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Right On Track! By: Elle Airhart

Spring has sprung and with the warmer weather comes warm-ups for our spring sports. Conditioning has started and has ended for most sports and their seasons have begun.

Track and Field have started their season great. Each event has put in hours of practice and conditioning to do better than ever before. As of now, the team has placed top 2 in all of their meets. They do have a smaller team this season but they haven't let their smaller size weigh them down too much. Senior Katie Gardner says, "For the season, I think it's going really well so far. We have a lot of work to put in still but the team is working really well and we are all pulling together."



Jacob Wolford hurdling at the Poland meet.

Softball has also brought heat to the diamond. Their

pitching and batting game is on point. They've worked through a few weeks of games already and have their eyes on the prize this year. Their current record is 11 - 2 with hopes of keeping their losses at 2. Senior Sarah Lorello says, "The season is going really well so far. The team is working together this year, better than other years. Everyone really gets along; it's a great team." The team has great things ahead of them.

Baseball is also right on track. They've practiced and conditioned to prepare for one hectic season but they plan to outdo any team that challenges them. Their season started towards the beginning of April and they have already continued their goals of success.

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Staff Writer:
Riley Myers

Editor Staff:
Theresa Greathouse
Hannah Werle
Elle Airhart

Broadcast Staff:
Bri Callow
Ethan O'Connell
Elise McMaster
Sage Mason

Editor in Chief:
Mr. Backur

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Continued... Their record is currently 4 - 4 and is 4 - 3 in their league. Junior Andrew Cupan says, "Our team has the potential to be something very special. We just need to play how I know we can and nobody can beat us." Our baseball team is gearing up for one awesome season. Great job to all spring sports teams and participants! You all have great seasons ahead of you and records to be broken. Your hard work is paying off so enjoy all of your wins and even your losses! Good luck MHS!



MHS Softball team posing for a team picture. Photo Credit: A Team Parent

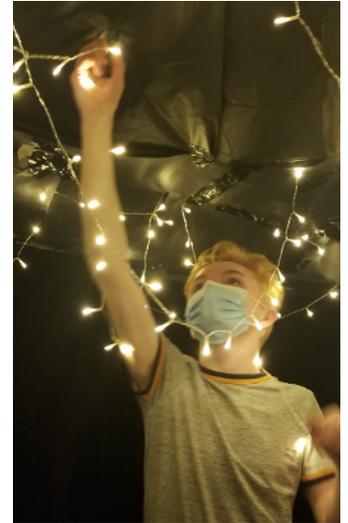
Let's Get Creative By: Riley Myers

We are back and ready for activities with everyone again and to celebrate, the art show is on. We have a lot of talented artists in our school that want to show off their amazing artistic skills that have been honed by Mr. Mills.

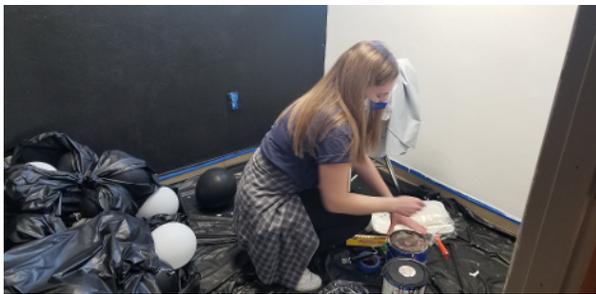
The art show is an annual event featuring artwork from grades 7-12. It is a student run show where the students both help hang the work and help work the show. One of my favorite parts is having the elementary students come up to visit. This year the show consists of the following mediums: drawing, painting, photography, and crafts.

Here at MHS we have some talented seniors that have been working very hard on their art projects with some amazing themes being explored. When asked about her art show pieces Senior Maddie Williams said, "There are no specific themes for my artwork. I tend to just do a lot of abstract pieces that I think of at different times."

Seniors Sage Mason and Ethan O'Connell are also participating in the art show. Sage Mason explained her theme saying, "The theme for my installation piece is how the media affects the brain's self perception and changes how people act and present themselves."



Ethan O'Connell finishes work on his installation.



Maddie Williams works on her art installation.

