

Madison Central

UPROAR

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Jenny Nguyen
STAFF WRITER

Welcome to Madison Central High School. Madison Central takes pride in all their students' academic accomplishments and goals reached throughout the year. As every year passes by, Madison Central wishes for all new students to learn, adapt, and grow. All students have an opportunity and chance to shape their future by doing their best through Madison Central. Compared to Rosa Scott High School, the school size makes no difference in Madison Central's educational goals. Tina To (12) said, "I believe that every goal leads to succeeding in life down the road. As a senior, I have realized that we have challenges ahead of high school in which we are and guided through things like college, careers, and even providing for ourselves while living life we desire." In Madison Central, the teachers, principals, and staff aspire to help their students get ready for all the times to come.

As Madison Central welcomes the new students, there are also new teachers who share a similar goal to do their best and prosper at Madison Central. Teachers at Madison Central are no different than in Rosa Scott. All teachers hope for their students to come in knowing that they will do their best and show up as the best version of themselves. It is always encouraging for the teacher to know that a student has done their best and hopes for improvement. Within the school, the community almost always has each other's backs, whether it is with the students or teachers. This community is where everyone supports everyone in a chain that shows great leadership in an active role.

Having good leadership will not only help with college applications but also in sudden situations when a leader is needed.

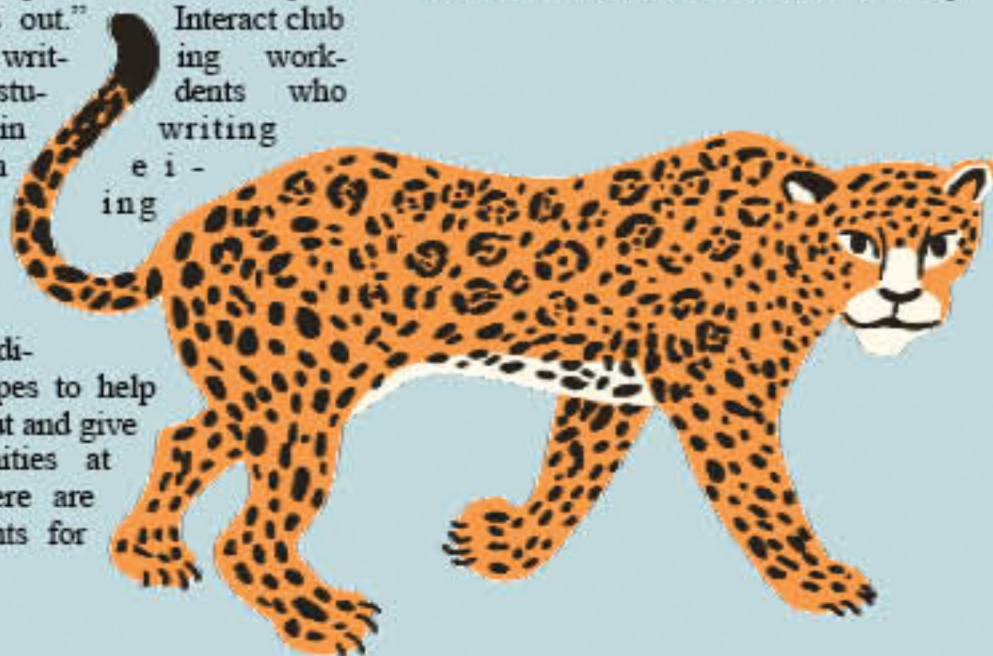


Above: Madison Central's Student Section, as the Jags played against The Ocean Springs Grey Hounds. Photo Courtesy of cheerleader Izzy Goddard

Madison Central helps provide this leadership role through many club and extra-curricular activities along with chances to give back to their community with service hours. Madison Central partakes in several service hour events and clubs including the beta club, crown club, and the new interact club. Interact club is a service club with projects throughout the year that students can earn service hours from. Katie Cook, the club sponsor, said, "There are many student leadership roles where students within the club can be more involved. This inclusive club is welcome to all students as there are no requirements to join and help others out." Interact club also provides a writing workshop where students who find difficulty in writing can seek help on their writing assignments or improving their skills.

In all, Madison Central hopes to help every student out and give them opportunities at their best. There are many fun events for

students to enjoy while participating in school like school plays, sports clubs, football games, pep rallies, school dances, and more. After the first few days of school, students are ready to learn and step forward into the future. Bailey Kennedy (10) said, "I loved the popsicle idea on a hot day when we did rotations. I think that this school is thoughtful and gives me several options on how I want to be more involved in this school. I love all my clubs so far and would love to see how the year goes for me." In Madison Central there is always a place for someone to fit into and to feel welcomed by.



Sports

Check out page 7 for information about the Volleyball and Football teams!



News

Take a look at page 2 for an article about the Writers Strike!



Feature

Check out page 4 for information about the upcoming Canned Food Drive!

THE EARTH CATCHES FIRE

Dylan Thomas
STAFF WRITER

This summer has been proclaimed to be one of the hottest summers of all time. The alarming rise in temperature has brought a more concerning number of natural disasters. Maui, an island in Hawaii, had wildfires sweep across its western side, specifically the city of Lahaina. A wildfire ravaged over Lahaina with such speed that many of the residents had no time to prepare for escape. Stella Tipton (12) is a student at Madison Central who has done her own personal research on the situation in Maui. When asked how she felt on the matter, she said, "I was consumed by sympathy for the fire victims and their families at first, but as I researched on my own and saw that the power lines that started the fire were improperly constructed, I was angry that something like the Maui fires could have been avoided." The wildfires started because power poles were knocked down, the ex-

