



Staff Spotlight:

Greg Matney

By: Maddie Evans

East Hickman High School truly has great staff. The teachers are very compassionate towards students and are always willing to help.

Mr. Greg Matney is one amazing teacher here at East Hickman. He teaches Algebra II and even coaches several sports: boys basketball, cross country, and track. We asked him a few questions regarding his experience here at East Hickman.

Mr. Matney began working here in 2007, when the school first opened. His usual day includes teaching, and when school ends, he prepares to coach either his basketball teams or track team. He estimates that he is at the school from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. He enjoys teaching and coaching, stating that it has been a fun experience.

When asked what skills and qualities are needed to be a teacher, he stated that patience and the ability to adapt to change are key in this kind of career. Mr. Matney did not always want to be a teacher. He realized that he wanted to pursue teaching “in the middle of my sophomore year in college.” He considered engineering but he felt teaching was a better fit.

When asked what he felt was the best part of his career, he says that “getting to interact with students and players” is definitely his favorite.

However, his least favorite part of his career is “all of the extra paperwork and duties.” Mr. Matney genuinely enjoys teaching and coaching despite the difficulties.

Shortly after he began teaching,



he decided to coach, also. He believed this was the next step in his career. When asked if teaching or coaching was better, he said, “It depends on the day.” He did admit that coaching was stress-relieving after a long day of teaching.

Similar to other teachers, Mr. Matney has personal goals set for teaching and coaching. His main goal for

teaching and coaching is to “develop a love for those sports or those topics” in his students. He believes that students developing a love for either of these things could help them succeed.

Mr. Matney sets goals not only for himself, but for his students, also. He expects his students to be prepared, ready to learn, study, and ask questions about anything that could help them succeed in his class.

Throughout the years, Mr. Matney has kept greater standards and expectations for his students. He believes that if students follow these expectations and standards they will be more successful in the future. He believes that his method produces better results.

When the principal, Mrs. Williams is absent for a day, it is necessary for someone to step in and fill her position. Mr. Matney often fills her position because he has the degree required and realizes how crucial this is. When asked how he felt about acting as principal, he stated that “it is a nice change of pace”. He also said that he liked interacting with the students and even meeting new students that he may not see on regular days.

Mr. Matney is a well-known and influential teacher at this school, regardless of if you have his class or not. He strives to help his students reach their full potential.

The Latest AI: “Deep Faking”

By Andrew Tamayo

Recently, a new form of Artificial Intelligence emerged: Image Generation AI. This technology enables someone to obtain a computer generated image of nearly anything simply by typing in a prompt. This new technology— can be extremely realistic and therefore, can be used maliciously.

Those who intend to use the technology maliciously use it to fake an image of someone doing something strange, mischievous, or even illegal. This is known as ‘deep faking,’ and it’s more accessible than one may assume.

There are many websites that exist to generate images with a text prompt. One of the most popular ones is called DALL-E.

On Tuesday, January 5th, 2021, the Artificial Intelligence company OpenAI released a blog post titled “DALL-E: Creating — Images from Text.”



“Bill Lee” eating a watermelon at Walmart

Created By “DALL-E” AI Imaging

According to OpenAI, “DALL-E is a 12-billion parameter — version of GPT-3 trained to generate images from text descriptions, using a dataset— of text-image

pairs.” This just goes to show how much work was put into this technology.

Another site,— craiyon.com, formerly known as DALL-E Mini, can create fake images as well. Although one may say that the Craiyon AI is not as realistic, it does not automatically detect if your

prompt follows any sort of Terms of Service and therefore, has the potential to become more dangerous.

Without any sort of enforced Terms of Service, those devious enough to wish to defame someone can do so without any real risk.

If they wish to get a picture of Kanye West committing

crimes, they can do so.

Despite all of the potential malice involved with these technologies, sometimes they can be used for non-

slandorous, informational purposes. Specifically, they can be used for restoration purposes..

An article on towardsdatascience.com states, “For example, JFK’s “Unsilenced”, which was never— delivered, was recreated using synthetic voice with his voice and speaking style will clearly get students to learn about the issue in a creative way.”



Flight Attendant falling out of a plane

Created By “DALL-E” AI Imaging

Image generation art can also be used to mint— non-fungible tokens, or NFTs, to make money for the creator.

NFTs are images that are stored on the blockchain in order to verify ownership. This technology has been used to centralize the sale of art.

Image generation— technology allows those who aren’t skilled at art to get nice-looking art for cheap or even free that they can sell on NFT marketplaces. Many have taken advantage of the— lucrative opportunity.

At the end of the day, image generation technology can be used in many ways either to benefit or hurt society.

By Logan Conner

That caused this so-called “red wave” to fizzle out and become a massive morale blow to Republicans started with the senate race in Pennsylvania where an open seat was up for grabs due to the retirement of Doug Toomey, a Republican senator. This opened the gates for two new candidates to become the next senator of Pennsylvania. Mehmet Oz, otherwise known as “Dr.Oz”, was the candidate for

The good news, if any, for

Faculty Sponsor- Connie Graves

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By Dana Bourgeois

Mental Health Today has found people who are sad usually feel better after listening to sad music. Sad music

The different genres and sounds of music is a way for teens to gather a better sense of their own personality. Being able to explore different sounds

It does not matter which genre is being played. Pop, country, rap, jazz, any type of music can be beneficial to mental health.

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How The Best Albums of 2022 Were So Successful

By Maleah Pinnix

2022 has been a great year for music. Releases from Arctic Monkeys, Conan Gray, and Beyoncé went straight to the billboard charts. With so many great albums, what sets the best apart from the rest?

