



Junior Spotlight—Rachel Sullivan

By Logan Conner

After sitting down with EHHS Junior Rachel Sullivan, we have learned some of the great things about being a junior.

Rachel is very interested in the medical field and wants to become a mortician. Because of Rachel's interest in the medical field, she has taken most of the medical classes the school offers, including all of Mrs. Kelley's classes to help prepare her for her future of becoming a mortician.

Rachel is involved in multiple clubs such as HOSA—Future Health Professionals and yearbook. She says HOSA helps her with her aspirations of becoming a mortician. She wants to go to a college that has a good mortician school but also is affordable. She is considering starting out her college classes at Nashville State Community College and moving on from there.

Rachel's favorite subject is Biology class with Mrs. Emerson and English with Ms. Atencio. She says, "I really enjoy Mrs. Emerson's biology class because I am always able to stay after school and ask questions and it also helps me with my future goal of becoming a

mortician." She also says that Mrs. Emerson will help her with college related affairs as well whenever she needs help.



Whenever Rachel isn't at school, she is usually at work or she is doing one of her hobbies such as watching horror movies or studying to become a mortician.

A large part of the reason Rachel wants to become a mortician is the ability

to help comfort a family during a difficult time in their life as well as her fascination with the human body.

Some goals that Rachel has for her senior year are to finish all of her classes and take more health science related classes because it is her biggest interest. She also wants to be a part of the dual enrollment program as well.

When asked to give advice to incoming freshmen Rachel said, "Always try to stay positive. You don't want to dwell on the negative side of life." Rachel says she always tries to stay positive even when things aren't looking the best.

For Rachel's senior year she will continue to be involved in yearbook and HOSA, but she will also be a part of work-based learning for the second semester of senior year.

When asked about her biggest inspiration, she responded with, "Mrs. Kelley, she has inspired me to work inside of the medical field, and she is a good role model."

Rachel will graduate with her fellow classmates in May of 2023 and will try to keep her usual positive attitude through the rest of her time in high school and afterwards.

Senior Spotlight—Milli Reed

By Eric Aldrich

Amelia "Milli" Reed is a senior at East Hickman High School who has been excited to share her high school experience with upcoming seniors before she graduates in May of 2022.

When asked about her favorite year at high school, Milli said, "Probably sophomore year because that was the year I did cheer. Cheering was the biggest part of my life that year." Milli has participated in student council helping plan many school events for everyone to enjoy and Spanish club with Mr. Angell. She was also one of the managers for the football team.

One thing Milli would change about her high school experience is "I wish I would have gotten more involved in the school, like joining more clubs and not quitting cheer." Specifically, she wished she would have joined the school's Beta Club.

Throughout her high school year, she supported her favorite sport, football, by participating in pep rallies and cheering for her team either on the sidelines or up in the stands.

When asked about one of her favorite classes, she responds by saying that Mrs. Polk's small and large animal

science has been her favorite class throughout her time at high school.

She also says Mrs. Polk was her favorite teacher in the school because of how Mrs. Polk cares about all of the students and how easy it is to talk to her. But on the contrary, one of the most challenging classes she took would be Matney's College Algebra and Honors



Algebra II classes.

One of the biggest changes in her high school career has been switching

high schools. Milli switched from Independence High to East Hickman during her freshmen year. She prefers East Hickman because she likes smaller schools, and her fellow students are more friendly and accepting here than at Independence High.

She also likes how the teachers have better relationships with the students and care more about the students. The hardest aspect of high school for Milli is being able to do things in private without getting caught in the typical high school gossip or drama. Besides that, she has enjoyed her time at East Hickman High and she wishes her senior year hadn't gone by so fast.

Milli plans to go to Mississippi State, majoring in animal science, in preparation for veterinary school. She plans to live on campus, but she plans to visit East Hickman again and come to the football games to support her Eagles. Milli says she'll miss seeing all her friends after she graduates high school, but she plans to stay close with Charlee Staggs and Jayda Redding.

Her advice for upcoming freshmen is, "Try not to worry about embarrassing yourself because it's more fun to just what you want and not care what other people think."

Don't forget to come to the senior graduation ceremony on May 14, 2022 at 2 p.m.

Medicine at Midnight: The Foo Fighters

By Caleb Phelan

The Foo Fighters are notoriously known for their hard rock/post grunge sound and have been releasing music and pumping out albums since 1995.

With their latest project *Medicine at Midnight*, it has gotten a lot of buzz and recognition.

With previous albums, Foo Fighters had its hard riffs and crazy drum beats, and their classic album *The Colour And The Shape* contained such iconic songs as “Hey Johnny Park”, “Monkey Wrench”, “My Hero”, and “Everlong.”

They have also won 12 Grammys, with 8 best album awards, 5 best rock song awards, and numerous other Grammys. They are even nominated for rock album of the year. This most recently Grammy nominated Foo Fighters record, *Medicine At Midnight*, adds more of a disco and classic rock type of feel.

With songs like “Shame Shame” and “Cloudspotter,” they give a very 1960s soft rock vibe, and while this is a big style change, the public has come to enjoy it more than scrutinize it.

They start to make a little bit of a

return to their rock-n-roll type of sound with songs like “Making a Fire” and “No Son of Mine,” which might be the reason people have come to accept this record, since veering away from the signature sound might cause fans to not embrace and listen to a record like this one.

