



Senior Spotlight: Jonathan Jesse

BY IZZY NARAGON

Jonathan Jesse is a senior at East Hickman High School. He is a member of the baseball team and FCS (Fellowship of Christian Students).

Jonathan says his best memory from baseball is the pregame meals. His favorite meal is to “go to Cano’s and get a burrito.”

His favorite high school memory and activity that he did in FCS was helping set up for Veterans Day in the school. He specifically enjoyed learning and hearing stories from the veterans.

After he graduates, he plans to enlist in the Marines as an aircraft technician. His grandfather is his inspiration for going into the military. He says, “I just always wanted to do that, like be in the military...to continue that legacy.”

When asked how he prepares himself to go into the military, his response is getting in as much physical shape as possible and his faith. “Anything can happen,” he says. He leans on his faith to prepare mentally for the future.

He says if he does decide to make

a career out of the Marines he would strive to become an officer. However, if he decided not to stay in the military, he would be an electrician like his dad.

Before Jonathan enlists in the Marines, he hopes to go to Yellowstone National Park this summer for his senior trip.

Jonathan’s favorite class is Mr. Collins automotive class. “I got to learn about cars and all that. That was pretty cool.”

He says his favorite staff member at EHHS is Mr. “Scruffy.” “He’s just really nice,” Jonathan says.

“Don’t judge a book by its cover,” is what Jonathan says that he learned from his high school experience. He says not to assume what people are going to be like just by seeing them in class because they could be very different from what you originally thought.

Jonathan says one thing people may not know about him is that he is “a very big Christian.” It’s one of the ways he has changed over the course of high school.

If he could go back, Jonathan says he would “try harder” his freshman year. He says his freshman



Jonathan Jesse credits his grandfather for his inspiration to join the Marines.

year he “goofed around.” He says if he could redo it he would take it a lot more seriously.

Jonathan's advice to the incoming freshman is “Don’t stress, it goes by fast.”

Junior Spotlight: Gabe Peden

BY ANDREW BRYANT

Gabriel “Gabe” Peden is a standout junior at East Hickman High School.

Gabe spends his free time doing several things. One of the main things he surrounds himself with is his music, not only listening to it but also actively writing and creating his own. “I make pretty sweet music. I play the guitar, I play the bass, I play the drums, and I sing.”

While this may make him sound like a one-man show, he has a band. “It’s a pretty cool band you know or call The Killjoys. It’s pretty sick; it’s a metal rock band with a hint of alternative.”

While Gabe enjoys making music, he also loves listening to it. Some of his favorite artists include Rancid, Operation Ivy, and the Casualties.

His music also connects into his overall style and vibe. The most visual part of his wardrobe is his battle jacket. According to Gabe, “It’s a way to show what you believe in without having to say it... it’s also a major part of metal, rock, and punk culture.” Gabe’s battle jacket is adorned with a vast amount of patches, with most of them being handmade. Most of these patches represent bands that he enjoys and his personal beliefs.

Gabe for the past two years has been a prominent member of EHHS’s drama club. He has been the Parliamentarian for the past two years.

Drama club and theatre have been

a big part of his time here at EHHS. Gabe has been in the past four plays at EHHS. You can find his name in the playbooks for *Check Please*, *Icebound*, *Alice in Wonderland*, and *Moon Over Buffalo*.

The latter of the four is also where Gabe’s favorite high school memory originates. “My favorite memory from high school would be my performance as George Hay in *Moon Over Buffalo*.” Gabe said that he enjoyed the role for how absurd he was allowed to act and for the physical comedy that happened to him. “...I got to yell really loudly... I had a sword fight on stage...”

Gabe’s overall enthusiasm while discussing this topic shows how much he enjoys this role and acting as a whole.

Gabe’s post high school plans include attending Eckerd College in St. Petersburg, Florida. Eckerd is a liberal arts college, which is one of the main draws for Gabe. “They focus more on the student than the curriculum, which I like because, you know— freedom.” This college is also a college close to the beach which Gabe comments on: “I like that it’s on the coast because it’s warm, and I can get a tan.”

Gabe also wants to travel the U.S. at some point hopefully playing music “wherever the wind takes me.”