Releasing an album comes with a commonly used formula on how to be successful. Every artist is assumed to release a single before the album drops. The single needs to be a preview of the total work. This will make listeners determine whether or not to find the time to listen to the album when it is released.

Harry Styles, for example, had one of the best music release years in history. After over two years of no new music, Styles dropped his lead single, “As It Was”. “As It Was” spent fifteen weeks at number one on the Billboard Charts. That achievement has only been done three other times in history. The single also became Spotify’s most streamed song in one day globally with 21.6 millions streams.

The announcement of *Harry’s House* shortly after the immense success of “As It Was” created chaos in pop culture. Everyone was thrilled for the album. The single, “As It Was,” boosted Styles career so much that the album was very well received and broke just as many records as the lead single did. Who knows if Harry’s House would have succeeded if “As It Was” were never dropped.

What comes with great music, comes with crazy fans. This is what prompted Sabrina Carpenter’s newest album *Emails I Can’t Send*.

In Early 2021, Olivia Rodrigo

released her debut single, “Drivers License”. The song hit crazy heights on the charts and on streaming platforms, and fans quickly realized who this emotional ballad was about.

After putting together a timeline of songs and pictures, it was decided the single was about Rodrigo’s ex, Joshua Bassett and his rumored girlfriend at the time, Sabrina Carpenter. Fans of the singer began to attack Joshua and Sabrina for hurting Olivia. They described Sabrina as a homewrecker and created many trends around the love triangle.

Over a year later, Sabrina Carpenter decided to release her side of the story within an album. Fans weren’t disappointed but were regretful of the way they treated her originally. The lead single “Because I Liked a Boy” shares her pain through the lyrics.

Sabrina sings, “Now I’m a homewrecker, I’m a **** / I got death threats filling up semi trucks / Tell me who I am, guess I don’t have a choice ... / All because I liked a boy.”

The drama of the love triangle, made *Emails I Can’t Send* one of the most anticipated albums of the year.

Although these albums were so successful, nothing can beat the triumph that *Midnights*, Taylor Swift’s 10th studio album, created. With an album that will inevitably blow up, she explores how she is perceived and how she perceives others. According to Spotify, *Midnights* demolished the single-day streaming record for an album with 184.6 million streams. The record was

previously held by Drake’s “Certified Lover Boy.” Before anyone could stream the album, Spotify shut down. This caused millions of fans to wait on the website for nearly 5 minutes before being allowed to stream the work.

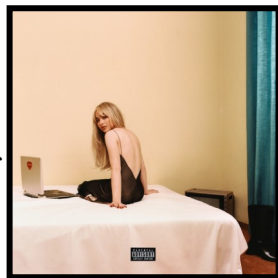
The album also made Swift the first artist in Billboard history to occupy the entire top 10 with songs all from *Midnights*. The lead single now stands at its fifth week at number one. It is undeniable that no matter what Taylor Swift produces, it will always become a number one hit.

Critics such as Marc Hirsh, writer for *Entertainment Weekly*, think that Swift’s success is well deserved. He creatively critiques her new work, commenting that , “Despite the restless-slumber concept that drifts through the songs, a serene acceptance lurks behind her fluttering eyelids. Swift’s brain might be sparking random memories — good and bad — in the twilight twinkle before sleep takes her, but she’s not agitated or unsettled by it, merely processing. It’s a warm murmur wrapped in a weighted blanket.”

Because of publicity stunts, number one pop hits, and fan bases, this year’s music industry has had one of the most successful years ever. Fans of all genres were not disappointed, and now have playlists filled top to bottom with new music.



Midnights
By Taylor Swift



Emails I Can't Send
By Sabrina Carpenter



Harry's House
By Harry Styles

FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022

By: Jacob Scheuring

The 2022 World Cup, held in the middle-eastern country of Qatar, has taken the world by storm. The World Cup is a worldwide soccer tournament that consists of the thirty-two best soccer teams in the world competing to win it all and bring home the trophy for their country.

Due to it only occurring every four years, many people who do not even care for the sport of soccer show support for their country.

The official song for the 2022 World Cup, the song chosen was “Tukoh Taka” by Nicki Minaj.

Many fans have taken to the internet to express their dissatisfaction with the official song. Popular YouTube creator Darren Watkins Jr, also known online as IShowSpeed, has recently become popular among soccer fans for creating what fans are deeming “The Unofficial World Cup Song”. The song, titled “World Cup”, has garnered 42 million views in the one month since its release.

Thirty-two teams qualify for every World Cup and the teams that qualify are randomly selected and placed into eight

groups of four (Group A through Group H). Each team will play the other three teams in their group and after all matches have been played only the top two teams of each group will progress to the Round of 16 or Knockout Stage.

In the group stage matches, if a team wins they receive 2 points, if they tie the team they are playing, they receive 1 point, and if they lose, they receive no points.

The Knockout Stage and following stages consist of single-elimination matches in which there will be a decided winner at the end of each match. After the Knockout Stage, the eight remaining teams will progress to the Quarter-Finals, then, the remaining four teams will progress to the Semi-Finals, and finally, the last two remaining teams will compete for the title of world champions in the World Cup Final.

Each qualifying country recruits or “calls up” the twenty-six best players of their country for the opportunity for them to sign a contract with their national team. Each team then decides which eleven of their players will start for them and the other fifteen are able to be substituted in throughout the duration of any of the matches.

