

Maroon & White

“For a better Tennessee High”

Volume CVII, Issue 4

Tennessee High School, Bristol, Tennessee

February 11th, 2022

Love at First Sight

By Scarlett Farrey

Do you believe in love at first sight? One teacher at Tennessee High does not. Mrs. Amber Davis had her very own romantic, love-at-first-sight type meeting, and still does not believe in the concept. Imagine the classic rom-com intro: a beautiful girl walking down the street on a sunny day and bumping into the love of her life who just happens to be walking with her ex. This exact scene happened to Mrs. Davis the summer before her freshman year of highschool. Surprisingly enough, this was not love at first sight. When asked what her first impression of her husband was, she said “I did not like him. At all.”

Mrs. Davis did, however, grow to like him. “He wormed his way into my heart,” she said. “He was so annoying that he wore me down.” Without her

husband, her life would be completely different. She would have no kids, and may not even be teaching at Tennessee High. “Without my husband, my life would be incredibly boring, but I would also probably have become a rich and famous Broadway person.” Of course when you marry your “high



school sweetheart,” like Mrs. Davis did, you experience everything together. However, marrying your highschool sweetheart is a double edged sword. You get to grow with them, but you also experience the growing pains with them. Think about how many relationships you have outgrown in the past year. When she was in high school, Mrs. Davis had no plans on marrying her husband Jamie, or even being with him past high school.

“I think the big secret to having a lasting relationship is to let the little things go, and just don’t dwell on stuff that doesn’t matter.” This advice is something that doesn’t only apply to relationships, but to life. Let the little things go, because in the end they won’t matter.

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You Have Options: Upperclassmen English At THS

By Rachel Kent

For those of you who are class of 2024; welcome to being almost labeled an upperclassmen. Though it comes with perks, it also comes with the tough decisions on how to lay out your next two years at Tennessee High. As for English, a lot of development has occurred and newer options are available for those who wish to follow a different path.

Junior year is the pivotal year to form the direction for your future in English. To have a THS teacher as your educator, three options are available: English 3, English 3 Honors, and AP Language. Students who earn a score of at least a 3 on the AP Language Exam can earn college credit, although some more selective schools require higher scores for college credit. Students in English 3 also have the option of

taking the CLEP Composition exam. If they earn a score of at least 50/80, they can be given college credit at Northeast State or another community college.

This is the first school year that the Viking U program is available at that class’s fingertips. This is a way to fast track your college experience, by taking the necessary core classes usually taken by freshmen and sophomores in college. Although it is a two-year process, it is beneficial to those who take advantage of the opportunity. There are two colleges you can choose to earn your Associate’s degree from: Northeast State Community College or Tusculum University.

Other options for rising juniors are taking just a few dual enrollment courses rather than being completely



a part of Viking U. Those two classes, Composition 1 and Composition 2, can be broken up yearly, semesterly, or for those who strive for speedy completion, both in one semester. For those anticipating senior year, the classes are similar to junior year when it comes to dual enrollment or Viking U. If you already took both of the Composition classes junior year, you still must take another one during senior year to graduate. Options consist of English 4 and AP Literature. Everyone’s path to graduating from Tennessee High is unique. You have the power to decide what direction is most beneficial for your education.

THS Welcomes New Head Coach

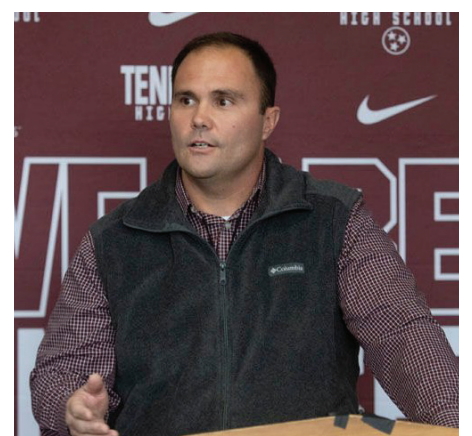
By Harper Robinette

Tennessee High is very excited to welcome Matt Rhymer as the new head football coach. He has now been coaching football for a total of 15 years. After playing football himself in high school and college, Coach Rhymer decided to take on coaching at his alma mater, the University of the Cumberland in Kentucky. Coach Matt Rhymer said that growing up, his coaches had a tremendous impact on him, and he plans to make the same impact here at Tennessee High.

Due to convenient timing, Coach Matt Rhymer saw the position of head coach at Tennessee High as a wonderful opportunity for him and his family. He also plans to help with the special education classes here. Coach Rhymer is wasting no time; he has already met with the team and started off-season practice so his team will be strong and ready for the upcoming season. He loves players that he can count on, that have discipline, and that are tough. His

philosophy is to “develop great people, great students, and great competitors.” He plans to do this by bringing energy, vision, and excitement to the THS football program. Consistency and clear expectations are Coach Rhymer’s way of keeping players motivated and morale high.

Coach Matt Rhymer is looking forward to making relationships with the team, school, teachers, and community, but as he stated his main focus is “making a difference”.



The Viking community is very excited to see what is in store for our football future. In the meantime, Rhymer enthusiastically adopts our motto, saying, “Go Vikings!”

