

# Madison Central

# UPROAR

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## Aqua Jags Do It Again

**Lohen Romero  
STAFF EDITOR**

Madison Central's (MC) swim team AKA the "Aqua Jags" end the 2022 season with another championship. The Aqua Jags are represented by a boy and girls' team. The team consist of 33 swimmers in total with seven being seniors, 13 boys and 20 girls. Being an Aqua Jag is not easy. Swimmers must work long and hard during the school year, balancing schoolwork and preparing for swim meets.

During the school year, both teams practice fourth and eighth blocks. Both teams practice swimming about 2500 yards. Not only do they practice during school but also out of school. Every Tuesday and Thursday morning they have strength and conditioning from 5:45 to 6:45. They must train to learn and grow and to get better for each meet. Aiden Allen (12) said "Most of us also compete on club teams where we practice two hours a night, every Monday through Friday and then Saturday mornings. These practices can range from 5000 to 7000 yards." Most members are always in the pool swimming, whether it's for the school or club teams or even just for fun.

Over the years the Aqua Jags have been quite successful. The boys' team have won two consecutive state titles and the girls have won eight consecutive state titles before this year. Adding another one to the books, the boys, and girls both won the 2022 MHSAA state championship this year. Ella Thomas (12) said "This season absolutely flew by, but it was by

far the sweetest and most meaningful season. After spending all my years on the team having upperclassmen to look up to, it was a little weird being the seniors that the underclassmen looked up too. But it was very rewarding and inspiring to see the younger kids step up and I can say that I learned a lot from them too."

After swimming their ninth state championship, Thomas said that it was so much fun and very rewarding, and she hopes to see the girls grab number ten next year. State was very sentimental for all the seniors since they have all been swimming together since the seventh grade, but they cannot wait to watch their teammates swim and grow next season.

Throughout the season the team makes so many memories while trying to work for the gold, but they would not be able to do it without all the support from friends, family, coaches and especially teammates. Aiden Allen (12) said that he loved all of them working together as a team and his teammates support means so much to him when he is swimming. Swimming is seen as an individual sport, but the members rely so much on each of their teammates whether it be the relays or at the end of the pool cheering them on when the races are getting tight. Usually after the girls finish their meet there is no time for celebration yet. They always go right over to the boys to watch their last event. When both teams finish, they

celebrate with each other and congratulate them. The teammates watch each other learn and grow while making some of the best memories. Isabelle Pike (10) said, "My favorite memory is at the end of the state meets when we are all dry and warm, we then have to jump into the freezing pool with all of our teammates." The team is always so supportive

and to celebrate together is very rewarding especially after some hard meets.

Since the team has been together for so long, they are just like a family. The teammates have helped each other accomplish personal goals and have stuck with each other through highs and lows. Fancier Shi (11) said some of her favorite parts of the year are "Every swimmer's effort, the national anthem at

the MC invitational, the end of the year banquet and the sigh of relief after fighting for and winning the state championship have made the season extra special this year". Wanting to win for the ninth straight year for the girls and third for the boys has been on their checklist since the last season ended. Seeing many of their swimmers reach their highest potential after minor setbacks

is always motivating.

The MC swim team works all year round for the state championship, both teams winning is such an honor and reward for them, and our school. They have worked so hard for what they earned, but they would not be such a great team without the love and support from teammate's, faculty, and the MC atmosphere.



Girls 9th consecutive state championship win

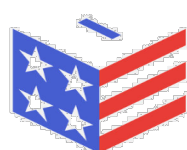


Boys 3rd consecutive state championship win



### Sports

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



2022  
US midterm  
elections

### News

Take a look at page 2 for an article about the Midterm Elections!



### Feature

Check out page 3 for information about the Speech and Debate team!



# Did you survive "The Great War?"



## Caroline King CO-EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

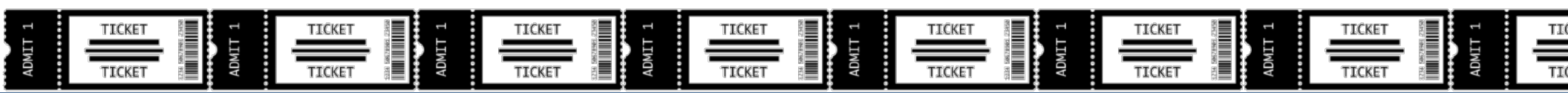
If you have ever bought tickets for a popular artist's concert then you are very well aware of how difficult the process has become. Not only has the process become extremely grueling, but the tickets have become outrageously inflated due to dynamic pricing and resale. In recent months, platforms like Ticketmaster, SeatGeek, and StubHub have been called out for their "money-hungry" ambitions and unwillingness to help fans. One situation that has gathered tons of media coverage is the Taylor Swift Eras Tour. There are many people that had multiple issues with Ticketmaster and SeatGeek while trying to get tickets for this tour. This left many fans distraught because even after getting a Pre-Sale code, they couldn't get any seats. There are many issues with the ticket buying experience that need to be resolved for it to be a smooth process.