posed wires of the powerlines caused a huge succession of sparks, creating the huge fire. As of late August, the death toll was 115 and counting, and over 800 people were still missing. Lahaina was a city rich with culture and history, and its destruction has completely devastated the local communities. Families' lives have been completely uprooted from the loss of both loved ones and livelihood. The wildfires are still raging across Maui, specifically in cities such as Pulehu, Kihei, and the Upcountry region of Maui. Jonathan Scott is an English teacher here at MC, and he also sponsors the environmental awareness club. While talking about how he felt when he learned about the fires, Scott said, "It is not just the fact it is a wildfire, but it is the fact that it is such a dramatic one in such an unexpected place." The wildfires came as a surprise to many, not only the residents in Maui. This is because Hawaii has never really been known to have excessive wildfires. What happened in Maui was completely unexpected, and it blind-sided

ed so many people. Canada has also had its own problems regarding natural disasters. The wildfires started as early as the beginning of April, persisted all throughout the summer, and continued into the school year. The wildfires have caused an innumerable amount of damage to the people and the environment. While the wildfires



haven't caused many deaths directly, many people have been injured or have had to evacuate their homes because of the fires. As of late August, British Columbia and the Northwest Territories were the main provinces being affected by the wildfires, and over 33 million acres had been scorched. The wildfires have also affected the air quality of not only Canada, but also the states on Canada's border, including Chicago, Illinois, Minnesota,

Michigan, and New York. This poor air quality can cause a lot of health complications such as heart attacks, heart failure, strokes, etc.

With the fires being so physically far away from Mississippi, it can feel like there is nothing we Mississippi residents can do. However, local non-profits have been doing what they can to help with wildfire relief. For example, the Lucas Foundation for Better Living is a local non-profit founded by a man named Dr. Phillip H. Lucas. They donated 2500 dollars in wildfire relief money to Maui, which just goes to show that even though these disasters seem so far away, there are still ways that the Mississippi community can help. Miriam MacDonald (11) had a few different ideas on how our community can help in situations like a natural disaster. MacDonald said, "A lot of people lost their homes and a lot of everyday necessities. It would probably help to do a drive where people donate things like clothes and such." It is important to remember that we can make an impact when other

countries are faced with situations like this. Doing research to find out what organizations someone can donate to, or if any fundraising events are happening in the area, are good ways to try and make a difference when a disaster like these strikes.

It is unfortunate when natural disasters like the ones in Canada and Maui occur. It is important for those trying to help, to remember to keep the victims of these disasters in their hearts and minds and center the relief efforts around the victims' wants and needs. No situation is completely hopeless, and many prominent non-profits such as American Red Cross, Hawaii Community Foundation, and other Canadian and Hawaiian based organizations are working to bring relief to the victims of the wildfires. Another way people can help, in moments when they cannot donate, is to spread awareness about what's happened in Maui and Canada by sharing information through social media and doing their personal research to make sure they do not spread misinformation. Our condolences to all those who have been affected by the wildfires, and we hope for a brighter future ahead.



WRITERS ON STRIKE

Meredith Morrow
SOCIAL MEDIA
MANAGER

As of May 2 of this year, the Writers Guild of America (WGA) went on strike, demanding higher pay as well as a stable pay structure. They also suggest fairer deals regarding contracts and provisions about artificial intelligence (A.I.). The guild, representing roughly 12,000 writers, referred to the strike as an "existential crisis" for writers all over the United States. What many may not know is that their favorite shows could be at risk of being cancelled, as a result of the strike. For example, television favorites such as 'The Handmaid's Tale',

'Stranger Things', and even 'Saturday Night Live' (SNL) are at risk, as SNL and other shows went dark on May 6, as they have been airing reruns since. Another huge disappointment to television-watchers is that there may not be a season 5 for 'Stranger Things', a show loved by many across the world. The work stoppage does not just affect these shows, as it affects many businesses that rely on Hollywood's economy, such as restaurants, hotels, and transportation. Meanwhile, here at Madison Central, Mr. Sallis teaches English Composition I and II, which revolves mainly around writing. When asked what his take on the strike is, Sallis said, "The last writers' strike took place in 2007, and work stopped for 100 days, costing \$2.1 billion to California's economy alone. This strike; however, has already outlived the last." It has been over 100 days now and many say there is no accurate prediction of when it could end, as they will not budge until a deal has been made, which will only continue to cost California's economy. Experts predict the current strike; however, to cost as much, or more than, three billion.

Aside from the strike, protesters have also been advertising signs with messages such as "Pay our writers or we will spoil 'Succession.'" There are also actors who support the writers' strike, such as Lin-Manuel Miranda, who wrote and starred in his play 'Hamilton', as well as Jamie Lee Curtis and Pete Davidson. The main question is why are these writers going on strike? Why are they walking away from the job? Well, aside from trying to prove a point, and force what they think is "fair pay" out of Hollywood, there are people who think

the U.S. should replace writers with generative A.I., which will put writers out of a job. When asked her opinion on the strike, Liv Milan (11) said, "I think it is good that they are going on strike, however I really wish Hollywood would just pay them more so I can keep watching favorite shows." Many agree with Milan, as the writers are simply asking a six percent crease on all minimum bases, including residuals. While some consider the WGA



these writers provide for us." Alongside Singleton, many seem to be siding with the WGA, as she thinks writers are the vessel of America's culture today. Overall, Hollywood writers refuse to budge from their demands, continuing to sit on strike since the beginning of May. The advent of new ways of entertainment consumption with evolving technologies has changed how Hollywood works and pays its workers. If this strike goes smoothly, and Hollywood finally gives in, it is safe to say the world will be very grateful to have their source of entertainment back.



