

Madison Central

UPROAR

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FRIDAYS ARE FOR JAGUAR JAVA

Caroline King STAFF WRITER

At Madison Central we have a hidden gem that most students don't even know about. Jaguar Java is a coffee stand that is open every Friday on the annex hallway corner from 8:00 to 8:30 in the morning before the tardy bell, and from 9:45 to 10:15 during break. This coffee cart is run mainly by students with disabilities while being assisted by their teachers and by other students that are members of the National Honor Society. A special thank you also goes to Jaguar Java's sponsors, Southern Bancorp and Joe Ricotta, whose support keeps this small business running. Working at this coffee stand helps the students learn and grow in their abilities, while it is also a fun experience for them.

Jaguar Java started recently, in December of 2021, but at that time it was only open to teachers and faculty. It was a great success after a few weeks, and so after Christmas break, faculty decided to open Jaguar Java to all students, catering to anyone who want-

ed an extra boost of caffeine in the morning. Over the last few weeks this coffee stand has been a great success; students have loved to enjoy their coffee while starting their day at school. At first Jaguar Java only had coffee and any extras that you would put in your coffee like sugar and creamer; now they are now starting to increase their range of items for sale in the mornings as they grow their business. Some of these new items include pastries, snacks, and other goodies that people enjoy with their morning coffee.

This mini business that is put on by these students not only benefits the students who have a new coffee shop at the school, but also it is greatly beneficial for the students with special needs that help to run it. Jaguar Java prepares students for life beyond the classroom. It finds a way to incorporate fun activities with opportunities to work on their social skills. Jaguar Java not only helps with their social skills, but also their financial skills by activities such as counting money, and interacting with students who are buying coffee and pastries. The main goals of the special needs program as a whole and Jaguar Java are to prepare the students for a smooth transition after high school,

to help the students be prepared to live as independently as possible, to generally help develop soft skills, and finally equip these students for employability success.

The teachers involved are also very invested in helping their student's future in any way possible. When asked what her favorite part about Jaguar Java is, Carrie Bruce said, "Watching my students interacting successfully with their peers is my favorite part about it. I feel that it benefits all involved." Bruce is a dedicated teacher who has been teaching since 2018. Many other teachers are also focused on teaching these students to the best of their ability, whether it be running Jaguar Java or working on skills in the classroom. The help that they offer these students is tremendously important for their future after Madison Central.

Students are loving Jaguar Java so far. Many enjoy having coffee in the morning but don't have time to go to a coffee shop before school. This coffee stand gives the students an opportunity to get coffee during the school day. Noah Robinson (11), a student at Madison Central said, "I loved the coffee I got from

Jaguar Java this morning. It is also a great opportunity for the students that help out, and I mean who doesn't enjoy coffee on a Friday morning." Along with Robinson, students are thrilled to have this coffee shop in the school especially with there being the new addition of pastries that students can purchase along with their coffee.

Jaguar Java has been a great chance for these students working to gain real life skills, and meet students throughout the school that they may not have had the chance to meet without Jaguar Java. There used to be a program that any student could be involved in called Jungle Buddies. The program paired up special needs students with other students to work on activities together. It was also a great opportunity for students to meet and get to know their peers. The program was paused because of Covid, with hopes of restarting next year.

For now Jaguar Java is a big part of these student's week, being a time in which they can have fun while learning new things along the way. Beau Gregory (10) said, "My favorite part of Jaguar Java is seeing people

that I know." These students love to talk and form relationships with people that come by Jaguar Java. Another student, Christina Ames (12), when asked what her favorite part of helping at Jaguar Java said, "I really like to pump the coffee for people." Each of the students participate in Jaguar Java in a different way. Some students help to greet customers as they are coming to try Jaguar Java, a couple pump the coffee, one or two collect money, and a few students help with creamers, sugar, and whatever else students and faculty want to put in their coffee. Their positions are based on what they like doing the most and what skills they have as an individual.

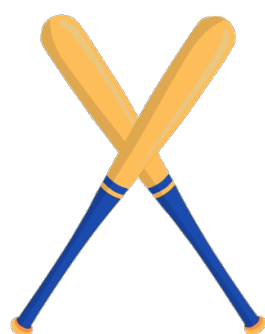
Overall these students enjoy putting on Jaguar Java, as it is a unique learning experience for all including other students and teachers. The coffee is delicious according to many so it is worth a try, and you will be helping a business that is run inside of your own school. Even though the details are still being worked out on the little things, they are progressing very far and turning this into a successful small business.



Above: Students smile while helping out Jaguar Java at MC. From left to right Abraham Ali, Beau Gregory, Tiyona Polk, Arial Shimler, Cameron Germany, Hunter Persac.

sports

Check out page 7 for information about the softball team!

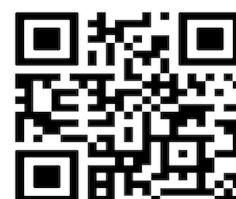


news

Take a look at page 2 for an article about women's history month.



CHECK OUT OUR
WEBSITE



PROVIDING HEALING, PROMOTING HOPE: WOMEN IN HISTORY

Anna Kimbrell
STAFF WRITER

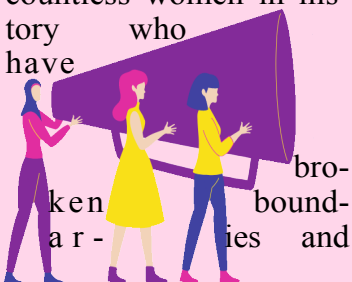
Women have impacted history and society in monumental ways for thousands of years. National Women’s History Month, which celebrates women’s impacts on society, begins on March 1 and ends March 31. Women’s History Month was around 80 years in the making with the first celebration towards women in 1909. In 1981, National Women’s History Week was established by Congress to be celebrated the second week of March, and six years later, congress delegated the celebration for the whole month of March. Every year the theme for the month changes, corresponding to important events happening at the time. This year the theme is “Women Providing Healing, Promoting Hope,” a tribute to frontline workers helping throughout the pandemic. March is the time to remember and honor all women and their contributions to society. There have been countless women in history who have broken boundaries and

