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Canine Chr[]nicle

Mount Baker Middle School, Auburn, Washington

May 2013

Volume III, Issue 6



DC Trip :

'Unforgettable Experience'

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COVER PHOTO: The front cover photo was taken by Allen Koenig Photography during the D.C. trip. This photo is of the Washington D.C. group at the only memorial with which you can climb on, the memorial of Albert Einstein.

MT. BAKER MIDDLE SCHOOL
620 37TH STREET SE
AUBURN, WASHINGTON 98002

Letter from the Editors

Dear MBMS students,

The school year is nearing its end and therefore many students are losing their work ethic in school. Grades are either soaring or sinking during this time of the year and it's very noticeable to both their teachers and their classmates.

All year students spent most of their hours in school preparing for the MSP, and since it's finished many students have taken the liberty to slack off in their classes and not try anymore. Even students in these so-called "highly capable" classes have been tending to not turn in assignments or pay attention in class.

This time of the year is actually the best time to pay attention; with most of the bigger tests out of the way it opens up time for more exciting lessons. Teachers are more likely to teach things you'll actually like during the fourth quarter of the school year... but you, more than likely, have to earn it.

For those who are trying really hard this quarter, keep it up. Teachers really enjoy seeing students who strive during the last few weeks of the school year, it makes you stand out in the class and you're more likely to be rewarded for your effort.

If you're an eighth grader, don't give up yet— teachers are choosing students to receive the student of the year award for the end of the year celebration. Many teachers may have already had a student in mind throughout the year but they might be slacking right now and not impressing the teacher as they had been before. In the end, effort and doing well in the class will determine who gets rewarded for their achievement.

BE A SUCK-UP IF YOU HAVE TO! TURN IN YOUR HOMEWORK!! PAY ATTENTION IN CLASS!!!

Teachers will love you if you do.

Good luck,

Ashleigh Carman

Sara Koenig

Olivia Denton

Jhordin Prescott

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Mission: The MBMS Journalism 8 class produced this limited-voice newspaper with intent to ethically report events accurately, without bias. As a public forum for students, all decisions made on content are made under the guidance of the advisor, with intent to uphold students' First Amendment rights.

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The two pictures on the left from top down show the Oklahoma bombing and the Virginia Tech shooting. The main picture is of a service dog at the memorial for victims of the Boston Marathon. The bottom three pictures show various items that people left for family and friends at the Boston Marathon memorial.

Friends, Victims Affected by Marathon Bombing

Kate Hon & Sumeet Waraich

At the Boston Marathon, April 15, two explosions went off at about 2:50 p.m., more than two hours after the first runners crossed the finish line.

Three people were killed in the bombing that day and more than one hundred forty people injured, people in the race and bystanders waiting for their friends and their family members to finish the race.

On May 6, as compensation to the marathon victims and their families, the One Fund Boston released a plan to distribute \$28 million, according to CNN.

In an interview with reporters from CNN, Kenneth Feinberg, the administrator of The One Fund Boston, stated that, "No amount of money distributed fairly quickly over the next month or two is going to provide the type of long-term financial stability needed by a double-amputee or somebody hospitalized with a brain injury."

Seventh grader Evelin Laris stated, "[I believe that] the people just wanted to get attention or they were angry at the city [of Boston]."

Skylar Erickson, a sixth grader, offered how we might be able to prevent these tragedies from happening. "Having more security on various events might help."

Trent Miller stated that "being nice to others" might help. "[The terrorists] might be taking their anger out from something that happened to them in their past," Miller added.

Rodel Phillipos, a friend of the main suspects, is accused of making fake statements during a terrorist investigation to federal investigators.

The eldest suspect, Tamerlan Tsarnaev, who was killed when he and his brother were on a chase with the police, his remains are still stuck in the funeral home trying to find a place to bury the accused terrorist, but now CNN stated that an individual came forward to bury Tsarnaev's body.

Tamerlan Tsarnaev's uncle, Ruslan Tsarni, had stated that Tsarnaev has been buried outside of Massachusetts though.

Patterns of Violence in April Throughout Years

Sumeet Waraich & Kate Hon

Over the years there have been many acts of violence. Recently we have heard of the Boston Marathon bombing that happened in April. If we're to look into the past, we would see, how many of the violent acts that have happened in the United States have taken place in the month of April.

The Columbine shooting as well as the Virginia Tech massacre happened in April. This makes many people wonder why there is so much violence just in April.

When asking students what they thought, eighth grader Devyne Omalade said, "I think the time is mostly planned."

"I think it is because it is toward the end of the year and the person has been bullied for seven months and is done with it by now," said seventh grader Allen Maas.

According to Yahoo news, Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold had chosen the same date as the Oklahoma bombing to attack their school with two bombs.

But when their bombs didn't go off, they decided to go in the next day with guns. There have also been many other reports of when criminals have chosen the same day as another violent act in April, to hurt this world.

When asking sixth grader Sharon Manivanh why these people do this horrible acts, she responded, "I think because they have problems of their own so they think to go hurt others."

Omalade had said, "They feel that people don't think about them, so they take it out on other people."

But the big question is how can we prevent these violent acts from happening. Manivanh believed, "I think new laws we created will help."

While Maas stated, "Something else will happen in the future and we need to keep our guard up."

Memorials, Museums Show Rich History of D.C.

Jhordin Prescott & Cody Zipp

Twenty-six MBMS eighth graders went on an amazing adventure to Washington DC.

Out of 54 sightseeing, hotels, and airports, 15 were memorials and a cemetery exactly 3.6% of the trip.

Including the Iwo Jima Memorial, September 11 Pentagon Memorial, the WWII Memorial, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and many others.

Probably the most emotional was Arlington National Cemetery; this 624 acre cemetery is the final resting place for over 14,000 of our men and women who gave their lives for our freedom.

Mt. Baker got four of its finest boys and girls to lay the wreath on the tomb of the Unknown Soldier, Evan Polkow, Josh Morisawa, Jhordin Prescott, and Taylor Carstens.

Memorials and museums were the day to day activity, but The Holocaust Museum was one of the most memorable.

This museum shows the struggles the Jews went through with its videos of carcasses, mounds of shoes, piles of hair, and stations where you listen about a certain aspect of the Holocaust; you'll leave the museum with tears.

Not only does this museum have items that were there during the time, but it holds speeches from people who survived.

You really have to visit the Museum to really understand the pain, and when you leave you'll look at the world from a different perspective.



S. Koenig

Provides Great Experience

Sara Koenig & Jasmin Vital

Every year approximately two dozen students a trip and learn about the history of our nation. They see the sites, and walk through some of the nations greatest.

As Emily Cho put it, "You make connections with modern time and history."

The requirements are small, in the end. Keep your grades up and don't get in trouble. After all, no one wants to spend a week being embarrassed by their immature, rebellious friend. Mrs. Durham has sent and will send people home, if you go, don't be one of those people.

Before students leave for the trip they are warned that things can and will happen. This year's trip got held back a day late because of a snowstorm in Chicago.

Yet this wasn't considered a negative, Catherine Sergis said, "[She most enjoyed] swimming", which they could only do because of this. Before that point they hadn't had the chance to go swimming.

Other positive and unexpected things happened also.

Several of the students got to meet and speak with several World War II veterans and a veteran with a Purple Heart.

One expected thing that students found fulfilling was the Laying of the Wreath Ceremony.

Josh Morisawa, one of the participants, stated that, "It was a humble and honoring task."

Another student that went on the trip, Evan Polkow, stated that, "It was life-changing."

Morisawa found that his favorite part of the trip was the Laying of the Wreath Ceremony.

But Cameron Zipp had a different opinion. He favored hanging out with his friends and seeing the sites.

He stated, "[It was a unique experience], to someone who had never been to DC, it would be a shocker."

Another student, Ellie Estep, agreed, saying that, "You make friendships with people you wouldn't normally talk to."

Some eighth graders made the decision to go because of the price but the students that did go said, "Yes, [it was worth the price they paid]."

Polkow suggested, "Start saving."

Though their views on the trip were different, all of the students that went on the trip agree that they would recommend it to other students;

Sergis stated, "It was heck'a bomb."

Most of them also agreed that if they were given the opportunity to go on a trip like this again, they would absolutely go.

One student, Lillian Wood, said, "Yes, without hesitation."

More than one student commented on the sleeping arrangements.

As Taylor Carstens and Cho stated, "The bus is the best part, because of pictures of people sleeping and strobe light clubbing on the bus!"

Ellie Estep said, "Don't go if you enjoy sleep."

Both Morisawa and Zipp stated they would recommend the trip to other students.

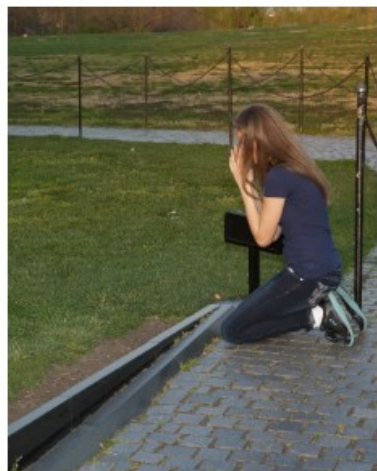
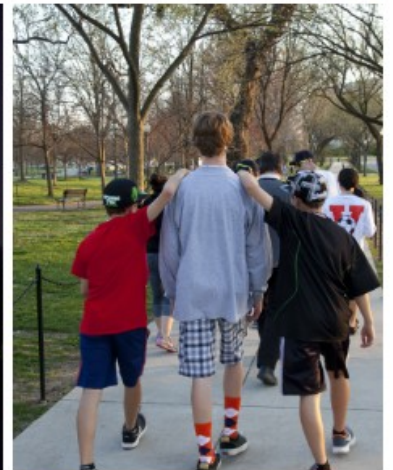
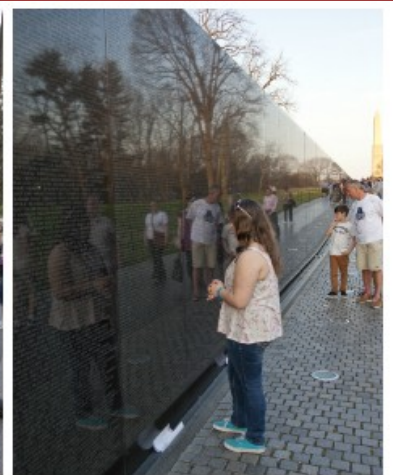
Mrs. Durham, one of two teachers to go with the students as a guardian, likely hopes to get as enthusiastic students next year.