Years ago, this process was much easier, as it wasn't as big of a resale market as it is now. There have never been as many people as there are today on the hunt for concert tickets. Due to the lower demand for concert tickets in past years, the process was much simpler, and the prices were much cheaper. With the increased demand, ticketing companies have tried to compensate and adjust, but none of them have done enough to relieve the pressure on the ticket buyers. This year is already on track to be the "biggest year in live music history," according to Music Business Worldwide. With this uptick in live music sales, there is no telling how difficult the ticket buying experience is going to get in future years. Recently there has been a controversy over Ticketmaster and SeatGeek's mess-ups for Taylor Swift's Eras Tour. "As soon as Taylor Swift announced her tour, I knew that I wanted to get tickets. I just had no idea how difficult it was going to be," said McKinley Johnson (12). After a four-year tour hiatus, Swift announced that she was

going to do a tour featuring songs from all of her "eras." This announcement broke the internet, causing the Pre-Sale registration to skyrocket. Over 3.5 million people pre-registered, the largest amount in history. Knowing that there was an overwhelming amount of people wanting tickets to her concert, Swift nearly doubled the number of nights in her concert. Sadly, this compensation was not enough for her fans. The day before the sale, 1.5 million Pre-Sale codes were sent out, but on the day of the Pre-Sale, 14 million people joined the queue because there wasn't a code needed to join, only to buy tickets at the end. This excessive amount of people overwhelmed the website, causing a multitude of issues for fans who wanted to get tickets. There were website crashes, tickets being "stolen" from buyers' carts, and over 6 hour waits. Because of these malfunctions, many devoted fans were left with no tickets at all. Meredith Morrow (11) said, "After waiting on the site for hours, our queue crashed, causing us to lose our place in line. This caused us to not be able to get tickets at all." There were even some who had

Pre-Sale codes, boosts in line because of merchandise purchases, and boosts in line because of tickets to the cancelled LoverFest, who still somehow didn't get the chance to purchase tickets. As many can imagine, this has created quite the upset from everyone involved. While there were many issues with buying tickets, many fans ended up with tickets and couldn't be happier. Lillian Heard (10) said, "The whole process made my family go crazy, my mom spent six hours on the computer waiting. When she finally got the tickets, she was overjoyed just like the rest of us were." While it's easy to focus on the negative and how many people didn't get tickets for the concert, we have to remember that many people got tickets even though there were many difficulties. Behind the scenes, Taylor Swift, Ticketmaster, and many other parties involved are working to try and sort out the mess of this ticket-buying disaster. After days of puzzling silence, Taylor Swift released a statement

expressing her frustration with how everything went down and assured her fans that they are doing all that they can to rectify the situation. So far, nothing has been done, and many fans are still left with no tickets at all. One of Swifts' new songs is titled, "The Great War," and many fans have therefore been calling the race for Eras tour tickets "The Great War." Many didn't "survive" because they weren't able to secure tickets. In general, there needs to be some big changes in the live music industry to ensure that another ticket-buying disaster like this one doesn't ever happen again.



# ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE MIDTERM ELECTIONS

## Anna Kimbrell CO-EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

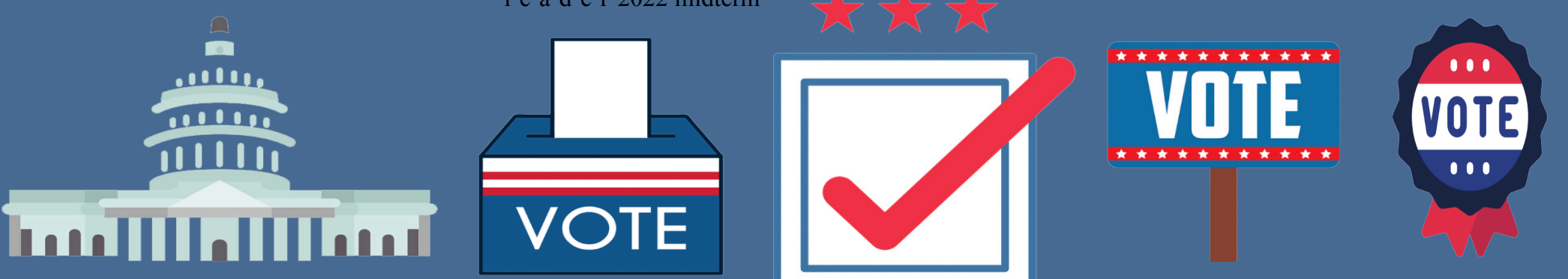
Every two years into a president's four-year term the midterm elections occur. These elections, which focus on the two chambers of Congress the Senate and the House of Representatives, determine the party that will be in control of those chambers. The House has elections when a member's two-year term ends, and there are 435 seats in the House, which is based on a state's population. During midterm elections all seats in the House are decided, but for the Senate the election years are staggered. A senator is elected after the sixth year of their term, so during midterm elections there are around 33 seats out of the 100 that are obtainable. In the Senate there are two congress people from each state making it based on equal representation, while the House is based on population. After this year's Midterms, which occurred on November 8, the Republican Party (GOP) lost

one seat in the Senate now at 49 members, while the Democratic Party gained one seat now at 48 members. The other two members are held by independent senators who caucus with the Democratic Party. These senators are Bernie Sanders of Vermont and Angus King of Maine. Since the Democrats held the Senate there will still be a Democratic Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, and a Republican Minority Leader Mitch McConnell. The majority leader is responsible for scheduling the calling of bills from the calendar and keeping members of the senate up to date on the legislative plan. In the U.S. House all 435 seats were open for election, and the Democrats lost nine seats with now 213 representatives, while the GOP gained eight seats now with 220 representatives. In order to claim majority one party must have at least 218 representatives. In 2021 the Democratic Party had control and the Majority Leader, also known as Speaker of the House, is Nancy Pelosi and the minority leader is Kevin McCarthy. However, since the GOP is now the majority in 2018. The

