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By: Meegan Dockery

Students Enjoy Homecoming

On October 15 the students of McDonald danced the night away at Aulizio's Banquet Center. With the help from Student Council and many other volunteers, the dance was a success for all who attended.

The night started off strong with the welcoming of the court, which included Alivia Morrison, Megan Hipple, Megan Zajack, Maria Rasile, Kyle Crown, Joey Skowron, Shane Stoops, Greg Costantino, and the King and Queen Bri Rupe and Juan Villanueva.

Student Council played a significant part in making this year's homecoming. From choosing the theme to setting up the banquet hall, Student Council put in a lot of work to make the under-the-sea theme fish-tastic.

There is nothing better than a night of food, friends, and dancing. So many students enjoyed their time getting ready, taking pictures, and letting loose with their friends. Junior Bri McCombs said, "I prepared for the day by going dress shopping, getting my hair done, and just relaxing before I went to go take pictures."

Homecoming is seen by many as a rite of passage to commemorate their time in school. High school isn't just about academics, although grades are important; high school is about playing sports, growing up, and experiencing new things with your friends.

The students this year had a wonderful time at the dance and made lots of memories with their peers. For example, Junior Aidan Connely said, "My favorite part was the actual dance when it was a good song and the mosh pit went crazy because it is just very fun to sing along and jump with your friends."

Sophomore Anabela Merola added, "My favorite memory was taking pictures and dancing, even though it was like 100 degrees." The 2022-2023 homecoming dance was a blast and everyone created memories that will never be forgotten.



Pictures don't have to be extravagant, simple places create wonderful photos.

(L to R): Avery Maley and Bri McCombs

In This Issue

Students Enjoy Homecoming	1
Fall Sports Coming To An Close New Quarter, New You	2
Is Social Media Damaging?	3
Game Review: Night in the Woods	4
Recipe: How to Make Apple Strudel	5
People On the Street Weird History: The Dancing Plague	6
Music Review: Lemon-Boy	7
Backpage Pics	8



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Fall Sports Coming To A Close

by Lyric Culp

This past week the football team faced the Waterloo Vikings in the homecoming game and came out victorious. The boys went in wanting to improve their record to 3-6, and managed to run away with their third win of the season.

There were a few key contenders for the big win Friday night, one of which being Nathan Sierra who passed for a touchdown and rushed into the endzone for another. Sierra also threw for 57% that night.

When asked how he feels coming off a big win and heading into week 10, he said, "I feel like I performed well overall, the team played very well, too. The team and I plan to bring the same energy from last week to this game because we are motivated to make it to the playoffs and play in week 11."



The Devils hosted Jackson-Milton this past week and took a tough season-ending loss. The Blue Jays took an early lead and remained strong throughout the remainder of the game. After a long fought battle, the team came up short with a final score of 20-7.

The volleyball team is in the midst of playoffs currently, on the way to the district semifinals after beating East Canton and the Youngstown Academy for Urban Scholars. They will advance and compete against the number eight seed, Dalton, for a shot at the district title for the first time in school history.

Since fall sports are quickly coming to a close that means winter athletics will be picking back up. We are looking to start varsity, junior varsity, and junior high basketball as well as bowling.

The bowling team is having sign ups in the office and the junior high boys basketball team is having a meeting in the commons on October 21st after school. The varsity and junior varsity teams are looking to start mandatory practices and tryouts within the next week.

I asked junior Wyatt Wolford about any expectations and goals he has for the basketball team this year in which he replied, "The expectations are simple, win. We have a lot of doubters but that won't stop us from playing hard every game and hopefully making a playoff run."

New Quarter, New You!

By: Aniya Depaul

As this quarter comes to an end students are now in crunch time to make sure they end the quarter on the right note. The ending of every quarter can be stressful as teachers and students try to finish off strong as well as prepare for the rest of the semester.

It's important for students to evaluate their first quarter, both their mistakes and successes, so they can effectively plan ways to improve through the rest of the year.