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New Teachers in The Jungle



Hannah Evans
STAFF WRITER

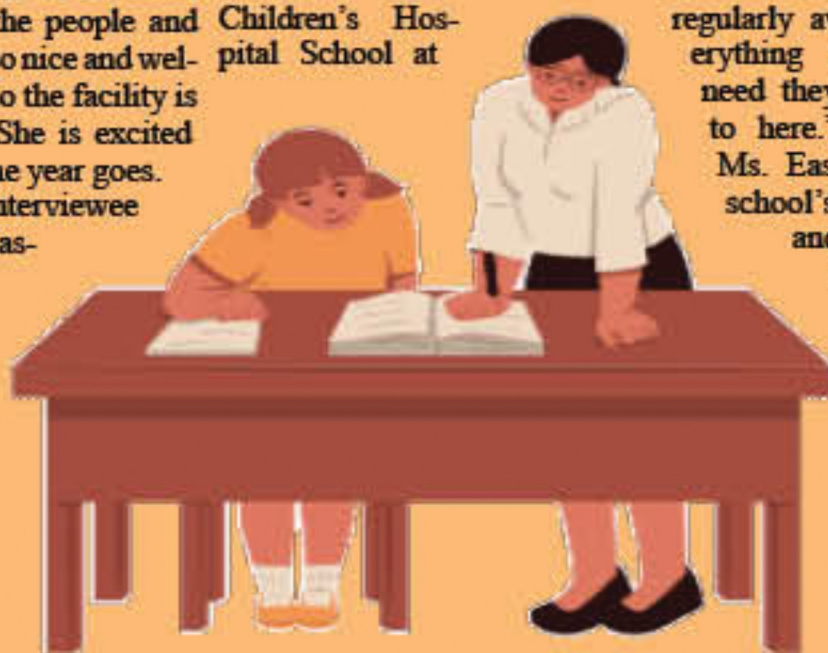
The Jungle is looking even sunnier for the 2023-2024 school year. Madison Central is more than happy to welcome 12 new teachers to the Jungle this year. Madison Central has six great new special education teachers; Mike Hammond, Holly Easley, MC Wilkerson, Dr. Melanie Boyle, Clarke Weems, Anna Massey. As well as five other excellent teachers in different areas; Tina Miller, Jennifer Alford, and Jessica Carter. Madison Central and Rosa Scott both welcome Kristy Brumfield, the assistant Jag Singer's director and director at Rosa Scott as well as Kayla Smith as the head volleyball coach. The Lady Jags also welcome a new coach to their roster, Robin Rae Mercer, assistant girls basketball coach. Mercer said she loves Madison Central's

environment. "Coach Brown has a good reputation. We are hoping to win a state championship this year. Also, who does not want to be at Madison Central. I have spent my time coaching basketball so far, everyone is so nice and Madison Central has such a welcoming environment." Mercer also stated "Madison Central is so different because of the people and everyone is so nice and welcoming. Also the facility is different." She is excited to see how the year goes. Another interviewee was Ms. Easley. "I love it here. Everybody has been so helpful and welcoming since I have been here.

I also taught at Madison Middle School. I had a self-contained classroom. Meaning they are here all the time unless for art, PE, or lunch. I also have helpful assistants. All of my students are in 10th-12th grades. I have taught at Madison before and I love it now that I am back. I feel like I am back home. I taught at MMS 2014-2015. I went to Children's Hospital School at

UMC and to Yazoo City School District. I came back to Madison schools." All 25 years of teaching she has taught special education. "I do not know what makes it special, but I know it is special. It is a welcoming spirit. Like you just feel it in the air. It is kind of like magic. Everyone seems happy here and is willing to lift a hand. Resources are regularly available. Everything that teachers need they have access to here." She stated. Ms. Easley loves the school's environment and community. The last teacher interviewed was Ms. Carter. "Well, Madison Central is one of the best schools. So,

who does not want to work with the best teachers and staff. I graduated from here in 2005. So it is nice to come back home and it is familiar. I also have a nephew that comes here and nieces that will come through in a few years. It's been good. A big change from where I previously was." She is glad to be back and excited to see what the years ahead hold. Madison Central has twelve wonderful new teachers full of love and kindness. Teachers from the main four subjects, to elective classes. Madison Central is so grateful to have them make the students' futures bright. These new teachers are going to help maintain a positive environment at Madison Central.



CLUBS TO JOIN

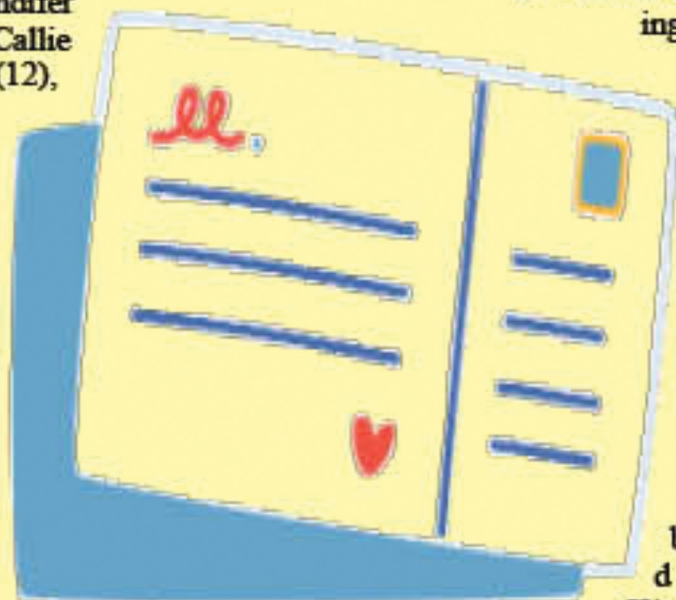
- INTERACT CLUB
- UPSTANDERS
- CROCHET CLUB
- CHESS CLUB
- ADVOCATES FOR CHANGE
- BOOK CLUB
- MINORITY CLUB
- ART CLUB