All of the students that went agree, it was absolutely worth everything they gave. They made friends, saw sites, and, most importantly, had fun.



Students gather around the Iwo Jima Memorial.

Courtesy of S. Koenig



All photographs courtesy of S. Koenig

Nature vs. Nurture

Sara Koenig & Jasmin Vital

Which side of the street do you stand?

Photo courtesy of Creative Commons license, Flickr.com

Are we born to be what we become or do we become that because of the influence in experiences we have throughout our lifetime?

This is the debate that has raged on since the time of Plato, a Greek philosopher. This is the debate of nature vs. nurture.

Some believe in *tabula rasa* or the belief that everyone starts as a blank slate and everything about them is because of their experiences.

Others, however, believe in predestined success, in how our DNA creates us. Most people, however, believe in both.

Alice Park, for example, said that, "...genetics does affect who we are. To a point, anyway."

Debates rise everyday on the matter and interests in the subject are growing at profound rates. We jump just to know a little more about ourselves.

Take useless and useful tests, subject us to depravity, exploration, and judgment, all for a taste at knowledge ability of ourselves.

So, is it all for not? Or do we actually know more

about ourselves because of this?

We now know that disorders, such as bipolar disorder and autism, are hereditary, but what about anger issues?

Is it our DNA or abuse growing up?

What differentiates criminals and law enforcement officials, who have similar mind sets, as they get older?

The way they were raised. While both have influential levels of vasopressin and epigenetic's, the reward system and the variant that decides how violent we are, and though these help decide what course people might take, they are only activated by situations throughout the childhood, such as those that are fear-inducing or abusive.

Some scientists have spent their lives studying twins. One study is of a family that adopted a child from China and another family adopted her twin. China had no record that the girls were related, but they couldn't tell them apart.

The families later found each other in Canada. The kids were raised in very different environments, but the

families kept in touch.

Lily was an only child. Her family celebrated Chinese holidays and sent her to Chinese educational classes. Gillian had two siblings, her family wanted her to have the Canadian culture. Lily's environment is ethically mixed, while Gillian's environment is not.

For reasons unknown, but believed to be caused by their shared genes, both of the kids took their first steps on the same day. They dressed up the same on Halloween and have the same hobbies. They had similar interests and talents. Even similar traits.

Their environments created a variety of difference, however, and it was concluded that environment and DNA take a large role in the human mind.

In the end it is just under fifty percent genetics and the rest is a variety of our environment as we age. These variants determine who we are.

But in the end we will never know who we are. We are not psychologically capable of knowing everything about ourselves at any given time and especially not able to control everything about ourselves.

BLAH BLAH BLAH

Nature vs. Nurture

Who or what has made the biggest affect in your life?

Compiled by Ashton Serratos



"My parents inspire me most, they [help me] to not be afraid of anything."

—Angelina Belyavskiy
Sixth Grade



"Choir and the play [have made the biggest impact in my life] this year because you can make so many friends."

—Hailey Bragg
Seventh Grade



"My family has made a big impact in my life, they're always there to support me."

—Corey Jansen
Seventh Grade



"[The thing that has made the biggest impact on my life is] music."

—An Do
Eighth Grade

Excessive Testing

How much is too much?

Alex Jabusch & Sumeet Waraich

How Tough Was MSP?

Andrew Bell

The MSP season has come and gone once again. Students across the state have sat through hours of testing, and now that it is done, most are greatly relieved.

Four years ago, Washington State replaced the WASL with a new standardized test, the MSP.

According to eighth grader Mason Evans this year's MSP was "the usual".

"I found myself a little bit bored".

Evans also said that all of the tests he has been taking in school is beginning to tire him, especially the writing and science tests.

In spite of being tired and bored by these tests Evans still manages to do well enough in order to be rewarded outside of school for his academic efforts. He stated that sometimes his dad "takes [him] to a football game" when he earned good grades.

Another eighth grader, Mckenzi Williams, said that this year's MSP was "a lot easier, and faster" than in previous years.

She also said that she does not get tired by rigorous testing schedules. Mckenzi said, however, that Algebra quizzes were her least favorite test type in school.

Sixth grader Christian Fermo said the MSP this year "felt longer, but it seemed easier". He also said that he gets rewarded at home for his good grades because he "gets paid" or "[his] dad will buy [him] shoes and clothes".

Another Sixth grader Katelyn Andersen stated that tests can be hard but "only if I don't study". She also said that rewards do give her motivation to do well in school. She said, "[They] take us out for ice cream".

With MSP, MAPS, and unit testing going on in schools around the state it brings up a common question.

Is there too much testing?

"Everyone is a genius, but if you judge a fish on its ability to climb a tree, it will live its whole life believing that it is stupid," said physicist Albert Einstein about the nature of assessing learning.

Throughout the year students have about ten tests to take. Many people believe this is too many tests to take while others think this is the perfect amount.

In an interview with eighth grader Juliet Yu, she stated, "I think both the school and teachers benefit from these tests so they know what's going on with students."

"I think if the tests are done right they can benefit both [teachers and students]," responded Mrs. Koenig.

In eighth grade the students have a total of eleven tests, one CBA, three MSP tests, two district writing assessments, four MAP tests, and one EOC.

While the seventh graders also have about eleven tests, but instead of an EOC, they take an extra MSP. The sixth graders only take eight tests in total.

Eighth grade student Josh Jarbah said, "I think it does benefit because it measures how much students know and how much they have grown over the year."

"Because teachers need to know how much we [have

learned]. They don't know what other assignments to give us," said seventh grader Natalie Means.

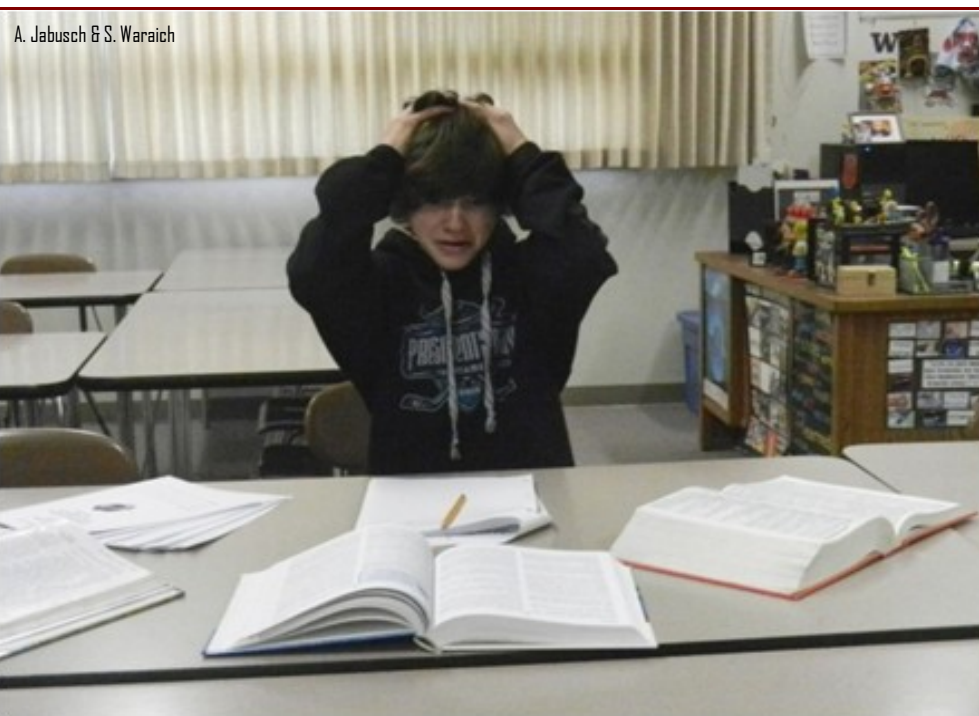
In upstate New York, a thirteen year-old eighth grader decided to make an actual Standardized test to make fun of Standardized tests. Sophia Stevens created a mini eighth grade reading test with tips on taking the tests a complete reading passage and a number of multiple choice questions to answer after reading the passage.

She wrote a letter to New York State saying, "I am not fond of your tests. They do not show you who I am, or who my teachers are."

She continued on, telling how the tests aren't fair and how the students could be distracted, having a bad day, or even just tired while taking the test and have a bit of a disadvantage.

Sophia believed that standardized tests are impractical because not all students are the same, some have different strengths in an area that another student might not.

She said, "Children with special needs have even greater trouble with these exams. The tests are a total waste for them...."



A. Jabusch & S. Waraich

Student, (Andrew Bell) stresses about all the overwhelming tests.

District Festival Promote Music Participation

Kate Hon

The orchestra had a district festival on Tuesday, April 30 and the band had their district band on Thursday, May 2 at Auburn Mountainview High School.

The band and orchestra played with other school orchestras around the same area, mostly within the same district.

The festival the band performed in also had three adjudicators that would hear the bands play and then one adjudicator would work with the band on the stage on some things that they deemed important that the band should improve upon and could fix fairly quickly in front of the audience. The judges would send a sheet of notes for the band to review with the scoring they gave the band at the top.

"It was important to get feedback from people other than just Mr. Paustian," stated an eighth grade band student, Nicole Matiatos.

The orchestra festival did not have adjudicators, but they did get the chance to play in the same concert with other seventh and eighth grade orchestras and Auburn High School's orchestra and listen to the orchestras perform their pieces.

Charlie Dalrymple offered, "Playing with the other orchestras encouraged kids to [improve] their music education and practice more on their instrument."

After the band performed and worked with their judge, they listened to the other bands in the festival and watched how they worked with their adjudicator.

Matiatos stated, "listening to the bands at the festival was a lot different than listening to the other bands at Mt. Baker and the bands at Auburn Riverside. They had a different sound to them, and that was cool to compare how we sounded to the other bands in the area than to the ones we usually hear."

The judges rated the eighth grade band based on the standards based grading system. A one on the scale is below standard, a two is approaching standard, a three is meeting standard, and a four is exceeding standard. All three of the judges rated the band at a three.

Matiatos added, "Our judge told us to play more musically, so I will try to play other than what is just on the page in order to bring out the emotions and the story the piece."



M. Wharton

First Peoples Conference Exposes Students to Culture

Anabell Cervantes

On April 25, many students were lucky to go to Green River College for a treat.

Ms. McCann set up for our students to be able to join the First People Conference to learn about the Hawaii and Native American culture.

In the Interview Brenda Simental, she said, "I learned about the Hawaiian religions and I REALLY liked how they prayed".

At this event, they danced and ate food.

According to Brianna Martinez "After six we ate lunch, there were Native Indian food, Mexican food and Hawaiian food."