there will be an election for Majority and Minority leader. Pelosi will not be running for minority because she is stepping down from congress after more than 35 years of representing San Francisco, California. While our home state of Mississippi did not have any senators up for reelection, voters elect representatives based on what district they reside in. So, Mississippi is broken into four districts because around three million people live in the state. Madison is included in Mississippi's 3rd Congressional District. Voters could either select incumbent Republican Michael Guest or Democrat Shuwaski Young. District one went to Trent Kelly (R) his fifth term as a rep., district two Bennie Thompson (D) who has been serving in congress since 1993, district three Michael Guest (R) his third term in congress, and district four Mike Ezell (R) his first term in the U.S. congress. Over the past few years there was a decline in voting turnout in midterm elections, after a high of almost 50% of eligible voters in 2018. The

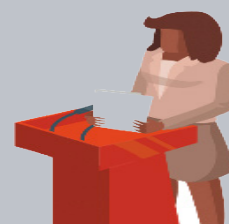
elections churned out about 47% of eligible voters. In order to put this statistic into perspective in the 2020 presidential election 240 million people were eligible to vote and around 66% of them actually did. Adam Mataallah (12) when asked about how he felt about the midterm elections said, "I'm glad to see that voter turnout has increased over the past four years even though this wasn't a presidential election year we still had lots of engagement and voting with this election." In order to put this into perspective in the 2020 presidential election 240 million people were eligible to vote and around 66% of them actually did. But it is great to see voters especially younger generations. Some students at MC went out an voted this past November. Elizabeth Wasson (12) went and voted this past election at Pilgrim Rest Church on Crawford Street. Wasson filled out her registration earlier this year, and all she had to bring was her license on voting day. Wasson said the process went a bit like this "I walked in, gave them my license to scan, signed confirming

it was me, got a receipt then exchanged my receipt for a ballot and then filled it out, scanned it in and was on my way." Wasson said it only took her around 10 minutes and the questions were very simple and "it indicated who was running with each party by the name... after you finished filling it out and scanning it in, you get a sticker and that's it." Emmie Chandler (12) also went to go vote November 8. Chandler said "it was such a fun experience being able to vote for the first time. I went to the church outside my neighborhood with my mom and the process was super easy, Everyone should do it." There are several voting locations throughout Madison each doing the most to make the process smooth and simple for voters. The midterms let voters elect people from their community and state to represent them in congress addressing the needs of your district or state as a whole. It is so important to make sure everyone is recognized, which makes midterms so valuable.





# AN INSIDE INTO MC SPEECH AND DEBATE



**Dylan Thomas  
STAFF WRITER**

event from best to worst. Kara Mattingly (11) is a member of the Speech and Debate team. She does events like humorous interpretation and declamation. Humorous interpretation is an event where someone does a comedy skit that lasts about ten minutes against other people doing comedy performances. Declamation is a speech event similar to the formatting of a Ted Talk. Mattingly has even gone to national tournaments for these events. Mattingly said “When you join Speech and Debate you find other people who love the same things as you, especially when competing with

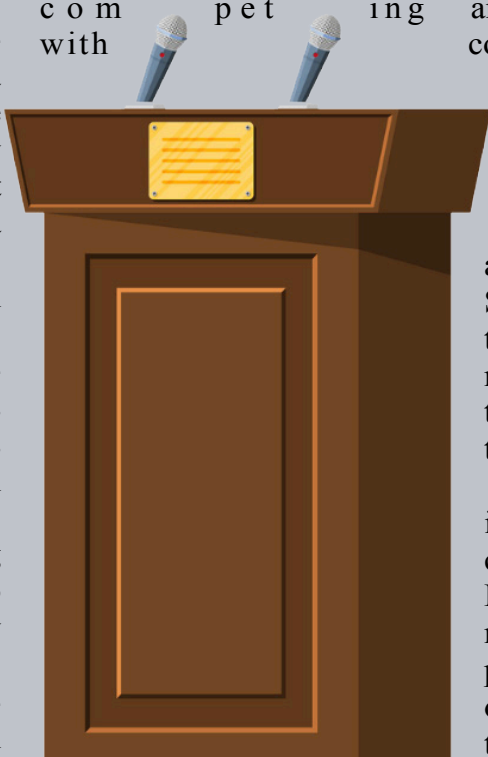
others at tournaments.”. Speech and Debate allows her to make connections with other people, and generally share her passions with others.

Rachel Clapper-Davis has been coaching the Speech and Debate team at Madison Central since 2015, teaches English III, and is also the Mississippi High School Activities Association Director of Speech and Debate. “Speech and Debate provides a lot of benefits in various areas. Students’ critical thinking, writing, and reading skills improve, and students gain confidence in public speaking and communicating with others. Lastly, Speech and Debate looks great on a college resume.” There are many upsides to joining Speech and Debate, and Clapper-Davis has had the pleasure of watching her students improve as the years have gone by. Speech and Debate requires time and commitment, but many people see it as worth the effort because of the fun they have while doing it.

Adam Maatallah (12) is the Congressional Debate captain for Speech and Debate. Maatallah said “My main role is to organize, politic, and teach the event of Congressional Debate on the Madison Central Team.”

He also does Impromptu Speaking, Original Oratory, Poetry Interpretation, and Extemporaneous Speaking. When asked why he joined the Speech and Debate team he said, “I wanted to join Speech and Debate because I wanted to find my voice within a community. As an advocate in Mississippi, I know how important it is that I know how to voice myself respectfully and effectively.”