Amelia Morris
STAFF WRITER

Postcards of The Summer

Summer is a time of relaxation, vacations, summer camps, and even sports. Most people in the summer go on vacation sometime throughout the summer, some go far but some stay close by. Summer just ended and school has started but, some of our students went to some cool places. Tanner Nichols (10) went on a summer trip around Europe. He went to Paris, Barcelona, Gibraltar, Marseille, Portofino, Venice, Rome, Pisa, and Luca. Last Christmas his grandparents surprised him and his family with the trip, and this summer Nichols's family and his grandparents got to go. Nichols said, "I toured around the towns and cities, went sight-seeing, and snorkeling in Marseille." In Rome they got to see the Leaning tower of Pisa in Italy. He also got to tour up the Rock of Gibraltar and all the city's history. Another cool thing Nichols did was sailing around the coast of Italy. Some of his favorite places were Paris, Venice, and Marseille. In Paris Nichols said, "it was super nice and all the sights were cool." He and his family even got to stay next to the Eiffel Tower in the Aparthotel Adagio Paris Centre Tour Eiffel. He talked about how Ven-

ice was super neat taking the water taxis everywhere, and the food there was very good. In Marseille, Nichols went snorkeling, which he thought was interesting and fun. He said, "The water was so pretty and blue and there were so many fish, it was amazing.", he said. Overall, Tanner Nichols seemed to have a lot of fun on his trip to Europe. This summer, Gracie Rhea (12) went to Turks and Caicos. On this vacation, she went with her friends, Clancy Baker (12), Elle Sandifer (12), Callie Nation (12), Brittan McFadden (12), and all of their moms. At Turks and Caicos, they went to the beach, as well as on a Snorkeling Excursion to Iguana Island. They also went tubing with dolphins, shopped downtown, did yoga, and ate at some delicious local restaurants. When asked what her favorite part of the trip were Rhea answered and said that her favorite was snorkeling where they saw so many fish and electric eels.



Alongside snorkeling, she loved when they all went tubing with dolphins, where the dolphins were arm's length away from her. She said that it was terrifying because they thought the dolphins were sharks at first. Next Rhea also talked about how she really enjoyed dinner at Da Conch restaurant, because they had conch shells everywhere and a beautiful sunset on the beach. Some of her least favorite things Rhea said were trying to stay up on the paddleboard, "even though it was hilarious watching me and Elle, a n d Clancy fall", she said. On the island she said they met their boat driver, King, who was so nice and gave them extra sandwiches and cokes. While on this trip, Rhea said she learned how to snorkel, how to make sounds from conch shells and, as she put it, "always wear sunscreen". Finally, Gracie Rhea's tropical vacation was an incredibly cool one. Off at Disney world is where Kathrine Elfert was this sum-

mer. She went to all the different parks Disney world has and "rode as many rides I could", Elfert states. She went with her family, and she got to meet Winnie the pooh, which she said was a dream. When asked what she learned on the trip Elfert said that she learned no matter what you can always count on your family to have fun with. She also learned that Disney World in the summer is extremely hot. "I learned that nowhere in Disney World has a Dr. Pepper, I looked everywhere." Elfert stated. Lastly she learned that there were so many different types of people from all over and that Disney brings people together. Her least favorite things were the heat, and the day it rained. Elfert stated her favorite things in Disney were Mickey ice cream, the guardians of the galaxy ride and the magic kingdom. She said Disney has always been so magical and always brings upon a nostalgic feeling. To conclude, our students' summer vacations this year seemed to be adventurous. Nichols traveled Europe, Rhea took a tropical vacation with her friends to Turks and Caicos, and Elfert stayed a little closer to home and went to Disney world. Now after the summer break our jags are ready to take on the new school year.

More Cans' Madison

Dylan Thomas
STAFF WRITER

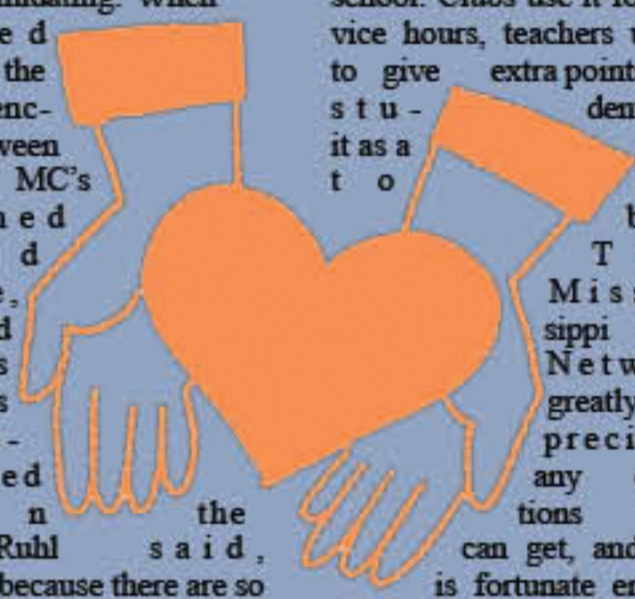
For the past two decades, Madison Central participates in a school wide canned food drive. The canned food drive will be held the last week of September. All week-long students bring canned goods of all kinds to help the fundraiser. Students can also bring money or mac and cheese boxes. However, things students cannot bring include ramen noodles, flour, and glass and bagged products. The Student Government Association (SGA) runs the food drive, with the help of the tennis team and the ROTC this year. SGA collects cans all throughout that week. On the last day of the canned food drive, the tennis team will load up all the cans to be shipped off to Mississippi Food Network in Jackson. The MC canned food drive helps stock up food for the winter and is a huge asset to the