The experience showed the students the Native Indian culture and the Hawaiian culture.

According to Juan Rodriguez, "I learned a lot about the culture, tribes and how different cultures can be the same and also be proud of who you are."

Each half hour, they get to go to different sessions and they get to learn more about cultures. Kent-Meridian High School went as well as another school.

More than 300 people came to the First People's Conference.

There were workshops, activities and performances at this event.

Rodriguez said, "It was fun because we danced".

Many people came to this event for many reasons, some just wanted the food but some wanted to learn more about their culture.

Simental said, "Only for the free food but I really liked going."

But Martinez said, "I went because I'm Native Indian and Mexican and this mixed them both and I wanted to learn more."

The student from here who went had the chance to dance with them; they danced to music like the Cupid Shuffle.

But what was the point of this event?

Simental said, "To learn about religions and cultures".

When asked to Mrs. Calkins about if she thought the trip was fair that such a small group attended, she said,

"That's a hard question, I'm happy for the people that went, I think it was a great experience for them. But I wish more of our students could go to something like that because there are so many more that could have benefitted from this experience."

But what did they talk about?

According to Martinez "There wasn't much talking but just showing off dancing and a bit talking about College".

But by the reports done, many students liked the trip and they learned about more about their culture.

In the report Martinez said, "It was a lot of fun because we're done."



V. McCann

Several students to learn about Hawaii and Native American culture.

Denesha's Killer

Sentenced to 30 Years

Aaron Baker

Brandon Suhr pleaded guilty on Monday, April 29, to the first degree murder of seventh grader Walter Denesha and to first degree burglary with a deadly weapon.

Suhr's expected sentence is 30 years in prison with no chance of parole.

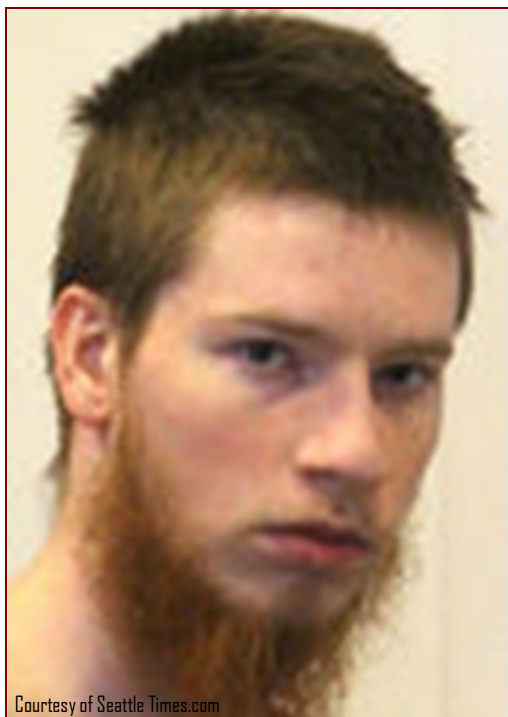
"I think that Suhr deserves [thirty years in prison]," stated eighth grader Sylvia Jones.

"You see a killer and you obviously want them locked up. Sure; 30 years is fine, but a life sentence would be much better," stated seventh grader Corey Jansen.

Suhr reportedly broke into his ex-girlfriend's house and murdered Walter with a samurai sword, soon thereafter forcing his ex-girlfriend to write a note claiming responsibility for her brother's death.

Walter's body was found at about 3:12 A.M. by his father, as reported by *The Seattle Times*.

"I didn't know Walter," stated Corey Jansen, "I found out that he died and I was very sad."



Courtesy of Seattle Times.com

Suhr's demeanor has reportedly 'mellowed out' since June, 2012, during a forensic psychiatric report at Western State Hospital.

As according to his psychiatrist, "Mr. Suhr was quite funny, irreverent, infectiously playful, superficially charming, and friendly whenever he was getting what he wanted from others, and was quick to turn to anger, impatience, cursing and disruptive or even menacing behavior when he was denied his immediate wishes."

This report concluded that Suhr suffers from a simple personality disorder.

"I didn't know [Walter] very well. I found out about his death on the news and it really made me stop and appreciate life. Like, every moment you spend with someone could be your last moment, so you have to experience every moment to its best potential," stated eighth grader Sylvia Jones.

Suhr's mother called 911 and reported that Suhr had entered the house with Walter's sister. Walter's sister told Suhr's mother that Suhr had killed Walter and had kidnapped her. That key point led to the overall arrest of Suhr.

None of the seventh or eighth graders at MBMS can be expected to forget the tragedy that struck our school on June 1, 2012 when seventh grader Walter Denesha was murdered.

Last year, Principal Brown stated in his letter to families, "A loss of this magnitude is deeply felt by each of us in our own personal way. We take comfort in the knowledge that he was a friendly and likeable student by both our students and the staff at Mt. Baker Middle School. We hope this knowledge also brings tremendous comfort to his family."

Our school and students reacted enthusiastically and supported the Denesha family by alerting our students of Candlelight Vigils, various pep-assembly memorials, an announcement honoring Walter via the morning announcements, as well as creating a memorial on his locker and creating a Facebook page dedicated to his death.

Staff Members Remembers



Walter Denesha

Almost a year has passed since MBMS has lost seventh grader Walter Denesha. Many students struggled to make sense of a senseless act of violence.

Students and staff reached out to the community to help the healing process.

A memorial was established in the seventh grade hall at his former locker to remember Walter.

Last year, *The Canine Chronicle* published an article remembering Walter Denesha, featuring several messages from staff members to continue his memory.

We wanted to republish these sentiments to honor his memory.

"Wally was an exceptional student. He always behaved in my class and treated his classmates and teachers with respect. He was proud to be [at the PRIDE Breakfast]. I couldn't have honored a more perfect student."

Walter Denesha participated in band and was known for his dedication and selflessness.

Band teacher Mr. Paustian said, "He was a VERY caring person - probably cared too much many times and brought his intensity in many forms. He was an incredibly hard working person, picking up the slack left by other students, always the last person left working - he had an incredible work ethic."

Paustian continued, "He really liked other people, enjoying making music with his fellow musicians. He had come so far in such a short time, musically and emotionally. He will be sorely missed. I will miss his smiling face and positive can-do attitude."

Principal Brown stated in his letter to families, "We take comfort in the knowledge that he was a friendly and likeable student by both our students and the staff at Mt. Baker Middle School. We hope this knowledge

MBMS Yearbook



The annual staff student's basketball game is an opportunity for male and female athletes to compete alongside each other.

Title IX Explained

Girls Play Volleyball, Boys Can't?

Olivia Denton

Many male students at Baker have asked the question *why can't boys play volleyball*.

The Title IX (nine) rule states that males cannot play female dominant sports, but females may play male dominate sports. Some may think this rule is unfair in many ways, while some may think it isn't.

In 1972 when the Title IX rule was enacted, there were many objections to its existence. It has been explained as discriminatory against men. Now that this rule has been in action for over 40 years, there are still comments on how it is extremely unfair.

Seventh grade volleyball player, Anna Maracich stated, "I think that's unfair! If girls can do guys' sports, why can't guys do girls' sports?"

Eighth grader, Aariq White stated, "I don't think it's that big of a deal, but I don't play volleyball, so I don't really have a say."

Jonathan Ocampo said, "I wanted to turn out for

volleyball, but I was sad because they wouldn't let me."

Ocampo continued, "I think it's unfair that girls are allowed to play football, but I'm not allowed to play volleyball."

"I don't think it's fair, guys might have same passion for volleyball as girls do," stated varsity volleyball player, Alisa York.

If there are two other sports for the fourth quarter that boys can participate in, why do they want to play volleyball?

"It's just as fun as the other sports, and it's a great workout," stated York.

Ocampo explained, "Because of the girls! And I'm really good at volleyball."

The Title IX rule has been blamed for cutting more male sports in college.

Even though volleyball isn't the most popular men's

sports, Title IX is one of the main reasons why the sport has a lot less division I teams across the country than most sports.

The rule states that in order to have a men's volleyball program, it has to cut another male sports funding.

"It all boils down to money," stated Penn State head coach Mark Pavlik.

Pavlik continued, "In this day and age, there is so much more that goes into adding a sport. Title IX is one significant consideration."

Most college head coaches would say the more money the school puts into the football program, the less money the school can put towards other men's sports.

The Title IX rule had affected colleges, coaches, and players.

NBA Player First Team Sport Athlete to

Come Out

Aaron Baker

Jason Collins, 34 year-old NBA player, came out as gay on Monday, April 29. He is the first professional male athlete to come out as gay while in his career.

Collins came out via *Sports Illustrated*, where he wrote, "I'm a 34 year-old NBA center. I'm black, and I'm gay."

Although Collins is the first male athlete to come out as gay, many people are reminded of Brittney Griner, a professional WNBA player who came out in recently.

The topic raises a conflict of LGBT rights.

"They should be able to have their rights," said eighth grader An Do, "It doesn't bother me when they do what they want to do."

"I am Christian, and I do believe that marriage was not made for two people of the same sex," said eighth grader Sylvia Jones, "I still don't judge the people who choose that; I still think that everyone should show them love."

"I don't understand why congress fights about it," stated seventh grader Corey Jansen, "Just let [the LGBT community] get married."

Griner recently tweeted Collins on this topic, "I'm so glad to see I'm not alone in this! You are an amazing person! Mad respect to you! #Hero"

"I'm glad that [Collins] did come out," stated Jansen, "It shows that people are able to [come out]."

Despite both athletes coming out via the media, Collin's article in *SI* claimed that he "never sought the spotlight."

Griner whole-heartedly agreed with this statement.

"I'm not that surprised [that Collins] came out. On a scale from one to ten, I would rate my overall surprise a five," said Jones.

Both athletes reportedly had completely different experiences in coming out.

While Griner reported it "not being so hard for [her]", Collins recalled struggling with the idea in the 2011 NBA Lockout.

An excerpt from Collins' article was as follows. "When I was younger I dated women. I even got engaged. I thought I had to live a certain way. I thought I needed to marry a woman and raise kids with her. I kept telling myself the sky was red, but I always knew it was blue... Imagine you're in the oven, baking. Some of us know and accept our sexuality right away and some need more time to cook. I should know - I baked for 33 years."

