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## The End of the Beginning **By: Mackenzie Regelman**

We are coming to the end of the first nine weeks and with it brings the idea of this year's seniors eventually departing from our school. They've had the past five years to gain wisdom and make memories both inside and outside of school.

When asked for advice for underclassmen Senior Chelsea Sudol said, "Time flies when you're having fun, enjoy it while you can." It's important to keep this in mind when setting priorities and picking up new things this year. Whether you're deciding to use your time for sports, clubs, or even using it to pick up harder classes, it's a good idea to test yourself and try new things, even if it doesn't seem like something you'd normally be interested in.



**Senior photo at the McDonald Sports Complex**

Some seniors choose to fill their schedules as much as possible in hopes of getting through college classes early, while others take the year to relax or focus on other things. Leah Parise said, "I expected my senior year to be difficult, and so far it's living up to that expectation."

On the other hand, Matthew Porter explained that he feels like it's been going great and much easier than expected. No matter how they feel about their start of the year, though, it seems as if most are excited to start the new chapter of their life after high school.

Now that the seventh graders have had time to adjust to the new environment, they've learned things that have made the switch easier.

Marissa Colarich said, "I have learned not to go to my locker between every class and to make a good routine." It's a good idea to find a routine that works for you, inside and outside of school. It helps with making sure that you're on track and won't fall behind.

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**continued...** Now that they're in the high school, the seventh graders have had more opportunities for extracurricular activities. For example, we have volleyball, different clubs, marching band, and cross country. If they haven't had the chance to pick up any fall sports they can still prepare to sign up for spring sports.

With the new year we've been given different COVID guidelines. For the seniors it's been nice because they've gotten more spectators than last year and most sports have gotten more playing time.

Matthew Porter added, "I feel great about it. It'll add way more excitement for basketball season." Not having a limit on the crowd for sports like football has made it easier to cheer on the team and will be nice when winter and spring sports start.

Seventh grader Selah Sheesley said, "I like having less strict COVID guidelines because there is so much more energy from the crowd and we were able to race at more than one place." Some sports were cut short of their normal season last year and finally got to come back to a full season. And now that masks have been mandated there has been less quarantining so everyone gets to participate.

# Editorial: Why Have We Stopped Reading?

By: Mirryn Hobbs



How many people do you know express their hatred of reading? It takes too much time, it's too boring, and it's pointless are all common excuses I have heard to avoid reading. How often have you heard statements similar to these? It is clear that in today's society reading has gone down on most people's list of necessities. What once was a fun hobby has now become a dreadful burden to most. Why is that?

It is true that as we have grown older, our schedules have become more and more flooded with preparations for our futures. With the increase of technology and social media over time, reading does not seem so important anymore, does it?

When we were younger things were much easier. College, exams, and jobs were not of concern to us. This left much more time for diving into a good book before bed. Now, many of us have let go of these carefree times in order to prepare for adulthood. Our heads are now flooded with the stress of important decisions and questions.

The fast development of technology has also had an impact. Has anyone ever told you to 'go read a book' while you were scrolling through your phone? If you take a step back and look at how much technology has influenced our lives, I'm sure the realization would be shocking to many.

Reading allows us to imagine ourselves in a different view. It is important that we appreciate the simple benefits of this now unpopular activity. When you need a break from stress, which many of us do, reading can provide an outlet of comfort. Knowledge and comprehension can be improved by reading, which can be a long term benefit for studying and focus skills.



I think it is important to enjoy the simple things in life. Yes, it is understandable to not have time to read. The thought of sitting down to read for fun while we already do it so much at school can be baffling. However, it is unfair to simply brush it off without trying it. Take a second to understand the importance and why some people enjoy it so much.

So, after reading this, take a moment of your free time and pick up a book. Instead of scrolling through social media, read through a story that interests you. See how much your opinion on the subject changes and encourage others to do the same as well.