Maatallah, like many members of Speech and Debate, highly appreciates the experience in public speaking he or she can get from competing in tournaments consistently. Joining Speech and Debate is highly encouraged by many, and it’s a great opportunity to meet new people and learn new skills. The MC team has great members and is a nationally recognized competition. If a student needs something to add to his or her resume, Speech and Debate is an effective way to do just so. The Speech and Debate Team here at MC puts a lot of effort into their competitions to be the best school in the state, and it pays off for them. MC wishes the Speech and Debate team good luck this year and hope for another successful competition year.



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## Dates to Remember:

12/12-12/16:  
Exam Week

12/17-1/4:  
Christmas Break

1/16:  
ML King  
Holiday

1/27:  
Reveille Reveal



## HOMECOMING COURT!



Above: The 2022 Homecoming Courts are pictured along with the crowning of Ava Dear, Madison Central’s Homecoming Queen.

# SAVING OUR PLANET



**Jenny Nguyen**  
STAFF WRITER

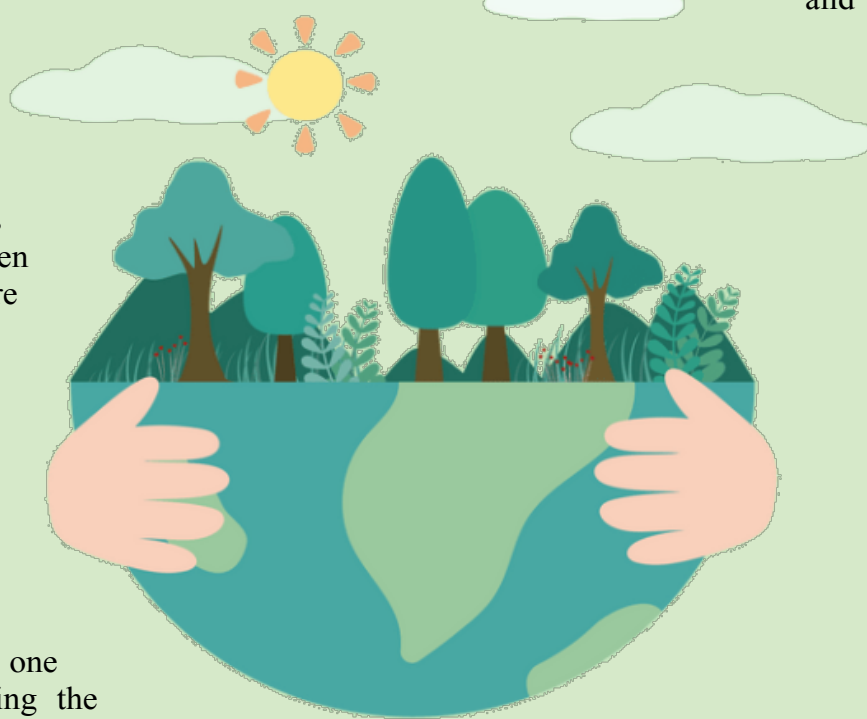
The Environment Awareness club was newly formed this year by Ana Deaton (11), Maya Freedman (11), and Rachael Carpenter (11). They hope for new outcomes in the environment and to spread awareness and ways to help. By doing so, the club reaches out to spread awareness on recycling, reducing energy, and saving the earth through conservation efforts. So far, the club activities have been great in learning and helping to lessen the negative impact that we have in our world by doing D.I.Y. recycled crafts in meetings, having guest speakers, service projects, and more fun activities. The beginning of this club, with the determination of its officers, set in stone one of many goals shared by Deaton that, "... we can bring about some change for the environment around Madison Central and in the minds of the students.

... I have said, and firmly believe, knowledge is power. I hope that we can inspire and inform people to bring some change to how we view our earth." Although the impact of spreading awareness of the environment is one of the main priorities, the club overall wants people to have fun doing what they love and care about as well. The environment awareness helps play an important role not only for where you are but worldwide as well. It is important to restore having a clean and healthy environment and to maintain it while we provide for our essential needs from the planet. When asked how to ensure the protection of the environment Qua Clark (10) states how "Recycling, planting, not littering, and using less gas and energy for cars or other machines," helps us come one step closer to saving the

earth. This club will go deeper into the ways of saving our earth and how with discussions in club meetings along with other topics of conversation that relate to it. The environment has been struggling against the toxic substances and chemicals released by factories, machines, and more. Pollution has also been an important problem to address in wide varieties of areas including global warming. To go against these

harmful impacts on the earth, people try to get sustainable green energy that is safer and more efficient for our environment. On the other hand, people who cannot provide green energy can resort to recycling and making recycled goods for use like the club does as activities in meetings. For those who are considering joining this great club, Carpenter would like to ask you to join and

said, "We are a very small club and accept everybody. We have so much fun and would love to have more people to share this happiness of saving the earth with." Knowing you are contributing to the environment can really be enjoyable. The Environment Awareness Club is eager to expand and is striving to make a significant impact on the earth that we all love.



