

UPROAR

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THE MISSISSIPPI MIRACLE

Anna Kimbrell
STAFF WRITER

On March 31 in Madison Central's (MC) library, Governor Tate Reeves signed House Bill 530, also known as "The Mississippi Miracle." The bill will be responsible for increasing teacher pay across the state of Mississippi, creating a much-needed incentive for teachers to stay in the state to continue to do what they love. The bill, which will be put into law on July 1, will raise teacher pay an average of \$5,140 a year and teacher's assistants pay an average of \$2,000 over the next two years. Many did not believe this bill would ever come to pass, but the decision stands. Teachers across the state will be given the raise they deserve, which will be beneficial to all students and faculty in Mississippi schools.

House Bill 530 is a historic piece of legislation, as it is the biggest teacher pay raise Mississippi has ever seen. Not only is this the biggest pay raise, but this bill also puts Mississippi's starting teacher salaries above the southeastern and national average. Charlotte Seals, the Superintendent of Madison County Schools, said that this teacher pay act "affirms the value of our educators" and "[helps] school districts across the state to attract and retain quality teachers." Teachers and educators across the state stepped up during the pandemic, but our teachers in the state of Mississippi

are also responsible for consistently helping the "overall graduation rate exceed the national average" and helping the statewide dropout rate hit an all-time low, said Governor Reeves. Teachers are responsible for putting Mississippi in the "national spotlight" as Dr. Carry Wright, the State Superintendent of Education, calls it. Wright also went on to say that "Mississippi students have made more progress on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) than almost every other state in the nation," and teachers are responsible for creating this massive accomplishment. With this pay raise, the educational system in our state will continue to reach new heights.

Along with Mississippi Legislators in attendance on March 31, teachers from different school districts spoke as well. Beth Wilson from Gulfport High School runs a program that instructs 11th and 12th graders to become future Mississippi teachers. While the program creates great future educators, "the biggest challenge is losing these [students] to higher paying jobs," said Wilson. But, with House Bill 530 being put into law, the teacher shortage in Mississippi will lessen and Mississippi schools can keep the great teachers our state already has. Mary Beth Hammack, a history teacher at Terry High School also spoke on the significance of the bill. Hammack is a graduate of MC and felt the call to become a history teacher during her time as a student at MC. "Teachers do make a difference," said Hammack and this "pay raise will allow Mississippi



Above: Governor Tate Reeves smiles for a picture, as he prepares to sign House Bill 530. Photo Courtesy of Elizabeth Walters.

to retain teachers that do make a difference in their students' lives." Great teachers create great students and the pay raise that Mississippi teachers are receiving will strengthen our educational system.

Teachers are one of the most important pieces in creating a successful educational system. Rachel Clapper-Davis who teaches English and is the Speech and Debate Director here at MC said that this bill is "a step in the right direction to helping our children and helping our teachers have the best possible outcomes." Clapper commented that even though this job is incredibly rewarding, "teachers still need to buy groceries, pay rent or mortgages, and get their own children through school." This bill will help teachers across the state to have a better work life balance. This is exactly what legislators were thinking when creating this historic bill; Delbert Hosemann

the Lieutenant Governor of Mississippi said that this bill will allow teachers to not have to make the choice between having a family, making a good salary, and teaching. Ken Hackman who teaches zoology here at MC, said he was "so thankful to receive the largest raise I have ever gotten in my 39 years of teaching," but feels that the bill isn't fairly distributed, especially for veteran teachers. However, he is very "thankful that this [bill] was pushed through."

The teacher pay raise was a plan that was worked on for two years by Mississippi Legislators. This pay raise, said Mississippi State Senator Dennis DeBar, "is a plan by teachers for teachers," since the legislature spoke and listened to different teachers in districts all across the state of Mississippi. Senator DeBar firmly believes that the legislature will continue on the path they

are on. "This is not going to be the end," said DeBar, "we want to continue to strive to make our commitment to teachers shown." Mississippi has made monumental strides in education in the past few years, which many different states across the country are calling "The Mississippi Miracle." The Chairman of the Education Committee in the Mississippi House of Representatives, Richard Bennet said that "22 states have come and wanted to know what the Mississippi Miracle is." This miracle is progress made from the dedication of educators, teachers, and teacher assistants, and this just goes to show the "unwavering commitment to education in our state," said Governor Reeves. This teacher pay raise will affect our state by retaining teachers, providing incentives for new teachers to come to Mississippi schools, and allow more students across our higher learning institutions to become future educators.

UNSTOPPABLE

Tennis takes state championship three years in a row.

In April, the Madison Central tennis team won their third straight state title under coach Brad Boteler. This would be their fifth state championship win in the past six years, which is a remarkable accomplishment. After defeating the Oxford Chargers in North State on April 14th, the Jags were set to play Ocean Springs in the championship on April 22. They came out victorious and brought yet another title home to the Jungle.



sports

Check out page 7 for information about the baseball team!

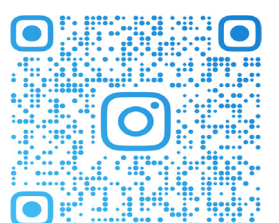


news

Take a look at page 2 for an article about the newest member of the Supreme Court.



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A Monumental Nomination for the Supreme Court

Caroline King
STAFF WRITER

Our president, Joe Biden has promised ever since his campaign to nominate the first Black woman to the Supreme Court, which is the highest court in the nation. He has fulfilled his promise. Ketanji Brown Jackson was nominated when Judge Stephen Breyer retires this summer. Jackson grew up in Miami, Florida and had always dreamed of receiving a judicial appointment; now her dream has become a reality.