# How to Get a Job

By: Ryan Koniowsky

As you move into high school your parents are most likely going to tell you to get a job, but first you need to know where you can work. There is a great variety of jobs available if you want to put yourself out there and having a job will make a big impact on your character.



**Animal Charity**  
of Ohio

the outside, more appealing to the eye by mowing the lawn, trimming the trees, planting different types of plants, and spreading fertilizer.

Now these are just a few of the popular ones. There are many more jobs that a high schooler can find for good pay while pursuing their interests. As many people know, you don't just get a job - you fill out an application if a place is hiring and in this day and age most jobs are in high demand.

When asked why she was interested in getting a job, Senior Theresa Greathouse said, "I got a job to start taking responsibility and being able to pay for my own things without relying on my parents all the time."

Theresa has been working for about a year, first as a babysitter and then at Subway. When asked about how she balances school and work she said, "Being in school and having practices along with school events can be very stressful. I always focus on my time management, making sure that I keep time for other school activities I participate in. I would also like to say that I think my job has been a big help in being very flexible with my schedule, which also helps me manage my time, schooling, curricular activities, and work."

When asked why she sought employment, Junior Gia Pascarella said, "I wanted to be able to make my own money, and not have to rely on my parents to give me money when I go out. It also taught me more about life and that it is not all fun and games, and that you have to grow up and start being responsible."

Gia has been working at Taco Bell for over a year and applied online. When asked how she balanced school and work, she said, "I found a system that worked for me. I would use my study hall time wisely, I would study, and do my homework in that time. If I had a test I would study in the morning or over the weekend."

To get the job you have to impress the person reading your application and a good way to do it is going and getting the application in person. It should be taken as seriously as the job interview- dress nice, use your manners, and introduce yourself and what you're good at in as many as 15 sentences or less. To help with filling it out, ask to take the application home, but if you want to make more of an impression fill it out while you're there, preferably using a pen.

Before going in, make sure you know what job title you're applying for and the payrange; also be prepared to answer the question of when you want to start work the sooner you can the better. You will also be asked to list references that can be your friends, colleagues or a former employer but do not list a relative. You also are not going to get hired for a job that you can't do so make sure that you are qualified for the position that you are applying for.





# McDonald Athletics

By: Brandon Weiss



Well the fall athletics are starting to wrap up and there were some great moments throughout this season. All of the fall athletics put in great work for their sports and made it past their regular season schedule into districts and tournaments.

**Football:** The varsity team finished their season on Friday against Jackson Milton, with a strong W. Their final record is 3-6. Yes, it's not as great as past seasons but they practiced everyday and worked hard and are already preparing for next season. Nolan Evans said, "We were not experienced and a lot of the older seniors were gone." This year was viewed more as a chance to rebuild.

**Volleyball:** The team finished their great season on Saturday against Newton Falls. With a rocking record of 16-5, the girls put in a fantastic effort this year and props to them for getting so far. Freshman

Kayla Helco said, "The team was good most of the time, we all got together well and there were a lot of improvements from the past seasons."

**Tennis:** The team's season has finally come to an end. They finished with a solid record of 5-2.

**Cross Country:** The cross team finished their regular season and went to districts to place 2nd for the boys and 4th for the girls. This week they will be going to Boardman to run for regionals. Good luck to them for continued success!

**Golf:** The golf teams reign came to an end as of districts, placing 5th. Caleb Domitrovich shot a nice 74, and proceeded to the state championship at The Ohio State University golf course in Columbus where he placed 19th out of over 70 competitors.

## McDonald, Briefly--

The village of McDonald held their October Festival on October 16th. The festival started off with a parade with the McDonald cheerleaders, band, and the grade school's football team all walking in the parade. The festival had a few food stands and a live band as well. At night, pumpkins were lit up for the pumpkin walk. In addition to the members of the community that provided carved pumpkins, the McDonald French Club had painted pumpkins to display during this walk.



## Movie Review: Dead Poets Society

By: Mirryn Hobbs

Dead Poets Society, a 1989 film, tells the story of a group of teenage boys discovering themselves and what they truly dream of. In such a prestigious and strict society, the movie quickly shows just how dangerous conformity truly is.