Going into the remainder of the first semester, students should be setting goals, establishing better habits, and improving organizational and study skills for the betterment of themselves and their academic records

Continues on page 3...

If you are looking to improve your organizational and study skills you can try several strategies. An important one is using and labeling your planner to be sure you don't forget any assignments. Establishing good study skills is a key to thriving in your classes. For example flashcards, Quizlet, and having set times to study are all ways you can improve studying habits. Sophomore Ava Kuntz said, "Making better studying habits has really helped me improve throughout all my classes, especially Geometry."



Sophomore Ava Kuntz studies for a Geometry test.

On the road to success there are many obstacles in the way, especially for high school students. These obstacles might include time management, lack of motivation, procrastination, and stress. By constructing new habits students can avoid these complications and make way to their academic goals.

These skills are crucial to the success of many students here at McDonald. Senior Rachel Moxely said, "Making plans and setting goals for myself really sets me up for success every quarter. Having a set schedule keeps me on track and allows me to see everything I have accomplished."

As students head into the second quarter they should look to improve upon their overall skill sets.

Editorial: Is Social Media Damaging?

By: Veda Agler

Social media is addicting. I'll admit, I've been hooked. But for others, it can be their whole life. For reference, all of the influencers that you enjoy watching or supporting first started off doing social media because it was fun or their friends were doing it too. But their page soon started to get the attention of others, as these influencers started to post their whole life just for us.



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We all love our favorite creators, but have you ever stopped to think how stressful their life can be just to put out content we enjoy? Those creators spend half of their day making these videos, taking pictures, or even editing for us. Some may be very grateful for what they have done but others can be very rude and ungrateful. We are constantly telling them to continue posting for our visual needs. If they say they want to take a break, we are the first to shut them down and bully them for what may be best for them.

For example, we all have seen those not-so-nice comments in all the different comment sections, right? Yes, I have. But do we do anything about it? Sometimes yes, but other times no. Other times people keep adding to this comment, making the bullying or comment worse than it should be.

Imagine how the creator of that picture or video feels about these comments. These comments will make them feel what they put out isn't good enough for us. Although it is, they have many followers who actually support them and what they create and put out. They do, but every influencer always notices the bad before the good.

Although it's not just influencers who go through this. Many of your friends or family members may be getting hate or hooked on social media as well. For example, you may have a friend who loves to post everything on social media. They may be hooked on wanting the attention of others or just hooked on social media in general.

This is very hard for them to just not post or be on it anymore. This is because they are wanting to become someone they are not, or just want the attention of others. Many claim their life is based all around social media and wanting to post something and be on it every minute of every hour. Others are just hooked on being able to keep up to date with their favorite celebrities or creators. Wanting to be the first to know about something new that has happened to them.



Although just being hooked on social media isn't good. What about the bullying that can happen to your friends or family? The bullying or comments may not be in the comment section like all the different creators or celebrities, but they can be in their message box instead. All it takes is one text or comment about their post or themselves that can hurt them deeply. Our minds can only take so much off of social media and people that if they see any bad rather than good it will affect us and how we act. Just remember not everything you see on the internet is real. Remember that you never know what anyone may be receiving or going through. But to be nice no matter what can truly affect someone's day or year. Make sure you support your favorite creators, celebrities, family members, and friends on social media, and check up on people close to you because you never know if something is going on behind the scenes.

Game Review: *Night In The Woods* by: Adam Parker

Night in The Woods is an independent video game that was published by Infinite Fall and Secret Lab on January 10th, 2017. Soon after its release it began gaining notoriety for its interesting story, fun gameplay, and likable characters.

The game follows Mae Borowski as she returns to her small town home of Possum Springs after dropping out of college. As you go through the game you reconnect with old friends and discover the secrets of the town and your own past. The game, in my opinion, perfectly reflects that sense of nostalgia that comes alongside change. From Mae reflecting on the closure of the old grocery store, to meeting some of the kids from grades under Mae, the game, in little time, connects the player to that feeling of change.

