very strong contender for luge racing

Pros: Very strong judo background

Cons: No one to punch in the face during race

Sid the Science Kid: While this kid wants to be a scientist when he grows up, I think he can excel in the luge racing environment.

Luge races have a lot of twists and turns which means there'll be a lot of kinetic forces at play. I think this kid might have an edge on his competitors since he understands the basic concepts of physics. He also has a lot of free time on his hands since the season ended in 2012, so I'm pretty sure if recruiters can contact this kid he'll be happy to compete.

Pros: Basic understanding of inertia and body mechanics, a lot of free training time

Cons: Little athletic experience, unknown age (no greater than elementary school)

Jynx: Jynx is both an ice and psychic type Pokemon, which makes her a perfect contender for luge racing. Not only can she predict upcoming turns using the Pokemon move psychic, the fact that she's an ice type allows her to feel right at home on the icy luge track. I'm not sure how the judges will respond to her since she's not human, but if she can sneak into the competition I'm sure she'll be a dominating factor in the luge community

Pros: Ice typing, easy to catch and train, able to learn psychic, base 145 special attack

Cons: Cannot speak English, Base 35 defense, not human

The Crimson Chin: Ok, now I know what you're thinking,

"with all that muscle mass there's no way he can make the 90-kilogram weight limit!" That's where you're wrong. One of the many superpowers the Crimson Chin has in the Fairly Oddparents is flight, and since requirements are measured in gravitational weight, as long as he floats above that 90 kilogram restriction he'll be just fine.

Pros: Several super powers like heat ray vision and super speed

Cons: Weak to Chintonite

Logan: The only reason I'm putting myself on this list is because I am 100% willing to compete in this sport. I mean, you're basically racing down a giant snow slide. How hard can it be? Sure, I don't know anything about this sport but a lot of people have no clue what luge is. Besides, I might get a college scholarship with this.

Pros: 100% willing to compete, enjoys cold weather and lying in the supine position, has a large body mass

Cons: Moderate to mediocre physical fitness, no knowledge of the sport whatsoever, exceeds the 90kg weight limit, fear of moving in any gravity propelled vehicle going over 140 km/hr

Super Bowl LI

Emely Tario
STAFF WRITER

On Sunday, Feb. 5, 2017, the fifty-first Super Bowl took place in Houston, Texas. The two teams competing for the championship were the Atlanta Falcons, and the New England Patriots.

Both Atlanta and New England were well qualified to go against each other in this last Super Bowl. In 2016 the Atlanta Falcons placed first in the NFC of the South, whereas the New England Patriots placed first in the AFC East. The Patriots had won four Super Bowls prior to the last, while the Atlanta Falcons had only attended one. In this Super Bowl, Quarterback Tom Brady was hoping to break the world record of most Super Bowls won by a single Quarterback.

The game itself proceeded fairly slowly as nothing significant occurred in the first quarter. It ran itself to the end while each team continually made it to four downs, though they were unable to reach the goal.

In the second quarter things were not going well for the New England Patriots as almost every ball Tom Brady threw was not received by any of his teammates. The Patriots continued to make an effort though still no one would receive Brady's throws, and then, on the Falcon's third down, Robert Alford took the football and ran to the end, increasing Atlanta's score to 20 points, then 21 with the field goal. Finally, a few seconds before halftime the Patriots decided to kick into the goal, granting them 3 points.

Lady Gaga's Super Bowl half-time performance began with an image of her at the top of the stadium. Attempting to convey unity in the midst of the current political divide in the country, dots of red and blue in the sky transformed into the flag of the United States. Gaga then fell through the stadium roof to make her entrance, flipping in the air until she made her way onto the stage. The performance consisted of a lot of visuals, and Gaga used the entire stage and an audience to make her performance. She effectively incorporated many of her most popular songs such as "Just Dance", "Bad Romance", and "Born This Way." The overall performance has been regarded as very entertaining, and one of the best.

In the first down of the third quarter the Falcons had the ball, where Ryan passed it to #24, Devonta Freeman. The play reached the fourth down and went to New England, and at the third down there was a kick, which was received by one of the Falcons. Brady continued having issues as his teammates would fail to sometimes even come near the ball he had thrown, making it difficult for the team to advance anywhere. The Falcons then received the ball, and at the third down there were two flags on the Patriots. The Falcons then made it to first and goal, and the play unfolded beautifully as Ryan passed the ball to #26, Tevin Coleman, who made the touchdown. With the field goal, Atlanta had a leading score of 28 to 3. New England proceeded to make their play, and at a third and eight, Tom Brady ran with the ball. Eventually the Patriots made it to first and goal, followed by second and goal, which was then the winning play for a Patriot touchdown, raising the score by 6, the field goal being missed. The end of the third ended with the score of New England 9 and Atlanta 28.