With this album being such a drastic change in style, it has grown to an overall success for the band. This album has also been nominated for both rock album, and rock song of the year, which is the first time in the band's history that they have a shot to win both Grammys.

When they released the album, some people were hesitant to this new style change, but then people realized the change was a good fit for the Foo Fighters, just like how the *Jazz* album was a good switch for the iconic band Queen when they went from a good rock sound to a more disco, club-like feel with their songs.

The overall sound of the album sounds like they did a lot of experimenting with percussion type instruments. They also had back singers involved with recording the album and performing the songs live.

The title track, “Medicine At Midnight,” sounds more and more like something you would hear in a club in the mid-70s with the use of small bites of techno music, but not enough to make it a non rock-n roll song.

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The album was good—very well put together; it was a very fun album to listen to, and I enjoyed it overall. Additionally, the cover art of the album differs from previous albums and is a nod to the past with a retro 60s abstract almost psychedelic feel.

Senior Year: From a Senior's Perspective

By Ali Cochran

August 4, 2021. The sun beamed down on the freshly painted parking lot, and the sound of buses roared. On this day, I also walked through the grand hall for my last first day of high school.

Per usual, tables divided up alphabetically awaited anxious students lined up to receive their schedules. My last schedule was perfect- classes with all my friends and the ideal workload so that I could still have somewhat of a social life while taking my classes.

This was going to be my year. “I can’t wait to get out of here!” all my friends exclaimed, including me.

But, as May 14th grows closer, the realization begins to settle in that I am not ready for high school to be over.

I also began to realize that I could not be alone in my feelings of remorse. So, I took to our senior class student body for an accurate depiction of what it is really like to be a senior in high school.

The results are shocking and honestly reasonable.

When prompting senior Sierra Lampley with the question “Do you feel prepared after graduation?” She had this to say, “Surprisingly, I do not feel prepared for life after graduation. Everything seems much more real now that we’re close to being out in the real world, and I might not be prepared for challenges outside of being a high school student.”

The reality of being a senior has set in for her as well as me. Everybody told us it would be like this, but of course, we did not listen.

So, in an attempt to teach the underclassmen, Katie Bowdoin presents this word of advice, “Do not overwhelm

yourself with fancy classes. Colleges don’t care whether you took honors over normal English. Don’t push yourself to take harder classes to impress someone. Do what you can. Your mental health is most important.”

It is hard to be present when we are reminded of our future in every conversation we have. This year has been filled with crucial decisions that will lay the foundation for the rest of our lives.

I feel this year has crept up on us so quickly due to the fact that we lost most of our high school experience to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Madison Reed describes our altered experience like this, “Freshman year was my only normal school year. After that, pep rallies were all different, prom was different, activities were different. All of the things that make high school fun were taken away or altered.” Our high school experience, I believe, went by so quickly because we missed out on so many normal activities.

It is so easy to become so consumed by the future that you lose sight of the present, especially when the present is filled with uncertainty and stress. Kyla O’Guin states that the worst part of her year has been the challenge to, “manage homework, college applications, and scholarship applications at the same time.”

Many students have struggled with this experience, including me. In a word, senior year is overwhelming. Because of this, as a student body, we tend to wish our high school years away instead of embracing the memories in the

making.

Several students have shared their best memories from senior year. I have gathered from these results that the most important part of senior year is spending time with those closest to you while you still can.

Heta Patel describes it like this, “ I am making some great memories with people that I may never see again.”

This statement, I believe, puts all of senior year in perspective.

May 14, 2022 my life, along with many others, will encounter a drastic change. We will walk across the stage, through the grand hall, and out those large metal doors one last time.

We may never encounter one another again. Best friends may become strangers, and memories made will begin to fade.

Nonetheless, strangers will become new best friends, and new memories will be made in place of the blurry ones.

High school has been an experience that developed who I am today. It showed me my best friends, and it helped me decide what I wanted to do with the rest of my life.

In essence, do not wish your youth away. Graduation will be here before you know it. Slow down, breathe, and enjoy the moment while you still can.



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Staff Spotlight: Mr. Whitaker

By Andrew Tamayo

Due to the departure of East Hickman High School's former construction teacher, there was a vacancy open for a new staff member to join the East Hickman community. A few weeks into this year, the students and staff were introduced to a new construction teacher.

It is exciting to welcome Mr. Wesley Whitaker to the East Hickman community. He brings energy and a desire to see students quickly move to hands-on projects in the construction program; the school is excited to see all the new projects he presents to his students.

When asked about his experience teaching within Hickman County, he said, "I have really started to settle in and enjoy teaching my trade to some wonderful, talented students. When I started, my students had only been in the classroom. We were both ready to be in the shop and we have already created some awesome projects."