Mississippi Food Network. Last year, the school donated over 87,000 cans, so expectations are high. Mrs. Johnston, the SGA sponsor, said, "SGA has set an ambitious goal of 100,000 cans this year. We are hoping to encourage teachers and students to participate even more this year." The canned food drive relies on student and teacher participation, so every can counts. No donation is too small or too large. The canned food drive is a great cause that has a real impact on the local Mississippi community. Lola Williams (11) is a student representative on SGA this year and is incredibly excited to be helping with the canned food drive. It is her second year on the SGA, and her second year running the canned food drive. While loading the trucks is hard work, it is incredibly rewarding. While reflecting on last year's canned

food drive, Williams said, "It was both really fun and really challenging. On one hand, we got to help out with a great cause. We got to put all the cans in the truck, and we got to work together. But it was hard passing the cans back and forth from the cafeteria to the truck." Like all processes, it has its ups and downs, but the result makes all that hard work worth it. When asked if the canned food drive makes an impact, Williams said, "Definitely. There are tons of families out there who consider any kind of food they get as a blessing." Being able to help families who need it, is a big motivator for our school. That is why many people choose to participate in it. Because of how big the canned food drive is, it can be quite daunting to new students. However, this does not stop people like Reese Ruhl (10) from being ecstatic about being able to

work it. Ruhl is the secretary for the sophomore class, and it is her first year as an SGA member. As it is her first year, a project like the canned food drive can be intimidating. When asked about the differences between the MC's canned food drive, and others she's experienced in the past, Ruhl said, "Well, because there are so many students it is much bigger than any of the canned food drives I have been a part of." While this change can be overwhelming to a lot of people, Ruhl is ready to step up to the challenge. She is happy to be able to help with the canned food

drive and cannot wait to get started. The canned food drive is a great way to build teamwork as well as foster a sense of community in the school. Clubs use it for service hours, teachers use it to give extra points, and students use it as a way to give back. The Mississippi Food Network greatly appreciates any donations they can get, and MC is fortunate enough to be able to provide for them. Not every student is going to be able to give as much as another student, and that is okay. The canned food drive will be held from September 25 to September 29, and every can counts. It's time to come together and bring all the cans we can.



EL SOMBRERO

Barbie VS. Oppenheimer

Logan Kennedy
STAFF WRITER

This summer, two block-buster movies Barbie and Oppenheimer reached the big screen causing a lot of controversy while doing so, surrounding which one was the better movie. Barbie grossed 1.38 billion dollars and told the story of the iconic children's toy, venturing out into the human world. Oppenheimer, directed by Christopher Nolan, was a blockbuster success generating 854 million dollars in box office sales and redefined blockbuster success by telling the origin of the atomic bomb. So, what made Oppenheimer and Barbie such a media trend? Well, both movies are merely opposites, in almost everything besides the fact they were both huge successes. There was a certain media frenzy surrounding which movie was better. From people dressing up in full pink



outfits and accessories to watch the Barbie movie, to people watching the Barbie movie and Oppenheimer double-feature which consisted of almost five hours of screentime. Now the real challenge was deciding which movie was better. Without watching both movies, some have already formed their opinion on which one they prefer. Skyler Morris (10) only saw Oppenheimer and he does not plan to see Barbie because he already made up his mind that Oppenheimer is the better choice. He said, "I just really liked Oppenheimer and the story that it told. The atomic bomb was a very key point in history and to be able to know how it was created through cinema, is something I thoroughly enjoyed. For now, I am team Oppenheimer". Morris' strong feelings of Oppenheimer challenge others who valued both movies and had a hard time choosing between the two.

One of these students was Wesley Kate Heath (11) who said that she enjoyed both, but if she had to choose which one had the better plot it would be Barbie. Heath said, "Barbie was so much fun

to watch but more importantly I enjoyed the message that the movie had". Heath decided that she enjoyed Oppenheimer, played by Cillian Murphy, better as the main character rather than Barbie played by Margot Robbie. Both of the main characters in the two movies, Cillian Murphy and Margot Robbie, are building suspense for the 2024 Oscars. Even though the awards are five months away, people are already suspecting that both actors will receive major nominations for their outstanding roles in the movies. Heath also attributed that if she had to pick which movie to see again it would be Barbie, "Barbie is so much easier to watch. Oppenheimer was sad and long". The run-time of the movies could definitely play into which movie people like more as Oppenheimer had a run time of three hours, while Barbie was only an hour and forty-five minutes.

Someone who looked past the long run time of Oppenheimer was Mia Parker (12). She said that although Barbie was a childhood staple for her, she would have to disagree with Heath and say that Oppenheimer had the better plot. Parker said, "It was based

off of true events that forever changed our world." When asked which movie she would see again, Parker stated, "I would definitely see Oppenheimer again. Christopher Nolan did an amazing job selecting the actors such as Cillian Murphy, who was phenomenal in fitting into the role of Oppenheimer". Although Parker values Barbie and the life lessons that it taught the audience, she also values the history of the atomic bomb and the knowledge she gained from watching Oppenheimer.

From students re-kindling with their favorite childhood toy to others gaining historical knowledge of the atomic bomb, it is safe to say that Barbie and Oppenheimer had a large following of Madison Central Students. Although students have differing opinions on which was the better movie of the summer, it can be concluded that Barbie Vs. Oppenheimer was one of the biggest trends of the 2023 summer.