Jackson is a former lower federal judge and a public defender. Her undergraduate and law degrees are from Harvard, a great achievement in itself. She has worked for several private law firms, but she has worked mostly as a public servant in the judicial system. After she received her law degree from Harvard in 1996, she clerked for Supreme Court Justice Breyer, which gave her needed experience for this position. Following this position, Jackson took

up a job with the bipartisan U.S. Sentencing Commission. Later on, she was an assistant federal public defender and represented many different types of clients. Being nominated to the Supreme Court is not the first time she has been nominated to a federal court by the current president. In 2012, she was nominated to serve in the U.S. District Court by President Barack Obama. During her time in this court, she helped in many monumental decisions that have shaped U.S. government policy today. Emily Adcock (12) said, "I understand that the confirmation of Supreme Court Justices is inevitably politicized. However, no matter what side of the isle one identifies with, it would be hard to argue that Jackson is not qualified." Ketanji Brown Jackson is highly qualified for this position as the newest member of the Supreme Court, due to her wide range of experience in the judicial world.

February 25, 2022 was the day that President Joe Biden announced that he was going to nominate Ketanji Brown Jackson to be a Supreme Court Justice. To

be accepted into this position, hearings are held and a vote is casted in the Senate to confirm the nomination. After a long week of hearings, Jackson was confirmed as a Supreme Court Justice on April 7, 2022 in a 53-47 vote. She is expected to be sworn in as an official justice at the beginning of the Supreme Court's summer recess in late June or early July.

This nomination is a win for many, as it sets the tone for future Supreme Court nominations. Josh Maatallah (11)

said, "Her confirmation gives hope to all women, especially women of color, to aspire to become leaders in our society." Mckinley Johnson (11) said, "She is an inspiration for women across the nation. We can see the product of hard work and determination through her success in being confirmed to the highest court in the nation." She will be the first ever Black woman to serve on the Supreme Court, and this con-

firmation will mean that for the first time, four women justices will serve on the court at the same time. As Jackson is the first former criminal defense attorney to get this position, she is given a unique perspective on the court that will help her to understand the "human toll of our criminal justice system." Jackson was a well-qualified nominee for this court of law, and in the future we can expect great things from her confirmation.



Above: Ketanji Brown Jackson raises her right hand to take an oath.

Undergoing Changes for Daylight Savings

Meredith Morrow
STAFF WRITER

Just recently, the U.S. Senate passed a bill surrounding the idea that daylight savings time should be abolished throughout the entire country, which is an idea that Americans have long-since debated since the start of the practice. Daylight savings time is the custom of changing clocks twice per year. Each practice is referred to in counterpart with the season in which it occurs. The process of losing an hour of sleep in the spring is known as "springing forward"; the process of gaining an hour back in the fall is referred to as "falling back." The entire purpose of daylight savings time is to make better use of daylight, because through extending natural daylight hours, electricity usage is reduced. In fact, all states but Hawaii and Arizona (Arizona experimented with the change beginning in 1918, but decided to permanently opt out of the Daylight Saving Time in 1968) observe and participate in daylight savings. The bill, if successful, will forever change the lives of those in the remaining 48 states.

The United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) is responsible for overseeing daylight savings time and the country's time zones. Currently, the House of Representatives

is debating on the bill before voting on it. If the bill is passed by the House of Representatives, it will then be sent to President Joe Biden for his signature. If Biden does not agree with the notions of the bill, he has the power to veto it. Ella Peyton Allen (10) said, "I think daylight savings is a good thing, because it gives us a source of change when we feel like we are stuck in the same cycle over and over."

Because many studies in research contradict one another about the efficiency of daylight savings, it is difficult for the government to come to a consensus on the topic. Meanwhile, many people support the process of the daylight savings time bill, mostly because of the increased health benefits that could result. Alongside the time change, many sleep schedules also undergo a change, which can set the body astray. This can produce a decrease in overall productivity, as being tired during the day can slow things down. People also find the idea of abolishing daylight savings time reasonable, because they do not think there are any reasonable benefits. Madison Central (MC) student Anna Mattox (10) said, "I think daylight savings is pointless and should be abolished, because it messes with my natural body clock and how I perform athletically."

Polls and statistics have been taken to display the percentages of how many people think the bill is a

good or bad idea. According to a Monmouth University poll that was conducted from March 10 until March 14, it was found that only 35 percent of Americans wanted to keep resetting their clocks every fall and spring, while a YouGov conducted on March 16 found that 59 percent of Americans wanted to see daylight savings time made permanent. It is clear that the public is divided in regards to the issue.

According to CNET, a study done in 2019 with details provided by the American Academy of Sleep Medicine, an extra hour of natural daylight in the evenings can reduce sleep by an average of 19 minutes. Sleep deprivation causes a numerous amount of medical problems, including cardiovascular disease, possible hallucinations, and weight gain. Another MC student, Seyana Silas (12) said, "I do not think that daylight savings time is reasonable and agree with the overall purpose of the bill, because I believe we are losing hours when we fall back in the autumn." While many agree with Silas, there is still a chance the clocks will be resetting twice a year next year, if the bill gets vetoed.

Overall, if the bill is successful after being sent to all political aspects involved in the process, daylight savings will become nonexistent for the United States. If the bill is not passed, Americans will get to keep resetting their clocks twice each year.

SUMMER

BUCKET LIST

Take a Day Trip

Hike at Red Bluff

Have a Picnic

Make a Scrapbook

Go to Geyser Falls

Go Swimming

Kayak the Okatoma

Senior Wills and Goodbyes

Mary Addison Loving
BUSINESS
MANAGER

As my senior year is quickly coming to a close, I am reminded of everything that Madison Central (MC) has meant to me over the past



three years. The years I have spent at MC cannot be confined to the building walls or a school campus. When I think about MC, I think about all the relationships and friendships I will always cherish. Whether it was cheering on the Jaguars on Friday nights in the Jungle during football season, practicing for pep rallies, or simply sitting on the newspaper balcony every seventh block, forming relationships and friendships was at the heart of everything. One of the things I will miss the most about high school will definitely be cheering for the jaguars with some of my best friends. Having the privilege to cheer for MC has by far been one of my biggest blessings throughout high school. At the time, cheer might have just seemed like a fun activity filled with long lists of things to do, like practicing and painting countless signs, but it is genuinely so much more than that. When I think about my time as a cheerleader, I think of the precious memories like cheering on the jags at the championship game, away game bus rides, and sitting in a big circle before games eating tailgate food, just enjoying our time together. MC Cheer was full of memories and friendships that I will cherish forever. To all of the juniors and my sweet goalpost girls, Davan, Mattie, Amelia, and Izzy, I can speak for all of the seniors when I say that MC Cheer is truly in the best hands. I cannot express enough how important it is to soak up everything in the upcoming year and to be pres-