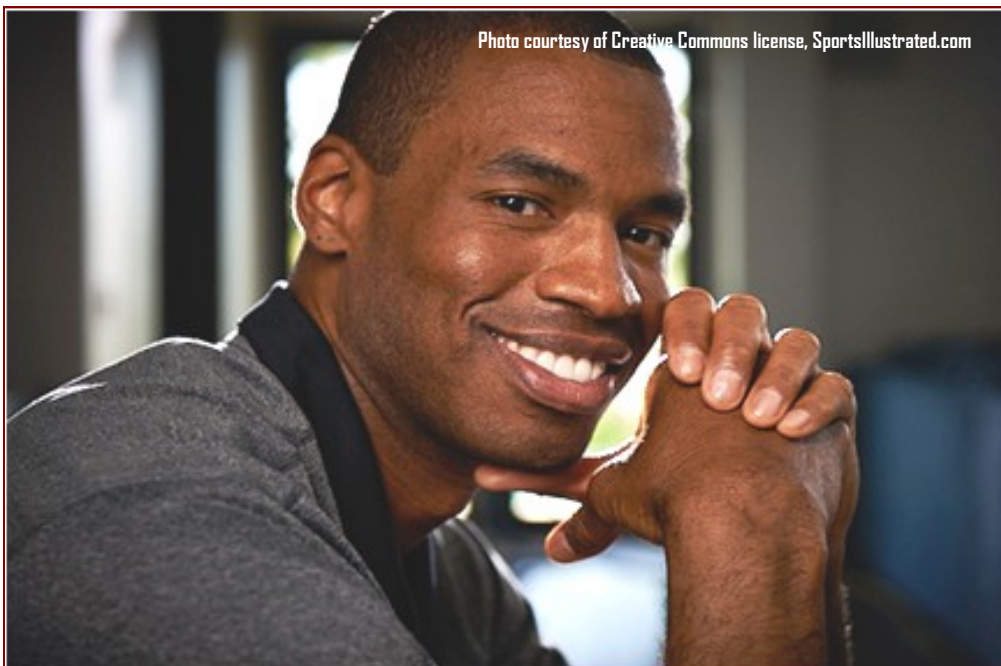


Photo courtesy of Creative Commons license, SportsIllustrated.com

"I'm a 34 year-old NBA center. I'm black, and I'm gay." —Jason Collins



Hockey fans everywhere are pumped up and excited for the 2013 playoffs.

Hockey Playoffs Begin

Andrew Bell

After a brief lockout this season, the NHL (National Hockey League) came back in 2013 to play a 48-game season before starting playoffs in May.

The current playoff matchups are as follows:

Western Conference:

Minnesota Wild vs. Chicago Blackhawks
Detroit Red Wings vs. Anaheim Ducks
San Jose Sharks vs. Vancouver Canucks
L.A. Kings vs. St. Louis Blues

Eastern Conference:

Pittsburgh Penguins vs. New York Islanders
Ottawa Senators vs. Montreal Canadiens
Washington Capitals vs. New York Rangers
Boston Bruins vs. Toronto Maple Leafs

This year the Detroit Red Wings barely managed to keep their now 22-year playoff streak alive. They have made the playoffs for 22 years in a row. The closest record to this one is only nine years.

Another playoffs surprise was the Toronto Maple Leafs. This year, they came in fifth in the Eastern Conference and play the fourth seed Boston Bruins.

While the usual number of 16 teams will be competing in the playoffs this year, speculators are anticipating a Stanley Cup final between the Western Conference Chicago Blackhawks, and the Eastern Conference Pittsburgh Penguins.

Over the next two months the teams above will have the chance to play four best of seven game series. The losing team will go home and prepare for another run at the Stanley Cup next year.

Seventh grader Connor Pitlick said that the Pittsburgh Penguins and the San Jose Sharks were his picks for the Stanley Cup Final. He also said that a shorter season could have affected the playoff turnout was probably affected because "Some of the teams weren't prepared for the season as much as they should've been [with the lockout]".

This year's playoff race is sure to be full of passion and, as usual, crazy antics.

Fourth Quarter Sports

Most Popular

Sumeet Waraich



**MBMS
TRACK**

25%

In total there are about 142 students in first quarter, about 105 students in second quarter, about 85 students in third quarter, and about 228 students in fourth quarter sports.

That means about one fourth of our Mt. Baker student population participates in our fourth quarter sports, while less than one fourth of our student population participates in other quarter sports.

Mt. Baker's fourth quarter sports are here, and as usual we have the biggest turn out this quarter than any other quarter sports.

Many of our Mt. Baker students seem to love the end of the year sports.

In the last quarter of sports, we have all together 228 students participating. For track, there about 135 students, in volleyball we have 63 students, and in baseball we have a total of 45 students.

But why do we have so many more participants this quarter than other quarters?

When interviewing Mrs. King, she stated, "I think it is student interest in volleyball and track. Plus in track, there are so many different things to do other than just running."

Aariq White believed, "There are more [students] for track because they played football and will do

track. Also track has more options, so if they aren't good at one [of them], then they are good at the other one."

While Tanner George stated, "Maybe so they can have more time to think what to do [by fourth quarter] and bring up their grades."

As we interviewed track coach Ms. Burkhalter about how there are so many turn outs every year for track, she told us, "One reason track is popular is because there are no cuts."

But track isn't the only big sport every year there is our big turn outs for volleyball and baseball as well.

As told earlier we have a turnout of 63 students playing volleyball right now. Our girls at Mt. Baker seem to be waiting all year long for volleyball season to come.

Ms. Burkhalter had responded with, "Volleyball is a popular sport because it is a lifetime sport that is easily played later on in life. While for baseball the students enjoy the outdoors."

Also, we don't want to forget our baseball players, this year have a total of 45 students playing.

"Baseball players have been playing for a long time and most play select. So this is just more practice for them," stated White.

Mrs. King also believes students are drawn to these sports since volleyball and track are in the Olympics, which makes students strive to reach that goal.

Mrs. King also said, "Maybe because the students find the Mariners fun to watch, plus the attraction to the baseball World Series."





Olivia Denton

Student-athletes Jhordin Prescott, Victoria Kendall, Gianna Guerra, Rhonda Sheldon, and Josh Tiegs (left to right) gear up to show what it takes to be a four-sport athlete during their final sports season this spring.

Student-athletes balance sports and studying as they play sports every season, but also maintain good grades. Four sports athletes are students that participate in every sports season here at Baker. A select few athletes at our school are four sport athletes. Some even play select sports outside of school. Even counselor Mr. Vatne balances coaching four sports.

"It takes organization to be a four sport athlete, you have to manage sports, education, and family. It also takes work ethic, the athletes are conditioning all four seasons because they have to stay in shape. They have to have a combination of coach-ability and ability to learn new things quickly. Lastly, they have to have the love for sports," stated Mr. Vatne.

Catch, kick, shoot, run! Student-athlete Victoria Kendall maintains a high grade point average while she played in all four sports seasons. Kendall played fast pitch, soccer, basketball and is now running track!

"I really enjoy sports because of the people that do it, and the athletics at Baker," stated Kendall.

Kendall continued, "my favorite sports seasons this year were basketball and track."

She stated that Coach Brown was one of her favorite coaches this year.

"Victoria is a great person. She's a very gifted athlete to be able to do four sports and do them well," stated Coach

Brown.

Kendall shows much Baker pride.

Football, basketball, wrestling, and baseball, he does it all. Eighth grader Josh Tiegs is another four sports athlete.

"Josh is a great kid. He's a good, solid athlete. He has persistence and he's very coachable," stated Mr. Vatne.

Tiegs stated, "I like sports because they give me something to do. They're fun. I want sports to take me somewhere in life."

Tiegs likes all of his coaches the same, stating that his favorite thing about Mt. Baker sports is that we win.

Student-athlete Jhordin Prescott also hits, flips, shoots, and runs. Prescott participated in fast-pitch, gymnastics, basketball and is now running fast and turning left. She's great students, her GPA is high.

Prescott stated that she has a nightly routine for doing homework. Jhordin is a great athlete.

She stated, "My favorite sports season this year was gymnastics, but my favorite coach was my basketball coach, Mr. Brown." Her favorite thing about Mt. Baker athletics is that everyone contributes and no one shines above another teammate.

She hits, flips, pins, and sets. Athlete Gianna Guerra participated in fast pitch, gymnastics, wrestling, and is now a volleyball player. Guerra was the only female wres-

tlar on the team this year. She works hard in all of her sports. She manages to balance out school work and sports. "One of my favorite coaches is my volleyball coach, Coach Leverenz. She pushes us hard and supports us," Guerra stated. Guerra was one of the 15 girls that made the volleyball team out of 42 girls that tried out! "These sports make me a better athlete. They keep me in shape," stated Gianna. Wrestling and fast pitch were Gianna's favorite sports seasons thus far.

Pitching, flipping, she dribbles, and spikes. Rhonda Sheldon played fast pitch, she was a gymnast, she made the varsity basketball team and she is now playing volleyball. Sheldon is a very smart student.

"I love Mt. Baker athletics because everyone makes me want to play harder," stated Sheldon.

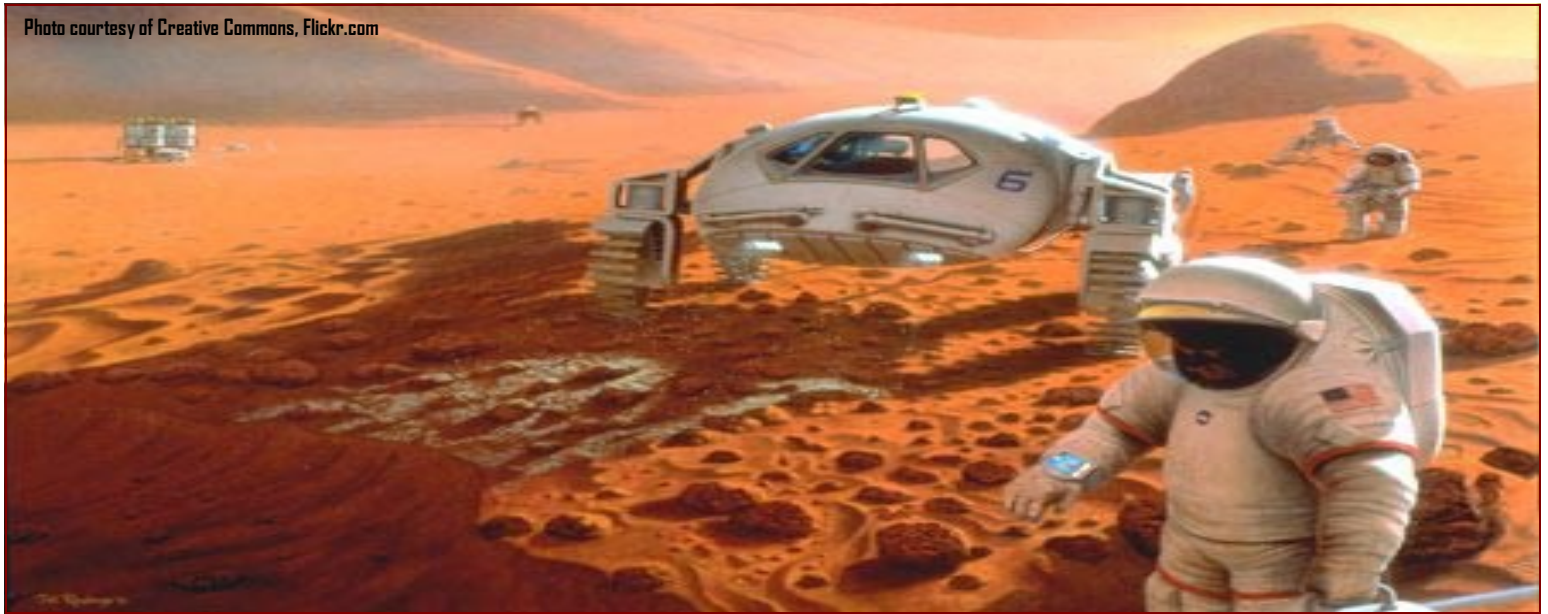
Her favorite coaches this year were Coach Brown and Coach Rogers. Her favorite sports season this year was fast pitch. Sheldon played second string point guard on the basketball team and she did great. Her grades are wonderful. She represents Baker very well.