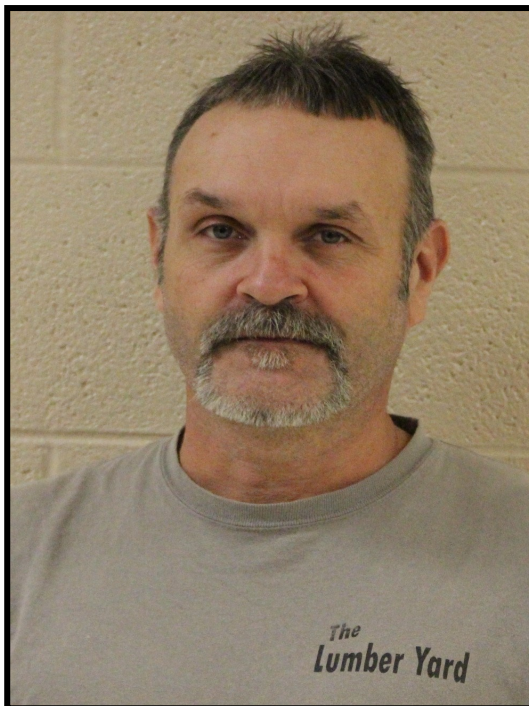
He also believes that getting retirement, as well as being able to settle down and not climb over buildings all day, is a positive about entering the teaching profession. However, he believes that not having enough time in a class period to wrap up projects is a negative.

As this is his first teaching job, he has to transition from his old job to his new. This has caused him some issues with getting adjusted to the new hours and not being outside a good portion of the time.

He described that being his own boss compared to having a more structured job environment has been the biggest change in moving into teaching.

Because of this, his schedule changed as he generally has more break time as of recently because of scheduled breaks such as Spring break and snow days.

There are many different inspirations that can cause someone to want to fill a position. When asked about what inspired him to teach, he voiced, "This has been my dream for about 10 years. I have been planning what I would do if given the opportunity. I received a phone call one



day and got off a roof and here I am!"

Mr. Whitaker comes to the school at what is hopefully the end of the Covid-19 pandemic. When asked how the upheaval of the virus has affected his life, he communicated, "I had it at the end of 2020, and was building a house. It hasn't affected builders, as much as building materials."

Most people generally have multiple things they are interested in. When asked about his interests and hobbies outside of teaching, Mr. Whitaker stated, "I love to cook BBQ

and watch sports and be outdoors."

As with any community, there are good things and bad things within it. When asked about his favorite thing about East Hickman, he commented, "Our small town comes together when needed for someone in need." This is one of the pros of living in a small community.

When asked about what he believed could be improved about our community, Mr. Whitaker stated, "A little growth wouldn't hurt." This is one of the cons that comes with living within a small community.

Everyone has a specific piece of advice that is uniquely theirs to share. When asked about his advice to students, he eagerly replied, "Follow your dreams, No dream is too big!"

Mr. Whitaker has had different jobs before he decided to teach within the school. When asked about what his previous jobs were, he said that he used to do framing, finishing work, flooring, siding, roofing, as well as anything else related to construction.

When asked about what he enjoyed most about his old jobs, he spoke about the fact that making smiles, seeing or hearing a customer say good job, and getting recommended for another project were some of his favorite things about his old job.

Because of how recently Mr. Whitaker was hired, one can expect to see changes within East Hickman High School. When asked about his ideas and goals for the construction program he declared, "First is to teach my students to measure. Our projects are for sale, any projects we have left will be donated to benefits."

We are excited to see what Mr. Whitaker will bring to the table with the construction program within the next few years. At the end of the day, East Hickman High School is happy to welcome him into the community.

From Paper to Screen

By Katie Bowdoin

We can all agree that education is susceptible to change. Everyone is sensitive to how things are absorbed when learning. Some people are visual learners and some others learn better by hearing it said to them; however, what happens when the entirety of a generation shifts to listening instead of reading? How does that affect relationships with learning?

Students all across the United States, and even the world, are showing a change in how they intake knowledge. In earlier years, books were the only source of information available to the masses, but now that technology has advanced far enough it makes time run thin. Society moves so quickly that there is not enough time to read while doing mundane tasks such as cleaning or babysitting. That is where technological advancements come in handy.

Audiobooks have become quite popular within the youth and the general population over the years. It is more efficient in time management, but with its perks come downsides. Although it is faster and easier, it also takes away from the ability to retain the knowledge

learned from the book. With books one can review it and find the answer using the index, annotate important phrases, and keep notes, but not with the audio books.

They are for quick learning and multitasking, I personally find them better for fiction novels. It is like one's own personal movie, just no picture. Although I like physical books more than audiobooks, I asked around for some more opinions.

I received opinions from a few sources who actually listen to audiobooks as well as actually reading novels. I asked Junior Eric Aldrich, "How do you think that audiobooks and books differ in terms of intake of knowledge?"

He responded with, "Audio books are to be listened to, which can cause the readers to forget things because they can't physically see it. I think you do not necessarily take in more knowledge but at the same time, it does not take away from the experience of the novel. If anything it adds to the entertainment by using acting and voices."

As someone who reads books, listens to podcasts, and audiobooks; I completely agree with him. I enjoy the voices paired with the novels; it creates

a sense of imagination. Just like Eric said, people can remember details in novels they have read, and audiobooks are a blur, but some disagree.

Senior Skyler Collier commented, "I like audiobooks, I think it goes well with our society. It is more convenient. When it comes to learning in the classroom, I am better at listening to instructions."

How does reading a book and listening to an audiobook differ in the classroom? The learning shift was caused by the fast technological advancements of society, in other words; we want things fast, quick, and in a hurry. No one has time to sit down and read books anymore.

I asked Senior Ali Cochran, "When you read books in class, did you listen to the audio book instead?" She replied saying, "I don't necessarily replace the book with the audio version, but a great portion of the book I will listen to in audio form. It's just easier to understand and remember."