For the first time since 2014, the United States had qualified for the World Cup

On December 9, 2022, Brazil faced off against Croatia in the Round of 8. While Brazil was favored to win the match, Croatia would be able to upset the South American team in a penalty shootout to punch their ticket to the Semi-Finals with a final score of 1-1 (full-time) 4-2 (penalty shootout).

All games of the World Cup have been broadcasted in the United States on Fox Sports. The November 29th matchup between England and the United States received 15.4 million views across the US. This number now holds the record for the most watched soccer match on U.S. television.

On Sunday, December 18, 2022, the stage had been set for the World Cup Final. The match would be played between France and Argentina.

France made their second consecutive appearance in the World Cup Final, winning the 2018 World Cup, hosted in Russia, with a final score of 4-2 against Croatia. They hoped to become one of the few nations to win back-to-back World Cups.

Argentina, led by superstar Lionel Messi, would be trying to win their third World Cup, Messi’s first.

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Sophomore Spotlight

By Jacob Scheuring

Bryan Cervantes is a sophomore at East Hickman High School.

Bryan is a member of the East Hickman High School football and soccer teams. He is very involved on both teams playing the positions of slot receiver and cornerback on the football team.

When asked what positions he plays on the soccer field, he responded, "For soccer, I play defense, I play offense, even head coach, I play everything."

Although playing both offense and defense, head coach, Wendell Gordon, may disagree with him being the head coach. In the 2022 football season, Bryan did not record any touchdowns or interceptions, but he still helped the team on offense and defense. In the 2021 boys' soccer season, he scored two goals.

When asked what was different about this year from his freshman year, Bryan responded, "We have a new

assistant principal, Mr. Henson, and the Wi-Fi is turned off, so we can't watch YouTube videos on our phones and stuff like that." These two changes are unrelated to each other.

Bryan's favorite class is his first period, Mrs.Guardo's geometry. This is his favorite because of the people he shares the class with. Bryan enjoys spending time with his friends and his family in and out of school.



Bryan has yet to set a college that he wants to attend. He instead says, "I'm hoping that I can go somewhere that a scholarship will take me." In college, Bryan hopes to play soccer while majoring in business.

Academically, Bryan regards himself as well-rounded, having very few, but some, struggles. Being an athlete, Bryan has to keep his grades up to play sports.

Bryan's favorite types of music

are rap, traditional Spanish, and pop. His favorite artists being Nardo Wick, Los Tigres del Norte, and Katy Perry, respectively

When asked who his favorite teacher is, Bryan responded by saying Coach Austin. His reasoning stems from the bond they have built throughout the football season.

Bryan's favorite thing about high school is "I don't know, it's just seeing my friends." His favorite thing about this year, in particular, is "probably just football, and then it will have to be soccer when that season starts."

In 10 years, Bryan sees himself playing professional soccer overseas, for the professional Mexican team, Tigres, which is also his favorite team. However, if that does not work out, he hopes to play in the major American league, MLS. His preferred team would be the Nashville Soccer Club.

Having only two years left of high school, Bryan is happy but sad at the same time. He is happy because school is almost over and according to him, "I can finally live my life how I want to." But is sad because he will not be able to see his friends on a daily basis.

How TikTok Changed Music

By Anna Breece

The social media platform, Tiktok, has become a go-to platform for discovering music. The app takes small pieces of a song and creates a sound that anyone in the world can use. Over the course of 3 years, Tiktok has become one of the top apps on both Android and Apple products.

As Tiktoks audience has grown, many rising stars of past years have gotten their fame from the app. Singer and Actress, Olivia Rodrigo rose to fame in early 2021 after her single "Drivers License" blew up after creators were making assumptions about her breakup on Tiktok. Rodrigo is still a massive star whose songs are used constantly with different bits and pieces in many different videos.

Certain genres that have been considered "outcasts" in the past have gained popularity due to songs going viral. Many unpopular rock songs have gone to the billboard 100 hits chart because of listeners on tiktok. Generation Z has had a mass amount of influence on their music from past generations' music resurfacing.

The hit "Until I Found You", by Stephen Sanchez, was said to have been influenced by his love of 50's pop culture and the "vintage aesthetic" that was made

popular by Tiktok users. Bands like Nirvana, Sublime, Red Hot Chili Peppers, Weezer, Greenday, and Radiohead are just a few out of the hundreds that have become popular again with Generation Z because of the social media app.

Tiktok has become a great place for the younger generations to explore and find new music. Past generations have relied solely upon the radio and buying forms of music to find what music they like the best. Records have also made a massive comeback because of Tiktok. Multiple accounts on the app show off their collections of vinyl pressings.

Song promotion has become a big part of the app. Creators are paid to promote songs from artists to help them gain overall listeners. Some users can earn up to thousands of dollars just by using a single song. It's a great way for record labels to find small artists and a great way for creators to make a bit of money.

Record labels have said that they are more likely to

use a creator with a small amount of followers for promotion rather than a well - known creator. Doing this will save them _money and still have a massive use of the song.

Newfound artists like Nessa Barrett, Jxdn, and Dixie D'Amelio have all grown in popularity. They started as small Tiktok creators and were recognized by record labels. These artists have become trendy artists to newer generations and will continue to grow with the help of Tiktok.



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The Link Between Mental Health & Procrastination

By Lynn LaBelle

Many people believe that procrastination is just someone “being lazy”; however, what they do not see is the large effect that stress, anxiety, perfectionism, and depression actually have on procrastination.