## Where students went over Thanksgiving break

**James Phillips**  
STAFF WRITER

Madison Central students were excited about their week-long Thanksgiving break. Some students traveled out of state and others stayed in state. One student, Alonzo McCruter (10), traveled out of state to visit his family for Thanksgiving. He said, "I am going to visit my family in Alabama, and I am going to enjoy some much needed quality time with them." Some families also have special Thanksgiving traditions whether it be sitting down watching the Macy's day parade or watching a football game featuring The Buffalo Bills, Detroit Lions, The Giants, The Cowboys, the

Patriots, and or Vikings. Each family has something special and unique that they do. Caitlyn McDonald (12) said that "every other Thanksgiving we switch which relatives house we do Thanksgiving at. This year it is our family's turn to host." Traditions are a special part of any family, it is one of things that makes a family a family.

Thanksgiving is about surrounding yourself with friends and family but also about being grateful. One MC student is hosting a "Friendsgiving," Kayleigh McDougle (12). McDougle said that "a Friendsgiving is a Thanksgiving but with your friends, and we are all bringing various food plates and are going to sit around



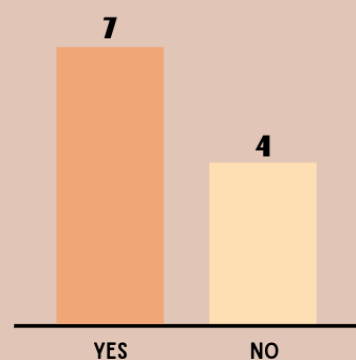
Senior Jenna Grace Dent (center) received an award from Mississippi Public Broadcasting recognizing her for serving as the first chair of the MPB Student Council during the 2021-2022 year. She will remain as a mentor on the Council for 2022-2023 year as well. Pictured with Dent are left Chad Davis, assistant principal and right Erica Shelton, Community Engagement Specialist at MPB.

and chat." The term was coined around 2007, and it has been widely used ever since. Another part of Thanksgiving Day is the Black Friday shopping. Noor Hegazy (11) said that "I always look forward to the Black Friday and Cyber-Monday sales during the season. It is always my favorite part of the thanksgiving season."

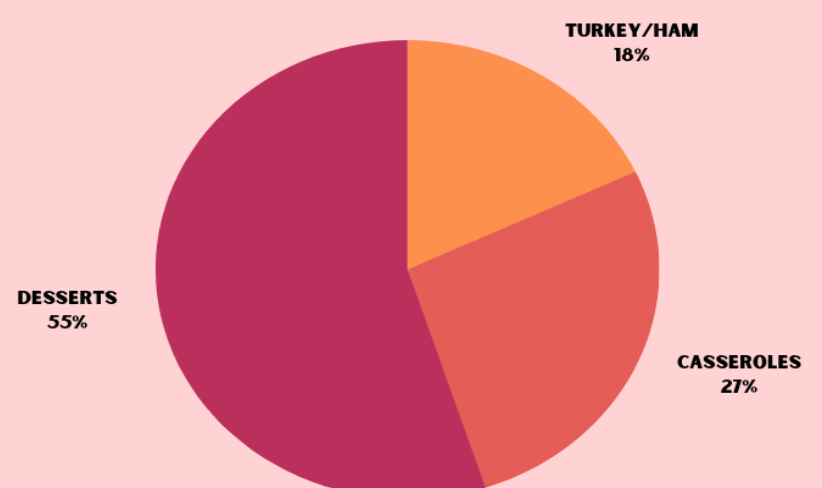
Many people are ready after a hefty Thanksgiving meal to go out and shop together getting gifts and other various items. Willy Cardona (12) said, "I'm planning to use this Thanksgiving break to practice my cooking skills with my family." Cooking and many other traditions are why Thanksgiving is so special to many families.

### NEWSPAPER STAFF THANKSGIVING POLLS:

#### DID YOU WATCH THE EGG BOWL?



#### WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE THANKSGIVING FOOD THIS YEAR?



# READY FOR THE HOLIDAY SEASON

**Hannah Schossler**  
COPY EDITOR

With the holiday season fast approaching, there are many events that people look forward to. Some of these fun events include Thanksgiving, the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, and Black Friday. Thanksgiving is often celebrated as an event to bring families together. Many people have family meals, watch sporting events on the television, and

spend time with each other. Most families will have a breakfast, lunch, or dinner together, and afterwards get to spend time around loved ones. Siniya Hamilton (10) said, "I love to hang out with my family during Thanksgiving." There are plenty of shows and movies to watch with family for the holiday – whether it be Garfield's Thanksgiving or the National Dog Show. Thanksgiving is mainly celebrated by giving the gift of quality time spent with one's family.

One of the biggest Thanksgiving events in the United States is the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, which is viewed by many, both in person and virtually. In 2021, the parade had roughly 2.5 million live spectators and 25.4 million

virtual viewers. The parade has been featured many times in pop culture media, including but not limited to, the movie *Miracle on 34th Street* (1947), its remakes, and a 2008 Coca-Cola Super Bowl ad. Nataleigh Nix (11) said that the parades' lack of change "has given a sense of normalcy and tradition over the years." During the parade's 98-years-long run, Macy's has not changed much about their parade. The biggest change to date has been when Macy's replaced the live zoo animals with balloons in 1927, just three years after the parade launched. After that, however, there has been little change that would affect how the audience enjoys the parade. Some even have a personal connection to the parade as well. "My mom was in the parade when she was in college," Nix said. Macy's selects approximately 10 bands and other performance groups from universities and

high schools across the states to participate in the parade.