These students appreciate all of the coaches at Baker. These students all stated that the coaches push them hard and don't give up.

"They know our potential," stated Tiegs.

"They're always positive and they never put us down," stated Sheldon.

Photo courtesy of Creative Commons, Flickr.com



Mars Mission

Plans to Send Humans to Red Planet

Euminh Lim

NASA has said that they will be accepting four applicants to go to Mars in 2022, but they may never come back again. NASA idea is to jump-start a permanent settlement on Mars.

On June 2012, the idea was to jump-start a permanent settlement on Mars and each couple years they would keep sending to supplies to that planet, and eventually they will be 20 settlers at Mars.

NASA has already planned exactly what to do in the next twenty years. The astronaut selection has already begun from April 22. The Falcon Heavy from SpaceX is the anticipated launcher for this.

In 2013, they will create a replicate of the settlement built for training.

In 2014, the first communication satellite would be built.

In 2015, the astronaut selection would be completed with our four new astronauts.

In 2016, a supply mission would be launched with all the supplies would be needed to survive for a while such as food, water, and clothes.

In 2018, an exploration vehicle would be sent to pick the location of the settlement.

In 2021, a rover would launch with two living units, two life support units and two supply units.

In 2022, the first group of colonists would be launched to Mars.

In 2025, a second group of four colonists will arrive.

In 2033, the colony will reach 20 settlers.

This is the second biggest step for mankind, according to Brady Lee.

He said, "NASA is rushing it and that they should wait to find a planet with life support that we can reach."

Many people think this idea is stupid, according to Evan Polkow, he said. "This whole idea of going to Mars, having a very high chance of dying and not coming back home is just stupid."

More than 20,000 people believe it's not. That many people have applied to this one way trip. Some people may be doing it for fame or money.

Mckenzie Ruppert said, "If they feel like it going to Mars is worth their life, then they should go, as much I love astronomy, I would not want to go."

Many people have said they don't want to go on this trip, but you will be one of the first people to ever go on Mars, having all the fame but knowing that you can never come back, would you be willing to go on this trip?

Get Ready for Space

Daniel Bronitskiy

Going to outer space is a dream for lots of people. The world outside of our hemisphere is very fascinating indeed.

However, it's incredibly dangerous to fly out of Earth's reach and very expensive.

In order to become an astronaut, accurate and thorough training is required.

There are many different types of astronauts. Ranging from pilots to engineers, these people all take the NASA flight physical. Flight training is done in military airplanes.

Candidates experience the near of zero-gravity as the aircrafts perform loops and acrobatic turns.

Each arc provides 30 seconds of floating weightlessly in the aircraft body. This is sometimes done in water too. Then, candidates practice to get familiar with the spaceship.

During the whole training, the people are evaluated on their performance. The ones who get the highest scores have permission to go to space. That does not mean they immediately fly up. Some scientists wait 12 years to be selected for a mission.

While waiting, astronauts continue to review the training process. Members may spend up to eight hours a day rehearsing the job.

Becoming an astronaut is challenging. However, this hard work is needed if the astronauts ever want to get home after being launched.

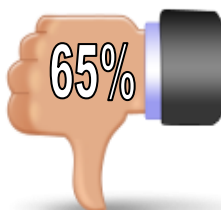
One mistake costs the lives of a crew and about 5.2 billion dollars.

The Canine Chronicle Staff Debates Trends in Pop Culture



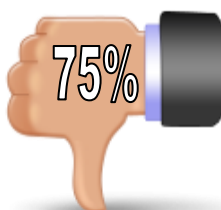
Celebrities and Twitter

Just last year celebrities such as Chris Brown, Nicki Minaj, and Zayn Malik have all deleted their Twitter accounts due to conflict with fans and hateful things being said all over their newsfeed. Do you think that celebrities' using social media hurts their image?



Snapchat

Snapchat is an app for smart phones that allows you to send pictures and videos to your friends for a maximum of ten seconds. Are you a Snapchat user?



NBA Player Comes Out

Recently, NBA player Jason Collins became the first male athlete in a major American team sport to come out as a gay. Do you think that the media should have made such a big deal about the athlete's decision?

Safety at Large Events

In April, the Boston Marathon finish line was bombed by two young men that injured 264 people and killed three. After these events do you still feel safe going to large events?



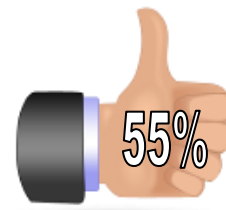
Zombies

Lately, there's been a lot of talk about zombies. Zombie survival kits and guides have been put together to keep people alive. With all the talk of zombies, do you feel prepared for a possible upcoming "zombie apocalypse"?



'Iron Man 3'

Iron Man 3 is an American superhero movie focusing on the Marvel Comic book character Iron Man. Have you seen the new movie yourself?



Do glasses make you look smarter?

DIRECTIONS: Take an appropriate picture of you or a friend with these hipster glasses and send it to us at pwarring@auburn.wednet.edu. We may publish it in our June Edition.



We want to see! (Puns are too mainstream.)

URBAN DICTIONARY

Defines Teen Lingo

Ashton Serratos

Admit it, we don't know everything. We rely on the internet way too much for our intelligence. If we don't know a word or phrase many of us will simply jump on Dictionary.com and look it up; but what do you do if the word you need isn't in the regular old Webster's dictionary? That's where the world's slang dictionary, the Urban Dictionary, comes into play.

The Urban Dictionary was founded in 1999 by Aaron Peckham, who was a computer science major at California Polytechnic State University. The intention for the website was to include literal definitions, as well as descriptions of modern day slang and cultural words and phrases.

Many of the definitions, however, are not completely truthful. Definitions span from

being humorous to random to offensive. One of the first definitions published on the site was "the man", defined as "the faces of 'the establishment' put in place to 'bring us down'".

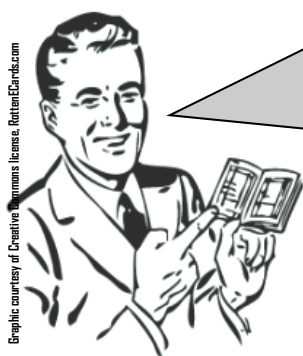
These definitions help modern day terms pass more fluidly throughout the

teenage generation, you don't see many adults that use words like "swag" because the majority of them have no clue what an Urban Dictionary is. For that reason, most adults don't use the same words and phrases as a teenager does (and if they did they'd probably receive a few weird looks and laughs here and there). Take it as a compliment if an adult copies your word choice, they're trying to be just as hip as you pants-sagging, hat-backwards kids that they have to put up with anyways.

Anyone can submit a definition into the Urban Dictionary, as long as it is sent from a valid email address and gets enough "publish" votes by the editors. You can also choose to edit a submission on the site if you think something should be added or removed (you don't even have to submit an email address).

Like many other social media platforms, The Urban Dictionary has the universal like and unlike buttons. Any visitor of the site can click these buttons giving feedback on the definition they are found on. These likes and unlikes increase popularity on a post and determine which definitions are shown on the opening page of the website.

Tools like the Urban Dictionary help students improve their knowledge of slang or modern day terms... But how well do the students of Mt. Baker do against the smarts of the Urban Dictionary?



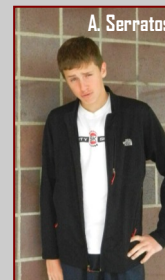
Graphic courtesy of Creative Commons license, BartenderCards.com

Y.O.L.O.

Urban Dictionary Definition Y.O.L.O.:

The abbreviation for "you only live once". Also serves an excuse for anything stupid that you have ever done.

Student Definition Y.O.L.O.: "The difference between stupidity and wisdom." —Garrett Miller



SWAG, SWERVE

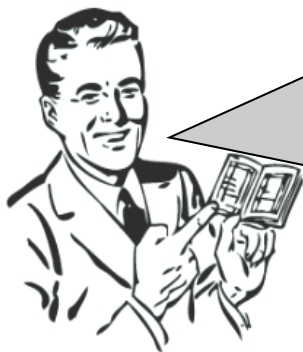
Urban Dictionary Definition SWAG: Appearance, style, or the way he or she presents themselves.



Student Definition SWAG: "Stupid immature 'boys' who sag their pants and look stupid." —Gabi Yoxtheimer

Urban Dictionary Definition SWERVE: Comes from the song "Mercy" by Kanye West. It is often used to imply dodging someone. Sometimes used as one's snarky comeback leaving the opponent absolutely speechless.

Student Definition SWERVE: "Moving your hand in a sassy way indicating that you should leave before I hit you." —Gabi Yoxtheimer

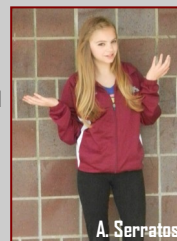


TEXTPECTION

Urban Dictionary Definition Textpection: The feeling one experiences when waiting for a response to a text message.

Student Definition Textpection:

"What you're expecting in 'text' when you pick up a book maybe...? I literally have no idea. I'm just trying to be smart, and this word probably has no real meaning." —Makenzie Deshler



TBH

Urban Dictionary Definition TBH: To be honest. You'll find it most on Facebook when girls make a status saying something along the lines of "like for a TBH" and people like in hopes of getting a slightly personal post on your wall about how nice and pretty you seem and how you and that person should talk more, when really they could care less about your existence.