ent in everything, because high school flies by faster than you could ever imagine. Another thing I will forever remember when I think of MC is the Uproar Newspaper staff. To our upcoming juniors and sophomores in leadership positions, Taylor, Adya, and I could not have thought of anyone better to take over the newspaper next year. We have been so proud of the hard work each of you have done this year, and we know that everyone will do a great job carrying on the Uproar. Thanks for making this senior year truly the best yet. The reality that the school year is almost over is honestly shocking, and at times it can seem unreal that my days at MC are dwindling. When I think about MC, I am flooded with many memories that I am indescribably thankful for and will never forget. Although I will no longer be an MC student after May 21st, I can confidently say that the relationships and memories made over the last three years will last forever.

The Uproar

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Dates to Remember:

5/11:
Class Day

5/12:
PowderPuff

5/21:
Graduation

5/23-26:
Exams

Taylor Martin
CO-EDITOR IN
CHIEF

My time as a Madison Central Jag-

uar has been nothing short of bittersweet. I have made some of the best friends I could ever ask for, and I have had the chance to be a part of some amazing groups. As my time is coming to

a close, I have been reflecting on what being a jaguar has meant to me. From Friday nights at the football field to long practices on the softball field to writing a paper in the library, Madison Central has allowed me to make the most out of my high school experience. This place has given me good days and bad days, but I genuinely do not think I would change them for anything.

One of the biggest parts of my time in the Jungle has been playing on the softball team. I joined the team in the seventh grade, and I have been playing ever since. The past six years as a Lady Jag has given me some of the greatest friendships that will stick with me for a lifetime. To Abby and Jamiyah, our lives are about to go three different ways, and I cannot wait to see what the both of you do in the future. I am so grateful for the time we spent together and the memories we made. To Charlee and Annika,

keep shining both of your lights bright, angels. To Claire and Kate, I genuinely do not know what I would do without the both of you, and I fully expect to see the both of you in Tuscaloosa at least once next year. I love you both more than anything. And lastly to Morgan Chisolm, you know I'm going to miss that bright, bubbly personality of yours. Keep doing you, pretty girl. To the rest of the team, have fun at our most favorite place without me next year.

And to my Newspaper crew, I want to thank each and every one of you for the hard work you have put in this year, and for making my job as editor a little bit easier. To Adya and Mary Addison, you both make Newspaper so much more enjoyable, and I am going to miss the food runs and balcony talks so much. To Caroline and Anna, I

know the Newspaper is in good hands with the two of you next year. Keep everyone in line for me. And to the rest of the staff, I am so proud of the way each of you have grown this past year, so keep up the good work.

Lastly to my very best friends in the whole wide world – the six of you know who you are – I am so grateful for the memories we have made together, and I cannot put into words how much each of you mean to me. As we go our separate ways, make sure to keep the group chat updated for me next year. Truly my forever girls.

Even though my time as a Jaguar is almost over, I am so excited to move on to the next chapter of my life at the University of Alabama, where I will be majoring in Finance. Roll Tide.



Adya Praveen
CO-EDITOR IN
CHIEF

Talking about graduation used to be a reoccurring theme in the

conversations that took place between my friends and I. The idea that we were only four years away from leaving behind the town that we knew and called "our home" baffled us, as we reminisced how quickly time had flown

by. Now, with only 16 days remaining till I walk across the stage, I am once again reminded of all that I have to leave behind. I am reminded of the physically and emotionally scarring moments of high school: my morning drives leaving eight minutes before school starts, frantically speeding to try and avoid my third tardy slip or waiting for the lunch bell to ring when I had second-to-last lunch, and my stomach started growling at 9:00 a.m. I am reminded of the joyous moments of high school: winning grand champion and sweeping the entire competition at our last show choir competition ever or standing in the student section while our football team won their first state championship since 1999. I am reminded of the little moments of high school: earning a good grade on that really hard test or my friend bringing me a donut in the morning, "just because." As I look back on my three years, I am most-of-all re-

minded of the lasting impact that Madison Central (MC) has created in my life. The relationships and experiences that took place at MC, I know, will forever hold place in my heart. First and foremost, I would like to thank everyone who welcomed me with open arms in Reville. Although I only joined my junior year, I never once felt out-of-place. Riley, thank you for convincing me to try-out, for otherwise I never would have met the most amazing and talented group of people. I am forever thankful for the late-night hangouts after rehearsal where we made the most amazing memories. Competitions, 7:50 a.m. morning rehearsals, choir concerts- I will miss it all. I cannot wait to perform one last time this weekend, for I know I will cherish these moments forever. Reville, I love you, and as always, rev it up. I would also like to thank

the MC Uproar Newspaper for giving me a platform in which I can freely express myself. Through the newspaper, I have been able to spread awareness and spotlight individuals in our community who deserve recognition. I am so grateful for Taylor, my co-editor-in-chief for putting up with me the entire year and always being willing to lend an extra hand. Mary Addison, I do not know what we would have done without your beautiful graphics this year. I am going to miss our balcony talks and food-runs so much. To Caroline and Anna, I know we are leaving the newspaper in such fitting hands. I can not wait to see all the great things you both will do along with the rest of our great staff. My times at MC were nothing short of amazing. The memories and friendships created will last a lifetime, and I will treasure them greatly. As I head off to college, there is one thing I know for certain- there is truly no place like Madison Central.