To further express that feeling of change the game has a cast of fun and interesting characters introduced through the perspective of being people Mae used to know. The main cast of the game is Mae's best friends and bandmates, Gregg, Angus, and Bea. Spliced throughout the game are segments where the player goes through a rhythm game-esque band segment with some pretty cool original tracks. Within these segments as well as other story segments throughout the game you learn more and more about this colorful cast of characters' lives and how things have changed since you last saw each other.

Though it may be one of the best parts, the game isn't entirely about just hanging out with your friends. There's a mystery to the town, a dark secret hidden just beneath your nose. The player first becomes aware of the mysterious events after finding an arm outside the local diner. Later, on Halloween the player witnesses a mysterious figure grab somebody in the background and take off with them.

Continues on page 5...

Slowly you begin to realize there have been hints to this all throughout, mainly in the missing person posters hung about, and that the dreams Mae has throughout the game are connected to this mystery. As the gang begins unraveling the mysteries your bonds grow stronger alongside the player's connection to the cast.

Aside from the main story there's a lot of interesting side-adventures that don't contribute to the story of the game but help flesh out the world and characters better, as well as being a lot of fun. An example of this is Demon Tower. Completely different from the rest of the game, Demon Tower is a top down, dungeon-crawling, adventure game that exists in the game's world. Another example is stargazing with Mae's old teacher, Mr. Chazokov. These segments explain some of the town's history and local lore as they relate to the constellations.



Night in The Woods is a masterclass in exploring themes of change, nostalgia, and of course friendship, with added mystery thrown in to make it even more interesting. From investigating the mysteries of the town, to meeting new friendly faces, to mini-games like Demon Tower, *Night in The Woods* is a fun, heart touching experience that I can't get enough of.

How to Make Apple Strudel

By: Annabelle Smith

Ingredients:

3 Eggs

Apple Cider Vinegar

10 Apples

Sugar

Cinnamon

Plain Bread Crumbs

Pastry Dough



Flatten out the pastry dough and brush oil over top of it. Sprinkle breadcrumbs all over the dough. Slice the apples thin. Lay the slices across the top of the breadcrumbs on top. Mix cinnamon and sugar together and sprinkle the mixture on the top of the apples.

Add oil to the outside edge of the dough and roll it. Use the oil to help seal the edges of the dough. Carefully place the roll on a cookie sheet. Bake at 375 degrees for 15 minutes. Then, lower the heat to 350 degrees. When it is lightly golden-brown in color, take out of the oven.

Beat 1 egg and 3/4 of a cup of oil together and then add 2 teaspoons of sugar. Brush the mixture over the entire roll and then put it back into the oven. Take it out when it is golden brown. Served best with a side of ice cream or other tasty treat.

I picked this recipe because I always loved when my grandmother made it for my family and I. I love all apple sweets, so this was one of my favorites. She always used to make it during holidays like Thanksgiving and Easter. It was the one thing I was most excited for when we went to her house for holiday dinner.

People on the Street- Which season is your favorite and why?

by Jasmine Coots

I interviewed 3 people to see what their opinion was on their favorite season

Maddison Binion- "Fall because of the color of the leaves."

Gabby Mitchell- "Fall because it's not too hot or too cold and it's hoodie season."

Tyler Ball- "Spring because the flowers start coming back and it gets warmer"

I thought that winter would be the most popular season because of the cute winter outfits and the snowfall.



Weird History- Dancing Plague of 1518 by Adam Parker

In July of 1518 a woman stepped into the streets of Strasbourg (modern-day France) and began to dance. She danced, seemingly unwillingly, until she collapsed from exhaustion. After a short rest, she continued dancing until again collapsing. This continued for several days and within a week over 30 people were similarly afflicted.