their contributions to society are innumerable. An expedition led by Lewis and Clark in 1805 was to document unknown terrain in the western region of America. They were accompanied by a Native American woman, Sacagawea; her ability to speak English, make clothes, search for edible food, and knowledge of the land made the exploration successful. Women also helped in the abolition movement in the mid 19th century, for example, Harriet Tubman. Harriet Tubman was born a slave in Maryland in 1820 and escaped in 1849 using the Underground Railroad. It is estimated that from 1850 to 1860 she personally helped 70 enslaved people escape slavery using the underground railroad. Women have been involved in the most important parts of early American history: the founding of America, explorations of the new country, and emancipation. Women continued to be history makers in the women’s suffrage movement and the civil rights movement. Women such as Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton were key components in the fight for women’s right to vote in America. The first women’s rights convention was led by Stanton

and Anthony in 1848 where they created the Declaration of Sentiments: a declaration seeking wider opportunities available to women. The National American Woman Suffrage association, which Stanton and Anthony helped found in 1890, was one of the major players in getting the 19th amendment ratified, allowing women the right to vote. Women were incredible advocates for the Civil Rights movement of the 1950s and 60s; one woman especially helped spur a national movement, Rosa Parks. In 1955, Parks refused to move to the back of a bus in Alabama, so that a white man could take her seat. Parks’ refusal helped ignite the Montgomery Bus Boycott led by Martin Luther King Jr. The boycott was a protest in which African Americans did not use the city bus system because of the segregated seating; the boycott ended when the Supreme Court integrated the bus system. The 2022 National Women’s History Month theme is “Women Providing Healing, Promoting Hope.” The group that chooses the theme is the National Women’s History Alliance. Nurses have been a vital part in helping with Covid-19; it is estimated that of the 2,523,490 registered nurses in the United States, 2.1 million are female. Nurses have been faced

with hardships and have been working relentlessly during the pandemic, during women’s history month it’s important to recognize their efforts throughout this difficult time. The CDC has stated that “two out of every three caregivers in the U.S. are women.” Caregiving can include helping someone with a long-term illness, disability, or giving assistance to someone on a regular basis. “Women Providing Healing, Promoting Hope” serves as a reminder to thank the women in our lives that provide this healing. Women continue the fight for gender equality today, facing issues with getting proper childcare and race discriminations. Kristen Stephenson, a history teacher here at MC said, when asked about challenges women face today, “The United States stands out among the industrialized world in its lack of support for child rearing.” Many countries spend thousands of dollars annually on toddler child care, while the U.S. only spends 500 (nytimes.com). Stephenson, also, said, “For what it’s worth, the gains that women have made have been uneven across race and class. Studies of income distribution across these groups

indicate that middle class white women have made more gains than women of color.” The Center for American Progress has reported that “Women of color continue to suffer the most severe gender wage gap in the United States...” Sneha Cherukuri (12) said “It is important to have a women’s history month because it sets aside time to really reflect on women that have shaped history that may be overlooked.” Women today are still working towards total gender equality, and especially for women of color who are not receiving equal pay or being recognized for their contributions. Josh Maatallah (11), when asked how gender equality can help all people, said, “Women’s equality helps make our communities safer and healthier.” Gender equality is important so that everyone can live a prosperous life without worrying about gender discriminations. Women’s History Month is celebrated in March and is a time to recognize women’s contributions to society. Women have been a powerhouse in American history: expeditions, abolition movement, women’s suffrage, and civil rights. This month is dedicated to those who help make our country better each day through their courageous actions in giving times.



THE WORLD UNITES TO STAND BY UKRAINE

Adya Praveen
CO-EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

With over 406 civilians dead, 801 people injured, and more than two million refugees leaving the country in the span of two weeks, the world is experiencing one of the deadliest wars ever created. On February 24, Russia launched a devastating invasion into Ukraine, taking both the country and the world by surprise. Russia has placed violent attacks in the hopes of regaining control of Ukraine, impacting millions of civilians, schools, and hospitals and creating Europe’s worst refugee crisis since World War II, according to the United Nations. Putin initially launched the attack on Ukraine with claims to “protect Ukraine’s people subjected to demilitarization and Nazification”. Ukraine used to be a part of Russian control until the country gained its independence in 1991, which Putin believes was the initial disintegration of Russia. With Ukraine being a sovereign state, the country has become more aligned with Western ideals, among which the biggest issue is Ukraine’s decision to join NATO- the U.S. led defensive alliance. It is clear that Putin desires control of Ukraine once again

to overthrow its democratic government and that he will not stop the bombardment of Ukraine until his demands are met. He created an eight-point statement released by Russia’s ministry proclaiming a list of demands that must be met by both Ukraine and NATO. At this stage, the end of the war seems unclear as both sides refuse to put down their swords. Although U.S. intelligence warned against Russian invasion, most of Europe was caught off guard. Kristin Stephenson, an A.P. U.S. Government and A.P. European History Teacher at Madison Central (MC), said, “I do not think world leaders really believed that Putin was willing to so blatantly violate international law in this manner.” Putin has now not only violated international law, but also set the scene for Russia’s social standing on an international stage. “The world is no longer going to underestimate the threat that Russia poses,” said Rachel Pierce (12). Putin has made his intentions clear, especially through his chilling warnings to nearby countries out of fear of intervention. On an early morning television broadcast in Russia, he declared, “To anyone who would consider interfering from the outside – you will face consequences greater than any you have faced

in history.” Putin has directly separated himself from the rest of the allies, likely damaging the way that several countries will view Russia for decades to come and the stability of Europe’s post World War II security structure. The humanitarian situation is becoming increasingly more dire, as Ukraine’s key countries are viciously

attacked and bombed by Russian soldiers. Families pray for an escape; Over 400,000 civilians have been left without water, heat, or communication to the outside world for several days. Uncollected bodies line the streets, as Russian soldiers fire at innocent civilians. Many are not allowed to leave the country as they are being held hostage or humanitarian aid is not available.