Emily Adcock: An Outstanding Achievement

Meredith Morrow
STAFF
WRITER

Madison Central (MC) student, Emily Adcock (12), was one among two Mississippi high school students to be chosen for the 60th annual U.S. Senate Youth Program (USSYP), which is an online process that occurred from March 6 through 9, with a \$10,000 scholarship award. Each year, this prestigious merit-based program provides only the most outstanding high school students with an intensive study on federal government and its leaders. The scholarship was awarded by The Hearst Foundations to motivate them to continue their determination and hard work surrounding U.S. government, politics, and history.

Adcock was chosen because she is ranked academically in the top one percent of Mississippi high school juniors

and seniors, as she is secretary of MC's Beta Club, a member of the National Honor Society, Women's Empowerment Club, Advocates for Change, a National Merit Semifinalist, President of the Jag Buddies Club, and a delegate for the Mississippi Youth Legislature. Adcock does community service projects that are held through church events, Jag Buddies, and many of her other clubs. She plans to major in public health with minors in public policy and English, with hopes to eventually study formulate health care policy and law.

During the USSYP, Adcock attended online meetings with senators, a Supreme Court justice, the president, and many more important political officials of today's society. The program's mission is to teach the chosen students about the American political process. Adcock appears on various sites and news channels, such as Mississippi Senator Roger Wicker's Twitter, as he says con-

gratulations to both of the students, as he is confident they will represent his state well.

In fact, more than 6,000 alumni have graduated from USSYP since its beginning in 1962. When asked about what the process was like, Adcock said, "The application process was long and included multiple interviews, but it was all worth it. I learned so much through all the meetings and am beyond grateful for such an amazing and rare experience." Adcock talks about how during the process she had to undergo interviews with members of Mississippi's Department of Education, as well as write an essay and take a U.S. civics test. She also went on to say, "I found out that I was accepted into the United States Senate Youth Program during the State Football Championship last December. The band was eating dinner before the game, and I happened to check my email. I was overwhelmed with gratitude and extremely excited. Besides the obvious financial benefits to being accepted to the program, I was thrilled to be part of premier group of students from all

over the country. As someone interested in pursuing a career in law and policy, the opportunity to hear from leaders on the national and international stage in these issues is incomparable. It still feels surreal that I could hear from leaders like Secretary Buttigieg, Justice Kennedy, and U.N. Ambassador Linda Thomas-Greenfield as a high school senior." As Adcock said, she cannot believe that this experience is real and has learned much.

Programs like the USSYP are really great opportunities to engage with people across the country who are interested in the same things, especially when they are all in high school, because it really creates a healthy and social environment for such ambitious students. It helps to build a strength in today's youth by providing leadership skills, insight into the perspectives of national leaders, and it is an outstanding commitment.



Above: Scholar Emily Adcock represents the best of MC.

Senior Trips to Celebrate

James Phillips
STAFF
WRITER

As the school year comes to an end, the graduating class of 2022 has been planning their vacations to celebrate their graduation. Many seniors have been looking forward to their summer vacation for the last time as school students and are excited to move to another stage in their life. Many seniors have already decided where they hope to travel to Khloe Littleton (12) a senior, is planning on going to Orange Beach this summer. She said, "The vacation has been something I have been planning for a while, and I am stoked to go there with my friends for our senior vacation." When asked what made her decide on the beach she said, "It is just a classic thing for people to do. It is cheap and fun. You can eat out, shop, go swimming, and do all this amazing stuff and I cannot wait to experience it." The beach is a very popular spot for teenagers and just enjoy the time off from school while enjoying the sun. Another senior Erica Caldwell (12) is going

to France for her graduation. She said, "My family, my friends, and I will be traveling to France as a summer trip and a graduation present. I have been wanting to go there for the longest time and I'm so grateful I'll be sharing this experience with my family and my friends." When asked about a moment she is looking forward to in the trip, she said "I am most definitely looking forward to seeing the Eiffel tower. It is the most iconic landmark in France so being able to see it in person is just amazing. I am looking forward to it every passing week." France is the #1 top-rated tourist spot so there is no surprise that she is going there for her trip. It has beautiful scenery and many historic landmarks that many have said is a must-see when in Europe. Another trip that has been mentioned by many seniors is Disney World located in Orlando, Florida. Disney World is a very popular theme park often referred to as "The happiest place on earth" so there is no surprise many seniors are planning their trips there. Hailey Partridge (12) said that she will be

going to Disney World for her graduation trip. She stated "it has always been a tradition to visit Disney World when a big event occurs in my family. Whether it is a birthday or graduation we always visit there and have a blast." When asked about her favorite memory of her trips, she said "One time during a Birthday Trip for my younger brother I saw somebody screaming their head off during Rockin' Rollercoaster, and it was just the funniest thing ever." Disney World has been undergoing new rides, restaurants, and shops that are soon to be opening, so many will be visiting the theme park to enjoy all the new attractions. As many seniors get ready to go to theme parks, beaches, and out of country trips, they should be proud of being able to celebrate all the work that they put in school to get to the point they are at right now. Our 2022 Seniors deserve to relax, enjoy their trip and have the time of their life with their friends, families, and significant others.