City authorities grew concerned with the ever-increasing number of dancers. According to Britannica, civic and religious leaders theorized that more dancing would be the solution, arranging for halls for the dancers to gather in, alongside musicians and professional dancers to help the afflicted continue their grievous groove. This, of course, only made the problem worse. Infected would continue dancing until their feet bled, which of course city authorities responded with by putting the infected in red dancing shoes. By then, according to Britannica, approximately 400 people were afflicted, many of which died from exertion.

Explanations for the dancing plague at the time included vengeance from God, demonic possessions, and overheated blood. As told by Britannica, in the 20th century it was suggested that the infected may have consumed ergot contaminated bread- ergot being known to cause convulsions. Another theory, suggested by sociologist Robert Bartholomew, was that the dancers were members of radical religious sects, dancing to attract the favor of God.

Continues on page 7...

Later, an American medical historian named John Waller theorized that the dancing was a form of mass hysteria prompted by some kind of extreme stress. In this case Waller pointed to famines and diseases, such as smallpox, as the causes of this extreme stress. Waller's theory is the most widely accepted.

It's debated how many people died from this outbreak of dance, some saying 15 deaths a day, others none at all. According to Wikipedia, records from Strasbourg at the time make no mention of deaths and as such it's unknown just how many people died. Regardless, the Dancing Plague of 1518 remains one of the weirdest events in European history.

Sources: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dancing_plague_of_1518

<https://www.britannica.com/event/dancing-plague-of-1518>



Music Review By: Annabelle Smith

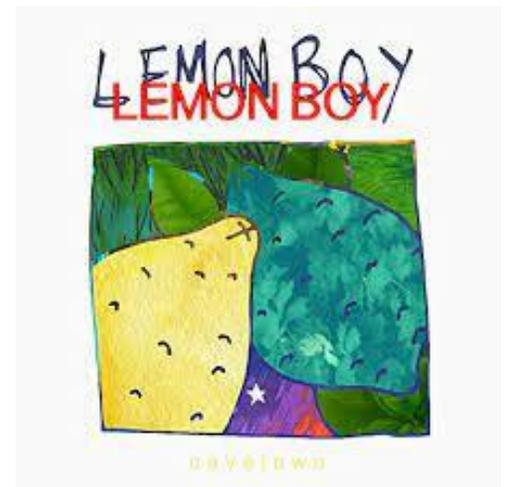
Cavetown released one of their most popular albums in 2018 called *Lemon Boy*. Cavetown is a one man band who has released many popular songs, such as "Devil Town" and "Juliet". Robin Daniel Skinner is an English artist well known for their soft and gentle style of music. Some of his most listened to songs on the album are "Fool", "Green", and of course, "Lemon Boy".

His songs usually have a deeper meaning hidden in the lyrics as they mostly focus on conquering real demons in many people's lives like depression and self doubt. In his music he talks about his struggles in his personal life and how he has learned to cope and overcome them, hoping that he will be able to help others to not feel alone.

Some things I really liked about the album are the symbolism and deeper meanings in the words. The songs conquer a lot of different struggles so it is easy to relate to some of them. Robin Skinner has a very interesting way with words that really pulls you into the music. Every single verse in the songs are well thought out. His music has an almost sad tone to it that can calm the listener down easily.

While I enjoyed it, sometimes what you need from a song is a pick-me-up, not a somber tune and this album rarely is able to deliver that. When you are in a good mood, the last thing you want to listen to is a song about conquering a terrible hardship. Some of the symbolism in the lyrics can be hard to understand at first. For example, the boy described in "Lemon Boy" symbolizes depression and the baggage that comes along with it. Trying to fully understand the lyrics can be like a maze and it is easy to get lost and confuse yourself when you are only trying to figure out what the meaning behind one song is.

Overall, I would rate the album a 9/10. The album is really meaningful and gets you to think about things from a different perspective. However, the gloomy tone of it can pull you right out of a happy mood. Besides that, the songs are really well written and well thought out. I believe that it is extremely important to make others feel seen and this music does just that.



Back page pics - Homecoming~

BY: Jamsine Coots