The day after Thanksgiving is Black Friday, the biggest shopping day in the U.S. The use of the term "Black Friday" in association with shopping started in Philadelphia during the 1960's. It was used by the Philadelphia police to refer to the mass influx of people into the city for Christmas shopping and sports games. Eventually, retailers started to market Black Friday as the day that stores finally made a profit (also known as to "go into the black") after the Black Friday stock market crash of 1869. Since retailers started to do this, Black Friday has come to be known as the start of the Christmas season, kicking off gift buying. Many people rush to stores, both online and in-person, to start their shopping season.

Some even enjoy

parts of it, as River Washington (10) explained, "The adrenaline rush you get, and you have a checklist of what things you are going to buy." Many retailers have extended the Black Friday sales, and people can now find sales ranging from a week to even a month long.

As the holiday season approaches, many people start to participate in activities, both to spend time with family and to prepare for Christmas. The start of these activities around Thanksgiving time are some of the biggest, such as the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade and Black Friday, which everyone enjoys.



## BATTLE FOR THE GOLDEN EGG

**Anna Kimbrell**  
CO-EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The rivalry of between Ole Miss and Mississippi State football did not start on Thanksgiving and wasn't even coined the Egg Bowl. The first game was on October 28, 1901, and Mississippi A&M college, "the Aggies" defeated Ole Miss "Red and Blue" 17-0. Fast forward to 1978 both teams were not eligible for a bowl game, and The Clarion-Ledger newspaper named the game "The Battle for the Golden Egg," since the trophy the teams fight for is a Golden Egg. Forty-four years later the game is still called the Egg Bowl. The Egg Bowl is the tenth longest uninterrupted series in the U.S. being played every year since 1944. The Egg Bowl has been played on Thanksgiving 23 times and now alternates between Starkville and Oxford, Mississippi making it tradition millions tune in to watch every year.

This year the Egg Bowl was held at the University of Mississippi on a cold and rainy Thursday on Thanksgiving. The Rebels had won the Egg Bowl in 2020 and 2021 and were hoping for another year with the Golden Egg. Ole Miss prides themselves with having a great college town, and many fans hit

the Grove to tailgate before the game. Usually, the 10-acre land is packed with 100,000 or more people, but this game many fans stayed at home to be with their families this Thanksgiving and avoid the rain. The game started at 6 o'clock and before the first play the Rebs put on a light show on their field. The lights displayed their logo as well as past players Archie Manning, Chucky Mullins, and Deuce McAlister, and even the famous clipboard toss by Ole Miss head coach Lane Kiffin.

After the student section and fans did the famous sway both teams ran out ready for a fight. This game for these players and fans means everything to them. Ole Miss has a new quarterback Jaxson Dart a transfer from USC, this was his first time playing in the bowl as well as many other Ole Miss players. Mississippi State's QB is Will Rogers, and this is his third Egg Bowl, as well as their head coach's Mike Leach. The Rebels were the first to have points on the board, but the Bulldogs had the first touchdown shortly after. The score right before halftime was 16-14 with the Bulldogs gaining momentum against the



Rebels who were one-to-two-point favorites for the game. The third quarter was a bit stagnant with no points on the board by either team, but the fourth quarter was all or nothing for both teams. Mississippi State put up a field goal early in the quarter then added a touchdown shortly after. It seemed as though all hope was lost for Ole Miss fans when a little over a minute was left and the Bulldogs were at the endzone, until Rogers fumbled, and Ole Miss recovered the ball. With the game on the line Dart drove the ball down the field to Dayton Wade, wide receiver, and it seemed as though Ole Miss may have a chance to win. But when the Rebels went for a two-point conversion they did not make it to the endzone, and Mississippi State took home the Golden Egg with the final score being 24-22.

Many Madison Central (MC)

students were at the game in Oxford supporting their respective teams.

Parker Reily (12) said her favorite part during the game was when "JJ Pegues scored Ole Miss a touchdown. He graduated from Oxford High School, so I know it must have been special for him to score in the Egg Bowl." JJ Pegues is a defensive tackle for the Rebels and is also the first player to play in both the Iron Bowl and the Egg Bowl since he transferred in from Auburn this season. Gavin Parrow (10) said the best moment of the game was "Ole Miss went for the two point conversion, and State's defense was able to hold them off at that point I knew we won the game." The ball went back into the Bulldogs hands, and the game for them was secured. Clancy Baker (11) said, "The most exciting part of the Egg Bowl was Ole Miss's pregame show." This part of the game got fans pumped for the four quarters they

were about the watch, and it was something the school had never done before.

The Bulldogs celebrated bringing the trophy back to Starkville for the first time in two years. The team ran out onto the field, hoisting the trophy for the whole state to see. It a big night for the team, but especially for Coach Leach and QB Will Rogers their first egg bowl win. Rogers had said in previous interviews that winning the Egg Bowl "would mean everything," and it seems as though he was right. After this big win the Bulldogs were ranked in the AP Top 25 at spot 24 a big accomplishment. The press conference after the game gave a little insight onto what happened on that two-point conversion that could have tied up the game. Dart said "it's ambitious... sometimes that's just the way the game works." State's defense was a challenge getting points on the board, but even after that loss the Ole Miss team does not consider it a letdown but a learning curve for the next season.

**To the right:** Mississippi State Quarterback Will Rogers holds the Egg Bowl Trophy after the teams win against Ole Miss 24-22.



# NEW MOVIES HIT THE SCREEN

**Avery Holland  
STAFF WRITER**

This year the film industry has made many changes, along with creating many new popular movies for people to watch. There have been films that have touched hearts to films that have caused people to become sick. The industry is also having major production companies expanding and merging with another major company.