Gabe considers himself “actor and a musician”; his creativity shines in his style, personality, and his music.



Gabe in his decorated “Battle Jacket”

THIS EDITION

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A Special Thanks To Our Seniors At The Eagle's Eye



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EHHS Highlights

Gabbie McClenahan Earns FFA State Degree as a Junior

BY KYLEE LITTON

Gabbie McClenahan received her Future Farmers of America state degree as a junior at EHHS along with senior friends Kenslei McCrory, Kaelyn Osborne, and Clara Bonin. FFA state degrees are usually earned during the student's senior year.

Gabbie put in a lot of hard work in order to be able to get her State

Degree during her junior year of high school.

In order to do this, she had to complete four semesters of Agriculture classes, attend five FFA competitions, be an FFA officer, and have a GPA of 3.00 or higher.

Gabbie was the Sentinel for the 2025-2026 school year.

In order to get her state degree, she had to set her classes up so she could have them done by her junior year. She said, "I have taken all Ag

classes needed, and I am also in work-based learning with Mr. Williams. I plan to do work based learning with him next year as well. I have worked in the green house, worked plant sales, and went on competitions not just to compete but also to take pictures"

Gabbie also highlighted the fact that FFA is not just about the things you learn, but it is also about the people you meet and become close with.

Her friends played a big role in her decision to get her state degree junior year. She said, "When I started FFA my freshman year, I met Kenslei, Kaelyn and Clara. As everyone knows they are all a grade above me, meaning the whole time I have been in FFA I have been creating these bonds with them not realizing that one day it would just be me left out of us four. That's when it hit me; I knew I would never get a chance to walk the stage with some of my good friends, but when I realized I was so close to being able to get my state degree this year with the rest of my friends, I talked to Mr. Williams and I had everything I needed to get it."

Not everyone that gets their state degree goes on to pursue a career in agriculture. Gabbie says that she wants to have her own farm when she is older, that way she has her own source for supplies needed like food. She also wants a farm so that she is able to help people that need it.

In the future Gabbie projects that she will be able to use skills and knowledge acquired from her agriculture classes. Gabbie says, "The information learned from class and competitions helps you learn



Left to Right: Gabbie McClenahan, Kenslei McCrory, FFA Sponsor, Myles Williams, Kaelyn Osborn, Clara Bonin



Gabbie stands proudly with her degree and her sister Nikiki McClenahan

how to plant crops, what to do and what not to do with your plants such as pesticides, watering, sunlight. We also learn how to pick a good breeding bull and so much more."

Gabbie has been a great student when it comes to learning new things. Myles Williams, East Hickman's Agriculture and FFA teacher said, "Gabbie is a self motivated student. She is always willing to work and complete assignments and tasks in the greenhouse as quickly and as perfectly as possible."

She was also extremely dedicated and hardworking when it came to getting her state degree as a junior.

Mr. Williams says his favorite part about watching Gabbie get this achievement is, "Watching her work and advocating for herself in class and competition. That drive is what allowed her to get her state degree as a junior. It has been a joy to watch her excel through her High School Agriculture and FFA career."

Gabbie has worked hard in many different aspects. She will take all the things she has learned into the real world to help her in the future.

Baseball Traditions

BY BRAYDEN MOORE

The East Hickman High School Baseball team's head coach Colton Huntt has implemented many new traditions and routines. These traditions are to not only help improve the team's play but also the chemistry as a team.

Coach Huntt elaborates on new traditions the team has started, "Some new traditions we have started is a big team dinner the Friday night prior to official practice beginning on the next Monday. We also have started a tradition of a spring break trip; this year we traveled to West Tennessee to play three games. We have also established a set routine for practices that our guys know exactly what to expect daily when they get out to the field at the beginning of 7th period."

These traditions and routines help the team know expectations and what they do on certain days which can improve game play. It instills a rhythm in the players which can translate to game play confidence.

When asked how Coach Huntt came up with these new traditions for the team, he explained how he got a lot of them from previous teams he has played on in college.

Coach Huntt explains, "These traditions stem from where I played college baseball. Each team every year I was on in college was different in their own ways, but one thing remained the same, we were a close knit group of guys with the same one common goal. I believe this was a large indicator for the success we had in college."