The shift of learning has only just begun. Technology is advancing everyday, with new ways to learn and take in knowledge, who knows how we will learn in the future. Audiobooks are rising in popularity, but books will remain with classic nostalgia forever.

Interview with Our Principal, Mrs. Williams

By Brooklyn LaBelle

As this school year comes to an end, there are bound to be changes made for next year. Mrs. Williams, the principal at East Hickman High School, has one year under her belt, but she already has a lot of plans for next year.

Before coming to EHHS, Mrs. Williams worked in a school with an unusual structure. This school did not have administration there, so other teachers often went to Williams for answers to their questions and issues. This inspired Mrs. Williams to become a principal.

At the beginning of the year, the student body was introduced to a new principal and vice-principal: Mrs. Williams and Coach Brewer. These two only had a week before the teachers arrived for in-service training, so there was not much time for them to get used to their new positions.

Throughout the year, Williams has had, as she feels, some successes, but still has a lot to improve on. She has learned a lot from this year alone, like how committed our teachers are and how compassionate the students are.

When asked if she could describe the nature of the school that she strives to attain for EHHS, Williams quoted Marian Wright Edelman, “Education is for improving the lives of others and for leaving your community and world better than you found it.”

Mrs. Williams wants to push for a better education for her students, so they can better the community in which they live. Williams believes that “school is the vehicle to impart knowledge to kids,” and

to her, knowledge is power and something that can not be taken away.

As we move towards the next school year, there will be some changes made to the schedule, Mrs. Williams plans to take ten minutes from third period and then add five minutes to first and sixth



Surprise! Mrs. Williams delivers signs to seniors on a Saturday morning along with other teachers.

period.

Eagle Time is now going to be something completely different. It will be thirty minutes of student interest classes. It can be anything from photography, ACT prep, art, gardening, sign language, chess, origami, and so much more. You can find this survey in your EHHS classroom within Google classroom.

When thinking ahead to the 2022-2023 school year, Mrs. Williams would like to raise ACT scores and make informed decisions about classes from data. With this data, Williams would like to implement classes for both high-performing and developing students.

During the interview, plans for the PBIS days were discussed. This idea comes from Coach Brewer’s former school; they called them bashes. Students will get four days, one every nine weeks. There will be two full days and two half days. It will be up to the Student Council to choose the days.

The full days are going to be held off-campus; they could consist of going to the mall, movies, or something else. The half-days will be spent on campus with activities that get the students outside, possibly grill for them and just have a fun time.

She wants many, many students to be able to participate in these days. So, she would like for students to have good attendance and behavior.

Mrs. Williams believes that she has made the most out of this year and has lots of plans for next year. She has had the best time getting to build relationships with the students and teachers.

Coach Brewer will be moving to Hickman County High School as principal. Their year spent working together will solidify communication and collaboration between schools. What is her vision? She plans to spend at least ten years at our school, so this will be plenty of time to work together with teachers and students to see change and make good things happen!

“Always Have Here”: Senior Basketball Lady Eagles

By Connie Graves and Logan Conner

Ten years—more than half a lifetime if one is eighteen. Ten years is how long seniors Maddie Hobbs, Abbie Lampley, Ella Griffin, and McKinsey Kinnard have played basketball together. They are the only four, out of a group of many, who have stayed the course all the way through intermediate, middle, and high school to an outstanding senior year as district basketball champs.

However, they specifically remember the score of that very first game they played together as third graders—where they lost 57-0. Abbie remarks that “after it got to 57-0 they just stopped keeping score after that.”

Much has changed since practicing in Maddie’s basement on five foot goals, including the strong bond which these young women value and anticipate keeping for a lifetime. Practicing, conditioning, and playing basketball together for so long melded these four together. In fact, Ella and Maddie will go on to be college roommates at East Tennessee State

University this upcoming fall. Both will pursue degrees in physical therapy.

Abbie will be attending Freed-Hardeman where she will go on to play college basketball with an interest in biology and environmental studies. McKinsey’s plan includes attending



Abbie Lampley signs with Freed– Hardeman University

Columbia State and then on to Middle Tennessee State University to become a math teacher.

“We are all going to different places in life, for sure, but we will always have here,” Ella reflects. They know that there will be gaps when life gets busy for all, but they look forward to “picking right back up where they left off.”

The seniors already feel nostalgic even though the season ended only a few weeks ago. The emphatic favorite memory from their senior season was—as all were quick to respond at once—“district championship!” This awesome win not only capped off their final season but also left a satisfying end to many years of playing together. Ella stated that this year was “the best they have ever played.” It was gratifying for them to take the district win, 44-39, over a long-time and respected rival, Stewart County, who they had only one win against in freshman year.

This is the first district championship in school history for girls’ basketball, and even more history was made in the district tournament when Ella Griffin became the 3rd girl in school history to score 1000 career points for the Lady Eagles. Ella quickly hands her teammates the credit as she reflects, “I couldn’t have done it without people trusting me, giving me the capability of scoring, passing me the ball.” She goes on to say, “It felt surreal...the

(Continued on Page 11)

Activision Blizzard Buyout

By Jacob Scheuring

On January 18th, 2022, Microsoft has announced that they have purchased popular video game developer Activision. This news has left fans of Activision’s most popular franchise, *Call of Duty*, wondering what the future holds.