Recently, the Warner Brothers (WBA) and Cartoon Network (CNS) merged. This has caused up to a hundred people to lose their jobs. Many people went to Twitter to express their dislikes about the situation, saying how they believed it was the end of Cartoon Network. CNS responded on Twitter by saying, "We are not going anywhere. We have been and will always be your home for beloved, innovative cartoons." Although Cartoon Network may be under new management

this does not mean the end of the cartoons many grew to know and love, but simply means the start of a new era for the company.

One movie that has caused quite the uproar in the film industry is Terrifier 2. The movie has caused many theaters to take it out of screening due to the amount of gruesome and cruel scenes in the movie, causing many to vomit, pass out, or even have seizures. James Phillips (12) said, "I did not finish the movie, it was very gruesome, and some scenes were hard to watch." Phillips said he also enjoyed the first Terrifier saying how it was not as cruel as the second which makes it easier to watch. Phillips suggests watching the movie if you into scary and gruesome movies.

Another movie that was recently released is Black Panther: Wakanda Forever. Many were worried about how the movie would be without Chadwick Boseman, who played Black Panther in the first movie. He unfortunately passed away from cancer in late August

of 2020. Sela Waller (10) said, "I hope they put some sort of tribute to Boseman somewhere in the movie." Waller also believes that the directors and writers of the movie will have to step up their game to live up to the first movie, especially without having Boseman as Black Panther.

Avatar: The Way of Water is also a new movie that will hit theaters on December 16 of this year. Emma Martindale (11) said, "I am excited to see how far James Cameron, the director, has come with writing the new movie." Martindale also said the first Avatar's CGI was amazing and was ahead of its time. She is extremely excited to how the second movie is going to do. Martindale said, "I love the look of everything, the ambiance, the setting, that the director builds. There is always something new to look at, and it visually pleasing." The first Avatar was based on a forest-based tribe, while the second is going to be water-based and Martindale is excited to see how the

writers went about the plot with saying how she hopes it is completely new and completely exciting.

Overall, the film industry has grown immensely throughout the last few decades. Within this year alone there have been company merges and many new movies. These are movies that some have enjoyed and loved and some that have caused many to feel uncomfortable and ill. There are also sequels to past popular movies like Avatar.



## EXAM WEEK SCHEDULE:

**MONDAY**  
1ST & 3RD EXAM  
2ND & 4TH REVIEW

**TUESDAY**  
5TH & 7TH EXAM  
6TH & 8TH REVIEW

**WEDNESDAY**  
2ND & 4TH EXAM  
1ST & 3RD MAKEUP

**THURSDAY**  
6TH & 8TH EXAM  
5TH & 7TH MAKEUP

**FRIDAY**  
MAKEUP EXAMS  
60% DAY

# Spreading the Holiday Cheer

**Allie Hurt  
SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER**

The long-awaited holiday season is finally here. There are many fun and eventful holiday activities to do in the area with family and friends. One of the most popular holiday traditions that is presented by Junior League of Jackson is Mistletoe Marketplace. The event first started back in 1981 and has become the South's top holiday shopping attraction featuring fantastic special events. It takes place in the Mississippi Trademart and this year it was November second through the fifth. There are over 150 vendors that attend for you to shop at. "I look forward to Mistletoe every year because I always find good stuff and have a great time shopping with my friends," said Brittan McFadden (11). It is always a big hit with many people attending

and having a great time shopping around while getting in the holiday spirit. Mistletoe holds different events each day that you can pay to attend. The first night there was a preview gala to kickoff Mistletoe Marketplace. The next morning "On the Mountaintop" was three hours of uninterrupted shopping before the general shopping starts, along with breakfast and live music. Later that night was "Girls' Night Out" where there was catering, hair, makeup, and styling tutorials for you and your girlfriends to attend. On Friday there was a catered brunch called "Sunrise on the Slopes" and then a Luncheon and Style Show called "Sleigh Bells Ring" that featured special guest speaker Shawn Johnson East.

Later that evening there were two more events, the first one was a tween fashion show named "Hot Cocoa & Haute Couture" where you watch the runway and enjoy sweet treats. The second one was "Up to Snow Good-90's Nostalgia Night",

which includes catered food and iconic bops performed by Blue Earth 90's Band. The last special event was a children's event called Bunny Slopes Breakfast where children attend with an adult and enjoy catered breakfast and other activities including meeting Santa. "Mistletoe is one of my favorite holiday events to attend every year because I love the holiday season and it is always during my birthday so that makes it even more fun," said Anna Kimbrell (12). At Mistletoe, there is something for everyone who loves shopping and having fun. The event always has a great turn out and people cannot wait for it to come back next year. Another holiday activity to attend is the Magic of Lights at the Brandon Amphitheater. This is the first year that this event is coming to town. It started on November 18

and will last through January 1. Everyone drives through from the comfort of their car as they go through the dazzling light experience featuring favorite holiday scenes and characters of the season. "I went and had a great time driving through and looking at all the lights. I enjoyed it a lot and think that everyone should go because it is something new and different," said Emmie Chandler (12). There are dozens of displays, illuminated canopies, and digital animation that is constructed with over a million LED lights. Each show is specifically dedicated to where it is located, and Brandon is the newest location this holiday season. This is a great show for people to attend with their loved ones. It is a festive and nostalgic experience that everyone should visit during the most magical time of the year. Overall, there are lots of festive events for people of all ages to take part in. Both events are great ways to get in into the holiday spirit.