Mills is very proud and excited about how her students have come so far.

When asked what inspired her to become an artist, Maddie Williams responded, "I started to do art as a hobby, but now I use it to express myself and feelings." Sage Mason also expressed her inspirations saying, "My mom was an art teacher when I was younger so I was always around art and decided to start doing it myself."

These amazing artists do beautiful work on papers and walls and have bright futures ahead of them. Maddie Williams is going to continue pursuing her passion in art school saying, "I plan on continuing art after school because it is something I enjoy and it is an outlet for when I'm stressed or overwhelmed." We all hope for the best and that you get into the school that you want to get into.

Ethan explained his piece as well, "The theme for my art installation is the inner workings of the human brain, specifically the ways ideas and memories are experienced in a neurological way." These themes sound so exciting to see and feel what they expressed through their art.

However, none of this would be possible without the leadership and training the students get from our teacher Mrs. Mills. Mrs.



Our 1st, 2nd, and 3rd winners of the 2021 art show. Top: Ethan O'Connell, Left: Maddie Williams, Right: Sage Mason

Photo Credit: Sage Mason

McDonald, Briefly **By: Theresa Greathouse**

McDonald High School Drama Club has been on the move getting ready for their upcoming performances on the 7th and 8th of May. These plays are called "A Mystery Murdered" and "Left To Our Own Devices" and were directed by Mr. Gavitt. Stage crew and the characters of the play have been working really hard to pull together and make these great plays to put on a show. They will be on-line and in person in the High School Auditorium; break a leg!



Photo Credit: Scott Jones



Photo Credit: Michael Porter. Brooklyn Bokan selling prom tickets.

This year's prom committee is in the hand of the Junior class and its theme is "A Grecian Garden". Prom tickets are \$30 each and are sold outside the office after school and during lunch, April 26th- April 29th and May 3rd - May 6th. The Prom will be at Ciminero's Banquet Center and begins at 7 p.m., while Promenade will start at 6 p.m. in the auditorium. Make sure to buy your tickets! For more information be sure to ask the office or Mrs. Fabian.

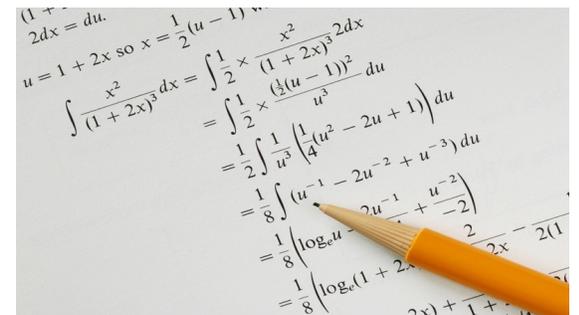
The McDonald High School Band Concert was April 28th in the high school Auditorium. The songs sung by the Choir were "The Climb" and "I've Had the Time of My Life". The songs the Concert Band preformed were, "The Greatest Showman" and "Earthdawn". The band spent every 8th period practicing to be prepared for the concert and sounded so amazing, McDonald is small, but we are mighty strong. The Choir has also been practicing every morning 1st period. Congratulations on a great performance everyone!



Students practicing for the upcoming concert Photo Credit: Hannah Werle

Editorial-- Are Students Really Learning About Life in Application? **By: Hannah Werle**

"But why *exactly* do we need to know how to find the derivative of fifty watermelons?" Famous quote said by every math student ever. Okay, it might technically be impossible to take the derivative of fifty watermelons--I honestly wouldn't know--but nonetheless my point is made clear. Students have always struggled and argued with the usefulness of the classes they must take. Typically our teachers will defend themselves or their colleagues by saying: "Well do you plan on going into the medical field? Or what about when you need to quickly add up the total of something at the store? What if you need to know the different classifications of the animal kingdom when you try picking between a dog or a cat?" What educators refuse to admit is that there comes a moment when their point is moot.



Core subjects like basic math, reading, English, and history will arguably always be used in day to day life, however most upper level classes many not necessarily be useful. The importance of certain science, math, and English electives is a crapshoot that entirely depends on one's major or job choice. One of my favorite things to bring up before basically any test is "Is this going to help me pay my taxes?". Spoiler: the answer is always no. The issue is that many students will graduate knowing tons of fun facts about *The Great Gatsby* and not how to fill out their FASFA or a resume.

