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By: Shane Myers

## Fall Sports are Back in Action

School's back and the leaves are falling, which means it's officially time for fall sports to begin. Athletes have been training hard all summer and are looking forward to the start of the season and shooting for winning records throughout.

To kickoff the varsity football season, the team was away at Southern with high hopes of a good start. For the first half it was a close 13 to 7 with Southern up, but after halftime the Blue Devils took a wrong turn causing the defense to let up, leading to a Devil loss 47 to 7. The Blue Devils grew hungry and beat Columbiana with a close 14 to 13 making the Devils overall record 1-1.



Varsity football team

BY: Nicole Sundy

William VanMeter said, "The season's going good so far after a comeback at Columbiana." When asked about the team's strengths, VanMeter said, "Our run game and how conditioned we are is a big advantage, but personally my catching and coverage as corner are what I'm best at."

The tennis team kicked off their season with a strong start with a record of 2-2. They're looking forward to their next match at home against JFK. The JV record stands at 3-1.

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The golf team is putting away the competition with a good start with a record of 3-1 and earning third at the Ridge Invitational match. Chris Ragazzino said, "The golf team is doing great, the team's chipping helped lead us to a good record." Ragazzino went on to say, "One of our only weaknesses is putting, but that's not much to fix."

The girls Cross Country team runs through the competition winning their first suburban meet of the season. Senior standout Megan Hipple led the team at Woodland Park finishing first place.

The boys Cross Country team is also sprinting past the competition at Woodland Park in McDonald with Carson Klase taking first at Woodland Park.

The girls Volleyball team is serving the competition and winning every game so far this season. The girls are looking forward to go against the school rival Ridge. Their record so far is 6-0.

With the seasons just beginning, our athletes are looking hungry for more victories in the near future. Be sure to show your Blue Devil Pride and attend events to cheer your teams on.

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# Back to School By: Annabelle Smith

With the start of a new school year, 7th graders face many new challenges during their transition to the high school building. Things like lockers, schedules, and classes are all new to them. Navigating through high school can be extremely difficult and confusing for new students.

One of the best ways to succeed in high school is to stay organized. This can be as simple as making sure that students put papers in the right folders or making sure to bring everything needed to each class. Another way to stay organized is to keep the locker neat and tidy to make sure you have what you need. Gabby Mitchell described her locker organization method by saying, "On the bottom I have all the binders for my classes and on the top is my computer, textbooks, and folders I might need." Having an organized locker is one of the many keys to success in school.

Planners are essential to help write down homework, projects, essays, and assignments. Keeping track of assignments, supplies, and papers helps make sure things are turned in on time. When asked about how a planner helps her, Madison Binion said, "With my planner I keep track of all the homework I have due and the days I have missed."

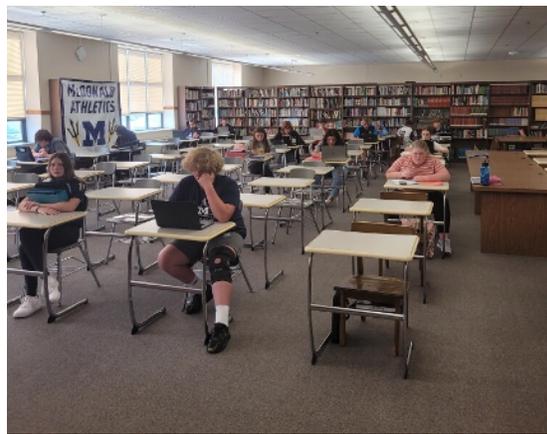
Another small thing that could help tremendously is studying. You don't have to study for five hours a night to be successful, it only takes a few minutes. Don't overwhelm yourself with information. Instead take it one class at a time and give yourself breaks to relax.

It's important to figure out how you learn. Some people learn by writing information down, some by reading it, and some by doing or experiencing something. The quicker a student learns how their brain works, the easier high school can become. For example, flash cards are amazing for some people, but don't help at all for others. It just depends on how you learn.

Practice makes perfect, and what better way to practice than doing homework? Doing homework everyday helps you better understand the material and overall helps you get a better grade. One of the best ways to get better at math and do better on tests is to practice on homework.

If you need help, ask for it. Asking for help can be very scary, but all of your teachers are there to help you succeed. Sometimes just asking one simple question could help you immensely and improve your grade.

Make sure you are keeping a healthy personal life. Everyone has needs and you cannot put your school work over your own needs. Take a break, have fun, go out with your friends. Make sure you take care of yourself before you worry about school life.