Although several countries have opened their borders for the influx of refugees such as Poland, many are blocked from entering countries that require visa and the completion of their application process. The Prime Minister of Britain Boris Johnson claims that 17,700 visa applications have been started, but only 500 visas have been issued to Ukrainians so far. Several countries have announced their support for Ukraine during this devastating time through forms of sanctions and financial isolation. The United States, alongside several other countries in Europe, has instructed its governments to release hundreds of millions dollars’ worth of weapons and other military aid to Ukraine. As well as military aid, the West is also targeting Russia’s economy and financial institutions. Russian airlines have been banned from flying over the European Union, the United Kingdom, and Canada; Russia’s central bank has had its foreign assets frozen, which will make the transfer of money across borders more difficult; major companies such as McDonald’s, Starbucks, and Coca-Cola announced that they are temporarily suspending business in Russia; the U.S. government announced that it is ban-

ning all Russian oil imports, which will have a huge impact on Russia’s economy as the country is one of the top three producers in the world. “These economic sanctions imposed have the potential to ruin the Russian economy for a generation,” said Stephenson. Once the Russian economy heads into a recession, the country’s military and financial power will be very limited. Benjamin Joshua (12) said, “Although the economy of Russia has taken several hits from the sanctions placed against the country, Putin has continued to move forward with this plan. His actions could cause rapid price increases.” Putin’s unwavering resistance could lead to an extremely destructive economy for Russia, as the country remains at an unstable state. In times like these, it is especially important for individual aid. Several organizations throughout the U.S. have been collecting supplies and financial donations to give to Ukrainians. Yumnna Shaheen (12) said, “A lot of times war feels really distant from us since we lead pretty privileged lives here, so making it a priority to do what we can to help is really important.” Shaheen believes that the most important part is banding together to help those in need. This can be through physical donations or simply just spreading awareness. All forms of humanitarian efforts are significant and greatly appreciated, as it is abundantly clear that Ukraine needs our help more than ever.



Taking on Science Olympiad

James Phillips
STAFF WRITER

Science Olympiad is a team competition where students who are interested in the field of science can compete against each other at the local, state, and national levels. There is a wide range of events from Chemistry Lab to Ornithology: the study of birds. The team at Madison Central (MC) has already competed at the North Regional Competition on February 19. They entered this competition with around 30 students and a total of two teams.

This club that only a select few students at MC are a part of, is a platform for learning and discussing scientific topics, some of which aren't taught as in-depth in the classroom. Each student fills out a survey at the beginning of the year about what topics they are interested in, and in return receive an assignment dedicated to that topic. This gives students the opportunity to delve deeper into their desired studies to prepare for the

events at the competitions. The competition events are separated into two different categories: building events and testing events. When a student is placed in a building event, they work throughout the year to prepare and build their device, for example, a small scale bridge or a parachute. Not only do these students have to build these devices, but they also have to test the devices and create a log book of their many trials. When a student is given a testing event, they spend the school year studying for the test on that specific topic and making a single sheet of paper with all information that they might need during the test.

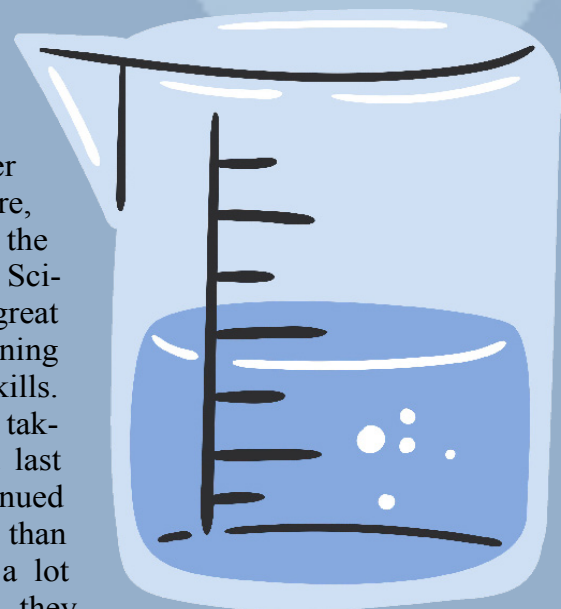
When asked why she joined the Science Olympiad Club, Sophia Gao (10) explained that "I am a sophomore, so I wanted to join clubs and get to know some people. I also wanted to become more involved in subjects I am interested in, which are math and science. Science Olympiad seemed to be a good opportunity to explore my interests and expand my knowledge. Anyone who is even slightly interested in science should join Science Olympiad because there are many events that cover interesting topics that are not only educational but also enjoyable." Science Olympiad can benefit anyone involved and strength-

en their skill set in science to prepare them for college and their future careers.

Many students take up a new branch of science when joining Science Olympiad. Lexie Elenkov (11), "I took up Forensics when I joined Science Olympiad and at that point I wasn't very knowledgeable about the subject. As I started to review and prepare for the North Regional Competition, I became more comfortable with the material and my partner and I even got 1st place in Forensics. Science Olympiad has been a great learning experience for me and it has introduced me to one of my new favorite subjects." Elenkov isn't the only one who has had this experience; many other students have become very fond of a subject that they had never learned about before, and that's one of the many reasons why Science Olympiad is a great opportunity for learning and achieving new skills.