The fourth quarter began with the ball in the Patriot's hands with the fourth down at 25 yards to go. The Patriots successfully received the ball, and fell through 3 more first downs until they made it to first and goal, where Tom Brady was thrown down by #97 of the Falcons, Grady Jarrett, leading to a second down and goal for the New England Patriots. Brady threw the ball to #28, James White, who could not successfully get the ball safely to the goal, so the Patriots attempted a field goal, which brought them to 12 points. The Falcons then had the ball and were advancing when a fumble was called, giving the ball to the New England Patriots. The Patriots ran to a second down with three yards to go when #80, Danny Amendola, made a touchdown, bringing New England's score to 18, and then 20. The Atlanta Falcons started their first down with Quarterback Matt Ryan passing the ball to Freeman #24, making it to 50 yards on the field. The Falcons continued to progress as they continued to get closer to the goal, though they were not able to successfully complete another touchdown.

In fact, the Atlanta Falcons were not able to score again, and their score remained at 28. The Patriots continued to fight even at time 3:30, Brady's first catches being incomplete and then received, until the team made it to time 1:40, at first and goal. At the second down and goal, James White made a touchdown for the Patriots, bringing them to a score of 26, only two points behind the Falcons. The Patriots proceeded with a two-point conversion, tying the score 28 to 28. Atlanta's #33, Bledi Wreh-Wilson, ran and fell harshly against the ground, leaving no change to the score, forcing the game to pass into overtime, which had never before happened in Super Bowl history. With another coin toss, the New England Patriots started with the ball. After several fumbles the Patriots made the touchdown, winning the Super Bowl LI.

This year's Super Bowl was quite exciting as the entire game turned in the fourth quarter, and the winning probability for the Patriots dropped to 1%. Tom Brady is now the first quarterback to ever win five Super Bowls, in a game that was the first Super Bowl to go overtime.

L.A. Clippers Season Review



Tanner Rubin
STAFF WRITER

In the first half of their 2016-17 NBA season, the Los Angeles Clippers have posted a winning record of 24-16. The Clippers are in fourth place in the Western Conference behind of the Rockets, Spurs and Warriors. This is the Clippers 47th season as a franchise in the NBA, their 39th season in Southern California, and their 33rd season in Los Angeles. This year, the Clippers are managed by Doc Rivers who has put together one of the best starting lineups in the NBA. This line up includes Blake Griffin as their power forward, DeAndre Jordan as their center, Chris Paul as their point guard, J.J. Redick as their shooting guard and Luc Mbah a Moute as their small forward. Backing up for Luc Mbah a Moute is two-time all star forward Paul Pierce, and Jamal Crawford. **is next in line after J.J. Redick for shooting guard.**

To start the season on, the Clippers played the Trailblazers in Portland. Throughout the duration of the game, the score remained close, but at the end, the Clippers won their season opener defeating the Trailblazers 114-106 on Blake Griffin's 13 rebounds and Chris Paul's five assists. The Clippers beat the Jazz and the Suns in the next two games, but the Thunder snapped their three-game winning streak by beating the Clippers in a close game with the final score being 85-83. The highlights from the game were Russell Westbrook with 35 points and Chris Paul

with 9 assists. After their loss to the Thunder, the Clippers stepped it up and won their next seven games scoring over 100 points in six of them.

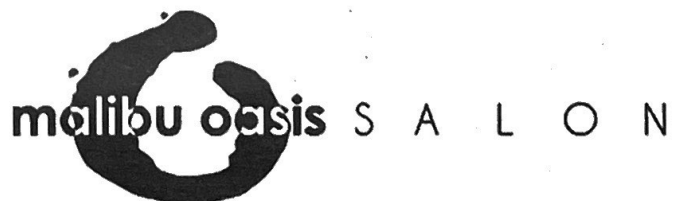
The Clippers second loss of the season was against the Memphis Grizzlies, with a final score of 111-107. The Clippers still played a great game with DeAndre Jordan coming out with an impressive 21 rebounds in the game. The Clippers continued to put up good numbers while winning their next four games. The Clippers were on a roll until December 23, when they played a home game against the Dallas Mavericks. They lost the game 90-88, and unfortunately, that game started a 6 game losing streak where the Clippers seemed to lose some of their offensive intensity. This streak snapped on January 2nd at home against the Phoenix Suns. The game ended with the Clippers winning 109-98 on Redick's 22 points and Jordan's 20 rebounds. After that win, the Clippers went on to win the next 3 of their games against the Grizzlies, Kings, and Heat.