**Students studying in their study hall.**

# What's The Deal With Warner Bros?

By: Adam Parker

Recent Corporate Merger Loses \$20 billion and rising

On April 8, 2022 media company Warner Bros., responsible for such shows and movies as *Looney Tunes*, *Game of Thrones*, and *Justice League*, merged with Discovery Inc., the company behind The Discovery Channel. In attempts to cut costs, the new conglomerate has lost \$20 billion and rising.

**Young man mourning the loss of his favorite episodes of *Sesame Street***



*Article Continued on Page 3...*

Despite the companies officially joining in April, it wasn't until last month that the public eye was directed towards the merger with the cancellation of *Batgirl*. In a decision to attempt and cut costs, WB angered a large demographic of DC fans with the cancellation of the near-completed *Batgirl* film. The movie was done, simply needing a few post test-screening reshoots and editing, but then without alerting any of the cast and crew, WB axed the film.

"I thought the cancellation was extremely unprofessional; not being canceled for any quality reasons rather canceled for a tax break," said Sophomore Gavin Simms, who continued, "The crew not even being notified is horrible. They put so much time and passion into that and to see them not even get the courtesy of being told beforehand and having the chance to talk to WB is extremely unjust."



And his sentiment about the cancellation isn't uncommon. Many fans of *Batgirl* and DC in general are infuriated by the decision online, criticizing WB's choice to axe an entire piece of art just for a tax write off.

Then last week WBD attracted public response yet again after the erasure of Cartoon Network series *Infinity Train* and *OK KO*, among other series --such as nearly 200 episodes of *Sesame Street*-- taking the shows off of the streaming platform HBO Max, unlisting clips and trailers from the Cartoon Network YouTube, and removing all official methods of purchasing the shows from Amazon and other online venues.

**Artist depiction of some of WBD's cancellations and show erasures** This move was described as "slimy" by *Infinity Train* creator Owen Dennis. Eighth grade Zophie Chalky said, "I'm so upset. The series are amazing and those people are just money hungry." She continued, "[Erasing the shows] is stupid, absolutely stupid. I think things like that shouldn't happen." A lot of individuals fear what precedent this sets, a company being able to completely erase years of work in an instant without any repercussions.

This shelving of projects has caused a pitfall in stock. So far in total WBD has lost \$20 billion in market cap trying to save almost 1/7 of that amount. It's also set a precedent of distrust for the company, losing more than 300,000 subscribers on HBO Max. Or in other words, In attempts to save \$3 billion, WBD has lost \$20 billion and rising.

# Editorial: Embracing the Present

**By: Mirryn Hobbs**

When you're young, each birthday seems like an exciting goal to reach. Every year is one step closer to a plethora of new freedoms. I remember when I was 10 years old. I would watch as my older sisters left the house with their friends to see a movie that I couldn't. I wished to be 13 so I would officially be a teenager like them.



When I finally hit 13 I was on top of the world! I thought the word "teen" being added to my age meant everything. I would be able to go out with my siblings and hang out with my friends. After a couple of months of 13 I was ready to be 16. I wanted to be able to drive, get a job, and become an upperclassmen.

Now I'm almost 17, a senior in high school, and I can't seem to figure out where the time went. I spent my years of childhood wishing for them to be over. The easy homework assignments of coloring and painting are now replaced by essays, reports, and presentations. The job that I had glorified so much has become tiring. The stress of deadlines, applications, and decisions follows each senior around daily.

The idea of life after high school is exciting. However, I have now learned that instead of rushing my future to come, I will happily welcome it when the time is right. This year being my final year in high school has finally made me realize just how important having patience is. I no longer dread the homework assignments because I know they will become more difficult as the years pass. I spend as much time as I can with friends who I most likely will not see after graduation.



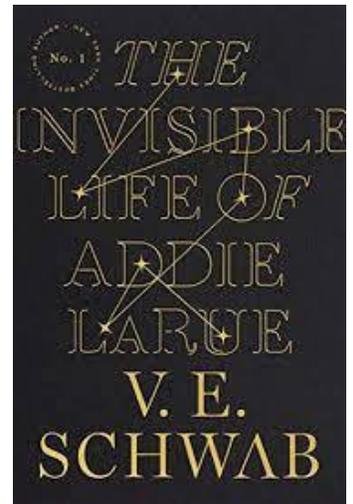
I miss having enough time to spend my days after school at the park. I miss when grades didn't matter and when that homework assignment I forgot wasn't a big deal. I miss most of the things that I couldn't wait to grow out of. I know that when I'm in college and the deadlines are closing in, I'll miss the simple nights spent studying in my childhood bedroom. I'll miss dances and high school football games.

So, my advice to the underclassmen reading this is to slow down. Enjoy the time you have in high school. These moments that seem unimportant will become some of your favorite memories as life moves on. Next time you find yourself wishing to grow up, find the importance in appreciating the things you have now.