This club was taken aback by Covid last year, and it continued at a smaller level than before. Even with a lot less participation, they were able to partake in

competitions at the local and state levels online. This year, however, the Science Olympiad team is back to in-person competitions. Travis Hawkins (12), the Co-President of Science Olympiad at MC, when asked about his favorite part of Science Olympiad, said, "I have loved to help and guide our teams to perform well at competitions. I always look forward to the awards ceremony, as it represents the hard work that is put in all year long for the competition." This club is a great opportunity for the students involved to grow in their science capabilities, and also be given an opportunity to prepare for a future science related career.



The Uproar

Co-Editors:
Taylor Martin
Adya Praveen

Business Manager:
Mary Addison Loving

Staff Writers:
Avery Holland
Allie Hurt
Anna Kimbrell
Caroline King
Brittan McFadden
Meredith Morrow
James Phillips
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Dates to Remember:

4/9:
Prom

4/15-18:
Easter Break

5/2-13:
AP Exam Weeks

5/21:
Graduation

HTVP WORKS HARD AT CREATING SHORT FILMS

Avery Holland
STAFF WRITER

High Tech Video Production is a great chance for students to learn about the processes of filming and editing. It provides students a lot of great opportunities to make their imaginations come true through film. HTVP also provides students a possible career in the film industry after graduation. All seniors in HTVP this year are required to make a movie or, what students would call a feature film. Seniors have the option of entering a film festival which can showcase their abilities in film making.

Devin Cooper teaches the students in the academy. He teaches them the proper way of filming and editing, along with lighting techniques and proper camera management. Cooper is very excited to see and watch his students' reactions to their films come to life on the big screen. Cooper said, "Some of the seniors have had a story written for 2-3 years and have had to put it in the back of their backpacks because of the pandemic, so I'm excited to see their reactions to their films being brought to life." Before students enter their film into the festival Cooper will help edit the

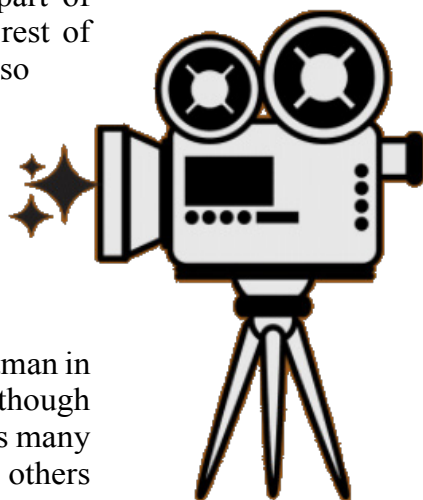
films with his students and make sure they are still school appropriate.

One senior in the academy, Viginia Burton (12), has been working on her film "The Product of The Unlikely" since her junior year of high school, where it started out as a short film. With the help of Noah Tyre, she was able to expand it into a feature film. Burton's film is centered around the friendship of two opposite friends, as they navigate their way through high school and the struggles that come with it. Burton said, "The entire process has been a lot of fun and a lot of stress, however this is a great step in the right direction to a career." Burton along with her crew have been in the process of filming for nearly three months.

Colin Ridgeway (10) is a part of Burton and her crew of 10 students. When asked what he was most looking forward to he said, "I'm excited and honored to be a part of the film with the rest of the crew. I'm also excited to see the film come to life and see how the film is once it's all put together". Ridgeway is an extra and a cameraman in the film and even though he may not have as many lines or scenes as others

he still is very grateful to have the chance to be in the movie. The film is a great experience for Ridgeway to have hands-on experience as well as to grow and learn more about the process of filming.

High Tech Video Production has taught many students the ways of filming and editing throughout the years and will continue to do so. The Academy has helped students become more confident in their abilities as editors, directors, or even actors. Students have also learned to collaborate with one another throughout the different processes of filming and editing. HTVP is a great class for students to get to know one another, and with the help of their peers and teacher they have grown and developed as a family and as well as a community of talented students.



An advertisement for Badgepass, a local ID badging provider. The background is blue with the Badgepass logo and the text "Your Local ID Badging Provider" and "We know ID." Below this, there are several examples of ID badges and lanyards. On the left, a hand holds a white PVC card. In the center, there are two lanyards: one green and one blue, both with "ALLEGANY STATE ALLEGANY STATE" printed on them. Below the lanyards, there are four examples of ID badges: a white PVC card, a black composite card, a white technology card, and a red visitor ID card. The text "PVC, COMPOSITE & TECHNOLOGY CARDS" is written above the first three badges, and "CUSTOM IDs AND LANYARDS" is written above the fourth badge. Below the badges, the text "BADGE REELS & CLIPS" and "VISITOR IDs" is written. At the bottom, there is a green banner with the text "WE DO IT ALL! Contact us to learn more! 601.498.2131 | www.badgepass.com".

Exciting Places Students Traveled to on Spring Break

Allie Hurt
STAFF WRITER

Spring break is the prime time for many people to take a vacation and relax. People travel far and wide to have a fun vacation over spring break. Spring break gives an opportunity to travel during the school year and get a break off school or work. Many students traveled to exciting places this past year and created great memories that will last a lifetime. One student Meredith Morrow (10), went on a Carnival Cruise this year for spring break. Morrow was thrilled to go with her mom and sister because this was her first time going to Mexico. They went for five days and were out at sea for two of those days. While she was there, her and her family participated in many adventurous excursions. For example, Morrow got to swim with the sharks, which was one of her favorite parts of the trip. Morrow and her family also went on a boat ride exploring parts of the

ocean. There were many fun events to do on the boat as well. They had a lot of different activities for different age groups to participate in, which she enjoyed. Morrow was glad to be able to get out of town for something other than sports. Morrow said, “It’s different because when I travel it is for soccer, so I feel like I’m really going on a vacation this time.” Morrow hopes to go back one day because she had the most amazing time. Another student, Ella Ruhl (11) went to Gatlinburg, Tennessee over spring break. Her family stayed in a house that overlooked the mountains. Ruhl went with her mom and two sisters. Ruhl was pumped to be going to Gatlinburg because it was her first time seeing the city. In the past she has gone to the beach for spring break, so she could not wait to go somewhere different. When asked what excited her most, Ruhl said, “to take a break from school and relax with a pretty view.” While Ruhl was there, she and her family took a day trip to Dollywood. Ruhl had so much fun riding all the