These traditions do largely help to the success of the team, but also the building of the team and the

brotherhood that comes along with being on the baseball team.

Huntt explains, "I do believe these traditions and routines have helped our student-athletes in multiple ways. One way is growing together as a family. We break it down to family everyday and that is what we are trying to build culturally for our guys. Baseball aside, they know they have a support system no matter what life throws at them, and this system lasts far longer than when they graduate at the end of their senior years. This alone has improved our play, knowing win or lose, fail or succeed, each guy has a group of brothers prepared to pick them up when needed!"

Even if one teammate gets down or is having a bad night, there is always someone there to lift them back up or if someone is not having a good night, another teammate can step up and play to their best abilities.

While the team plays to win; however, whether they win or lose, they still are family and nothing can break that bond with the team.

When asked what moment he would pick to demonstrate the tradition and routines have paid off, Coach Huntt stated, "While trying to



The 2025-2026 EHHS Baseball Team

pick one singular moment from this season is difficult, one major moment that stands out is when we executed a perfect safety squeeze that we have spent lots of time working on in practice to walk-off Camden at home early in our season. This moment was big for us because it not only was an exciting moment for our guys, but it displayed the way we can execute various features of the game that are extremely hard to pull off, especially when the game is on the line. This was a big confidence boost for our guys!"

The new traditions have shown improvements and have been clear signs that with the constant use of them they can become better and better every year.

When asked about foundation building into next season, Coach Huntt replied, "Some positives from

this year that I want to build on is the culture we are building, as well as continuing the facility upgrades we are currently making. We have made lots of big upgrades, but still have a vision previously stated that we are striving to make happen for our guys and future student-athletes. This was also the first 10+ win season for our program since 2017, demonstrating some of the things we are doing are proving to be successful, but we have to keep our minds on the vision we have and know we still have continued hard work to do!"

Coach Huntt's love for the game and commitment to building team bonds create an environment where memories are made and opportunities unfold on the field and beyond.

EHHS Highlights (Cont.)

Meet Mrs. Jess School Counselor at East Hickman High

BY ABBY HASKINS

Mrs. Jess is the school based behavioral health liaison, or in other words, a school counselor. She is a new addition to the school who came to EHHS shortly after the school year began. She was led into this profession “after dealing with her own mental health,” she wanted to “do something meaningful and give back to younger people in similar situations.”

The thing she enjoys most about her job at East Hickman High School is being able to connect with people and “helping people be the best versions of themselves.”

Her end goal for herself, or what she hopes to get from this profession is, is to get her masters degree and become a licensed clinical social worker. She has her bachelors’ degree as of now, and to achieve her goal, she will have to get her masters and work under an already licensed clinical social worker for 3,000 hours.

One thing about her job that she would change is to be able to see her team more. Something that would be more beneficial for her is “having people around you to share feedback is very helpful.” This would give her the chance to bounce back ideas between her team and give her the chance to look at things from more angles than one.

Students and parents can find out more about Mrs. Jess and what she does for the school by a multitude of ways, which include the guidance counselors, teachers, principals, and students who have or have heard of Mrs. Jess. More information is also on the Hickman County School’s website when you click on the

behavioral health tab.

In order to become a regular client on Mrs. Jess’s caseload, a student needs to complete the appropriate paperwork signed by their parent/guardian. This includes a form which is signed by the parent or guardian of the student and then promptly returned to Mrs. Jess. Fortunately, this form only has to be completed once but renewed each school year. Before the form is given, signed, and submitted, Mrs. Jess is legally only allowed to talk once about personal matters to a student and then give them the form to grant permission to talk once again.

Mrs. Jess is at EHHS on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and normally Friday afternoons. Her contact email provided is Jessica.Hammel@tnvoices.org for students and parents or guardians who may be interested in such services.

As of now, she fully intends on returning to EHHS next school year (26-27) to continue her job and experience more of the Eagles’ nest. Mrs. Jess informs that she wants to let “families know that I’m here to help the family in finding resources to help them and support and help them to find the resources they need for home and at school. Like food, clothing, financial assistance and not just counseling.”