The Clippers, along with many other NBA teams have never won a title, but this year might be different for them. "The Clippers won't need to wait long for a chance at redemption from last year's postseason" NBA Digital Content Coordinator Rowan Kavnar said, and with the way they are currently playing, they are on the way to the playoffs and potentially the finals.

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2017 HOROSCOPES

by Ava Newman

AQUARIUS

Encourage yourself to take trips and explore this year, Aquarius. You will experience new love for yourself, which will make others love you too. You are capable of getting anything you may need in 2017.

PISCES

The Pisces horoscope shows exploration and traveling in the year 2017. In October, Jupiter moves into your sector of long-distance connections, making it a good month to travel. In your love life things may get heated in a fight, but your caring personality can see it through.

AIRIES

This is a year full of opportunities for Aries. Your relationships with people and your working career are going to be big parts of your life. As this is a year of harmony, togetherness, and love, focus on close bonds within your family and friend group. Look forward to new development and appreciation for your hard work.

TAURUS

For the Taurus, this is a year of secrets. In 2017 you could be doing something you don't want other people to know. Maybe planning a change that you're not sure anyone should know yet, or not wanting to reveal secret feelings. This could be fun.

GEMINI

Love is on the brain for you this year. This may be a new feeling to you, but you will always have your eye out for someone interesting. Being the social butterfly that you are, you will forge new close connections with people.

CANCER

For Cancer this is a year of big decisions and change. Get yourself ready for this or your year may prove to be a little too much for you to handle. Your creative and spontaneous traits will help you make the right decisions to help you succeed.

LEO

The horoscope for Leos in 2017 show earnest love and responsibility. As you have traits of loyalty and the constant need for love, get ready for a genuine relationship.

VIRGO

This year is very detail oriented. As Jupiter moves into your sector of communication, expect some good news from family and people close to you, and look forward to further growth in your relationships with these people.

LIBRA

Don't be afraid to step out of your comfort zone because your horoscope shows an unpredictable and boundless time for you this year. Have fun doing things you love.

SCORPIO

This is a glamorous year for the Scorpio. Get ready for new experiences, good times and traveling. You will explore new things and perhaps discover your destiny.

SAGGITARIUS

2017 is a year where fate and destiny take over for Sagittarius. With your adventurous and optimistic personality, this year could be the start of something new, remember not to let anyone or anything get in the way of what you want.

CAPRICORN

2017 for the Capricorn is all about unveiling your hidden secrets and potential to find new opportunities. Use this to create positivity in your life. This is a year you will be learning and discovering more and more about yourself.

パニツシュ

ローガンムーアベンチできるキアヌールあっさり全く

RECIPE

by Emely Tario

Ingredients:

- 2 tablespoons Salty
- All of the sugar
- 5 pounds Netflix
- 1 tablespoon vanilla (for diversity : ~))
- 3 cups C6H12O6
- ½ cup all purpose flour (gluten free tho)
- 1 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
- 4 eggs (government owned)
- 1 cup melted butter
- 1 cup lowkey-bitter chocolate chips
- Nuts of choice

Directions:

1. Fill large bowl with the butter, vanilla, and sugar. Beat the eggs, pour in. Mix well, blend.
 2. Add the cocoa powder and saltiness to the bowl. If you can't find anything to be salty about then check Illuminate. Add the flour, sifted.
 3. Drop in the chocolate chips, mix gradually. Think about all the sleep you could have had if you took CP instead.
 4. Evenly spread mixture into pan of choice. Bake at 350 for 30 minutes. Think of the work you could of done instead of sarcastic brownies.
 5. Take out pan with your bare hands. You've become numb to everything else, whatever.
 6. Divide into equal pieces and eat all in one sitting.
- ENJOY!

Would You Rather?**with Secretary of Education****Betsy DeVos****WOULD YOU RATHER...****Every student has a gun to protect themselves from bears at school?****OR****Every student has a bear to protect themselves from guns at school?**