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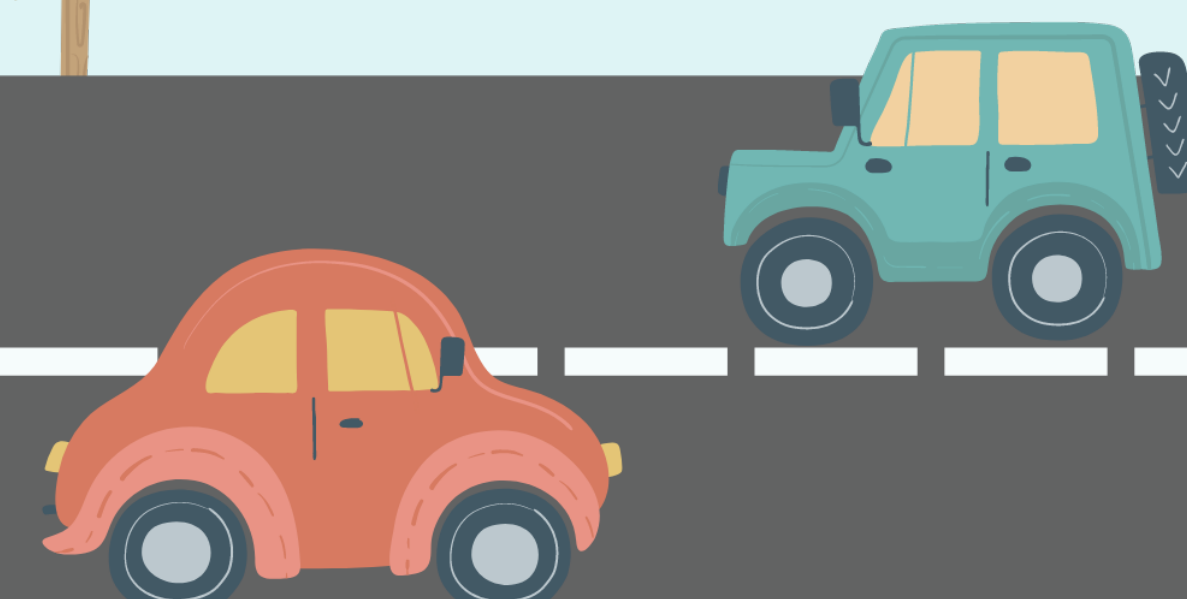
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THE RETURN OF

HANGOUT & COACHELLA

Brittan McFadden
STAFF WRITER

Due to the ongoing spread of COVID-19, many festivals have been canceled for over two years. This year, two of the most popular music festivals are back on the calendar. The Hangout Music Festival is a three-day event held at the public beach beside the famous restaurant, The Hangout. It is located in Gulf Shores, Alabama, which makes it a convenient spot for people from the South to attend. Hangout Fest 2022 will begin on Friday, May 20 and ends on Sunday, May 22. Each day, there will be a different lineup of artists who will sing some of their most popular songs. On day one, Post Malone, Kane Brown, and many other well-known artists will be performing. Some of our very own stu-

dents are attending the weekend long concert this year. Genna Ishee (11) as well as Laura Dale (11) are both attending the festival. Dale said, "Since this is my first year going, I don't have very many expectations. I am looking forward to seeing so many famous performers in one setting and having something to look forward to at the end of the school year." The Hangout Fest is a good environment for a variety of people, because it has so many different genres. People get to see all of their favorite artists perform in one setting. Ishee added, "I am most excited to see Post Malone. I love all of his music, and being with friends all weekend will be something to look forward to." Hangout Music Festival gives teens and young adults the opportunity to enjoy amazing music with some of their very best

friends. Located in Indio, California, another exciting festival to look forward to is Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival. Famous influencers and Youtubers from around the United States go to Coachella almost every year. It has been postponed for three years because of COVID, so this will be the return of the festival. Since so many people attend every year, there are two different week dates: Friday April 15 through Sunday, April 17 and Friday, April 22, through Sunday, April 24. Over the course of the three days, there are different activities available to do. There are activity tents with games and giveaways as well as food trucks and art studios. Some of the artists who will be performing over the weekend are Harry Styles and Billie Eilish. Bowen Winans (10) said, "If I was attending this year, I would definitely be most excited to see Billie Eilish and Doja Cat perform. They stick out to me because of the different

types of music they sing." In the music industry, these singers are two of the most well-known because of the variation of their songs. The hip-hop music producer, Kayne West, pulled out of the music festival for unknown reasons. The performers always wear very unique outfits which fits right into the theme of Coachella. The Hangout Festival and Coachella both have something in common: outfits. Since the weather heats up everyone wears shorts, tees, tank tops. Sunscreen and water are also a necessity, because both festivals are held outside. The temperature drops at night, so people usually wear warmer clothes such as sweaters and pants. Everyone wears unique outfits with every color you can think of included. From tall boots to rhinestone shirts you will see it all. People usually wear

creative outfits that embody them and their style. The fun filled weekend ends the school year and starts off summer. With the huge lineups for both festivals and treats, everyone is in for a great weekend getaway. The combination of good music, good food, and being surrounded by some amazing people, festivals provide people with an environment where they can let loose and have fun.



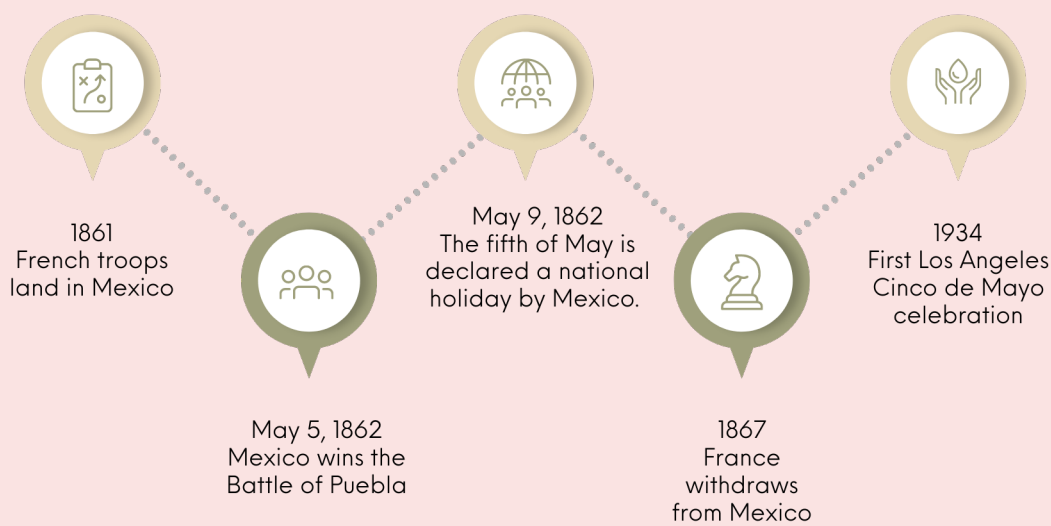
Cinco de Mayo: More Than Just a Celebration