Mrs. Jess has been gratefully accepted into EHHS and has been received with open arms from the students and staff alike. With her approachable demeanor, it’s hard to be nervous or scared when talking to her about anything. EHHS is thankful to have a wonderful new resource like Mrs. Jess.



Mrs. Jess hopes to help people “be the best versions of themselves.”

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Super Mario Galaxy Movie Review

BY ANDREW BRYANT

I want to preface that I am going to have two sides in this review. The first part is going to be the Nintendo Fanboy review, and then I'm going to review it critically without my 17 years of Nintendo nostalgia and brainwashing.

The Super Mario Galaxy Movie released on April 1, 2026. The movie features returning cast members such as Chris Pratt as Mario, Charlie Day as Luigi, Jack Black as Bowser, Keegan-Michael Key as Toad, and Anya Taylor-Joy as Princess Peach.

The series has continued its run of star studded cast in this movie with Brie Larson as Rosalina, Benny Safdie as Bowser Junior, Glen Powell as Fox McCloud, and, most surprisingly, Donald Glover as Yoshi.

This movie continues its overall love-letteresque to Nintendo Fans, and I am all here for it. There were countless times I looked over at my friends and said "Oh my gosh it's [insert random Mario/Nintendo character/things here] from [insert particular Mario/Nintendo game here]."

Some of the most noteworthy background characters included R.O.B. (Robotic Operating Buddy, a

niche toy from Nintendo's early days in the gaming business, now most prominently featured as a fighter in *Super Smash Bros*), Pikmin, and Mr.



Game & Watch.

While these were merely small cameos, Fox McCloud was more of a main character than the rest, which was surprising for a Mario movie.

The *Starfox* games, from which McCloud originates, have not had a video game entry for a full decade. Maybe Nintendo plans to use his

reentry in this movie to breathe new life into the character and series.

The movie also includes countless references to items, lands, and enemies from Mario games and other Nintendo properties.

The only complaint that I have is I did not like the change of Rosalina's backstory. In *Super Mario Galaxy* (the game), Rosalina left her planet as a child to help find a lost Luma's (the little star guys) mother. After searching for a while, Rosalina began to miss her home family which led her to become the mother of the Lumas.

In the movie, Rosalina is still the mother of the Lumas, but her background focuses on being Princess Peach's sister. The rest of her backstory is not explored at all. I feel this makes her character shallow compared to the games.

Switching gears, I'm now going to look at this movie in a critical way, and let me just say, I'm going to rip into this movie like a lion to a fresh gazelle. The Nintendo fanboy is off now, here we go.

This movie has two flaws that I believe bring it down overall.

First, the new characters. The rapid introduction of characters makes it seem like Nintendo gave them a lengthy list of major characters to be included. I feel like Rosalina and Fox McCloud are the two main characters who were rushed

into this movie. Their backstories feel heavily rushed and thrown together and after their brief introduction they are not explained further. It feels like they were thrown in just for kicks and giggles and to make Nintendo fans go "ooooooooo."

Secondly, the plot. The plot feels extremely hurried with major plot points being run through, and not well explained. The plot also includes things from a wide variety of Mario games, which makes me wonder how they will be able to do another movie (which they will as it has made around 750 million dollars at the time of writing this article).

The fast paced plot mixed with the rushed characters make this movie difficult to keep up with at times.

Overall, this movie is made for Nintendo fans which isn't a bad thing. When I went to watch this movie, I wasn't expecting a critical movie of the year.

It's positive Andrew again, not critical Andrew, that negative Nancy.

When I went to watch this movie I was hoping to be able to go "Wow I know that character!" or "Oh look it's a...". I was expecting a good time where I could nerd out about everything Nintendo and this movie delivered what I wanted.

So, in conclusion, this movie delivers a heartfelt love letter to fans of Mario and Nintendo as a whole. I give this movie nine Yoshi eggs out of two Bowsers.

Project Hail Mary and Iron Lung: Good Adaptations for Once

BY EVIE SCHUMANN

When it comes to films, adaptations from other media tend to have a bad reputation. So much so that critiquing how adaptations mess up the original material has practically become a job for some people online.

However, sometimes we do have good luck, and something both incredibly engaging yet still faithful to the themes of the original meets theatres.