Monday:

PI Day

Tuesday:

Future
Occupations

Wednesday:

Favorite
Celebrity

Thursday:

Seniors: Senior Citizens
Juniors: Nerds
Sophs: Kindergartners

Friday:

12th: White
11th: Blue
10th: Orange

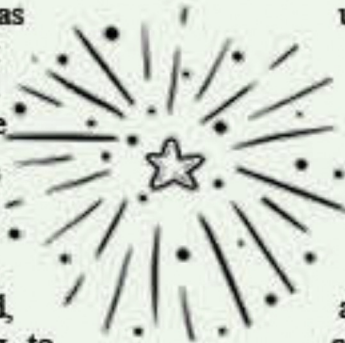


MC'S HOMECOMING PLAYLIST

Madie Moseley
STAFF WRITER

CELEBRATING LABOR DAY

Labor day is used for celebrating the social and economic achievements of Americans. Each year Labor day falls on the first Monday of September. For many, Labor day symbolizes the start of school or the beginning of fall sports. Labor day became an official federal holiday on September 5, 1882 by Peter J. McGuire. He wanted the day to be used as a day of rest and a general holiday for the laboring class. Many families have traditions on this long weekend, such as going to the beach, lake, or just spending time with the family. Ryleigh Deer (10) said, "I went to the beach this year with my family." Along with going out of town for a quick little trip, having a picnic, watching a football game, shopping, going to Labor Day festivals, and volunteering are some of the most popular activities. Some students use



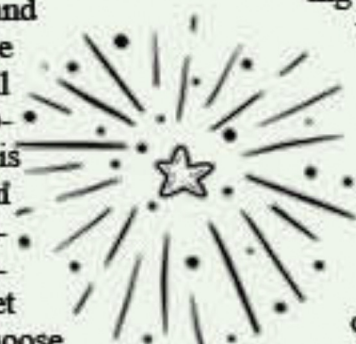
the long weekend to earn a little extra cash like Baylee Benton (10), who is house sat for the week. Unfortunately, some student athletes have practice, events, or meets during the Labor Day weekend. Alex Lee (10), who is a member of the Madison Central Cross Country Team, went to the Memphis Twilight Classic this Labor Day weekend. The team is headed there Saturday afternoon and racing that night, 16 girls are completed and a little over 21 boys are competing. Alex is excited because it was a new and different course and she gets to race competitors from different states. The team was excited, everybody had been working hard and out-of-town races are always really fun.

The tradition after Labor Day is to not wear white, linen, or seersucker. One of the few theories on why people cannot wear white is because it makes it seem like a person cannot afford new clothes. Another theory is that the elitist knew that white could get

dirty very easily, especially in winter months. Linen is a nice, soft fabric, and summer is all those things, and the fall style is thicker fabrics. Seersucker is a fabric, most seen in long flowy summer dresses. Nobody is going to get in trouble if they choose to wear any of these fabrics or colors, but it is an unspoken fashion rule. Why should we celebrate Labor Day? Labor Day celebrates the work ethic of Americans. Over 54 percent of citizens work 40-49-hour weeks, hardly getting time-off or even a simple thank you.

Along with the many hours they are working, most federal jobs only pay minimum wage which is \$7.25. Minimum wage sometimes is

barely enough to make ends meet. In the United States, working has always been crucial to American Culture. In American Culture, many individuals must hustle either for more and more money or just to survive. Working is one of the things that most Americans can either do or appreciate when others do it.





Emily Hodges
STAFF WRITER

World Cup is Back Again

On August 6, 2023, the United States Women's soccer team was eliminated in round 16 of the World Cup for the first time in history. With their last official loss being in the Japan 2011 World Cup, the soccer team has now broken records with how fast they were knocked out of the competition this year. The worst loss the team had ever endured prior to this in over thirty years was third place, which was in 2007, when Sweden knocked the team out in overtime. Originally the teams were tied 0-0, but the US missed their penalty kicks, resulting in a painful loss for America and Sweden taking the win. There have been mixed emotions on how the United States team

had prepared for the tournament and it was executed. When asked what she thinks contributed to the loss, Lilly Callum (11) said, "I think they were cocky going into it and didn't expect everybody to have grown so

much. They weren't as ready as everybody else." It makes sense as to why Callum would say this when the American team got knocked out so quickly. Callum is one of many around the world who feel the same way about how America performed. The Women's World Cup happens every four years so teams can work towards qualifying and performing their best in the tournament. It is suspected that the US' team did the opposite. By winning back-to-back, there had been speculation that they relaxed this year, resulting in their loss being so severe. The tournament started on July 20 and ended on August 20; this means the US team lost after only 18 days. The United States has won the WWC four out of the eight editions, proving to be strong in the sport until this year. They had also qualified for the semi-finals every year until this year as well. Sydney Wilson (12) said, "I think one major reason they were eliminated was the fact they were too overconfident. The world advertised

how awesome this US team was going to be and I think they expected to cruise through pool play with no problems. Many players did podcasts and sponsorships during the tournament, so I believe that the team expected a leisurely and easy tournament." With things like injuries, cockiness, and coaching being factored into the performance of the US women's team, it proves the loss was clear to come, just like what Wilson had said. Looking on the brighter side of things, Coach Cecil Hinds said, "We have been so high for so long, or respected for so long that we now have teams that have surpassed us in soccer. I

don't think we underperformed; I just think that other teams have performed very well at the right time." Now that the World Cup is over, it is interesting to reflect on the different team's performances. This year Spain has won the title for the first time. They beat England 1-0. The world cup has ended, and Spain has added on to the history of this year's WWC. The US team has lost this year, but through their loss we were able to witness history in the WWC from different countries around the world.

WORLD CUP



DANCING WITH THE TEACHERS

SEPTEMBER 14TH

6:30 PM IN THE AUDITORIUM

Taylor Swift Around The World

Violet Daniels
STAFF WRITER

In November 2022, artist Taylor Swift announced her Eras Tour. It was originally going to be in only 20 cities across the United States and last from March 17, 2023 through August 9, 2023. Then on June 19, Swift announced that she would be taking the tour internationally, going to Latin America, Asia, Australia, and Europe. She most recently announced a second United States round in 2024. This round includes Miami, New Orleans, Indianapolis, and Toronto. This left fans ecstatic. Although Swift has more than 100 tour dates in stadiums with over 60,000 seats, fans still struggle to get tickets.