rides throughout the day. The rest of her time in the mountains was spent skiing. This was Ruhl’s first time ever skiing, so she did not know how well she was going to do. Ruhl began to get the hang of it after the first day, then she really began to enjoy skiing. Ruhl and her family stayed for four days from Sunday to Wednesday. Ruhl wishes she could have stayed longer. Ruhl’s family travels a lot, so she was excited to go to a place she has never been before. One other student who went somewhere on spring break is Stephens Ball (11). Ball travels frequently with his family. This year for spring break, Ball went to Arkansas with his dad and brother for a guys fly fishing trip. When asked about his trip Ball said, “We will sleep on the grounds and camp for a few days.” Ball could not wait to go because he had never been fly fishing before. After he got back home from his Arkansas trip, Ball headed straight to the beach with his

youth group at his church. Ball loves hanging out and spending time with his church family. Ball goes to the beach at least once or twice a year, and it is always a good time. Ball was glad to have some chill time at the beach to wind down from school. Spring break is the perfect time for students to get a break from one of the most stressful terms in the school year. Students can go on fun vacations with their families, or they can stay at home and relax for an entire week off from school. No matter what students decide to do with their week-long break, it is a much-needed pause



MADISON CENTRAL SAYS GOODBYE TO MARY EDWARDS AND SEAN BREWER

Anna Kimbrell
STAFF WRITER

Mary Edwards, one of the three assistant principals at Madison Central, and Sean Brewer, our principal, are retiring. Mary Edwards has been in education for 43 years and has worked in several counties throughout Mississippi as well as Lafayette, Louisiana. Edwards first began her educational career helping with students with special needs before coming to work at MC in August of 2004. This will be Brewer’s 27th year in education, also having worked in numerous counties throughout Mississippi, and his fourth year at MC. Both administrators have helped shape MC to the school we are today and devoted numerous hours a week to help guide the students here at our school. Edwards first began her educational career as a homebound teacher, which is when an instructor provides educational services at a student’s home, in Petal, Mississippi. When asked why she decided to go into education Edwards said, “My brother’s oldest child was disabled. I wanted to be a teacher to teach him.” Edwards, after working in Petal, then went on to work in the Lafayette Parish school district in Lafayette County where she started helping with students with disabilities and continued to do so in both Pearl and Madison County before she became the Assistant Principal here at MC. Brewer has worked in Madison County, Vicksburg, Ridgeland,

Grenada, and Yazoo as a coach, Athletic Director, Assistant Principal, Alternative School Principal, and Head Principal. Brewer, when asked why he started working in education, said, “I would say my love for sports and coaching is the motivation that moved me in this direction. I actually have a degree in business administration... that decision [to work in education] was made after I graduated college.” Both Edwards and Brewer have an extensive background with helping students learn and grow through both a teacher and administrative position. Since becoming an Assistant Principal 16 years ago, Edwards has been assigned duties that have included overseeing 12th grade students and the Special Education Department as well as the English Department, designing the master schedule, looking over student services and data entry, and being over teacher leave, substitutes, and tutors. Edwards also checks the school newspaper, “The Up- roar”, before it is published and has done so since her first year at MC. When asked how many hours a week she is in her assistant principal capacity, Edwards said, “The hours vary with the job duties... average would be 40-60 hours a week.” As our Head Principal, Brewer’s job varies, he is responsible for supervising students and staff, observing and evaluating teachers, meeting with parents and the PTO, interviewing candidates for potential jobs, attending student activities on or off campus, communicating with other high school principals around the area, and many other duties that differ throughout any given day. Brewer said, when asked how many hours a week he is in his princi-

pal capacity, “Some weeks over 70 hours and some weeks 45 or so. It depends on the time of year and number of after school activities.” These two principals devote numerous hours in the week to their students and our school to ensure the school day runs efficiently. Edward having worked in education for 43 years has created quite the impact in the lives of students and faculty. When asked what her greatest accomplishment in her career has been, Edwards said, “I was named Mississippi Assistant Principal of the Year 2016-2017.” Each year the award goes to assistant principals throughout the state that exhibit “exemplary contributions to the profession” per Mississippi Association of Secondary School Principals. When asked about his favorite part of working in education, Brewer said, “It is seeing a student who was struggling and going through some hard

times make a change and turn their life around for the better.” His favorite memory in his educational career, Brewer said, “[Was] the support the students, staff, and parents showed me when I was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame while I was at Rosa Scott in 2015...” Working in education for both Brewer and Edwards have been filled with great moments that the students and staff have awarded them. Having both worked as principals in the Madison Country area, Brewer, and Edwards said they will miss their MC family and the relationships they have made with students, faculty, and parents. Brewer and Edwards believe the true success that Madison Central has experienced during their time “is about student success and the function of hard work by them and our fantastic teachers.” While, both Edwards and Brewer will be retiring after this school year, their legacy will remain at MC for years to come.



Above: Mary Edwards and Sean Brewer are holding the 6A Football State Champion trophy.

St. Patrick's Day is Here to Stay

Hannah Schossler
STAFF WRITER

Crowds cheered, pipers filled the air with sugary sound, all while Saint Patrick and leprechauns toured the streets. The green Chicago River sparkled and danced in the sunlight, as though even the water was celebrating the holiday. This is the 2019 Chicago Saint Patrick's Day Parade, the most recent Paddy's Day event that Chicago has had. Unfortunately, the 2020 and 2021 editions of the parade were canceled due to the Covid-19 pandemic. But now, after two years, the Chicago St. Patrick's Day Parade is back on. Everyone knows what St. Patrick's Day is. The day is for candy, good luck, and a whole lot of green glitter. But who is Saint Patrick, how did St. Patrick's Day become a holiday, and how do people celebrate it?