Procrastinating is a coping mechanism; people use it to cope with their negative feelings. Forbes writer Amy Blaschka in her online article “You’re Not Lazy; You’re Scared: How To Finally Stop Procrastinating” said, “When we procrastinate, we’re avoiding an unpleasant task and doing something else that gives us a temporary mood boost.”

Procrastination can also affect a person's physical health. According to an article from McLean Harvard Medical School “Why You Put Things Off Until the Last Minute,” it can cause irregular eating patterns, sleep deprivation, and unhealthy regimens.

When someone procrastinates, they are aware of what they are doing. In an interview with Forbes, professor Timothy Pychyl, at Carleton University in Ottawa studies procrastination, said this behavior is “Giving in to feel good.”

According to Blaschka, when faced with the guilt and shame of procrastinating, people will do it even more. This creates a self-defeating cycle. “Eventually, you’re left with the tasks to complete, the negative emotions again, plus the added stress of a time constraint.”

Those who are chronic procrastinators, 20% of the population, are less likely to express their needs, according to The Creatives Hour.

Chronic procrastination can affect both mental and physical health. It can lead to chronic stress, depression, anxiety, chronic illness, hypertension, and cardiovascular disease.

According to writer Amy Novotney’s article from the American Psychological Association, “Procrastination or ‘intentional delay,’” states that earlier in the semester students who procrastinate reported lower levels of stress and less illness.

Later in the semester procrastinators reportedly have higher levels of stress and illness. The students who procrastinate are more likely to receive lower grades on assignments.

86% of high school students say that they procrastinate on their assignments, according to the National University’s article “Helping Students Overcome Procrastination.”

The online blog site “Thrive My Way,” did a survey over procrastination.

The results were; 80 to 95% of college students say they procrastinate, and 50% of them believe it is an actual issue for them.

15 to 20% of adults procrastinate regularly. 88% of the people they surveyed said that they procrastinate for at least an hour. Only 20% of the population struggles with chronic procrastination, according to Blaschka.

There are so many reasons as to why a student may procrastinate, such as fear, indecisiveness, stress, or anxiety. It is different for every student.

Most forms of procrastination involve stress and anxiety. Perfectionism has a large effect on both of those. According to the Lethbridge Undergraduate Research Journal “Why Procrastinate,” by Neal Thakkar, perfectionism works in three different ways.

Self-oriented perfectionism is when people place high standards on themselves. It tends to have a small effect on procrastination.

Other-oriented perfectionism is when people place high standards on other people. This type of perfectionism does not have an effect on procrastination and is more likely to decrease it.

Lastly, there is socially-prescribed perfectionism. Students feel as though other people have high expectations of them. They feel an immense amount of pressure from not their teachers, but their peers as well.

Students feel like they have to come up with good ideas and be able to understand something on the first try, and it causes students to procrastinate on their work.

Stress and Resilience Institute’s “5 Styles of Perfectionism,” adds to socially-prescribed perfectionism with overt and covert perfectionism.

Overt perfectionists have a strong need for schedule and show increased signs of anxiety. They are opinionated and like to be right. They avoid doing things they do not understand or cannot do well with.

This type of perfectionist has a fixed mindset. They fear failure and will do everything they can to prevent it from happening by being in control.

Covert perfectionists are hard to identify. Their actions do not always match the thoughts in their head. They have low expectations of the people around them and will say they prefer being laid back, but they want to succeed.

The Guardian writer Priscilla Emokpaire talks about three different

types of procrastination in her article “Procrastination as a Healthy Coping Mechanism.” The first type Emokpaire mentions is active procrastination. This type purposefully delays doing a task to “harness the pressure that comes from being behind on a deadline as motivation to get tasks done.”

This form of procrastination is viewed as a positive one, as it is linked to academic success and positive psychological health.

The next type is productive procrastination. It is when someone is delaying a task of higher importance by other beneficial things.

The last type of procrastination is passive. This is when someone thinks that putting off a task will help ease the stress by choosing something that will give short-term gratification, like scrolling through social media, thus leaving far worse negative feelings toward the original task.

Another common reason as to why people procrastinate is fear. “Why You Put Things Off Until the Last Minute,” says “The more anxiety we experience about a task, the more likely we are we’ll put it off until later.”

Fear is very closely related to perfectionism. People will delay doing something because they fear it is not perfect. One is afraid of being criticized or making a mistake or feeling embarrassed.

Procrastinating a task out of fear is a sign of anxiety. People may avoid doing something simply just because they are afraid of the outcome. It could be a positive or negative outcome, but the anxiety of knowing that result stops them from doing it.

Depression also has an effect on procrastination. With depression, it causes low levels of energy and lack of motivation. It can be hard for someone to gather the energy to do a task, so they will put it off. It can also be difficult to measure if someone feels motivated enough to do a task, according to material published by McLean Harvard Medical School.

There is the possibility that people procrastinate because of ADHD. Procrastination is a symptom of inattentive type of ADHD. McLean Harvard Medical stated that people with ADHD “...can have difficulty regulating attention, staying organized, and can be easily distracted. They can also struggle with aspects of executive functioning, including working memory, flexible thinking, and self-control.”

Hyper fixation is another part of it that causes people to procrastinate. When someone becomes fixated on a task they enjoy, they will avoid the less enjoyable tasks. When they are focused on this task, they will lose track of time and lose awareness in their environment, according to McLean Harvard Medical.

There is more to procrastination than “just being lazy.” A person’s mental health largely affects one’s ability to do a task.