To be able to have access to purchase tickets, fans had to apply to a Verified Fan list about a week before the sale opened. Not all fans who applied are accepted. And those who did still had to wait in an online queue to have their pick of tickets. Tickets sold out within the hour and many fans were unable to get tickets. But those who did are extremely excited. Emily Kay Kirk (10) "I am enchanted to go to the Taylor Swift Era's Tour. I am super excited to

meet all the other people at the stadium. It is so fun to see everyone dress up all cute and on theme." Dressing up for the Eras Tour is a big part, but so is making friendship bracelets. Kirk also stated "fans including myself love putting either lyrics or inside jokes about Taylor Swift on the bracelets and then trading them with others at the stadium." While getting tickets was a hard job to pull off, fans that did are certainly excited for the Era's Tour experience. Swift has more than just more new tour dates up her sleeve. On August 9, another big surprise hit the swifties. Album, 1989 (Taylor's Version) was announced. Many fans are extremely excited about this rerelease. Marshall Oshinsky (10) said, "I have been waiting for October 27th since I heard the news. I like the 'Taylor's Version' more than the originals because her voice is more mature. A lot of people say that Taylor Swift only writes about breakup songs but in reality she's just a storyteller and not even all of her songs are about her." 1989 was Swift's first full pop album. Wesley Kate Heath, (11) stated "I am super excited, 1989 is my favorite album I remember when it came

out and just replaying it over and over." This is how many fans feel. To be able to hear some of your favorite songs from years ago with new audio and vocals is very exciting. Swift is currently in the process of re-recording her first 6 studio albums. She started the journey in August of 2019 and has already finished three of them, which are, Speak Now, Fearless, and Red. Swift is doing this so that these albums can be owned by her. Swift has had problems with her previous record labels and because of this does not legally own some of her albums including Taylor Swift, Speak Now, Fearless, Red, 1989, and Reputation. However, by re-releasing these as "Taylor's Version", she now has the rights to them and can legally call them hers. The "Taylor's Version" re-release not only are legally Taylor Swifts, but they also have vault tracks and new vocals.

Swift's voice has matured so much from the beginning of her career. Swift does more than just write record breaking songs, she also inspires many of her listeners. Ava Robinson (12) said "She is such an inspiring artist who cares about all of her fans and genuinely seems to be having fun while on tour despite the long show hours. She also shows extreme appreciation for her crew which displays her kind character." Taylor Swift is definitely making her way around the world in more ways than one. All of her fans appreciate everything she does and how hard she works.

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VOLLEYBALL STRIKES AGAIN

Katherine Elfert
STAFF WRITER

With much of their season ahead of them and a long road to the state championship, the Madison Central volleyball team has been preparing for their season all summer. With intense summer workouts, a new head coach, and the game of a lifetime, the Jags are having one of their best seasons yet. The team consists of Madison Central and Rosa Scott students. Both Varsity and Junior Varsity play eighteen season games ranging from August to October. Some of the team's biggest competitors and toughest games include Brandon, Germantown, Lewisburg, and Oxford.

The volleyball team put in the work this summer when they practiced Monday-Thursday in June and Monday-Friday in July. The team was a part of a summer league at Infinity Volleyball Academy where they played five games

throughout the month of June. They also attended Samford Volleyball Camp for two days in Homewood, Alabama. Morgan Martin (10) said, "Although the workouts this summer were very intense, I think that they have made a great impact on how our season has gone so far. The workouts helped us become stronger and they built our endurance for longer games. Samford Camp was long and tiring but we got to

play new teams and I think it brought us closer together as a team." The Jags worked hard this summer and they believe the workouts better prepared them for their season.

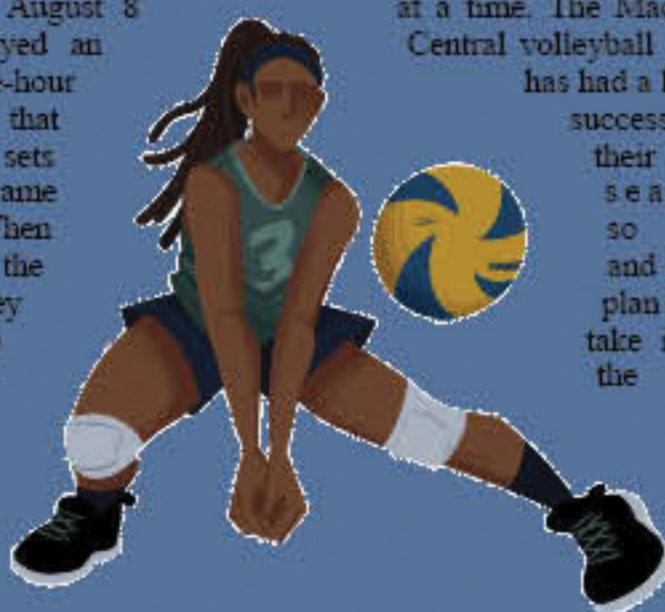
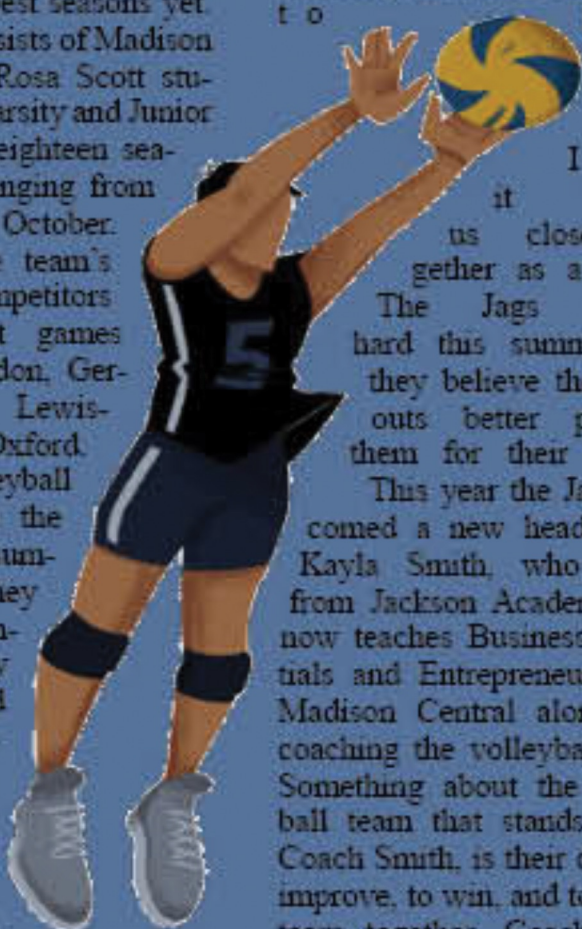
This year the Jags welcomed a new head coach, Kayla Smith, who comes from Jackson Academy. She now teaches Business Essentials and Entrepreneurship at Madison Central along with coaching the volleyball team. Something about the volleyball team that stands out to Coach Smith, is their desire to improve, to win, and to be one team together. Coach Smith talked about the goals she had for the team by saying, "The first goal I have for the team