While it may seem like it should be simple to merely perform the events of the book (There's plenty of dialogue there already! Right?), but the reality is that translating a story tailored for a novel and the medium of prose to the very visual, and more concise, medium of film is not nearly so easy.

Pacing-wise, if everything were translated directly, the film would end up much too long, and if too

much was cut, it may introduce plot holes, make it difficult to follow, or lose sight of the theming.

However, this is just one of the issues that needs to be tackled. To make a good adaptation, they also have to figure out things like characterization, scenes, visuals, and everything else that goes into making a film.

A film almost always can't be a one to one version of the original. It *has* to be different, but it needs to understand what made the original what it was, so that the wrong things don't get cut or simplified.

This translation is something that was done excellently for *Project Hail Mary*. An adaptation of the 2021 novel of the same name by Andy Weir came out not long ago to much praise.

Even with a two and a half hour runtime, there were numerous details from the novel that were skipped over or condensed, but everything

that was vital was kept, with the added pleasure of some fantastic visuals.

The novel is much more focused on the science and the how of everything that happens; whereas, the movie, while still being very "sciency," is more engaged with the emotional aspects of the story, which land just as well in the theatre as they do with much more buildup in text.

Sure they could have been more faithful, but being faithful to every detail may only make the final product worse.

Apart from *Project Hail Mary*, we also saw another film adaptation of a much different kind come to theatre recently: *Iron Lung*.

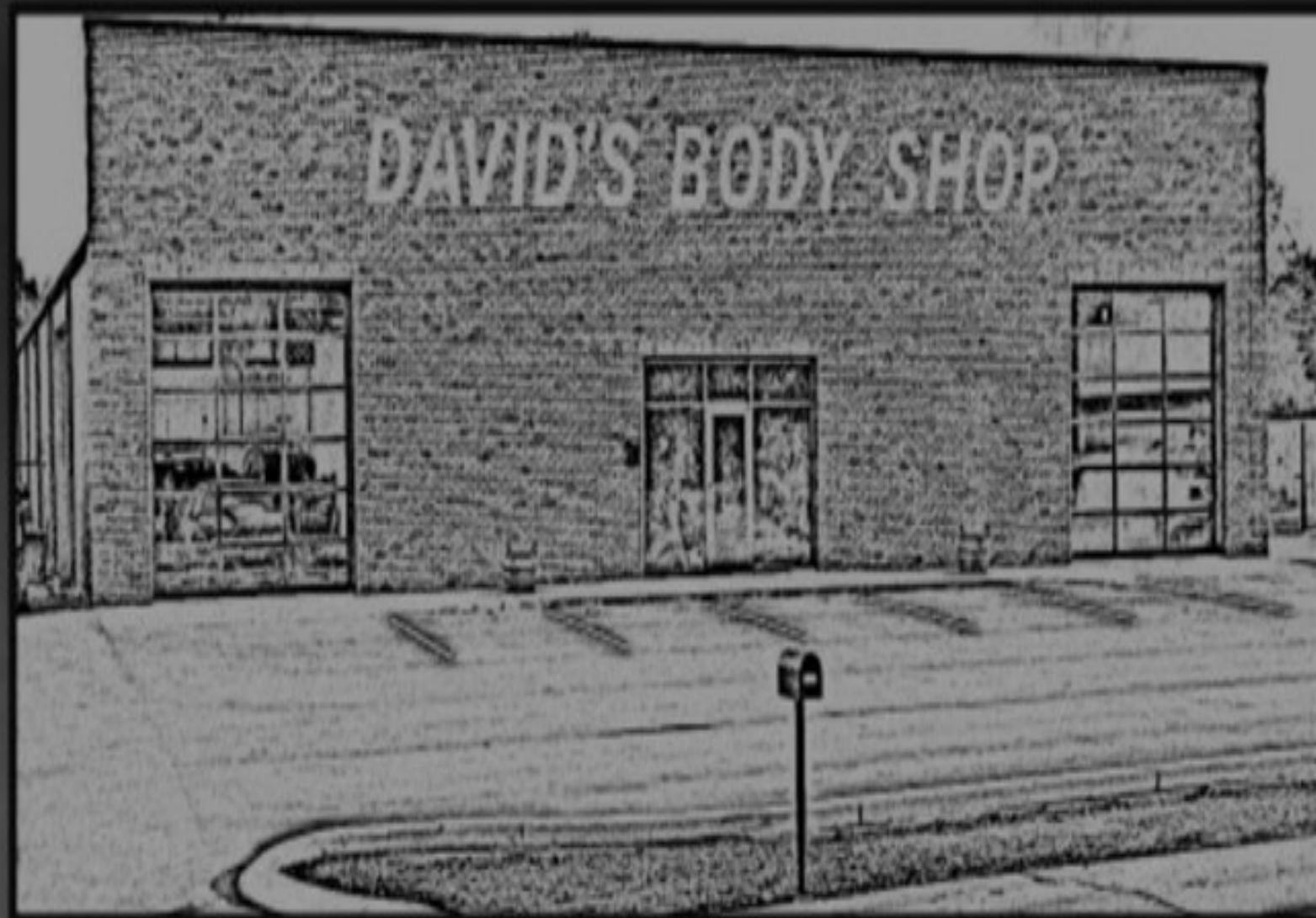
The video game follows the protagonist, named "the convict" who was sent to the bottom of an ocean of blood to search for anything that may help the dying population of humans left.