The movie is set at the pristine all boys Welton Academy in Vermont. At the start of the film, it becomes clear how strict the parents of the students are when they take drastic measures to be sure their sons are focusing solely on schooling. It is apparent that the futures forced upon the boys seem to be their parents' dreams rather than their own. This is further shown when main character Neil's father forces him to quit the school yearbook, something he was looking forward to, in order to focus more on his difficult classes.





**Continued...** After a long day of book stacks, monotone voices, and vast homework assignments, the main characters have their first interesting encounter. John Keating, the new English teacher, has other plans for this group of intelligent students. The boys experience a breath of fresh air in this class. Things such as ripping school books apart, standing on desks, and yelling out poems are normal for Keating's class. When the boys look further into their new teacher's past, they discover the Dead Poets Society

The Dead Poets Society, banned by the school, was a group of boys just like themselves who would come together in the depths of a cave to recite poetry. They were dedicated to "sucking the marrow out of life" as Keating says. The main characters decide to continue this legacy of the Dead Poets Society, carrying out what the earlier students could not finish. As the film carries on, it demonstrates how certain students were able to break free from what has been forced upon them, while others could not. I believe

this film demonstrates a perfect representation of how venomous a society of conformity can be, as well as how it can make us feel trapped.

This will forever be one of my favorite films! It is almost as if Robin Williams, who plays John Keating, is not acting. You can practically feel every emotion that the talented actors portray as the story progresses. This film is perfect for anyone who favors dramatic true to life stories.

*Dead Poets Society* teaches us the lesson of how important it is to take hold of every moment in life. Our lives will forever carry on, as Keating says, "Carpe Diem. Seize the day, boys. Make your lives extraordinary."

# Winter vs Summer

I had asked twenty students what season out of summer and winter they liked better. Only four said they liked winter. Mariah Leskovac was one of the four that loves this season because, "I love being able to dress in sweaters, and to have the thought of a possible snow day." She also added that she loves being in the snow with her puppies and drinking warm drinks like hot cocoa after being in to cold for a bit.

The students who have selected the winter said they don't like the sun and how hot it can get outside when the summer strikes. Many people do enjoy the winter due to the fact that it is the holiday season, and some families may travel during this time. Many other people love to wake up with snow on the ground and seeing the snow stick to trees. It truly is a beautiful sight.

Many children love the snow as well because they love to go out and have a snowball fight during the cold weather. Winter is truly an amazing time during the year, with certain things you can only do during this season.

Out of twenty students sixteen said they like summer better. Mindy Brown was one who likes summer better. She said, "During the summer there are more fun activities to do, for example swimming." She added, "The warm weather makes it so nice to be outside, during the night it feels like being at the beach."

Many of the students who had said summer is their favorite they liked it because you could go on many vacations. You also get to relax and be able to see your friends more then the school year. Summer is also time to travel without having to be back for school the next few days. Many of the students had said they liked how they can relax and how they can go places and be with people and not have to worry about a time to be back home to get homework done.

Summer is truly an amazing and warm time during the year , and a great time to go and travel to many different places around the world.

Which season out of summer and winter do you like best?

**By: Veda Agler**

# Game Review -

By: Quintin Bell

# Ori and The Will of The Wisps

*Ori and the Will of The Wisps*, the sequel to *Ori and The Blind Forest*, is a platform-adventure mix where the player must collect fragments of light to restore said light to Niwen. This may feel an awful lot like its precursor as it has very similar main objectives. This game, fortunately, has a new fighting system. Lead developer Thomas Mahler said, "The idea is that *Will of the Wisps* should be to *Blind Forest* what *Super Mario Bros. 3* was to the original *Super Mario Bros.*"



For how I feel about this game, the visuals are amazing. The music, the game play, and the cut-scenes are phenomenal as well. Ori does not feel slippery or like he is floating during the game. The characters are memorable and have a unique way of speech, which makes it really different from other games.