Activision Blizzard is known for releasing popular video games such as the hit *Call of Duty* franchise, *Overwatch*, *Diablo*, and *Candy Crush*. Microsoft CEO, Bill Gates, finalized the transaction coming to a total cost of \$68.7 billion.

This buyout is huge news for anyone who plays games developed by Activision Blizzard. Activision Blizzard has been in some hot water recently after getting accused of partaking in unsafe and “frat-like” behavior in the workplace. The lawsuit began when California’s Department of Fair Employment and Housing filed a lawsuit against the game giant. Activision Blizzard reached an \$18 million settlement and solved the case.

This news, coupled with the low public interest of the newest game in the *Call of Duty* franchise, *Call of Duty: Vanguard*, could mean good news for anyone who actively plays the games.

Microsoft has stated that most of the IPs (intellectual properties) that are owned by Activision Blizzard will also be appearing on Xbox’s Game Pass service. Game Pass is a subscription service that allows players to download and play Xbox games from across three console generations including Xbox, Xbox 360,

and Xbox One.

The service costs \$45 for one year of access, so being able to download and play games that have a retail cost of \$60 when they launch for a reduced cost is considered by many to be a great deal.

With Microsoft purchasing many games that are enjoyed by gamers on multiple platforms, such as Xbox, PlayStation, PC, and mobile, many gamers began to believe that these games would become exclusive to Xbox platforms.

In response to this, Xbox head, Phil Spencer stated “Activision Blizzard games are enjoyed on a variety of platforms, and we plan to continue to support those communities moving forward.” This message allows gamers who play on the rival platform, PlayStation, to rest easy.

It is likely that games that have been bringing in a lot of money will continue their production, like *Call of Duty*’s yearly releases. However, this would be good for franchises that have been dormant, it could mean a possible sequel or continuation for games such as *Overwatch*, which has a sequel in development, and *Candy Crush*, games that haven’t received sequels in more than 5 years.

Activision Blizzard games are known for bringing

in a large amount of income. However, they won’t bring in as much money when they aren’t received well by the player base. Games developed by Microsoft often are received better than games developed by Activision in recent years.

For example, Microsoft’s *Halo: Infinite*, released in 2021, received a user rating of 8.4 out of 10 on the popular review website Metacritic. However, Activision’s *Call of Duty: Vanguard*, released in the same year, received a user rating of 3.7 out of 10. The difference in reviews shows that Activision has stopped putting in the effort to release a good game and started to rely on fans that buy the game every year regardless of what is shown to them.

Anytime a company gets purchased, it can be a rollercoaster of emotions for fans of their products. But with what has been shown and said about the future of Activision Blizzard properties, many believe the franchises will be in good hands.

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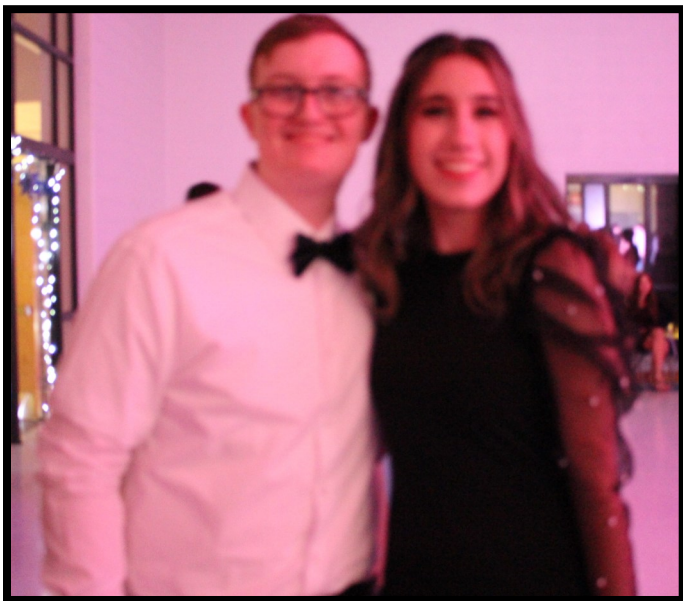
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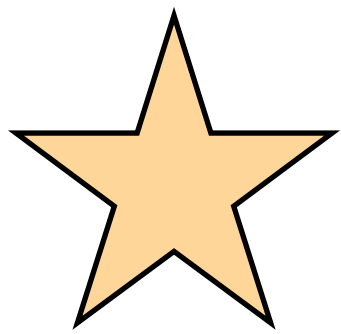
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“Thank You For Being a Friend”— the Story of Betty White

By Evan Beard

Entertainment pioneer and legendary actress Betty White tragically passed away just weeks short of her 100th birthday. As the first woman to ever produce a sitcom, White lived a life in which she strived to make the world a better place with her platform, fighting numerous obstacles and prejudices along the way.

According to her A&E Biography, White was born in Illinois on January 17, 1922, and her family later moved to California very soon after she was born. When the Great Depression hit, White’s father even built crystal radios to help make ends meet. Going on into her life after high school, Betty White originally planned to be a forest ranger as she had a large affinity for nature and its conservation. However, it being the 1940’s, this dream was shot down as women were not yet allowed to be rangers. This marked as a significant point in White’s view on women’s roles in society, which she would go on to reflect later on in life.