# WRAPPING UP A GREAT SEASON

## Meredith Morrow STAFF WRITER

Here at Madison Central (MC), football is a huge part of our athletic program, and MC's 2022 football season has been bittersweet. With a well-rounded team for our Jags it is easy to have such a good season, like the one we have had this year.

According to ScoreStream, MC has a 72% win rate in football, with our best win being 48-3 against Northwest Rankin. However, our best shut-out game was our homecoming game against Murrah, as we won 42-0. Key player, Isaiah Spencer (12), said, "With this being my last year on MC football, I think I have improved in a lot of ways, such as being a vocal leader, playmaker, and most importantly, being a team

player." Spencer hopes to leave a good legacy as a leader and to help the underclassmen in their next seasons on the team. "Some of the things I can help the underclassmen do in the years to come is leave of good legacy and to be a good leader for years to come. Some of my favorite moments from this season was beating Starkville at home and the overall atmosphere of that game. Another one of my favorite things that I can take away from this season is the energy we had at practice since our loss to Tupelo. Since then, we have had everyone set towards the common goal of being a communication-based team with high energy." According to MaxPreps, Spencer is in the lead with the most receiving yards per game, with 60.0 yards, for MC. Although the players

can be credited for having such high energy, there are other aspects besides the amazing coaches that help bump the school spirit to a maximum. For example, MC's dance team, the Mystix attends every game, rain or shine, to dance for the team. Nataleigh Nix, a member of Mystix, said, "I am so proud of all the successes the football team has brought home this year, as well as all the hard work they have put in. As a dancer, I have loved every minute spent on the sidelines and pep rallies dancing. It is really fun to be so close to the action that you feel like you are a part of it." Aside from the dance team, the cheer team also attends every game to cheer on our jags, as the cheer team can be credited with intensifying our student section's energy by chanting to the crowd in spirit.

With football players always on the move, there is always a need for water girls. Aneta Kukuckova (11) said, "This season working as a water girl has been really fun because I have



Above: Vic Sutton and Deandre Pullen carry the ball.

been allowed to see behind the scenes of practices and see how the players prepare for games." Aneta gets to help with various activities, such as hanging up jerseys. Kukuckova said, "I miss the energy that came with being in the student section, and seeing all my friends and dressing up." However, she would never give up the friendships she has developed with the players. Alongside KuKuckova,

Berkeley Nobles (11) also is a water girl for our football team and enjoys being out their on gameday.

Overall, this football season is definitely one for the books, with 7-3 in the regular seasons and 5-2 in district. While the senior players will be missed, it is exciting to think about what is to come for the underclassmen next year and the seasons to come.



Above: The MC Cheer Team poses for a picture.



Above: The MC Mystix Dance Team poses for a picture.

## JUMPING INTO THE NEW SEASON

## Brittan McFadden BUSINESS MANAGER

The Madison Central (MC) basketball teams are two of the many great athletic programs here at MC.

The girls' and boys' basketball teams, coached by head coaches Tameika Brown and Ben Gardner, are preparing for the rest of the season. As the season just started, the girls' and boys' teams have been practicing everyday as well as playing in tournaments to prepare.

Coming back from a good season last year, the girls' basketball team is striving to accomplish both their team goals and their own personal goals. The Lady Jags prepared throughout the summer and beginning of the school year, as well as daily practices since the season has begun. Coach Brown has been getting the girl's ready for the upcoming games because the playoff season is right around the corner. Senior player, Julia Lee Riley (12) said, "The team has had six week-long preseason bootcamps. We run on the track daily and lift weights. By practicing twice a day, it allows us as a team to push through tough plays." All of their

hard work and dedication during practice, is to help them maintain their skills and get even stronger. "As of now, our record is 3-2. It is only the beginning of the season, and we continue to show that we can compete with the better teams in our state." With the rest of the season depending on their successes early on, the players mindset going into each game is to come out with a win. Lauren Sutton (11) added, "We have worked hard and found a practice agenda that fits just right for us. Our team is striving to win district and make it to the Coliseum, which is where the state championship is held. That is what our "run to the big house" symbolized when we ran to the Coliseum with the boys' basketball team at the beginning of the year." Conditioning and lifting weights are an important factor and reflects on how the teammates play on the court. This preparation before the season and during the season is what will hopefully lead the teams to the Coliseum for the state championship.

The boys' basketball team has also been preparing for the season. The season started a few weeks ago, so as every game goes on, the team progresses and improves. As they progress and move throughout the season, the athletes continue to train as a team and individually. Head basketball Coach

Ben Gardner said, "Our main focus is on their skill and team development. With that being said, we mainly focus on offensive and defensive schemes. As coaches, we try our best to put them in "game-like" situations to make them be able to defend themselves better if it was to happen during a game." Along with the coaches, the athletes on the team have a huge impact on the season and their progression. Each teammate needs endurance and determination to get better for not only their teammates but for themselves. The team has been working non-stop this season and is ready for the challenges ahead.

Both teams have strived to make sure the season kicks off to a good start. With the wins and losses, each team improves daily and puts in the hours to be the great team MC knows them to be. The teams have improved in numerous ways these past few seasons and it shows on the court as well in their team spirit.



Above: The MC Boys' Basketball team talks before a game.



Above: The MC Girls' Basketball team strategizes for a play.



Above: The MC Boys' Basketball team huddles after a good play.



Above: The MC Boys' Basketball team poses for a picture at a Pelican's game in New Orleans.



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