Student Definition TBH: "It means 'to be honest' and tell people the truth but say it as nice as possible." —Alida Johnson



Zombie

Craze Captivates Pop Culture

Spencer Hochwalt & Jhordin Prescott

Zombies are fictional undead creatures that are often seen in horror and fantasy media. They are typically shown to be mindless, reanimated corpses that hunger for humans and especially for their brains.

But why are zombies so popular? What makes us watch *The Walking Dead*? Why do we like watching possessed dead bodies eating and killing people?

Eighth grader Derek McKay said, "[I like them in games because] they are fun to run around and shoot."

Who first invented zombies? The concept of zombies we have today probably was derived from Haitian Vodun, or voodoo. According to their beliefs, there were people called Bokor, or sorcerers, that practiced dark and light magic. They could revive dead people which would follow their every command, as they had no will of their own.

The 1968 film *The Night of the Living Dead*, directed by George A. Romero, first introduced the mindless, flesh eating qualities that our zombies have today. This is evident from the movie's synopsis, or summary as shown on IMDb (Internet Movie Database). "A group of people hide from bloodthirsty zombies in a farmhouse."

One of the most popular zombie related pieces of media around now is *The Walking Dead*. It was started in 2010, and is currently in its fourth season. It is about a Police officer named Rick Grimes who leads a group of survivors in a world infested by zombies. It has been nominated for awards forty-two times, including for a Golden

Globe, and has won ten other awards.

Additionally, Michael Jackson's song, "Thriller," amplified our already immense love for zombies. The album was released in 1982 and the music video was released on December 2, 1983 which has since won two Grammy Awards and four MTV Awards.

According to Wikipedia, there are 667 zombie films to date, which does not include all of the zombie related TV shows. There are also 116 official zombie related games to date, meaning ones that are only available via purchase.

Zombies are not only confined to media though. In Seattle on August 17 at Magnuson Park, there will be a 5k (3.10685596 mile) zombie run. You can sign up to run from the zombies, or you can get a full zombie makeover to become one and be motivation for the runners.

But do zombies affect our school? It is apparent that a majority of our school population is enthralled in *The Walking Dead* and Black Ops zombies, but otherwise, it does not appear to be anything more than a homebound habit. Of course, people talk about them, but there is no mass hysteria when a new episode or game-mode (respectively) comes out.

As additional proof, McKay also commented, "I don't go around talking about zombies."

If *The Walking Dead* was cancelled, there probably wouldn't be any noticeable difference to our school community. But will this trend continue? Will zombies continue to be a popular part of our society, or have they ran their course?

Seventh grader Jonathan Casey commented, "As long as they stay in media and don't try to take over the world, they're O.K."

Some zombies from the popular first person shooter, Call of Duty: Black Ops, Black Ops has sold around 13,700,000 copies so far in the U.S. alone.



Photo courtesy of Creative Commons license, Beefjack.com

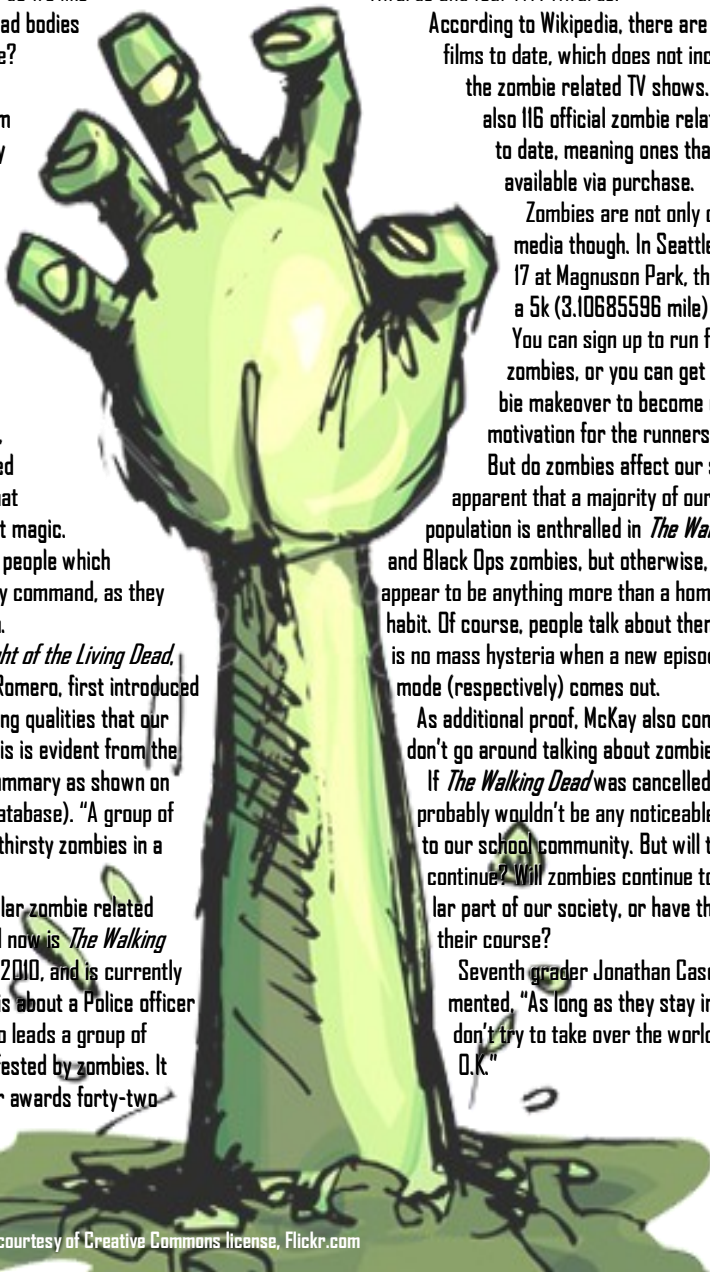


Photo courtesy of Creative Commons license, Flickr.com

Zombie Survival List

- Running shoes/ dependable hiking shoes
- Food that won't go bad (Flour, Cat Food, Vinegar, Oil, Crackers, Jerky, etc.)
- Fire starters/ Matches
- Compass/ map
- First Aid
- A couple of sharp weapons that won't slow you down
- Clothes that can endure the climate (Wear multiple layers and make sure every inch is covered.)
- Stay away from big cities
- Find shelter (Make sure there are no ways in that you don't know about.)
- Duct tape
- Garbage bags
- Back packs
- Can opener/ Swiss army knife
- Canteens (as many as you can carry) Iodine (to purify water)
- Binoculars
- Hand-held radio
- Portable generator
- Sleeping Bag
- Multi-tools
- Fishing gear and hunting gear
- Flashlight (extra batteries)
- Sunglasses
- Carabiners
- Buddy up
- Don't forget to take care of your hygiene every once in a while! (Soap, deodorant, hand sanitizer etc.)
- For girls with long hair: PONY TAILS! Make sure you braid your hair!
- A personal item
- A place so that your family can meet up if separated

Fashion Over Time:

How will today's trends affect the future of fashion?

Ashton Serratos & Jessica Perez

Every decade brings new fashion. The 60's, 70's, 80's, and 90's have all contributed to fashion, but what influence does this decade have on fashion regarding future earth inhabitants?

Students here at Mt. Baker have been exaggerating on outfits lately. "Nerdy" 3-D glasses, suspenders, and over-sized sweatshirts seem to be a thing of the past, when really they were in style just a few months back.

As the seasons change, fashion choices vary to accommodate the weather. People won't be wearing layer upon layer of clothing in the middle of summer, just as tank tops in winter wouldn't be the best choice to keep you warm.

"[The most annoying thing I see people wear is] boots with short in this weather... it's too hot for that." Said Aurelio Payan.

However, weather isn't the only thing that changes fashion. Media changes trends also. So called "tumblr girls and tumblr boys" with their "hipster" clothing options leave

some craving a wardrobe makeover as well as a shopping spree at the local mall.

"[My style is] preppy, a little edgy, my style is constantly changing. [My favorite place to shop is] Alley Kat or Forever 21." Said eighth grader Gwen Siviengxay.

Maxi Keodouangsa had the following to say about her style, "[My favorite place to shop is] H&M. [I wear mostly] shirts and dresses, no jeans."

Popular movies and TV shows also influence their audience's style choice. Perhaps a character in a person's favorite show always wears an array of graphic tees and a certain type of shoe. The viewer in this case might go looking in stores for the same shirt and shoe combo so they match the fashion sense portrayed by the character on the show.

Music is another fashion changer. Look back at artists like MC Hammer who helped make parachute pants a major fashion statement with his song "U Can't Touch This".

Or even in recent times, Macklemore and Ryan Lewis, the duo that started a major thrift shopping fad with their song "Thrift Shop".

When asked if she thought thrift shopping was cool, Siviengxay said, "No! Just because there's a song about it, doesn't mean it's cool."

"[Thrift shopping isn't cool because] you could be wearing someone's clothes that died." said Keodouangsa.

Our generation's style is changing, and we are starting to recycle trends from the past.

Ray Bans have jumped in popularity in the last year, but the company first began making the eyewear in the 1930's. "Aviator" sunglasses were the first pair created by the brand. They were for an American test pilot who damaged his eyes and wanted eye protection that worked but also looked sophisticated.

Tube socks (in today's sense, socks like Stridelines and Nike Elites) became popular in the 60's. The socks were usually white in color and had multiple colored stripes near the top of them. Striped tube socks were commonly spotted in sports, many tennis and football uniforms during the time featured tube socks.

Lace is a fashion trend that seems to be making a comeback; the fabric was created in the early 16th century and is called openwork fabric. You can see it today in crop top over shirts and dresses found commonly in store like Forever 21, Alley Kat, Wet Seal, Etc.

Vans are very popular with teenagers these days also. The company first started out in Anaheim, California on March 16, 1966. On the first day of opening, the store sold a total of twelve deck shoes (now known as "Authentic"). Back then, the shoes were priced at around \$2.49-\$4.99 a pair. This is a major difference from the price today which is around \$40.00 a pair.

"[The weirdest pair of shoes I've ever seen] is Nike Airforces with high heels for women," said Payan.

"Galaxy Nike's [are the weirdest shoes I've seen]." Keodouangsa stated.

Illustration by A. Serratos



Today's fashion sense is a bit over the top— but everyone's style is inspired by something, express yourself.



J. Prescott

Normal? New trends surface and change at MBMS frequently. Nike Elite socks, as well as many other changing trends, are the favored as a popular style at Baker.