Past that, there is not much

substance to the videogame; its atmosphere and much of the appeal comes from not quite knowing what's happening. Why am I here? What's the end goal? Am I even supposed to survive? None of those questions are given a clear answer.

It's not much to base a movie out of, and yet Markus Fisbach's film rendition of the videogame manages to hit the key notes of claustrophobia and fear of the unknown in a way that's incredibly satisfying on screen.

Both of these had to take diversions from the original material, yet they both do an excellent job to honor the original experience in film.



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FIFA World Cup Being Hosted in North America

BY EVA GORDON

The International Federation of Association Football (FIFA) has their World Cup coming up in the summer and preparations have already begun. The Men's FIFA World Cup occurs every four years between many nations and this year Canada, Mexico, and the United States are the hosting countries. This is the first time three different nations have jointly hosted the World Cup.

The hosting cities in America are Atlanta, Boston, Dallas, Houston, Kansas City, Los Angeles, Miami, New York, Philadelphia, San Francisco, and Seattle. There will be 104 matches featuring 48 teams. All host cities are rushing to make sure everything is prepared for these

teams to come play in their city. They've been improving things like security, fields, and just the overall environment for these teams.

Team base camps are also being organized at all of the hosting cities where teams will get to practice, recuperate, and prepare themselves for their games. The base locations are determined by environmental quality, not proximity so some of the camps are actually farther away from the cities.

France is predicted to win this World Cup due to their deep and talented squad featuring superstar Kylian Mbappe. Argentina is also a strong contender with potential since they won the 2022 World Cup against France previously and, of course, because of their sensational star Lionel Messi. The United States

is expected to make it to the quarterfinals but eventually get knocked out.

The United States Men's soccer team is a strong team containing many exceptional players including their captain, Christian Pulisic the "Captain America" of soccer.

Christian Pulisic joined the men's team March 2016 and is known as the youngest American to play in a World Cup qualifier. He scored his first international goal in May of 2016 against Bolivia and became captain at 20, making him the youngest captain in the team's history. The team centers around Pulisic's leadership and guidance of new young players! There are also many new players joining the team and fighting for a chance to play in the World Cup. The head coach,

Mauricio Pochettino, is on the fence about how many of his new players will be on the roster.

One of the most known players that would have been on the 2026 roster in the Cup is Benjamin Cremaschi, but due to a meniscus tear he is likely ruled out and had to undergo surgery. ESPN has reported how some of the players feel about their coach and it seems like Mauricio Pochettino has high hopes for the 2026 World Cup. Christian Roldan has stated in an interview with ESPN, "Above all, he just expects intensity, and he expects mentality – he expects energy." This coach's attitude is what might lead to the team's victory.

Although America's national team isn't predicted to win, they have a strong built team that will accomplish great things and will be very successful in the FIFA 2026 World Cup!

Nashville to Host Super Bowl LXIV in 2030?