## Aniya's Book Nook - The Invisible Life of Addie LaRue

### By Aniya Depaul

In France of 1714, in the village of Villon, lies the silent desperation of a girl named Addie LaRue. Growing up in Villon, Addie has been confined to the societal standards of her village, being pressured by her parents and friends to stick to a simple life of a "woman". A wise woman, Estele, who Addie looks up to, has always been there to give her advice, informing her of the old gods and the spirits of the earth. Addie made offerings every day dreaming of something so simple, her freedom. Estele warns her about how guileful the old spirits were and gave her one warning, "Never pray to the gods after dark."



On the day of her arranged marriage, Addie prays to any god she could think of, relinquishing anything that held significance to her, hoping for a prayer that was never fulfilled. Having lost all hope, Addie runs out on a wedding that wasn't destined for her, and flees as far as she could from Villon.

Not realizing it was after dark, she cries out to any god that would answer and with disbelief in her eyes, Addie sees him, the god that changed how her stars were seen, not knowing she would be confined in the same constellation evermore. The god deceived Addie into a life she didn't want to live, until she was willing to give up her soul. Living a life no one can remember and never being able to leave a mark, in 2014, after 300 years, there was a manipulation in Addie's curse, someone remembered her.

I was very intrigued by the author's sense of creativity and the way she applied certain emotions to make the characters feel more real and passionate about their desires. For example, Addie would stop at nothing for her independence, and it's relatable because women already have to fight for the right to be seen, so it's not hard to imagine having your freedom stripped away, just for being born a woman. Reading this book made me stop and think about what it was like, or would be like, to be in Addie's shoes, especially in that time period. Author Victoria Schwab jumps from timeline to timeline, giving us a magnified viewpoint to Addie's character growth and how she dealt with the struggles, grief, and pain of her old life. When she switches timelines you can see how she is much more content with her life, compared to her devastating past.

I disliked how the author brought characters into the story that held no purpose and it was hard to grasp who was of importance and who wasn't. When the story first began, Addie was strong and longed for independence, but as the book went on she started to be defined by how forgettable she was and not keeping her strong, self-worthy personality. I also don't like how it started off slow and didn't get to the point and after reading I still don't think I get what Addie's purpose was and what the book was trying to show us, beyond the initial empowerment of Addie or women in general.

I recommended this book to people who like to add their own perspective on a book and its ending. You have to have patience to understand where the book is going and what the outcome could be. I think this book has many different meanings to many different people and I feel that it can connect to a large and diverse audience of readers.

# Horoscope- Virgo

## (August 23- September 22)

By: Aniya Depaul



**Element:** Earth

**Colors:** Grey, Beige, Pale-Yellow

**Day:** Wednesday

**Ruler:** Mercury

**Lucky Numbers:** 5,14,15, 23, 32

**Strengths:** Loyal, Analytical, Kind, Hardworking, Practical

**Weaknesses:** Shy, Worry, Overly

Critical of Self and Others, All work no play.

**Likes:** Animals, Healthy Food, Books, Nature, Cleanliness

**Dislikes:** Rudeness, Asking for Help, Taking Center Stage

**Personality traits:** Hard-working, Critical, Reliable, Over-Thinker, Creative, Uptight, Stubborn,

**Famous Virgos-** Beyonce, Zendaya, Lili Reinhart, Blake Lively



Adapted from

<https://www.astrology-zodiac-signs.com/zodiac-signs/virgo/>

## What Grinds My Gears? by Jasmine Coots

One thing that really grinds my gears is when people mix flavors that just don't belong together. Think of drinking orange juice right after brushing your teeth. I find it very disturbing how someone can just drink it casually after having that minty taste in their mouth. Orange juice does not taste the same when you brush your teeth before drinking it.



The reason this grinds my gears is because the taste after this is disgusting. If you do this for fun you're a sick person. This is something that just makes me cringe when people do this because orange juice and toothpaste do not go together.

Other things that doesn't go together are pretzels and mustard. These do not go together because they have a sour and nasty taste together, especially hard pretzels with mustard are a big no no. These do not belong together just because of the texture of it and taste. This really grinds my gears when people eat this together and makes me cringe.

One last thing that grinds my gears is a glass of milk with a meal. For instance, say you're eating spaghetti and you decide to have milk for a drink. That would be absolutely disgusting. If you put these two combinations together there is something wrong with you. I believe these combinations don't belong together simply because they don't belong together and it's considered a crime to drink milk with any meal other than with cookies, where the taste is ACTUALLY pleasant.