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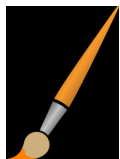
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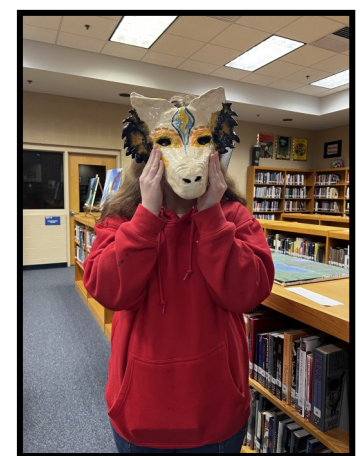
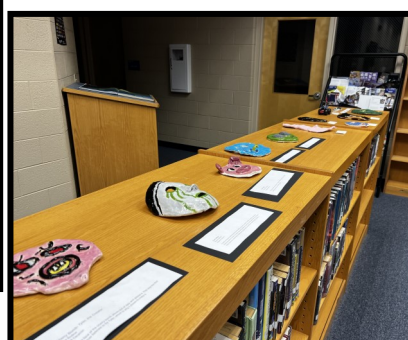
MTSU
Adventure

By JT Phillips

On December 1, 2022, the East Seniors went on a college tour to visit MTSU where they got to see the newly built construction building which cost \$40.1 million dollars. The new building is six times the size of the old building totaling up to 54,000 square feet. While there, they also got to see the Blue Horseshoe and how people will take pictures with it every school year to see their growth. For lunch, MTSU treated the students to a free meal with a variety of different food options where they got to try MTSU's homemade chocolate milk. After the terrific meals, the students were then able to go browse in the bookstore before heading back to school.



EHHS ART SHOW





VETERAN'S DAY



Congress’s Newest Subject: Ticketmaster

By Maleah Pinnix

The United States Congress is holding a hearing over Ticketmaster’s latest scam. Time and time again, Ticketmaster has shown how they abuse their privileges in the ticket sales industry.

The announcement of Taylor Swift's first tour in five years created an immediate reaction by her fans, many of whom already started to plan outfits, book hotels, and more before tickets went on sale.

For Ticketmaster’s presale event, people had to sign up for a maximum of three shows to possibly be selected for. After two weeks, Ticketmaster would email the people selected for presale. This is where the first problem started. Ticketmaster decided that they would send the presale codes all throughout the day rather than at one time. Some fans received their code at eight in the morning while others received theirs just before midnight. This left many fans disappointed after a full day of not receiving a code.

The day of the sale was a hundred times worse than anyone imagined it would be. Anyone with or without a code could get into the queue. Two million people received a code, but fourteen million people were in the queue when the sale started. Because of the alarming amount of people on the server, the

website crashed. Millions of fans were left on the website waiting for up to eight hours.

One of the main purposes for the Ticketmaster presale is to keep bots from buying tickets and reselling them, but due to Ticketmaster's poor planning, that is exactly what ended up happening. Many bots were able to get through the queue and purchase tickets. These tickets are being resold for up to \$18,000.

Fans that were left empty-handed, hoped that they would get their chance during the next two sales. The Capital One card sale took place the next day and, for many people, was a last resort. This sale started off the same way with the website crashing and fans being left disappointed. After this second sale, Ticketmaster made a public announcement canceling their general on sale that was to take place after a few days. This meant that all the tickets had been sold when they were supposed to keep enough to sell for each sale.

This event shined a light on Ticketmaster's nonsense and was brought to the United States Congress. Swift and her team had asked Ticketmaster if they were able to handle the demand that was going to take place, and they were assured that they could handle it.

A Congress representative spoke out about the hearing saying, “That’s why we will hold a hearing on how consolidation in the live entertainment

and ticketing industry harms customers and artists alike. When there is no competition to incentivize better services and fair prices, we all suffer the consequences.”

Ticketmaster shows how they are corrupt and untrustworthy every time they sell tickets. Administrators have the ability to up their ticket prices at any given chance, so when they notice a mass amount of people on the sale, they raise their prices to receive more revenue.

After buying overpriced tickets, Ticketmaster adds more fees up to \$30 per ticket. These fees are for things such as service fees and pre-sale fees. The amount they are charging for these fees is ridiculous, especially when the service fees are sometimes more than the ticket itself.


Taylor Swift, her fans, and congress are all disappointed in Ticketmaster’s performance. The Congress has sole authority to enact legislation, so Ticketmaster's ticket selling rights could be taken away.

The public hasn’t been told a date for the hearing yet, but many eager fans wait to see if Ticketmaster stays a money hungry company or gets rightfully taken down.

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Junior Taylor Holt Secures Full-Ride To Lipscomb University

By Evan Beard

A Junior at East Hickman High School is resting easier tonight knowing that her passion, skill, and determination has not only paid off, but paid for her college as well.

Junior Taylor Holt received a call from the Lipscomb Bisons' head coach one night in a hotel room. She had just finished an over-summer basketball camp, and she had caught the eyes of some very important people.

The private university was offering Holt a full scholarship to four years of school, with every expense completely covered to the last penny, an estimated value of about \$215,000. In return, of course, and likely as an added bonus, Taylor Holt would spend those four years as part of the collegiate Basketball team.

For Taylor, the decision was practically a no-brainer. She is excited that her passion and determination has paid off with an outstanding opportunity and hundreds of thousands of dollars of money saved. "After doing some research, I found that they had what I was wanting to major in, so it really seemed like a good fit," Holt said.