No longer hoping to be a ranger, White began to pursue writing, which in turn led to her exposure to performing on a stage. Inspired by the likes of Nelson Eddy and others, Betty White sought a future as an actress.

After volunteering herself to assist with the war effort in the second World War (Cleveland Magazine), White began looking for performing jobs. She was not hired, as she was told she had to be “more-photogenic” (The Lexington Herald), and as a result, she began her

work as a voice for radio, where she would read off commercials, make crowd noises, and do just about anything.

In 1949, shortly after *The Betty White Show* had begun airing on the radio, White made her first televised appearance co-hosting Hollywood on Television with Al Jarvis, which she eventually hosted by herself after he left. That same year, White co-founded Bandy Productions, which led to White starring in the comedy they created *Life With Elizabeth*, where she won a Los Angeles Emmy Award for her performance as the title character.

Additionally in 1952, White hosted *The Betty White Show* on television. It is around this time that White met female actress Lucille Ball, who would become a lifelong friend.

In 1963, White married Allen Luden, the host of *Password*, a game show that she appeared in numerous times. The 60’s also marked events such as her film debut in 1962’s *Advise & Consent*, and later in the 70’s, White appeared frequently in the *Mary Tyler Moore Show* and was a regular member of cast by season five.

The 80’s rolled around and so did the arguable highlight of Betty White’s career. From 1985-1992, White starred in *The Golden Girls* with Bea Arthur, Estelle Getty, and Rue McClanahan. This show resulted in another Emmy Award, and a nomination for every year the show ran.

The Golden Girls ended in 1992 when Bea Arthur decided to leave the

show.

Throughout the years afterwards, White mainly appeared as a guest star in numerous different shows, including *The John Larroquette Show*, where White received yet another Emmy, this time for Outstanding Guest Actress.

From there, White made an appearance on countless talk shows and game shows, including the Mary Tyler Moore reunion on *The Oprah Winfrey Show*. White continued to appear on talk shows for the rest of her life. In 2018, PBS made a documentary that even called her the first lady of television.

Betty White passed away days before her 100th birthday, carrying out her last of many good deeds, asking her fans to donate \$5 to a humane society, local rescue, or animal shelter in her name. This led to shelters being donated everywhere, with one shelter in Chelmsford getting over \$17,000. Another shelter in Boston was able to distribute over 100,000 pet meals as well because of the influx of donation in White’s name

White won a total of 7 Emmy awards, 24 nominations, a star on the Hollywood walk of fame, numerous comedy awards, and an unheard of number of other awards, nominations, and honors, including being named the honorary fourth mayor of Hollywood.

On January 17, 2022 *Betty White -- A Celebration* was released, and is available now in theaters. The movie features White alongside Morgan Freeman, Clint Eastwood, Tina Fey, Ryan Reynolds, and other notable celebrities who came to know the great Betty White.

Spider-Man: No Way Home Review

By Anna Breece

There will be spoilers throughout this article. In December of 2021, the final movie of the franchise, *Spider-Man: No Way Home*, made its way into the cinemas and immediately became the biggest movie of 2021. It started to bring in millions, within only a few days of the release Tom Holland has turned the Spider-Man franchise into something far larger than it was before.

Sony has produced all of the Spider-Man movies from Tobey Maguire’s to Andrew Garfield’s and now Tom Holland’s. Overall, Holland’s Spider-man is the most successful in bringing in money and also gained popularity from teen girls gushing over the newfound Peter Parker. Teenage girls aren’t the only ones fangirling over him as many older Marvel fans have stated that he is the best Spider-Man.

The film featured an All-Star cast with Tom Holland, Zendaya, and all of the older Spider-Man villains and previous Peter Parkers. Fans had started to come up with theories about who would be in the movie way before the trailer had even been released. These fans were pumped to find out that their theories on Tobey Maguire and Andrew Garfield were true. They were both in the movie along with the villains they fought in their previous movies.

Garfield denied fans' questions

about whether or not he was in the new movie, the actor repeatedly told interviewers and fans that he was done playing Spider-Man. Many believed he was telling the truth but the only truth is that he is just good at being an actor and lying. There was even a photo leaked showing Andrew in his suit. When Garfield was asked about the picture he told the people that the picture was just really good photoshop and continued on with his lie about being in the movie. Tobey was the exact opposite and told fans he was in the movie but with all of the different responses fans were getting, no one believed him.

The movie starts off with Spider-Man, also known as Peter Parker being harassed by people after finding out about Mysterio’s death. The cops are trying to track him down constantly and he goes to Doctor Strange for help. Strange gives into the idea of helping the kid out and uses a spell that affects the Multiverse, causing other characters from the previous Spider-Man movies to come into one universe. Spoiler Alert! Peter Parker’s Aunt May dies and

in result Peter almost gives up on his mission to get the villains redemption.

All of the villains from the movies were all brought into one including Green Goblin, The Lizard, Electro, and etc. Willem Dafoe, Green Goblin, did an amazing job going back and playing his old character in the new movie. One of the other villains that fans were ecstatic to see back on screen was The Lizard. After the movie arrived in theaters, jokes revolving around the character surfaced on multiple social media platforms.

Altogether the movie is by far one of the best Marvel movies of all time. According to Sony, *Spider-Man: No Way Home* has made more money at the box office than any other Sony movie. Before No Way Home, Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle was Sony’s biggest money maker which was quickly replaced only 10 days after the new Spider-Man was released.