Skinny Jeans

Skinny Jeans seem to be a popularity at schools. Especially in middle schools. The most popular seem to be colored jeans. Even boys wear them. Some students may wonder why students wear them, but the real question is: should boys EVER wear skinny Jeans?

To some, it's a straight out yes. To others, it's a cold no. Then the people that think it depends who wears it.

This question was answered by two seventh graders. Allysa Hansbrough stated, "Yeah, [boys should wear skinny jeans because I think it's ok for them too]."

Trendae Umi Tuato'o has another opinion said, "No. Never!"

Another question asked was: if you were a boy, would you wear Skinny Jeans.

Hansbrough said, "Yes."

Umi Tuato'o stated, "No!"

A high school student, Tristan Naranjo, stated, "[Boys should never wear Skinny Jeans] because it's too tight and cuts off circulation."

Although some think that boys should wear skinny jeans and others believe they shouldn't, everyone has their own opinion on what they think.

Only we can accept it.

Sock Trends

One trend that has seemed to be taken highly seriously throughout the country is how you wear your basketball socks. Whether you're going to the grocery store or just hanging out with friends outside, people will acknowledge your socks. They'll get mad if you don't wear your socks "right"! Is there even a "right" way to wear your socks?

"Yes, there is, right where your calf starts" replied Caleb Goodspeed.

Patreon Lee agreed, "They go right under your calf and a little bit of wrinkles."

How do you feel about people that don't wear their socks correctly?

Isaiah Prescott answered, "I'm disappointed and I feel bad for them."

It seems fashionable to wear your basketball socks with slides (basketball players' version of flip flops) and basketball shorts why do you do this?

Vanessa Saeturn responded with, "They're comfy and they air out my feet."

"It's just something that I wear so I don't have to wear my basketball shoes," answered Goodspeed.

Not only is this new trend "fashionable" but it is a precaution that all basketball players take to keep their basketball shoes looking just right.

Sock Trends, Skinny Jeans Define 'New Normal' Teen Style

Gwen Siviengxay, Olivia Denton, Jhordin Prescott, Tashana Williams

Normal. Can you describe the word "normal"? What is normal to you? Normal is hard to define, isn't it?

Normal is so different or everyone, it's . . . complicated.

"I think 'normal' just depends on who you are... It's always good to be different," said Makayla Tilton, eighth grader.

Trends are everywhere, too. Magazines show the season's trends and people follow it almost instantly.

There's some kind of... need to fit in, especially in middle school where students are still trying to figure out who they are.

"[Now normal is] more texting, less talking, more video time, less physical activity, and more Toms and less Reebok," Eighth grade teacher, Mrs. Carnahan said.

But normal isn't just the clothes you have and wear, it is how you act. To some people, if you have "swag", you're cool. But really, what is that?!

"I think that some people stand out and be themselves, but most are too scared to be who they really are, so they hide behind others," Eighth grader, Rebecca Wilson commented.

It is true that there are very few people who decide to be brave and stand out. But of those few people, they are just being themselves.

Josh Tiegs, eighth grader, said, "[Kids at this school would] stand out in front because there are different kinds of kids [at this school]."

For a while, Normal was, and maybe still is, North Face jackets, Yoga Pants, Toms, and Uggs. It seemed as if you had one of these items, you were normal or you fit in.

Normal has so many aspects of it, it's almost indefinable. When asked to define normal, it is always hard to explain.

'Annie, Jr.'

Wows Audiences

Ashleigh Carman

This year's school play, directed by our very own choir and drama teacher Mr. Char, *Annie Jr.* This year the cast of *Annie Jr.* grew as one big family.

The memories they had together will never be forgotten by those in the cast. They all had problems but as a big family, they came to know that that was going to get them nowhere.

Annie Jr. had its flaws as well. Set pieces, props, and costume pieces were lost. There were many arguments. A lot of tension and frustration was also a part of the problem.

Along with the Christmas tree falling apart, and hats falling off the stage, and not removing some makeup, practices every day after school for two hours and homework, you could probably tell why the kids were so frustrated and crabby.

Talia Samuelson (Tessie) said, "It was really fun and through the process we became really close and we all put in hard work and it turned out great".

As a tradition, Mr. Char had cup-o-noodle parties with the cast a few times. Just as a little treat. That's when some smiles came out.

Roselle Rosales (Rhyonna's (Annie) high school sister) showed the cast a very useful energy exercise that they decided to do before the last days, day show started.

Alisa York wanted to get some thoughts on the eighth graders and acknowledge them. Very soon after, almost everyone was hugging and almost everyone was in tears. They really have grown to be a big family. Make up was redone and all was well. They can all admit that crying and makeup don't mix.

Yeh-Sun Lee (Grace Farrell) said, "What Mr. Char said was that we are the closest group he has had. We had some



Before the show the cast likes to warm up and sing a song together. During dress Rehearsal cast members liked to make memories and take pictures.

problems but we came together. Auditions we were against each other. We totally forgot about it and came together. It was my first play here at Mt. Baker and I really enjoyed it".

They are going to miss each other very dearly. This will be the last show for the eighth graders at Mt. Baker. The eighth graders will be missed and they will be remembered.

Thank you to all of the techs who help out. They did an amazing job helping with music, sets, painting, costumes

and so much more. Without them, the show would have been a disaster. The cast had wonderful dinners during show day.

Mr. Char said, "I cannot say enough great things about this year's cast and crew. In many ways, they embody the spirit of the Annie character. It was a pleasure directing these young actors as we made our way from tryouts to choreography to singing to acting and, finally, opening night."

BLAH BLAH BLAH

What do you think about our school play, 'Annie, Jr.'?

Compiled by Ashton Serratos



"Most kids were kind of interested [in the play]; some were paying attention and liked it. [I thought] it was great. I really liked the props. My favorite character was

Mr. Warbucks; he was pretty cool."

—Ryan Kvamme
Sixth Grade



"The play was ok... Mr. Warbucks in the London Cast (Garrett Miller) was my least favorite character."

—Trent Miller
Seventh Grade



"I really liked [the play] they all sang very well and did a good job remembering their parts."

—Autumn Conners
Seventh Grade



"It was a very fun experience. I got to play a villain in it which was very different from my character."

—Sylvia Jones
Eighth Grade

'Iron Man 3'

Fills Seats at Theaters

Cody Zipp & Jacob Baldrige

Iron Man 3, from Marvel Studios, came out on May 3, which recently earned a record \$21.5 million in China, on a Wednesday release, making it the highest opening day in the country's history; it hit \$300 million overseas around the world.

Iron Man 3 is directed by Shane Black, starring Robert Downey Jr. as Tony Stark (Iron Man) and Guy Pearce (Aldrich Killian).

The film is about the terrorist, Mandarin, coming and destroying Tony Stark's world.

With his back against the wall, Stark must survive by his own devices, and he will answer the question that has secretly haunted him: does the man make the machine or does the machine make the man?

IMDb.com gave it a rating of 7.9/10. *Iron Man 2* got a 7.1, while the original *Iron Man* received a 7.9.

Almost two million IMDb.com users gave it a 10, while, on Metacritic.com, 371 users gave a review on *Iron Man 3*, with 255 positive, 41 mixed, and 75 negative.

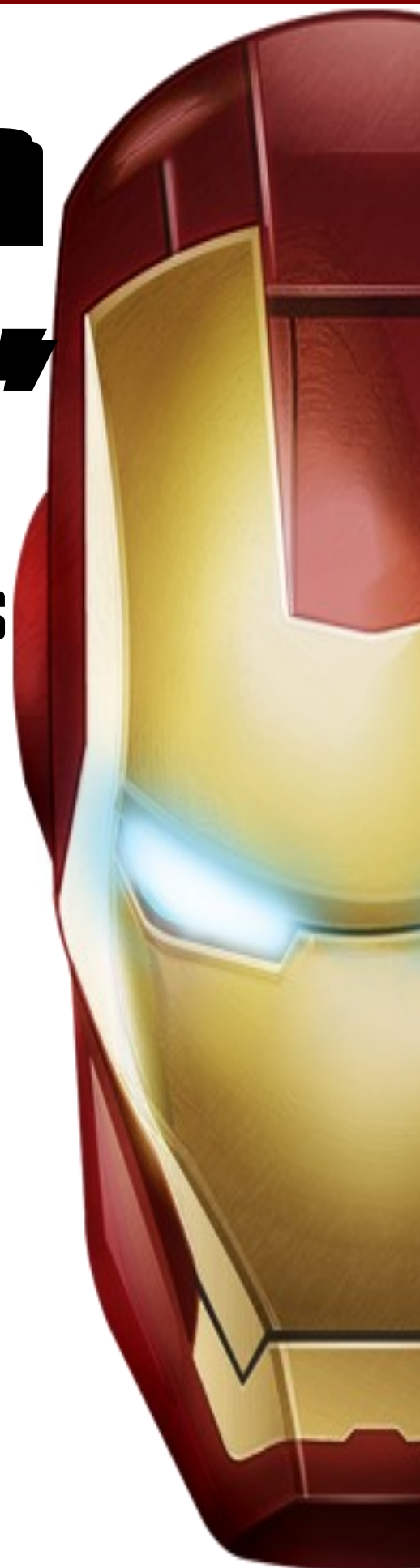
According to a7sus4, who gave it a 3/10, stated, "This movie was such a disappointment. First, the entire story, despite a few moments, was very loose, cliched, and cheesy. Second, it was jam packed with political propaganda. And third, so

many pointless and/or unlikely things happen, that they distract from whatever the story is/was supposed to be."

But Cajun67 offered a different perspective, giving it a 10 and stated, "LOVED IT! Possibly my favorite of the trilogy. The director shows us Tony Stark in ways we've not yet seen him before, and Robert Downey Jr. is absolutely brilliant in the role. This is the fourth movie to feature Iron Man, and each time Marvel makes the suits more amazing than before. Yes, the hardcore comic book fans will have a few gripes, but for the rest of us, this movie sets the bar very high for summer 2013 releases."

Washington Post's film critic Anne Hornaday stated, "A frantic, occasionally funny, finally energizing bricolage of special effects, explosive set pieces, sardonic one-liners and notional human emotions, this branch of the Marvel franchise tree feels brittle and over--extended enough to snap off entirely."

Mgastryker gave it a 5, and stated that it's "better than *Iron Man 2*, but not better than *Iron Man 1* or the *Avengers*. The story line was decent, but it was slightly confusing and fast-paced. The story did not follow the comics and the powers of Extremis were a little over exaggerated."