Taylor was raised in a basketball household, her older sister, Savannah Kerstiens, played for the University of North Alabama's basketball team, a close rival of Lipscomb. The rivalry, likely due to the fact they share the same purple color scheme, brings an interesting and



friendly competition dynamic to both schools, and now, the Holt family.

It's obviously very difficult to decide on important matters that are five years into the future, but Taylor seemed quite sure that her basketball career would not extend past her four years at Lipscomb. Holt is both versatile on and off the court. On top of playing basketball for Lipscomb, Taylor will also be focusing on her academic pursuit as well. Taylor plans to be a part of Lipscomb's biology and veterinary programs. "I just want to finish my degree, and then go into veterinary work."

Even if the opportunity did happen to present itself, Holt denies that she would take her basketball career to the professional level.

Taylor Holt is excited to take part in the small classrooms, and faith based experience that Lipscomb has to offer.

Continued From Page 3 FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022

In the regulation 90 minutes of the match, the final score would prove to be 3-3 with French striker Kylian Mbappé scoring a hat-trick (3 goals), and the goals for Argentina were shared between Lionel Messi (2 goals) and Ángel Di María (1 goal).

The succeeding 30 minutes of extra time would yield no goals and the match would end with a penalty shootout.

The final score of the shootout would be Argentina with 4 goals and France with only 2. Argentina's penalty scorers include Lionel Messi, Paulo Dybala, Leandro Parades, and Gonzalo Montiel. The French penalty scorers include Kylian Mbappé and Randal Kolo Muani.

After the match, awards were presented to the players including The Golden Ball, awarded to Kylian Mbappé, The Golden Boot, awarded to Lionel Messi, The Golden Gloves, awarded to Emilio Martinez, and the Best Young Player Award, awarded to Enzo Fernandez.

The 2026 World Cup will be played in 18 different locations including Vancouver, Los Angeles, Mexico City, and many more.

Despite already having the locations and venues determined, World Cup qualifier matches will not occur until March of 2023.

Movie and Book Reviews

Black Panther: Wakanda Forever

By: Eric Aldrich

Black Panther: Wakanda Forever is a Phase 4 Marvel film released on November 11th, 2022. It's the first Black Panther movie without Chadwick Boseman, but the film was filled with homage to the late actor.

The film starts out with the country of Wakanda mourning the loss of King T'Challa. It then goes on to reveal a second secret society that lives underwater similar to Wakanda's society. Their version of the black panther is Namor, a deity to the underwater civilization. The two countries eventually fight and end with the two countries calling a truce after Shuri and Namor's fight.

The film received an overall 84% on rotten tomato and a 7.2/10 on IMBd. Personally, I think the movie wasn't as good as its rated. The plot was kind of cliché, and the ending felt rushed. It was nice to see Shuri spare Namor at the end instead of finishing him off, but Namor and his country just seemed too powerful for the Wakandans.

With a budget of \$250 million,

the CGI and backdrops were really great. Marvel is known for their great CGI, and they did not disappoint.

What I would like to see in the future is more of an internal fight with Shuri and the spirit of the Black Panther. It seemed almost overplayed in the movie with Shuri's constant rejection of upholding the mantle, but in the end she eventually became the Black Panther with little problem.

Overall, I think Black Panther Wakanda Forever is a solid film with only a couple of critiques. I believe if it was given more time it could have been a greater film. The film as a whole isn't the same without Chadwick Boseman, but I think they still did a great job with the film.

Retro Book Review:

The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants turns 21

By: Grace Moffit

Ann Brashares is the author of numerous young adult fiction books. She has written ten books for young adults. Brashares has won two awards,

the "Indies choice book award for Children's Literature," and the "Quill" Award for Young Adult/Teen.

One of her most sought-after books turns 21 this year: *The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants*. It was followed by four sequels, the last being published in 2011, ten years after the original story.

The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants is about four friends all going separate ways for the first summer they are apart. On their last week together, they decide to try on a pair of pants they find at a thrift store, and they magically fit all of them. Then their last night together they have a ceremony for the pants, and they make ten rules for the sisterhood to follow. Then they come up with a plan on how to pass the pants fairly though the summer.

Some of her newer books include *The Whole Thing Together* (2017) which is about love, class differences, and betrayal playing out over the course of a fractured American family's Long Island summer. *The Here and Now* (2014) is a dark dramedy about a progressive Portlandian family made up of husband, wife, three adopted children from Liberia, Vietnam and Colombia, and one biological daughter, who find their sanity tested and values challenged in 2018 America.

A Spotlight On Domestic Violence

By Isabelle Naragon

More than 600,000 people go missing every year in the U.S, but it is uncommon for a missing persons case to be followed by the public. The Gabby Petito case captured the public's eye in late 2021.

The nation was so entranced by the case that Lifetime produced a crime-thriller called “The Gabby Petito Story.” The film is based upon the events of the Petito case. Lifetime premiered the film on October 1, and even though the movie is about their family member, the Petito family did not approve the movie making. The Petito family even said that they wanted no connection to the movie. Reviews of the movie say there was some fiction involved in the new movie. Movie watchers should know the true story before watching the movie.

Gabby Petito and her boyfriend, Brian Laundrie, started traveling the country together in early 2019. Petito documented their travels on Instagram, Youtube, and TikTok.

On August 12, 2021, Petito and Laundrie were stopped by police after a witness called claiming that the couple was having what seemed to be a “domestic problem” in Moab, Utah. The caller said the couple was arguing and Laundrie slapped Petito across the face.