China and Taiwan: Is War Imminent?

By Andrew Tamayo

In the past year, the chairman of the Chinese Communist Party, Xi Jinping, has made promises to reunite the People's Republic of China with Taiwan. Jinping views Taiwan as a breakaway province and therefore, uses that as justification for reunification.

The Eurasian Times reported, "President Xi Jinping intends to use force to reunite Taiwan with China by 2027, an influential Chinese academic who advises Beijing on foreign policy has said."

It may be obvious, but certain countries would rather not have the Chinese Communists invade the Republic of China or Taiwan. Taiwan is a democratic state and one of the only democratic states in eastern Asia.

Some of the Taiwanese allies include the United States, Canada, Japan, Australia, and New Zealand. The CCP's only formal ally is the Democratic People's Republic of Korea or North Korea. However, despite having only one formal ally, China would most likely be supported by Russia, Iran, and North Korea.

Taiwan, also known as the Republic of China, has had tensions with China, or the People's Republic of China, ever since the beginning of the Chinese Communist Party, or CCP. Things have started to escalate recently because of Jinping's remarks.

Ideological differences have historically caused tensions between the main political parties of the Republic and the People's Republic, the Kuomintang and the CCP. One a nationalist, democratic party. The other is a Marxist-Leninist one.

Historically, these parties have had conflicts. The military conflicts between these parties inevitably caused the Republic of China to flee to Taiwan. Specifically, this conflict was known as the Chinese Civil War. The Chinese Civil War started on August 1st, 1927. No one knew who the legitimate government of China was because of how many warlords and sovereign states existed in the region. This, at first, gave the Maoists and the Nationalists a common goal, to remove the influence of the warlords. However, once the warlords were weakened, they had nothing to unite over.

The leader of the nationalists,

Jiang Jieshi, later known as Chang Kai-Shek, started to become fearful of the communists. They had obtained the popular support of the peasantry because of their promise of free land to the peasants. Because of the sheer number of citizens in the peasantry class, this scared Kai-Shek.

Alpha History, a history website, suggests, "As in tsarist Russia, more than 80 percent of Chinese were peasants." This equated to about 439 million people at the time of 1949. That explains why Jieshi was fearful of the Maoists.

This fear quickly spiraled into a massacre of the communists known as the "purification movement." Jieshi had expelled the communists from his land and massacred the ones that remained.

This caused the remaining communists to flee the Kuomintang holdings and march to Jiangxi. The Kuomintang pursued the Maoists with the intent to massacre them. This marked the beginning of what would be known as the first Chinese Civil War.

This civil war ultimately led to two separate sovereign states, Communist China, which had to move northward to Shaanxi, and the Republic of China.

Luckily for the Maoists, they were given a chance to recoup when Japan decided to try to extend its sphere of influence by invading the many Chinese states that existed at the time not including Tibet. Once the Maoists had recovered from low morale, the Long March to Shaanxi, and political disunity, they allied themselves with the Republic of China to take down the bigger threat, Japan.

This conflict between Chinese states and Japan would more commonly be known as World War 2.

WW2 was devastating to the Chinese people. In fact, *The National WW2 Museum New Orleans* estimates that the whole of China, including the Republic of China and Maoist China, lost somewhere between 3 and 4 million soldiers in

the war. A tragic loss of life for the Chinese people.

Luckily for the Maoists, they were able to more easily recover their lost manpower as they could be more strict on conscription because of their ideology.

Because of ideological differences, no common goals, and the rising question of which ideology was more beneficial, capitalism or communism, conflict arose between communist China and the Republic of China.

Because the Republic of China had been weakened by World War 2, and the Maoists had an easier time recovering their losses, the communists won the Civil War.

After the establishment of the People's Republic of China and the Nationalist defeat in the Civil War, the Kuomintang fled to Taiwan. This led to the existence of two different Chinas, the Republic of China and the People's Republic of China.


This raised questions as to who was the legitimate Chinese government, the Kuomintang or the CCP? This led to a lot of discourse. However, in the end, with 179 voting for the People's Republic of China because of their cheap consumer goods, it was decided that the communists ruled mainland China and that the, now more democratic, Kuomintang would only officially rule Taiwan.

After all of this history, there is bound to be more conflict until one side truly wins over the other. Hopefully, this will not become the next World War. However, as of now, diplomatic talks may be able to settle the situation.



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The Institute by Stephen King: What Will Happen?

By Brooklyn Labelle

Stephen King is known for his horror stories. Out of his novels, *The Institute* by Stephen King was not only horrifying but very suspenseful. The novel was published in 2019.

The Institute has sold 108,443 copies. According to The New York Times bestseller list in 2020, *The Institute* was ranked fourth place and stayed on the list for fifteen weeks. Before this thriller novel, King has published sixty-three novels.

The novel starts off in Du pray, South Carolina. King introduces us to a former police officer, Tim Jaenson. But, the story quickly changes to a family of three in Minneapolis.

Luke Ellis, the main character, is very intelligent. When the reader first meets Luke he is talking about going to college. But before he had the opportunity he was kidnapped from his home.

Luke was taken to a remote compound somewhere in Maine. While in captivity the kids were tested on to see whether they had telekinesis or telepathy.

The kids are being tested on to see if they can become weapons for war.