Saint Patrick, the man that the holiday is named after, is widely known as the Saint that banished all snakes from Ireland and converted

many Irish to Christianity. He is even the patron saint of Ireland. St. Patrick was born around the year 386 AD and was British – likely Welsh. Not much is known about his early life, but it is thought that Irish marauders raided his family's estate and kidnapped and forced him into slavery when he was a teenager. He worked in an isolated area as a shepherd for about 6 years before either escaping or being released back to Britain. There St. Patrick became a priest before moving back to Ireland as a missionary. He supposedly used many Irish traditions in his work for ease of Irish conversion – this is rumored to be where the Celtic Cross is from and why the shamrock is a symbol of St. Patrick's Day.

The holiday, St. Patrick's Day, started in Ireland around the 17th century as a religious feast to remember St. Patrick. Then, in 1631, it was recognized as a Christian holiday. It remained a quiet, humble affair without public celebrations for a while – until the 19th century. In America, the celebration became

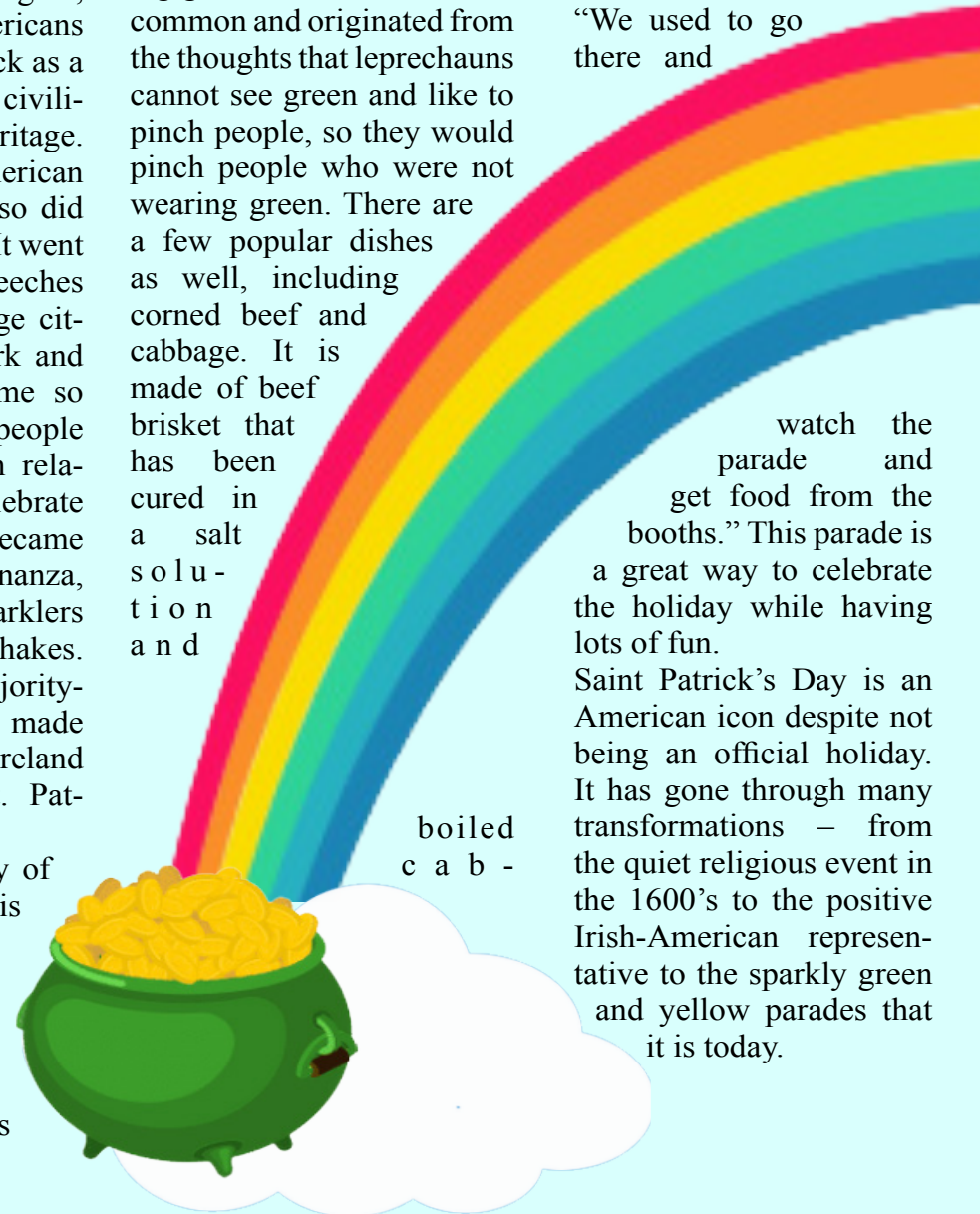
very loud and rowdy compared to the celebrations in Ireland. Irish immigrants were coming in droves to America, and they were often categorized as ruffians. To combat this stigma, the new Irish-Americans turned to St. Patrick as a way to show their civility and religious heritage. As the Irish-American population grew, so did St. Patrick's Day. It went from localized speeches to festivals in large cities, like New York and Chicago. It became so widespread that people who had no Irish relations started to celebrate it. The holiday became a national bonanza, along with its sparklers and green milkshakes. By 1996, the majority-American holiday made the jump back to Ireland with Dublin's St. Patrick's Festival.