Laundrie claimed that after spending so much time together in the van, that it led the couple to fight more than normal. “They are in love and engaged to be married and desperately didn’t wish to see anyone charged with a crime,”Laundrie had said.

After the police called the episode an emotional breakdown, Laundrie stayed the night in a hotel, while Petito stayed the night in the van.

On September 1, Laundrie returned to his and Petito’s home. Only, Petito was not with him. After Petito’s

family was not able to get in touch with her, they decided to report her missing to North Port police on September 11. Investigators went to Laundrie’s home after finding the couple's van there. Laundrie quickly became a person of importance to the case, due to being the last person to have seen Petito. Unfortunately for investigators, Laundrie was not cooperating with the investigation at all.

North Port Police Chief Todd Garrison implored everyone, including Laundrie, with information on Petito to share it with police.

On September 17, the Laundrie family calls police to their home claiming they haven’t seen their son since September 14. At this point in the case, the FBI is both looking for Petito and Laundrie. The Laundrie family believed he went on a hike. North Port police then start searching for Laundrie at the Carlton Reserve in Venice, Florida.

Unfortunately, on September 19 human body remains were found in Bridger-Teton National Forest. A forensic identification had not been done at this point, but the remains matched the description of Petito. The remains were later confirmed to be Petito on September 21.

On September 23, the FBI issued a federal arrest warrant for Laundrie, charging him with “use of unauthorized access devices.” Laundrie had used a debit card and pin for accounts that were not his. The accounts were charged with 1,000 dollars between August 30 and September 1.

On October 12 ,one month after Petito was reported missing, the remains found were confirmed to be Petito’s and was confirmed a homicide. According to Dr. Blue, a coroner in Teton County, Petito was strangled to death.

After more than three weeks of searching for Laundrie, human remains were found at Florida’s Carlton Reserve with a backpack and a notebook. On October 21, a day after finding the remains, the dental records of Laundrie matched the human remains.

On November 23, a medical examiner's office in Florida determined that Laundrie took his own life. By using the notebook that was alongside the remains, authorities were able to find that Laundrie had taken Petito’s life. The FBI had also found that Laundrie had tried to “deceive” law enforcement into believing Petito was still alive by creating texts between their two phones.

The Gabby Petito case will be recalled often by the news, crime enthusiasts, and crime podcasts. It also reminded the nation that domestic violence happens in our nation. According to national statistics, one in four women and one in seven men will experience violence by a partner.

More locally, according to Tennessee Crime Stats in both 2020 and 2019, there were 313 victims in Hickman County. In these years, people were staying home due to COVID-19 and the resulting quarantine. It seems that the more the victims stay home, the more likely they will face domestic abuse.

In 2021, the year Petito went missing, the rate of domestic abuse victims went down 15 percent with 256 victims.

There are ways to get help with facing domestic abuse. One way to get help is by calling the National Domestic Violence Hotline (800-799-7233), or by visiting the National Domestic Violence Hotline website (thehotline.org).

Continued From Page 2

Midterm Elections Not What GOP Hoped For

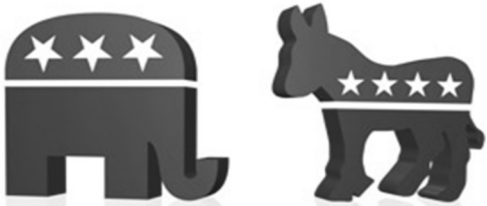
Republicans, is that they massively over-performed in Florida largely due to the massive popularity of newly reelected Governor Ron DeSantis setting him up for a potential presidential bid in 2024.

Something else that the Republican party should be optimistic about is that while they did lose key senate races in places like New Hampshire, Georgia, Nevada, and Arizona, Republicans won the

governor's race in all of those states except for Arizona where the republican candidate only lost by 17,000 votes. This should provide some sort of optimism for an otherwise de-moralized Republican party. This could show that people are still willing to vote for republicans but the party simply needs to put up better candidates to sway more moderate voters.

Overall, this will be seen as a massive missed opportunity for Republicans. Due to the massive disapproval of current President Joe Biden, and due to the economic struggles that the Republican Party usually campaigns on, all of this should have called for a massive night for republicans.

However, because of poor candidate choice in the primaries and new social issues arising, such as Roe v Wade, the Democratic party was able to massively over-perform expectations and shock the country.



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International Civil Resistance: Actions from Climate Change Activists

By Eric Aldrich

Recent civil resistance on a global scale focuses on fossil fuels. Global warming activists have been organizing and non-violently protesting in countries spanning the western and eastern hemispheres. Every major country has some sort of activist group bringing attention to the problem of global warming. Each protest they have done has been non-violent, showing their commitment to humanity that they only wish to help.

“We are the Last Generation of the old world. We are here today to say we will create a new world – where humanity embraces itself, forgives itself, loves itself, and commits to continue our great adventure.” A non-violent international protest organization called “A22 Network” starts its declaration, declared in April 0f 2022, with these sentences, followed by a sad truth and their overall truth and plan. “-we are not here to highlight, plead or to entertain. We are here to reach for the change that is required for this to happen. We are here to force governments to slash carbon emissions, nothing less. We are here for action, not words.” “A22 Network” has organized and mobilized many protest groups across the globe carrying out civil disobedience because it is their responsibility to protect humanity.