The game has around 12 hours of continuous play to 100% it. One great aspect is how the game knows how to set the mood, as well as keep that mood in that area consistently. Further, the game goes above and beyond with its precursor by keeping the original game's presence just barely in there. There are very fluent animations and a lot of collectibles to grab.



As there are good parts to a game, there are the bad as well. The game can have bad loading times (unless you're on Xbox.) The graphics alone may cause lag within your game, which mostly happens in tense scenes that lead to a cut-scene.

Overall, this is a very good game. The visuals, story, and gameplay make it a very good game. With the game having good control, it's a great experience to even watch someone else play. Lasting about 12 hours and only costing \$14.50, it's definitely worth every penny since it's

also a very re-playable game. I cannot stress how much I recommend it.

For Rating, I would say a solid 9.5/10. It's something to behold and shows clearly the love and effort the developers put into the game.

# Book Review: The Secret History

By: Mirryn Hobbs *A Morbid Longing for the Picturesque at All Costs*

*The Secret History* by Donna Tartt opens with the main character Richard Papeen as he tells the story of his life in college and the haunting events that took place. The plot is beautifully written and sets the perfect scene of erudite college students slowly becoming withdrawn from reality.

The story begins with Richard Papeen, a quiet man who has had enough of his dreary life in California. He decided he would leave California to

study at the prestigious Hampden College in Vermont.

Richard has always had an interest in studying Greek, but when he is accepted into Hampden College, he realizes it will take much more work to be allowed into the class. Julian Morrow, the extremely selective and aloof Greek professor, has no plans on letting another student into his small class of 5.

**Continued...** Eventually, Richard makes his way into the small group of intelligent students who study Greek with Julian. He quickly realizes he is on a much lower level of class than his wealthy and highly knowledgeable peers Camilla, Charles, Henry, Francis, and Edmund.

As time goes on, the line between their normal lives and the lives of those from Ancient Greece begins to fade. Admiration turns to obsession as Camilla, Charles, Francis, and Henry become more and more involved in the ancient culture. The four of the group become secretive of their newfound practices to become closer to the Greek Gods at all costs.

Tension rises as fellow Greek student Edmund begins to close in on their chilling habits, while Richard slowly becomes more involved in them.

I believe this is a genius story that was brilliantly written. Donna Tartt is well known for her descriptive writing style that perfectly encapsulates any setting she wishes.

The plot never becomes boring in any moment! Even when things seem useless, there is always some type of foreboding that could be easily missed if not studied closely.

A person who enjoys mysterious investigative plots may want to consider adding this work to their collection. This is a story meant for people who are willing to look beyond what is apparent and explore the world outside of mind.



# Horoscope of the Month - Scorpio

## October 23 – November 22 By: Quintin Bell

**Element** - Water

**Day** - Tuesday

**Scorpios Like** - Truth, facts, being right, talents, teasing, passion.

**Scorpios Dislike** - Dishonesty, revealing secrets, superficiality, small talk

**Color** - Red

**Lucky Number** - 8, 11, 18, 22

**Weaknesses** - Distrusting, jealous, manipulative, violent

**Strengths** - Resourceful, powerful, brave, passionate, a true friend

**Ruler** - Pluto

(Modern),  
Mars(Traditional)

**Greatest Compatibility** - Taurus, Cancer

**Affirmation** - "I will lift the fallen, restore the broken and encourage the discouraged. I will show them the power that lies dormant within them, ready to take the world in steady glory."



**Overall** - Scorpios are a unique person who is both chaotic and calm at the same time. They are someone who is a true friend. Being resourceful, passionate, powerful and brave, they even out the weaknesses they hold. Although they may be jealous and manipulative at times, they like the truth, facts, and teasing. They dislike revealing secrets, dishonesty, superficiality, and small talk. Overall, they are what anyone can say they are: "a true friend."

Information adapted from -

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scorpio\\_\(astrology\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scorpio_(astrology))



# Back page Pics

BY: Veda Agler