Hannah Schossler
STAFF WRITER

May the fifth, or Cinco de Mayo in Spanish, may seem like a randomly picked date out of many, many others. However, for Mexico, it is the date of a battle in the French-Mexican War. This battle, the Battle of Puebla, was not a very important battle but, it sparked a large resistance movement that helped Mexico win the war. Unlike popular opinion, Cinco de Mayo is not the day of Mexican independence. Mexico had been independent for roughly 40 years before the French-Mexican War. During this time Mexico was going through a difficult economic period and owed several European countries money that they could not pay. Britain and Spain negotiated a solution, and no harm was done by them. However, France, under the rule of Napoleon the 3rd, used this opportunity to take Mexican land for an

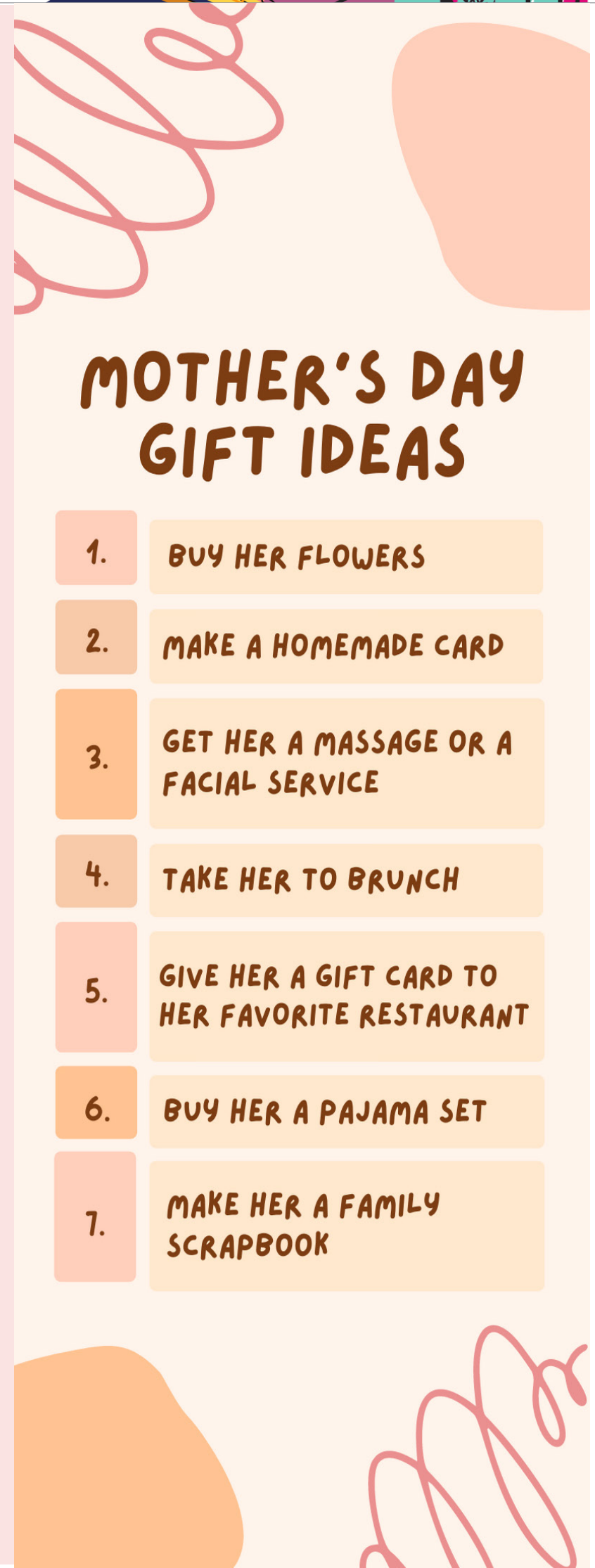
empire in Central America. Assuming he would quickly win the war, Napoleon sent 6,000 troops under General Charles Latrille de Lorencez to attack Puebla de Los Angeles (modern-day Puebla City). The Mexican president, Benito Juárez, was short-staffed and was only able to send 2,000 loyal men to protect the city. Surprisingly, the Mexican forces successfully won with less than 100 casualties while the French had almost 500. Four days after the battle, Juárez made May the 5th a national holiday. This unseen victory by the limited Mexican government bolstered their citizens and increased Mexican support, and they eventually won the French-Mexican War. Today, Cinco de Mayo is not widely celebrated by Mexicans. The biggest and most prominent celebrations take place in the state of Puebla, where the battle took place. For most, Cinco de Mayo is a day like most others. People do not get days off and stores remain open. In contrast, Cinco de

Mayo is big in southwestern American states such as California and Texas. The year after the Battle of Puebla, Cinco de Mayo was celebrated in southern California to show companionship with Mexico and to oppose the French empire. From then on, Cinco de Mayo was celebrated in the southwestern states. By the 1950's and 60's companies began to use the holiday as a marketing standpoint, which in turn made the holiday even more popular. During this, activists used the holiday as a sign of Mexican heritage pride. Nowadays, the holiday is thought to represent everything that Mexican-Americans love about their culture. The fifth of May, or Cinco de Mayo in Spanish, is a holiday that many Americans, including Mexican-Americans, celebrate to remember their heritage. From the Battle of Puebla to marketing, Cinco de Mayo is an important part of both American and Mexican culture.