# TOP 5



BY: MEEGAN DOCKERY

MCDONALD HAS ALWAYS BEEN AN ACADEMIC AND ATHLETIC ORIENTED COMMUNITY. STUDENTS HERE THRIVE IN THE CLASSROOM AS WELL AS IN THEIR RESPECTED SPORTS. THE BLUE DEVILS NEVER FAIL TO RALLY AROUND OUR SPORTS TEAMS AND WITH THE HELP OF THE STU CREW AT EACH GAME, PRIDE FOR OUR SCHOOL NEVER LACKS.

STUDENT SECTIONS HAVE ALWAYS BEEN A MAJOR PART OF THE SPORTS WORLD AND THE THEMES THAT GO ALONG WITH THEM. OVER THE YEARS WE HAVE HAD SOME GREAT THEMES TO HELP SUPPORT OUR BLUE DEVILS TO VICTORY AND HERE ARE THE TOP 5 BASED ON TODAY'S CURRENT STUDENT BODY!

- WHITE OUT**                    **27%**
- PINK OUT**                    **23%**
- BEACH**                        **23%**
- USA**                            **16%**
- BLACK OUT**                 **11%**



## Sportlight - Lyric Culp



**Name:** Amari Carayol

**Nickname(s):** Mari

**What sports are you involved in?:** Football and Basketball

**What's your favorite hype song?:** "California Girls" by Katy Perry

**Who is your favorite athlete?:** Chris Rags

**Favorite moment so far?:** First game against Columbiana.

**What is one goal you have for the season?**  
Winning a lot of games

**Match up you're most excited for and why?:**  
Definitely the Ridge game because it is always fun to play our rival team.



**Name:** Kayla Helco

**Nickname(s):** K

**What sports are you involved in?:** Volleyball and Softball

**What's your favorite hype song?:** "Rapper KJ" by Rapper KJ

**Who is your favorite athlete?:** Softball Player Aliyah Andrews

**Favorite moment so far?:** When I scored a run in the district championship game against Bristol.

**What is one goal you have for the season?** Have a winning season.

**Match up you are most excited for and why?:**  
Ridge because it is always a good match between us.





# OUTSTANDING STAFF – MISS ROZZO



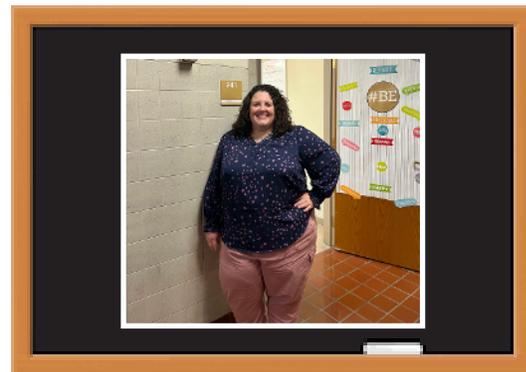
**BY LYRIC CULP**

Miss Rozzo is currently teaching World Studies 7, World Studies 9, as well as American Government. She has been teaching for 24 years now.

She knew she wanted to become a teacher due to her love for history and science in which she wanted to pass along to her students with her teachings. She loves to travel with her family which helps her learn about different people, places, and eras. Because of this, Miss Rozzo figured that becoming a history teacher would be a perfect fit. At times, just like a lot of people, she had some doubts about choosing the profession as she also considered becoming a Navy pilot or a lawyer.

In order to keep her students intrigued and to make learning interesting, Miss Rozzo tries to be positive, funny, and relatable to all her students. Miss Rozzo stated, "I learned the different methods, traits, and ideas of who I wanted and didn't want to be as a teacher." She gives her students her all when it comes to making each lesson engaging for everyone, which really creates an uplifting energy when you walk into her classroom.

Sophomore Ellie Gardner, who had Miss Rozzo for World Studies 9 last year, said, "She has made my love for history grow even more. She has been an amazing teacher and has inspired many of my classmates. Miss. Rozzo leaves a positive impact and brightens up everyone's day with her energy." This comes to show the positive influence Miss Rozzo leaves on her students.



## Student Poll: Favorite Candy!

**by Jasmine Coots**

What is your favorite candy? Recently, I asked this question of a couple study hall sessions.

The candy that got the most tallies was Reese's. Freshman Derek Hilbun said, "I like Reese's because of the flavor."

This actually surprised me because I thought something like Starbursts or Butterfingers would win this. In study hall, a group of 7th graders said they like Starbursts because of the variety of flavors. Freshman Seth Fauvie said he likes the caramel in Twix and eighth grader Allison Porter likes the chocolate in a Snickers.

It was kind of disappointing to find out that Reese's was known as the favorite candy when it's was not as popular of a candy to me, personally. The wide variety of tastes and choices made it seem like a clear runaway winner was difficult on this one.



# Back to School!