“Just Stop Oil” is a “coalition of groups working together” situated in the UK that is non-violently protesting the present and future use of fossil fuels in the UK. Their demand is “that the UK government makes a statement that it will immediately halt all future licensing and consents for the exploration, development, and production of fossil fuels in the UK” because the burning of fossil fuels is slowly killing humanity, and we should switch to clean, renewable energy. “Just Stop Oil” has made its mark in the media with its protests and demonstrations such as throwing tomato soup on Van Gogh’s “Sunflower” painting, painting a Ferrari dealership orange, covering the Silver Fin building in orange paint, and other means of non-violent protest. “Just Stop Oil” isn’t the only global activist group making headlines.

One protest organization has made it into our very own country. “Declare Emergency” demands that President Biden needs to “declare a formal state of climate emergency and begin to make full use of his executive authority to save this country from collapse.” They want Biden to stand up to the rising climate problems and be the president to be the change. The first trial of protests in the country happened on I- 395 at New York Ave in Washington, DC. While it ended with the two protesters arrested, it’ll be the first of many protests and trials

“Pass legislation to immediately end ALL Old Growth logging in the province of British Columbia.” The “Save Old Growth” Campaign wants to preserve the forests of British Columbia because they “act as an essential carbon sink; they hold the soil and reduce the risk and severity of floods and landslides; they act as a natural barrier to wild fires, are home to many endangered species and are culturally and spiritually significant ancestors of these lands.”

Canada’s Prime Minister, Justin

Trudeau, supports this campaign and plans to further support the group by funding projects to help save the Old Growth forests. This project is likely the most successful because it gathered the support of Canada’s prime minister, and a poll taken in 2022 reports 82% of British Columbians support legislation to ban all logging in the province.

Sweden’s global activist group has been on the move to restore the wetlands of Sweden. About 25% of the carbon emissions in Sweden are from the dry wetlands that have been drained for peat mining. Peat mining is also considered unsustainable since peat grows back 1 mm a year. Peat releases more carbon than both oil and coal making the banning of peat mining ever so more important. The “Restore Wetlands” group has already made some success in creating motion in the legal system but is still far away from achieving its goal.

Germany is home to the “ Letzte Generation” or “ Last Generation.” Their goal is similar to the UK group’s goals and ultimately similar to the other activist groups’ goals. This group has adopted hunger strikes in their protests with seven protesters taking part in the strike. “In August 2021, seven young people set up camp in the government district of Berlin.

On Monday, August 30th, 2021, they went on an indefinite hunger strike.” After almost a whole month of starvation and three hospital visits, only two of the seven remained on strike. “Lea Bonasera and Henning Jeschke now addressed the eventual election winner Olaf Scholz personally and, after 27 days without food and a 7-hour thirst strike, finally achieved a commitment to a public discussion about the climate emergency.” This hunger strike will most likely go down as one of the most famous hunger strikes in history.

Even New Zealand has been affected by global activists. “We are demanding the government restore passenger rail services to at least year 2000 levels in alignment with Te Tiriti justice with affordable, accessible services. This will connect 3.5 million

New Zealanders, save money, save lives, reduce inequality and help to tackle the climate crisis and ecological collapse we are now experiencing.” The “Restore Passenger Rail” group has been pushing for the reinstatement of railway lines across the country to lower emissions and a multitude of other serious problems.

On the New Zealand activist website, they explain why they protest and disrupt the public. “The long history of civil resistance has shown that change has come by people taking bold disruptive action that ensures people pay attention. Being liked is not a prerequisite to success, in fact most of today’s social justice heroes were despised and hated in their time. We do not take action in the hope of being loved in the future, but because we deeply believe we have a moral obligation to resist the demise of all we hold dear. Recent history of environmentalist activism also shows that writing submissions, signing petitions, protests and occupations of sensitive sites like tree protection or blocking heavy

machinery has failed to bring about the large scale change that is now desperately needed.” This quote perfectly sums up how all the movements will eventually change the world for the better because their methods have been proven to work in the past just like other historical movements such as the Civil Rights Movement, Women’s Suffrage, and the ACT Up movement.

Other movements that haven’t been mentioned before can be found in Italy, France, Norway, Ukraine, Australia, and Switzerland.

A common quote found among all these movements' websites is “ We have to move rapidly. What we do over the next 3 to 4 years, I believe is going to determine the future of humanity” – Sir David King, Former Chief Scientific Advisor to the British Government. Sir David King is a world-renowned scientist that has been a major activist in climate change. King has made many contributions to climate change awareness such as his book *The Hot Topic: How to Tackle Global Warming and Still Keep the Lights On*. King is also a strong supporter of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

“The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) is the United Nations body for assessing the science related to climate change.” The IPCC creates and provides assessment reports on the current climate, addressing current issues and proposing solutions or mitigations. The IPCC is currently in its sixth assessment cycle, working on its Sixth Assessment Report working together with multiple other groups. “The Working Group III” made the latest report in the Sixth Assessment Report on April 2, 2022. The report provides “an updated global assessment of climate change mitigation progress and pledges, and examines the sources of global emissions. It explains developments in emission reduction and mitigation efforts, assessing the impact of national climate pledges in relation to long-term emissions goals.” Their report provides an extensive overview of their key findings and their solutions or mitigations.

The world will recognize the works of the A22 Network and its many sub-organizations as time goes on. Their methods create talking points and force the spotlight onto their cause: the climate crisis. Their methods have been shown to work and bring attention to their cause. Each cause has done extensive research to support them, and it goes to show how serious climate change is. The world will eventually crumble under the weight of humanity— it's only a matter of time. To learn more about climate change, readers should research, educate, and take responsibility for shaping the future.

Annual Lip Sync Battle 2022 - 2023