MOTHER'S DAY GIFT IDEAS

1. BUY HER FLOWERS
2. MAKE A HOMEMADE CARD
3. GET HER A MASSAGE OR A FACIAL SERVICE
4. TAKE HER TO BRUNCH
5. GIVE HER A GIFT CARD TO HER FAVORITE RESTAURANT
6. BUY HER A PAJAMA SET
7. MAKE HER A FAMILY SCRAPBOOK



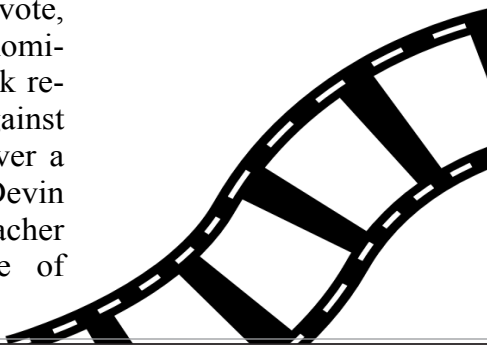
Will Smith hits the Oscars

Avery Holland
STAFF WRITER

The Academy Awards, which is most popularly known as the Oscars, are awards for the artistic and technical merit for the film industry. The views for the Oscars within the last few years have slowly been dropping. The 2022 Oscars brought back many viewers after Will Smith struck Chris Rock in the face for making an inappropriate joke about his wife, Jada Pinkett in March. Since then, it has been a huge discussion throughout the US about punishments and reactions from other celebrities, as well as the people. The Oscars were filled with much drama this year, and Will Smith slapping Chris Rock was the main headline this year. Chris Rock made a joke about Will Smith's wife, Jada Pinkett Smith, hair loss due to her Alopecia. Dakota Deel (10) said, "I think the joke while, he didn't mean any harm behind it, was definitely unnecessary. I also thought it was weird they let his joke pass and punished Smith. Overall, what I believe what Smith did was for the most part justifiable." Pinkett later

said she believed it was in the heat of the moment and he overreacted, although she wishes nothing got physical. Many different celebrities were proud and thought it was honorable for Smith to stand up for Pinkett. While many others thought he overreacted, and believed it was inappropriate to act in such a way. Some praised Rock for how he handled himself on stage afterwards. Clint Walkinshaw (11) said, "I believe Smith was in the wrong. Rock was hired as a comedian by the Oscars to make fun of the audience, but when Smith slapped Rock for making a joke about his wife it ruined the segment." Several celebrities were upset and believed the situation between Rock and Smith took away from the nominees and the winners. Due to the incident that occurred at The Academy Awards, Smith is banned from attending the Oscars or any other academy awards for the next 10 years. Smith also resigned from the Academy, meaning he will no longer be a voting member. Although he can no longer vote, he will be able to be nominated in the future. Rock refused to press charges against Smith, so there was never a criminal investigation. Devin Cooper, the HTVP teacher said, "I think because of

Smith's actions he could have been banned from not only the Academy for voting purposes as an A-list actor but also blacklisted. He could also have possibly been sued." Some industries pointed out that Smith had broken the Academy's code of conduct from 2017. Cooper also said, "I was surprised with the punishment he got. He disrespected another person by slapping him on live television for the world to see. Not properly apologizing to him on stage." Many believed Smith should have received a more severe punishment while others believed he got what he deserved. Throughout the last 93 years the Oscars have presented many awards to many celebrities, which has come with its fair share of drama. This year's Oscars only highlighted that, and drew in many spectators who eagerly followed the events in the week or so that followed.



THE MET GALA

DIVERSITY | FASHION | FLUIDITY

Often referred to as "fashion's biggest night out," the Met Gala displays the industry's biggest names each year. The event is held at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City as a fundraising event for the museum's costume institute. Many look forward to the vivacious looks put on by some of their favorite stars as they celebrate the various exhibition themes. This year's theme is a two-part volume. The first Gala, which took place on September 13, 2021, was titled *In America: A Lexicon of Fashion*. The second Gala, which took place May 2, 2022, was titled *In America: An Anthology of Fashion*. As it becomes Met Gala season, it is time to start unveiling some of the prestigious event's most notable looks.



ELEGANT & CLASSY

Many of those that attend the Met are already known for their style outside of the event. Princess Diana and Gigi Hadid are no exception. Both praised for their tasteful yet chic streetwear, the pair took to a classy look that is sure to transcend for many years to come. Diana wore a Christian Dior slip dress decked with pearls, diamonds, and sapphires galore. Gigi wore a custom Prada corset gown also decked out in her own collection of jewels and topped out with a fiery red hairdo.

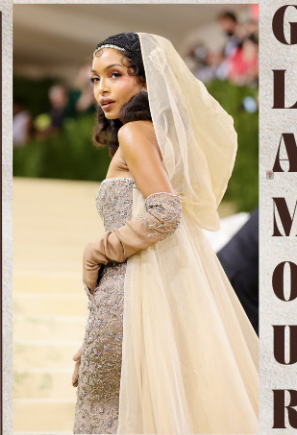
SHOWSTOPPING



Gaga set the precedent for the future of the Met after her 2019 performance. One of the first to arrive, she put on quite a show for the camera. Along with bringing her own entourage, she also brought two more change of outfits. The first featured a 25 ft hot pink cape created by none other than known designer Brandon Maxwell. The second outfit consisted of a corset black dress, which she soon took off to reveal the last number: a hot pink column gown.



Also one for performance art, Billy Porter created history when he was carried in to the Met on a throne. The star's Sun God ensemble featured a jeweled catsuit accompanied by 10 ft wings and an even heavier headpiece made up of 24 karat gold. The gorgeous piece designed by the Blonds was one of the highlights of the event.



GLAMOUR

Yara Shahidi turned heads in her homage to fashion icon Josephine Baker. She took to the steps in a stunning embroidered gown with a cream-colored tulle cloak along with a matching veil and gloves. The Christian Dior dress was paired with Cartier Sixieme Sens yellow diamonds.