The history of St. Patrick and his day is very interesting, but how does America celebrate it? It is celebrated in several different ways

depending on your preferences. Riley Miranda (11) said, "We wear green, or we get pinched in my family," and Morgan Mackenzie (11) also said, "I pinch the first person I see who's not wearing green." This tradition is common and originated from the thoughts that leprechauns cannot see green and like to pinch people, so they would pinch people who were not wearing green. There are a few popular dishes as well, including corned beef and cabbage. It is made of beef brisket that has been cured in a salt solution and

boiled. Additionally, there are the many different St. Patrick's Day parades, including Chicago's, where they dye the Chicago River green. There is even a parade in Jackson – Elisabeth Harless (12) commented, "We used to go there and

watch the parade and get food from the booths." This parade is a great way to celebrate the holiday while having lots of fun. Saint Patrick's Day is an American icon despite not being an official holiday. It has gone through many transformations – from the quiet religious event in the 1600's to the positive Irish-American representative to the sparkly green and yellow parades that it is today.



PROM IS BACK ON

Allie Hurt-
STAFF WRITER

Prom is an event that no one on Madison Central's campus has experienced yet. Due to Covid and social distancing, MC's Prom has changed a lot these past two years. Due to dedication from faculty and student leadership, prom is finally happening this year on April 9 for both juniors and seniors. This is a day that many look forward to as it is a great high school experience that no one should miss out on.

Every year a unique showcase to reveal the prom theme is done at MC. About a month before prom, students perform a prom skit for the seniors to watch. Seniors are represented in this skit while being played by underclassmen that represent their sport or activity that they participate in. At the end of the skit, the theme for prom is presented to the seniors. Unbeknownst to most, a lot of work goes into getting the prom skit organized and ready to reveal to the seniors. The Student Government Association (SGA) gets together and thinks of different people that have made an impact on the school and represent different clubs, sports, and activities at MC. After a prom theme is chosen and students are picked to be a part of it, SGA gets to writing the script. Kate Fairburn (11) said, "It took probably about seven hours after it was all said and

done because we try and put a lot of thought into it." After SGA finished writing the skit, they had morning practices for the students to prepare for the final reveal. When all the planning is done, they are good to go. The seniors were excited to see that this year the prom theme is Once Upon A Dream. The skit went well, and many people were impressed with how well the underclassman played their parts. The seniors loved watching the underclassmen pretend to be someone while also enjoying the rest of the skit.

Planning the actual dance is another tedious process that happens behind the scenes. This year, Kristin Cooley is one of the teachers in charge of the planning prom along with Jillian Carmody. It was a fun event for them to plan since it is going to be held at such a beautiful location, and prom is always an amazing time. So far, trying to find a D.J. has been one of the hardest tasks of preparing for prom. There have been many roadblocks along the way, but they have finally landed on a local influencer that they are excited to have. When asked her favorite part of preparing, Carmody said, "Thinking about how the students will make memories at something that I helped to plan is something I am so excited about." Caromody and Cooley had

a hard time keeping the prom theme a secret for so long since they both teach 11th graders that would ask and try to guess it constantly. Carmody is looking forward to seeing everyone dressed up and having fun. Most teachers see students when they are in a school state of mind, and it will be fun for them to see everyone having fun at prom.

Many students are looking forward to the dance, especially since this will be most student's first time going. Adya Praveen (12) said, "It's bittersweet that this year will be our first and last prom. While I am sad that we didn't get to experience it last year, I'm even more grateful to all the teachers and staff who worked so hard to ensure that we would have one this year." Prom is a special tradition that kids have always looked forward to in their junior and senior years of high school, and it was devastating to students that it got taken from them in the past years. Thankfully this year is when it gets to come back in full swing, and it will be such a fun time for all.



THE INSIDE SCOOP ON THE OSCARS

Meredith Morrow
STAFF WRITER

The annual Oscar award, also known as the Academy Award, is one of the most popular awards given out to recognize artistic and technical talent in the film industry. There are 24 competitive Oscars received each year on awards night, and are also a handful of Science Oscars given out at a ceremony a couple weeks earlier, which are given to those who have inventions that have majorly impacted the film industry.

This year, the 94th Oscars is happening on March 27. There are different categories for which people are nominated, such as Actor in a Leading Role, Actor in a Supporting Role, Actress in a Leading Role, Directing, Costume Designing, and many more. Oscar nominations are selected only by members who have expertise in that category. For example, only directors can vote and nominate directors, and only actors or actresses can vote and nominate actors or actresses. Nomination ballots are conducted both on paper and online. Movies and motion pictures can also be nominated for Oscars. One of the nominees for this year’s

awards is Denzel Washington, for his leading actor role in “The Tragedy of Macbeth”. Another nominee for the category of Directing is Steven Spielberg for his amazing contributions in “West Side Story”. When asked her opinion about who she thinks has the best chance for winning Best Actor, Jordyn Thompson (10) said, “I really think Andrew Garfield has the best chance of getting the award and I do plan on watching the Oscars with some friends.” As Garfield’s role in “Spiderman” has seemed to grab the attention of many, people seem to agree with Thompson.

A common question about the Oscars that seems to come up often is who has snagged the most Oscars in history. That would be Walt Disney, one of America’s most phenomenal filmmakers, as he has won a whopping number of 26 Oscars. Some of the past awards went to phenomenal and deserving contributors within the film industry, such as Matthew McConaughey (2013) for his prestigious performance in “Dallas Buyers Club”, Sean Penn (2003) in “Mystic River”, Tom Hanks (1994) for his well-known and box-office-overflow “Forest Gump”, and many more famous ac-

tors and actresses. Another student at Madison Central (MC) that plans on watching the Oscars is Desmond Richardson (10), who said, “Steven Spielberg definitely will get best director this year, hands down.” Although Spielberg was nominated for his directing with West Side Story, many may know him from his directing with the movies “Jaws” (1975), “E.T.” (1982), the “Jurassic Park” movies (1993-2022), “Back to the Future” (1985), “Gremlins” (1984), all the “Indiana Jones” movies (1981-2023), “The Goonies” (1985), and many more well-known movies that broke the box office that are still talked about today. However, “Contributors who aren’t credited enough in the film industry,” said Bella Lee (11), “are costume designers. In fact, I think that nominee, Jenny Beavan, should win Best Costume Designer for her help with the movie ‘Cruella’.” Lee makes a good point, because while people may acknowledge a good outfit, not a lot of people know the names that deserve being noticed.