May

Locker Lottery



Ashleigh Carman, Anabell Cervantes, Jessica Perez

Eighth graders Adrian Sanchez and Claire Jackson, seventh graders Samuel Onishchenko and Kyla Poquiz, and sixth graders Andrey Grishchenko, Kassidy Linville lockers were chosen for this month's edition of Locker Lottery.

What movie are you looking forward to this summer?

AG- *Fast & Furious*, because I like the *Fast and Furious* movies.

AS- *21 Jump Street*.

SD- *Iron Man 3*.

CJ- I don't have a favorite movie, but *Catching Fire*.

KL- *Scary Movie 5*.

What is your biggest pet-peeve?

AG-GIRLS!

SD- My sisters.

KP- Pencil tapping.

CJ- When people tie shirts in the back.

KL- When people have messy hair, and they know, but still don't fix it.

What do you find to be the most pointless sport?

AG-Golf.

AS-Golf, because it's just stupid.

SD- Baseball.

PK- Pickleball.

CJ- Golf.

KL- I don't think any sport is pointless.

Do you think guys should be allowed in volleyball?

AG-No, because it makes the guys look funny.

AS- Yeah, because it's a sport.

SD- Yes because it's fun.

KL- Yes but if they don't look at girls the wrong way.

KP- Yes because we need some more strong people to help.

CJ- Yes because a lot of guys have strong arms so they can help serve.

What is the weirdest holiday in your opinion? Why?

AS-St. Patrick's Day.

SD- Halloween. There is no point to it.

KP- Halloween, because you dress in costumes for free candy.

CJ- St. Patrick's Day.

Pho.to.com



KL- May Day. It's a day about flowers, but there's fights and protesting.

CJ-Jump up and down, so I could half float and half fly.

What are some crazy outfits you see people wearing?

SD- Polka dot afros with long pink socks

KP- Tutus.

AG-Pink skirt and a purple shirt.

CJ- When people tie-dye sweatshirts. I saw someone wearing printed shorts with leggings. I feel embarrassed for her.

KL- Mrs. Winters outfit on the last pep assembly.

What's the very last thing you want to do before you die?

AG-Kiss the girl I like.

AS-Go to Australia.

SD- Go to the moon.

KP- Meet a famous person.

CJ- Go to Disneyland.

KL- I would like to go on a trip around the world.

If you went to Mars what would be the first thing you do?

AS-Try to jump off.

SD-Look for life.

KP- Sight-see.

KL- Run around; see how far I can go.

What are some holidays you are looking forward to this year?

AS-Christmas, Halloween, Thanksgiving, because my birthday is close to [those holidays].

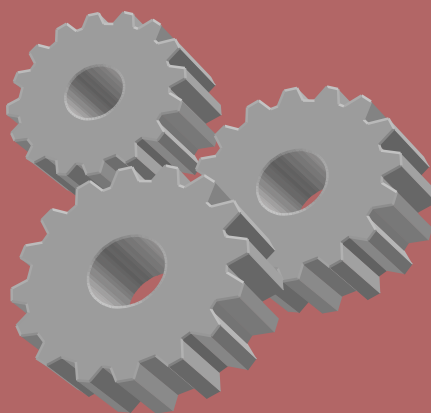
CJ- My birthday

KL- The Fourth of July, [it] starts the summer... And Halloween. We get to dress up for Halloween.

What

GRINDS
My
GEARS

Spencer Hochwalt, Kate Hon, Billie Hieronymus, Jhordin Prescott



All graphics in feature courtesy of MS Clipart

Disagree? The segment 'What Grinds My Gears' is presented as opinion and does not express the views of all MBMS students or The Canine Chronicle. If you would like to express your opinion, write us a letter and you may be published in our next edition.

"You must use a No. 2 pencil or your test may not be scored."

We've all heard these words on the MSP Test and, let me tell you, they do not float my boat.

I only willingly use mechanical pencils, because I personally don't like splinters pricking my skin as my hand flows across the paper.

What really gets me though is when you're writing an essay, the pencil seems to break as soon as you get a brilliant idea. You have to sharpen the pencil and then you get even more perturbed because the pencil sharpener only sharpens one side.

By the time you sit down again, you have forgotten that idea that will make your essay come alive.

It doesn't really matter anyways, because you've either got a really sharp pencil with the lead holding on for dear life, or you have a really dull pencil that makes writing look about as neat as a caveman and as gray as George Washington's hair.

Any writing that's there feels like it will blow away in the wind, so your great idea couldn't even be readable anyways.

The whole situation could've just been avoided if you could just use mechanical pencils on the MSP.

—KH



You know what really grinds my gears?

People who use hashtags on Facebook. Hashtags are for Instagram and Twitter, to give people a way to connect their posts with other similar posts that somewhat relate to the same topic...

...Not so that you can express your feelings on Facebook without putting them into complete statements and thoughts "#happy #lonely #confused."

Because you know what? #ICouldCareLess.

Is it really that hard to add it into a sentence and post it as a status? The correct answer is "No, it's not."

Putting hashtags on your Facebook posts is like a car at a red light, it needs to stop. All you have to do is add on a few words and BOOM your 50 percent less annoying than you were about 30 seconds before hand.

If you want to be a lazy internet junkie and use abbreviated phrases, create a Twitter account. It will be one of the smartest decisions you've ever made.

Honestly, I don't mind clicking your un-friend button if you can't figure out I don't want to see hashtags on my newsfeed.

So next time you feel #ecstatic, remember, nobody wants to see your irrelevant hashtags on their timeline, especially not me.

—BH



You know what really grinds my gears? People who waste their opportunity for an education.

The imbeciles that don't try or even care. It just makes me mad to think that people here decide not to learn. In other parts of the world, there are people that fight for and die for a free education.

Some people think that they are "too swag" for school. Those people will be the ones working 12 hours a day, making minimum wage, and living in their parent's basement, or in a cardboard box on the side of the road.

Most of the stuff we do in school isn't even that hard. If people actually paid attention to the teacher once in a while, maybe, JUST MAYBE, the subject would make more sense to them.

The people that go to school without an intention to learn or do anything productive are just wasting tax-payer dollars.

People are paying for all kids and "swaglings" (they are too cool to be kids, yet they are not fully grown) to have a chance for a better life than living in the slums pay-check to pay-check.

—SH



Do you know what really grinds my gears?

Liars.

If you have something to say to me, it better be the truth and nothing but the truth.

Don't worry about me, I can handle the truth, but the thing is that YOU can't.

There's a difference between joking and lying, but if you can't seem to see the line that has been drawn there, don't talk to me until you figure it out.

If you think that I'm going to sit around and put up with your "true" stories, you obviously don't know who I am.

I can really care less about what you're saying! You are so annoying and I'd much rather listen to a kill-me-now story, than one of your many made up adventures.

I don't know who you're trying to impress, and it just shows that you don't have any respect for me or yourself.

You really need to focus on yourself, if you need attention THAT bad. It isn't healthy.

In the end I'm not going to put up with you. You're better off seeking someone else's attention, because you aren't going to get any from me.

—JP



You *May* Want to Celebrate These Holidays

Jacob Baldridge

May, good old May. There is Hamburger Day, Penny Day, Star Wars Day. But with good comes some bad, we all hate to clean our rooms, but guess what there is a holiday for that. There are many lesser know holidays in the USA that occur during the month May. Here is a list of some of them that go all month.

American Bike Month: Take joy in riding a bike.

Asparagus Month: Time to harvest.

Asthma and Allergy Awareness Month: There is some pollen in the air.

Flower Month: April showers bring May flowers.

National BBQ Month: Time for a spring cook out.

National Duckling Month: It's that time of year.

National Physical Fitness and Sports Month: It's sunny out; NOW GET OUTSIDE!

Below, you will find a list of May holidays.

5/1 May Day

5/2 National Truffles day

5/3 Space Day

5/4 Star Wars Day

5/5 Cinco De Mayo

5/6 No Diet Day

5/7 Teacher Day

5/8 No Socks Day

5/9 Lost Sock Memorial Day

5/10 Clean Your Room Day

5/11 Twilight Zone Day

5/12 Mother's Day

5/13 Tulip Day

5/14 Dance Like A Child Day

5/15 National Chocolate Chip Day

5/16 Wear Purple For Peace Day

5/18 Visit Your Relatives Day

5/19 Armed Forces Day

5/20 Strawberry Picking Day

5/22 Buy A Musical Instrument Day

5/23 Penny Day

5/25 Towel Day

5/26 Blueberry Cheesecake Day

5/29 Paper Clip Day

5/30 Hole In My Bucket Day

5/31 No Tobacco Day

May Horoscopes

Billie Hieronymus

Aquarius (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18):

You're in disbelief that Puff the Magic Dragon will lead to your sudden destruction.

Pisces (Feb. 19 – March 20):

Avoid zebras at all cost, because they'll lick your lollipop.

Aries (March 21 – April 19): An

apple a day won't be keeping your doctor away.

Taurus (April 20 – May 20):

Watch out for the pack of wild monkeys trying to eat your birthday cake.

Gemini (May 21 – June 20): Don't

eat dumplings, and don't ask why.

Cancer (June 21 – July 22): Bet-

ter watch the clock, your time is ticking.

Leo (July 23 – Aug. 22): Eating

Nutella will lead to a sudden change of height.

Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22): When

life gives you lemons, make beef stew.

Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22): Listen

to Justin Bieber; he will inspire you to be a better person.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 – Nov. 21): You

may have a sudden desire to eat octopus while playing the banjo.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 – Dec. 21):

Be careful when eating mangos. You never know what your mom will be wearing that day.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan. 19):

Truth be told, you are probably going to end up being a weatherman.

May Fools Puzzles

Alex Jabusch & Cody Zipp

M V Z I T B E L C L K F R H A
S S K F N A F D T J U G T P L
S R O O D T U O A N L N L K L
M I Q W L Q S E P N O I P O E
N V O T A R U O W M O M F Y R
E M K B E R P H R P S M K T G
Y T O W K S M E U K D I E G I
I P O T I F G E A D W W M L E
I L I C H R N F R I Z S R J S
F F L K U E S P R I N G F S U
E E V B G C R T U U T G G X C
S K M S N B V S W E Y W V K F
J A O U V I C P D M Q Z X V V
H Y O N K P A H O A N Q R D C
S T A R W A R S D A Y E G X I



ALLERGIES

FLOWERS

FUN

HAMBURGER MONTH

LEMONADE

MOTHERS DAY

OUTDOORS

POPSICLES

SPRING

STAR WARS DAY

SUN

SWIMMING

WARMER