BY CHRISLYN SHUPE

With the newly \$2.2 billion construction of the Nissan Stadium, the NFL has set a realistic date of 2030 that Nashville could host Super Bowl LXIV (64).

Nissan Stadium is set to open up in February 2027, which will give it a fully enclosed, retractable roof, part of the NFL's requirements to host the Super Bowl. The preceding Super Bowl's are set to take place at SoFi Stadium in California (2027), Mercedes-Benz Stadium in Georgia (2028), and Allegiant Stadium in Nevada (2029).

This is a very significant moment for Nashville "Music City," being

able to host the biggest NFL game. This also helps to bring more traction into Nashville, and the Super Bowl is aligned with the opening of the new stadium to bring more major events such as the Super Bowl to Nashville.

NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell stated that, "We know the passion of the fans here — we experienced the draft here. I think a Super Bowl here would be very successful," according to Yahoo Sports. Nashville held the 2019 NFL draft, which became "the most-watched and highest-rated draft in history" based on NFL.com.

Dan Patrick, sportscaster, stated "signed and ready to go" about the agreement for Nashville to host the

64th Super Bowl on the Dan Patrick Show, while he has not seen official reports he was informed that the deal was done.

NFL policies have changed revolving how cities host the Super Bowl. From having to outbid a more conventional hosting site, it is now invitation only. According to The Tennessean, "the path to a Super Bowl in Nashville rests in the league's ability to cooperate with Nashville's civic leaders and representatives from the Titans."

However, Super Bowl tickets average around \$4,000 to \$6,000 for lower priced tickets. These tickets are generally so expensive that average fans are unable to purchase them.

Even for a high demand game like this in Nashville, this would make attendance a significant financial investment for local people to be able to attend. According to The Mercury News, "the Super Bowl at Levi's Stadium in Santa Clara is estimated to have pumped hundreds of millions of dollars into the region's economy." So, Nashville hosting the Super Bowl would be great revenue for the city, but this game would be hard for fans to attend.

This decision for 2030 is controversial and still up in the air. There has been no definitive answer on whether or not this is true yet, but fans are hoping that it is true.

Centerville Square Holds 8th Annual Keg County Arts and Crafts Fair

BY JAYCEE TAMAYO

The historic Centerville Courthouse Square was set to transform into a vibrant hub of creativity Saturday, May 9th as the 8th Annual Keg County Arts & Crafts Fair returned. The event, hosted by the Hickman County Arts and Crafts Guild, continued its tradition of showcasing exclusively handmade goods and drawing both local talent and regional visitors to the heart of the county.

From 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., the square hosted approximately 40 vendors offering a diverse array of craftsmanship including, intricate woodworks, hand thrown pottery, leather goods, and seasonal décor. For many participants, the fair represented more than just a marketplace; it was a vital community tradition.

Abigail Haskins, a student at East Hickman High School who anticipated this event stated, "The Keg County Arts & Crafts fair on the Centerville Courthouse square is an annual event that has happened the past eight years, and I am excited to join the fray of vendors and individuals who have put out their arts and crafts. There are going to be vendors that display food, homemade artifacts, and the such. I believe that it will be a great bonding activity with friends or family or even just a nice little outing for yourself!"

In addition to the booths, the event features a full experience with live music from local performers like Nick Bentley and Regina Tia. Attendees can also enjoy a variety of 7 local flavors, with food vendors serving up everything from classic BBQ to classic fair favorites such as funnel cake, snow cones, and pork rinds.

After attending, Haskins also stated "The Keg County Arts and Crafts Fair was amazing to



EHHS's own Nick Bentley performed live and (left to right) Daniel Bey, Less Kerv, and Darin Cochran also performed at the event

experience, and I think there is a very high chance that I will go again next year. There is something about walking the courthouse square with someone you care for that is just a really nice experience— from 3D printed gadgets to frozen and flavored ices and wooden coasters and old fashioned pens everything was just cute and overall awesome."

The fair is always a rain or shine event offering free admission and parking to the public. The Guild looks forward to another year of celebrating the unique spirit and skill of Tennessee's makers. Their next event will be the 18th Autumn in the Country Craft Fair on Oct 3rd again on the Centerville Square from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

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