The Oscars got its name from film legend, Maggie Herrick, who served as the Academy of Motion Pictures and Science’s first librarian.

The name is linked to her because in the late 1930s, she had said that the statuette resembled her uncle Oscar. After her statement, the Academy officially adopted the “Oscar” appellation around that time. However, the statuette’s technical name still remains the “Academy Award of Merit.”

Overall, the Oscars, also known as The Academy Awards, is a night of great opportunity for recognizing actors, actresses, and directors for their amazing contributions throughout the film industry’s history.



A NEW TAKE ON BATMAN

James Phillips
STAFF WRITER

Starting from a comic book to a full-blown movie, Batman has become one of the most recognizable superheroes of all time. Batman has starred in 12 movies, from ‘Batman the move’ in 1996 to ‘The Batman’ in 2022. Many fans were excited for this new Batman movie, starring Robert Pattinson, which people know from the Twilight movies. The film was released on March 4, and people on the internet have been sharing their thoughts and opinions on the film.

The movie cast consists of Robert Pattinson playing Batman, Zoë Kravitz starring as Catwoman, and Paul Dano as the Riddler. The movie was delayed from June 2021 because of the pandemic. The director of the film Matt Reeves, took to social media to release a small teaser footage of Batman on February 13 of 2020. Reeves and some of the actors’ discussed the movie at CinemaCon, which is a gathering of movie theaters owners around the world, and fans are also eligible to come. The actors discussed the gritty and dark tone of the film. At a virtual fan event, Reeves showed another small debut trailer, which gained 34 million views (10) mentioned that “Despite in 24 hours, and fans

were pumped about it. Reeves also announced that this Batman movie would be the start of a different universe than what we saw before and that after this movie Reeves hinted at a series that would take place, that many are looking forward to. The second and final trailer dropped on October 16 and accumulated around 47 million views on YouTube. There had also been leaked pictures of the actors’ costumes, set, and some potential spoilers of the plot. Some of the spoilers were right and the others’ hoaxes.



The movie premiered to a limited number of people on March 1, 2022 at the Lincoln Center in New York, and was launched in the theaters on March 4, 2022. It has grossed over \$248 million dollars and become the fourth highest-grossing film of 2022 just above the film ‘Nice View’. The film scored 85% rotten tomatoes along with a 90% audience score. It was enjoyed by many for its visuals and storyline. One student, Addie Richardson (11), said “I’m not a huge Batman fan, but I did enjoy the movie. My favorite part was the dark atmosphere and I enjoyed watching Robert Pattinson as Batman.” Pattinson has become a well-known actor among people and gained a bunch of fans so people were excited to see him star as Batman. Another student, Anna Carson (10) mentioned that “Despite how long the film is, it was over-

all enjoyable and a fun time. It was action-packed yet had a nice deceiving and mysterious aspect while having a great plot and great characters. I would definitely see it again.” Some may have had different opinions and thoughts about the movie. While one person may like it another person may not enjoy it as much. Katelyn McDougale (12) said “I think the batman movie was overhyped for what it was. I’m not saying it was a bad movie, because it wasn’t, but I think it could’ve been so much better. I think the runtime of the film, around 3 hours, was too much and some of the unnecessary scenes could’ve been taken out. I wasn’t a huge fan of the Riddler actor, but I could look past that. Overall it was an okay movie, could’ve been worse.” Many people online have also commented on the same concerns about the movie, the runtime, actors, and unnecessary scenes involved in it.

“The Batman” movie was something highly anticipated by fans and even though the movie was delayed, it was still considered a great film among critics and average viewers. Fans hope that this movie could be the start of an amazing universe full of movies that can spark conversations and become generational.

CAN YOU FIGURE OUT THIS WORDLE?

THE UPROAR WORDLE

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ANSWER: paper

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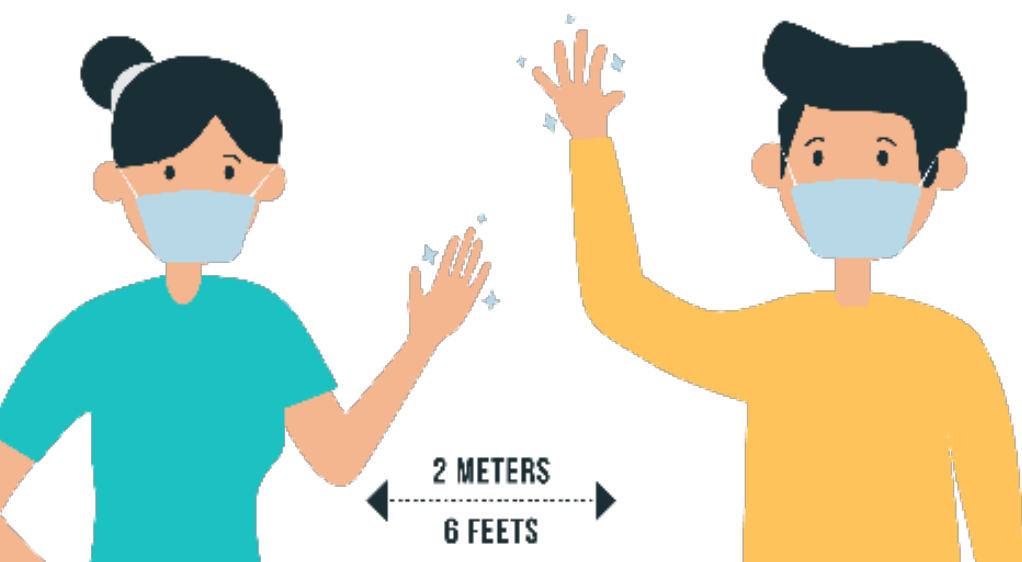
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