Then again, is there really anything that schools can do about this? Would students really pay attention to the step by step instructions that most life events require? High schools--especially public schools--don't have

the resources to allow every student to learn about what would be most useful to them as individuals. The purpose of college or a trade school is to do the very thing that students complain that high school isn't doing, but not everyone has the resources or desire to attend.



Despite all the varying factors, at the heart of it students feel that they aren't learning basic life skills. Shouldn't that be enough to make public schools reconsider where they are focusing their education?

Be Resilient, Overcome Fears, and Face Challenges– By: Theresa Greathouse

At one point in a high school student's life, they've felt that they didn't want to get up and go to school because its "meaningless", but what if someone told you that it's going to shape who you will be later in life?



Most teenagers are fed up with the school work and all the new things they are expected to learn in x amount of days. All the notes, homework, quizzes, tests, mid-terms, finals, and state testing is stressful and at that point students become tired, overwhelmed and want to give up. Although school is hard at times, it is important to keep pushing forward and to keep a positive mindset and organized schedule by writing things down in order of what needs done or studied. This could make them feel less stressed. Also, don't forget to take a 20 minute break when needed; school is important but so is one's mental health.



When there's a test coming up some students experience test anxiety, some fear getting a bad grade, or learning something they can't catch on too quickly and that's totally normal- but has anyone ever took a step back to really look at the problems and find ways to solve them? The best thing to do so one is prepared for a test or quiz is studying throughout the week and not cramming all the information in at once, as this only leads to more stress. Giving one's best effort is all any teacher can ask for and what they most hope to see from their students. Remember, they are here to support and help students and see them succeed.

So, whatever your attitude is towards school make sure you see the whole equation. Teachers are here to help and make sure that your learning abilities are as advanced as possible and also help you identify great character traits about themselves. Along with the staff teachers are the counselors, Mrs. Bosheff and Miss. Zalac are almost always available and help as much as they can. So, if your attitude towards school is not so good just think about all these things that add up to really make school a great environment for mind and self growth as a person. Don't forget to thank teachers and other staff members when they help, stay thankful.

April 30th - May 30th Calendar

Birthdays:

April 30th: Travis Scott's Birthday - Did anyone try his burger before it was gone?

May 2nd: Dwayne Johnson's Birthday - So rocks do age then...

May 5th: Adele's Birthday - Hello? I was wondering what your age was after all these years.

May 8th: Stephen Amell's Birthday - Any *Arrow* fans out there?

May 10th: Kenan Thompson's Birthday - If only his birthday landed on a Saturday.

May 28th: Cameron Boyce's Birthday - Rest in Peace. You are sorely missed. You were so many people's childhoods.

Important Dates:

By: Elle Airhart

May 22nd: Senior Graduation - The most common and effective cure for Senioritis.

May 27th: Last Day of School - "Just imagine how cooler [we'll] be in SUMMER!" sang best by Olaf.



The Weird Ones:

May 1st: May Day - What does this even celebrate? "Rebirth"? Huh?

May 4th: National Teacher's Day - Kind of suspicious that the day is in the last month of the year...

May 9th: National Lost Sock Day - Your washing machine feels the love.

May 13th: National Apple Pie Day - Sounds like I'm going to have to have pie on my birthday instead of cake.

May 14th: National Dance Like A Chicken Day - No explanation. Just get your dancing feet ready.

May 15th: National Chocolate Chip Day - I expect full trays of warm chocolate chip cookies or I'm going to sue.

May 16th: National Honor Our LGBTQ Elders Day - Embrace the rainbow.

May 19th: National Devil's Food Cake Day - I mean if this means I can eat cake all day then I'll definitely celebrate!

May 21st: National Talk Like Yoda Day - May the Fourth be with you!

May 24th: Aviation Maintenance Day - Sometimes we take for granted some of the things we have. Let's celebrate the behind the scenes people for once!

May 26th: Paper Airplane Day - Did anyone else just remember throwing them into the air and them just nose dive? That has to be a metaphor for something...