AN FAVORITES FAN FAVORITES
Graphic by Adya Praveen

THE SUCCESS OF Styles

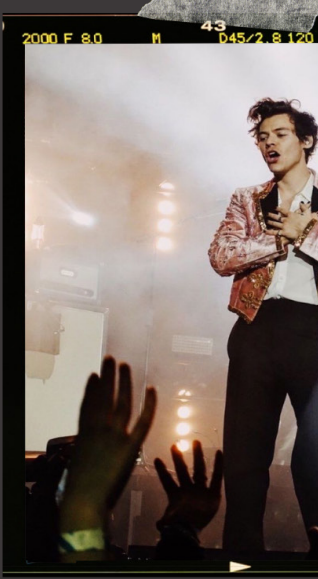
Allie Hurt
STAFF WRITER

The 28-year-old Grammy winning artist, Harry Styles, is a world-renowned sensation that has accomplished so much throughout his music career. Originally known for being in the boy band One Direction, Styles set out on his solo career after splitting up in 2015. He has been putting out his own music for almost five years now. Last year, in 2021, Styles went on tour after it was postponed in 2020 from COVID. Styles performed his second solo tour, *Love on Tour*, in America this past September through November. He traveled all around the U.S. and put on the best show for his fans. Styles did 42 shows that were an experience of a lifetime for many people. He will be doing the European leg of the tour later this year. During Styles' shows, he often wears fun, colorful outfits to get the fans amped up. Many students at Madison Central attended one of his shows. One student Emmie Chandler (11) said, "I got to see Harry in Little Rock, Arkansas and it was such a fun ex-

perience. It was so exciting to get to see him in person, and I had the best time singing my favorite songs with my friends." His concerts are a lot of fun and people are already excited for a tour with his new album. In his solo career, Styles has released two albums, "Harry Styles" in 2017 and "Fine Line" in 2019. His third studio album called "Harry's House" is on the way and is releasing on May 20. Lydia Waters (12) said, "I'd say I'm most looking forward to a different style of music from him. It'll also be exciting to see the most genuine album he has put out yet. He's really become himself these past few years, so it will be cool to see him write as honestly as he has." This album will feature 13 songs on it and one of them is already out now. On April 1, Styles released "As It Was", and the song broke Spotify's single-day streaming record in the U.S., as well as worldwide. The song is catchy and has an upbeat rhythm that his fans are loving. Styles has also broken records with his other songs, one being his song "Sign of the Times" that has reached over one billion streams. It has been over two years since Styles has put out any new music, so fans cannot wait for the full album

to finally be released soon. Alongside music, Styles has also recently released a nail polish brand called "Pleasing". Mick Fleetwood is the new face of the brand. Pleasing has had two releases with different color sets. The first collection dropped in November and is called Perfect Pearl. The second collection, Shroom Bloom, recently dropped in March. Each set has four polishes, but they are also available to purchase individually. Pleasing has eight different colors as of right now and many people love them. There are also some facial products along with the nail polish. All the products are sustainable, cruelty-free, and much more. This has been a successful brand so far and will continue to grow. Last month, Styles headlined at Coachella on April 15 and 22. This is a huge achievement for him. When asked what she thought of his performance Maya Freeman (10), said "I was so impressed by his entire performance and how individualistic he was. I really admire Harry as an artist, so it was very fascinating to see how he embraced himself with his music, set, and outfit for Coachella." At weekend one of Coachella, Styles brought out country music artist Shania Twain and performed two of her songs together. Many

fans loved and enjoyed watching that crossover. Styles also sang two new songs that are going to be on his upcoming album. During weekend two of Coachella, Styles' special guest was Lizzo, and together they covered Gloria Gaynor's hit "I Will Survive." Lizzo and Styles also sang "What Makes You Beautiful" by One Direction. Seeing these two perform together was so fun for people to watch. Styles has also pursued acting and made his debut in 2017's "Dunkirk." Styles also appeared in "Eternals" and joined the Marvel Cinematic Universe last October. Since then, he has been working on more movies. Styles first lead role will be in Olivia Wilde's psychological thriller "Don't Worry Darling" this September. He will also appear in "My Policeman" following that. Many are excited to see what else his acting future holds. All in all, Styles solo career has been nothing short of successful. Fans cannot wait to see what his future has in store.



Entering the Jaguar Baseball World

Brittan McFadden
STAFF WRITER

Entering the season with the State Champion and National title, the Madison Central Baseball team has a lot to live up to. In order to keep the title as State Champions, the team has to put forth a lot of effort and dedication to this season. With the hard work of the coaching staff, the Jags are well prepared for what is to come in order to finish out this season strong.

With the loss of a large number of seniors, the Jags started off rocky, but soon after they got into the swing of things. The regular season began in February and carries on through the playoffs in the beginning of May. As playoffs are right around the corner, the team has been practicing excessively. From lifting weights to hitting in the batting cages, everything comes down to what happens on the field. Because of the teams record and stats of eighteen wins and six losses, they get what is called a "first round bye." This means they automatically make it past

the first round of playoffs and onto the second round, which start the first week of May. Southern Miss commit, Jake Cook (12) said, "We are practicing everyday trying to stay sharp and on top of our game as we prepare for our second-round matchup." Baseball Coach Hunter Twitty added, "We are playing Brandon this Thursday for our last game of the regular season. They won their division and have a good team this year, so the game should be a good test for us going into the playoffs." Even though the team is already advancing to the second round, the game against Brandon is only more practice to be prepared for the matches ahead.

Every year new athletes make the team, and this just so happens to be the year after the championship was won. As a first year on the team that holds a state championship and national title, Shane Gillam (10) said, "The upperclassmen have led by example on and off the field. Since a lot of seniors left last year's team, it has been challenging to fill all of the roles, but the juniors and seniors this year have had a huge impact on the team's performance." With all of the adjustments because of the number of new players, the lineup and the mound have some new faces. Twitty said, "Along with the new play-

ers, there has been quite a few coaching adjustments. The majority of the pitchers with the most play time last year graduated, so we have been moving players around this year, trying to find the right combination for our team." As a result of the coaching staff and

the talent on the team, the Jags have prepped to the best of their ability and have had great leaders along the way. Some players who have previously played certain positions are now switching it up and trying to see what works best for the team.

As the season has progressed, the team has played

well under high pressure. The amount of talent within the group of students is part of the reason the success is high. With the prestigious baseball coaches and program, the team is very well suited for playoffs and many seasons to come.



Above: Seniors on the baseball team huddles together in the dugout after a win.

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