is for the girls to get better every day as athletes and as people. The second is to lay a foundation of the expectations for this program and the last goal is to finish it all and have a ring." Coach Smith is a great addition to the Jungle and the Jags are glad to have her.

The Madison Central volleyball team played together when they beat Brandon. MC has not beaten Brandon, the two-time reigning state champions, in eight years. However, on August 8 the team played an almost three-hour long game that went into five sets and the Jags came out on top. When asked about the win Lindsey Smith (12) said, "Beating Brandon was one of the top moments of my high

school career. To finally beat Brandon was a goal I have been wanting to achieve ever since I started playing for Madison Central. I think it showed our team how good we really are and that if we want it bad enough, we can be the best team in the state." Even after beating the reigning state champions the volleyball teams' work is far from over.

The Jags have gotten back to work. They are continuing to practice and better every day and they are focused on one game at a time. The Madison Central volleyball team has had a lot of success in their 2023 season so far, and they plan to take it all the way.



Football Kicks Into The Season



Lauren Heffington
STAFF WRITER

In the jungle, the students and faculty look forward to Friday games. Friday Night has not started till the teams are on the sidelines, the band is ready, and our cheer and dance teams are geared up for a great game in Jaguar Stadium. With Friday Night Lights in full swing, these are the nights you do not want to miss. With graduated seniors leaving and new members of the team stepping up, Madison Central is in for a season of surprises.

Entering the 2023 season we look back on previous years to see what should change, and what

a competitive schedule last year. This season is gearing up to be even more challenging. When asked about this year's schedule Defensive Coach Ben Shelton said, "Our schedule has no weak points in it." Proving that guys have been working hard all summer and during the semester.

Each season comes with ups and downs, whether it is the loss of a player or gain of another. When asked what he thinks is going to be the team's biggest challenge this season, Coach Shelton said, "We will have a lot of talented, but inexperienced players on offense. So, they will need to get acclimated to all of the responsibility real

good tactics to use for this season. With a competitive season, last year's record was 8-4 overall, and 5-2 in our district with

quick." In response to what the biggest strength the team will have this season, senior football player Reese Moseley (12) said, "I think the biggest strength this year will be team

work, we all like each other and regardless of a win or loss the bonds we have will always last forever." Once Madison Central overcomes these obstacles and learns to use their strengths to their advantage the season will be off to a good start.

Before the official start to the season Madison Central played a jamboree game at Ray Rogers Stadium which is home to the Pearl Pirates. The jamboree only being two quarters of a regular game, unfortunately ended with MC taking a loss to Pearl by a very close margin. When asked

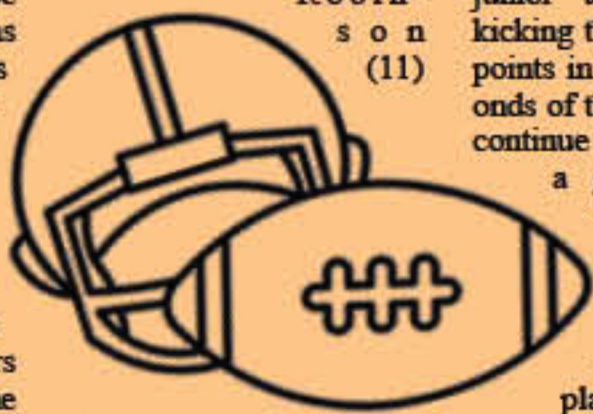
what could have been done better to lead the team to a win or what they could have done differently, junior football player Korey Robinson (11)

said, "We needed more communication with every play, playing as a team, and we need to work on our defense." Madison Central officially started the sea-

son with a home game against the Ocean Springs, Greyhounds. The Jaguars ended up with a win after an intense game, with junior Jack Richardson kicking the game-winning points in the last few seconds of the game. As they continue the season with a game in Jaguar Stadium on September 1st, and then the following week the Jaguars will play their first away game at Gulfport. Even with a hard season and a packed schedule the Jaguars will pull through.



Above: Madison Central's Football team running to the sidelines, as the game begins to start. Photo Courtesy of the Sideline crew





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