May 30th: Indianapolis 500 Day - I didn't even know this existed. Am I the only one? Why do we need a day for NASCAR...?





Sage's Summer Treat



By: Sage Mason

The end of the school year is upon us which means the weather is heating up and everyone is looking for a way to cool down. Luckily I have a simple 4 ingredient recipe for the best strawberry pineapple popsicles. Make sure to follow along to learn how to make my favorite summer treat.

Ingredients:

1 cup strawberries

1 cup pineapple

1/2 cup yogurt

2 tablespoons honey

1.) In a blender put the 1 cup of strawberries, 1 cup of pineapple and 1/2 cup of yogurt and blend on medium speed for 2 minutes.

2.) After the fruit is fully blended add in the 2 tablespoons of honey and blend again for 30 seconds.

3.) Once the mixture is done blending, set out small paper cups and set a wooden popsicle stick in each.

4.) Pour the mixture into each cup until they are 3/4 of the way full

5.) Place the cups into the freezer and allow them to freeze for 5 hours.

6.) After the 5 hours are up take a cup out, peel the paper off and enjoy!



Movie Review – A Bug's Life By: Riley Myers

One of my personal favorites is *A Bug's Life*, which happens to be a really good movie for the springtime and also for families and friends to watch. It is adorable and it is rated G. I feel like for this movie it was well thought out and it was creative and funny. There is a lot of childish humor that will even make grandma giggle a little.



There is an ant whose name is Flik. He is the ant that tries to do good for his colony, but he messes everything up at the end. He had a mishap and destroyed all of the collected food that was used to pay off the big bad grasshopper named Hopper. Now, the grasshoppers are demanding since the last of the food was destroyed they needed to double the food. To avoid the disaster getting bigger, Flik went on a journey to find insects that will help him fight for the colony.

Flik found his army of five and they are ready to be the big armed warriors that they are and fight to the last step. In closing the graphics are a little dated for today's standards, but it still holds up and is a classic Disney movie for all ages to enjoy.

What's Your Favorite Sports Season?

By: Bri Callow

Winter	13
Summer	9
Fall	3
Spring	2

The end of the school year is upon us, which means we've been through every sports season this year. I took the liberty of asking MHS students which season has been their favorite. Winter sports came in first with 13 votes. Not surprising due to the great season both basketball teams had! Coming in second with 9 votes was the summer season sports. This makes sense due to the fact that summer is when students are out of school. Finishing up in third with 3 was fall sports and last place was spring with 2 votes. Thanks to everyone who voted! :)



Top 10 Spring Flowers

By: Riley Myers

1. Tulips- There are over 150 species of tulips with over 3,000 different varieties.
2. Weigela- It was the first species to be introduced and was widely cultivated in the 19th century.
3. Crocus- It takes 85,000 flowers to accumulate just one kilogram of crocuses for delivery to florists.
4. Daffodil- Daffodils are also known as 'Narcissus' and belong to the Amaryllis family.
5. Hyacinths- From the 18th century to the early 19th century, the hyacinth is used in the celebration of the Persian New Year.
6. Primrose- It originates from the word "primus" which means "first" or "early". Name refers to the fact that primrose is one of the first plants



List item number six--primroses (not to be confused with Katniss's sister)

that bloom in the spring.

7. Pansies and Violas- These little blossoms are a go-to edible flower for cake decorating.

8. Sweet Alyssum- Its natural environment, alyssum is commonly found growing on beaches or sand dunes.

9. Fritillaria- Fritillaria are some of the most unique spring-flowering bulbs you can grow.

10. Rhododendron- Rhododendron is also known as "rose tree" because it often produces flowers in trusses, just like some types of roses ("rodon" is Greek word for "rose" and "dendron" for "tree")

Adapted From:

- <https://www.countryliving.com/gardening/a35956/tulip-fun-facts/>
- <https://crafty.house/fun-facts-about-crocuses/>
- <https://www.thespruce.com/weigela-bushes-care-facts-2132733>



List item number one--tulips

Backpage Pics

Photo Credit: Bri Callow and Reagan Seidel