During Lukes's stay at the institute, he was terrified and he did not if he would make it out alive. He saw two people who had lost their lives at the institute. One was due to the harsh tests that the staff put the kids through and Greda was severely injured by Harry, which led to her death.

When the kids were being tested on and behaved during testing they were rewarded with tokens. They could trade these tokens in for snacks, cigarettes, alcohol, time on a computer, and more.

When Luke first woke up in the institute he thought that he was still at home because the rooms in the institute looked just like his room at home.

On Luke's second day at the institute, he met Nick, Kalisha, Avery, George, and Iris. They told Luke what he needed to know so he could survive, and about everything they could do in the institute.

The way he would survive is to keep his head down and do exactly what

the staff says to do. They also told Luke about Mrs. Sigsby, the most ruthless person in the institute. (spoiler alert)

As time goes on the institute, Kalisha tells Luke of a mole among the staff. After some time and exchanges of information, Luke undergoes self-mutilation to escape.

King brings in a cast of characters when the others are sent away. Greta, Gerda, Avery, and Harry are the characters that will bring the resolution to the book.

The Institute by Stephen King is by far one of the more suspenseful of his books. There are many things that were unexpected, and that is what makes this book so enjoyable.

Who is the mole? How did they keep the staff distracted? How far will the institute go to keep these children? Where will the children go when it's over? How does Tim Jaenson play into the plot? What will happen to the institute? How bad was the testing? Where do they when they have finished their testing?

This book may be found at East Hickman Public Library and will be coming to East Hickman High School's library soon.

The Good and the Bad: Book to Film Adaptations

By Dana Bourgeois

Almost every popular book has a movie to go with it. Films tend to take out most of the things that popularize books for runtime. There are adaptations that live up to the books and adaptations that are not well received.

Jurassic Park was written by Michael Crichton and published in 1990. The book was about a scientist creating a theme park with living dinosaurs, but everything goes awry. A sequel was written in 1995 titled *The Lost World: Jurassic Park*.

In 1993, director Steven Spielberg directed *Jurassic Park*. It starred Sam Neil, Laura Dern, and Jeff Goldblum. The film earned over \$1 billion and was the highest grossing film of all time until *Titanic* took the spot in 1997. The website *Deadline* says the film re-release added more money, giving it a new gross of \$1.034 billion. The film was universally praised, primarily for its realistic special effects of the dinosaurs, which still holds up today and many think is even better than effects today. According to the website *Popular Mechanics*, many think it

is an improvement on the novel.

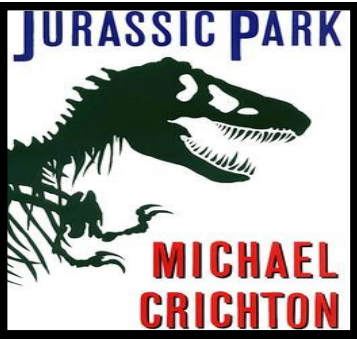
Jurassic Park spawned a popular franchise, starting with an adaptation of the sequel novel, which included hardly anything from the book in 1997. There was also a third film with no novel adaptation in 2001. In 2015, a sequel trilogy was released titled *Jurassic World* starring Chris Pratt and Bryce Dallas Howard. A sequel *Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom* was released in 2018, and a third and final film *Jurassic World: Dominion* originally had a 2021 release. Covid-19 delayed the film to 2022.

Not all book to film adaptations are critically acclaimed blockbusters. There are film adaptations that are not only despised by book fans, but also by everyone without the context of the book.

Percy Jackson and the Olympians is an adventure fantasy novel written by Rick Riordan and published in 2005. The book matched the success of the *Harry Potter* series. It also spawned a long franchise, ending in 2009.

In 2010, *Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Lightning Thief* along with its sequel in 2013 was released to negative reviews. The film review website *Rotten Tomatoes* gives it a score of 49%. Unlike the billion dollar *Harry Potter* film franchise, it was hated by most. The series did moderately well at the box office compared to the series, with a total gross of nearly \$430 million. A new series is being adapted and will be released on Disney+.

Some people see film adaptations as ways of marketing books without actually caring for the source material. Despite the many missteps of the films, some adaptations can be just as good or even an improvement. Done correctly, book fans will be the movie enjoyers. If it is done improperly, book fans can criticize the movie the worst.





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By Alyssa Tanner

The Junior and Senior Classes had

The performance consisted of all the girls dressed as Pitbull. They danced all around the stage and hyped

Both faculty and students participated more this year. Everyone brought new and exciting acts, as well as laughter amongst the crowd. This year—the show was truly one to remember. Be on the watch for next year's show time!

(Continued From Page 4)

It is obvious that this group is completely at ease with each other as they

Some days, they were at the school for 12+ hours with morning and after school practices. This time commitment pressed out many other extracurricular activities and even some family time. On the other side of this experience, they all are happy that they have stayed with it, even though there was loud laughter from all when they were asked if they ever thought about quitting. Each young woman was brutally honest in the confession that, yes, they have all thought about quitting at some point, maybe multiple points! However, on the other side of this successful season, they are

With the graduation countdown on, these young women are simultaneously looking forward and back. From this vantage point, they are certain that their future paths will always trace back to their time spent together here—no matter where they go, what they pursue, or how much time elapses...they will “always have here.”

Lip Sync Battle

2021-2022