Meet the 2021 Maroon & White Fall Staff

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"The Bearded One"

Aquavikes Take on State

By Molly Johnson

Senior Swim team captains Sophie Arnold and Olivia Matney plan on leading the THS Aquavikes as they swim at their state meet in Nashville, TN on February 12, 2022. Joining Sophie at state are Sophomores Kaylie Cunningham, Molly Johnson, and Ian Webb. Also accompanying them is sophomore diver Adam Peltier and freshman diver Jonathan Helms. This is a super big accomplishment for Jonathan given that it is his first year ever diving. Sophie plans on swimming the individual 100 and 200 freestyle, Olivia will be swimming the 50 freestyle, and Ian is going to be competing in the 200 and 500 freestyle. Sophie and Olivia will be joined by Molly and Kaylie to swim the 200 and 400 girls freestyle relays. Both the divers will be competing in 11 various dives. To qualify for state, the swimmers must

beat the qualifying time for their event at any of the meets during the season. As far as the divers, they had to complete 11 dives and not fail any of them at a meet during the season. Congrats to all of those who have qualified and Good luck at your state meet!



Boys' Soccer Season Beginning

By Avery Hommel

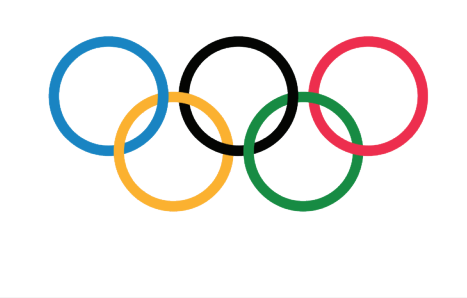
Coach Snyder is the head coach of the boys' soccer team. Snyder is an English teacher at Tennessee High school for sophomores and seniors. He has been teaching for six years and coaching soccer for seven. Snyder said that his hope for the season is to "make a run in the new conference" with the help of his team captains Jonah Gassiot and James Bowling. Gassiot is a senior at Tennessee High who started his soccer career six years ago, during his 7th grade year. After only playing for two years, he won the Marcello Dinsmore award, an award that recognizes freshmen with potential. James Bowling is a sophomore at Tennessee High who has been playing for 12 years and went to Nationals with his travel team. They said as captains, some of their duties are making sure the team is in line and

helping push people to their limits. Both are excited to build relationships with the incoming freshman. While the jump from middle school to high school can be scary, freshman Jonathan Helms and Ryan Fish stated they were most nervous about the age difference in their opponents. Jonathan is a goalie and has been playing soccer for 10 years. Outside of soccer he likes to play video games and hang out with his friends. Ryan plays midfield and has also been playing for 10 years. Ryan claims he doesn't have much free time, but when he does, he likes to spend time with his friends and family. The captains' advice to the freshmen is to prove that you care and are willing to learn as well as show no fear. The soccer schedule and more information will be posted on the BTCS website.

Back to Beijing

By Ryan Bunning

The Winter Olympics are back, this year in Beijing. This is the Chinese capital's second time hosting the Olympic Games, following the 2008 Summer Olympics. Unlike the 2020 Summer Games in Tokyo, these will not be delayed for Covid-related concerns. However, precautions are being taken by Chinese authorities to slow the possible spread of the virus. Tickets are not to be sold to the public but are instead distributed by the authorities, and those lucky enough to go must follow various Covid-related rules. The games kick off with the traditional opening ceremony on February 4th and will close on the 20th. This year's games are not without their political controversies, however. The United States, United Kingdom, Canada, and Australia have all decided to diplomatically boycott the Beijing games, citing human rights concerns in China. All of the most well known events will be present this year, but these games also mark the arrival of several new events: women's monobob, freeski big air (men's and women's), mixed team snowboard cross, mixed team aerials, short track speed skating mixed team relay, and mixed team ski jumping. Beijing is 12 hours ahead of the Eastern Standard Time Zone, so expect events to run through the night.



Environmental Exhibition

By Caden Cartwright

Tennessee High's Teens Supporting Sustainability club, also known as TSS, will soon be holding an art contest focusing on the use of sustainable and recycled materials. According to present rules which may be subject to change, up to three THS students may collaborate on one submission. Physical and digital submissions are due on February 25th at 2:30 PM and 11:59 PM, respectively. Submitted

works require a message including contestants' names, sustainable materials used, and a short description of the piece's meaning. Physical art must fit inside the display cases outside the art rooms; submissions will be presented before returning to contestants. Digital works may be featured in future editions of Maroon & White. Submissions will be judged based upon creativity, content, and

composition. The art will be judged anonymously by THS art teachers and TSS club officials. Themes must relate to sustainability, climate change, or nature. Information about prizes has not yet been released, however, the first-place winner will get the first choice, and so on. If a group submission wins, group members must distribute their prize however they decide. If you have any questions or theme application, you can contact the club via their email, thstss@outlook.com. Good luck to all contestants!



Celebrating Women in Science at THS

By Keona Fielitz

The month of February houses many holidays: Valentine’s Day, Black History Month, Groundhog’s Day. But did you know that February 11th is the International Day of Women and Girls in Science? There are countless women throughout history who’ve made outstanding achievements in STEM fields, and thankfully, Tennessee High has a few Women STEM teachers of our own.

Mrs. Bittinger is a freshman Biology teacher and has been teaching science at THS for almost fifteen years. Growing up, her aspirations changed many times, but during her sophomore year in college she realized she wanted to teach. So, Mrs. Bittinger continued her education at King University, where she became the first Biology major with a secondary education minor in the university’s history. She loves teaching Biology because of the fun labs and the real life connections the topics, like genetics, have. She loves to see when students have that “lightbulb moment” in class. Some of her inspirations growing up were Nancy Dickerson, her highschool Biology teacher, and

Marsha Collier, her math teacher. To young girls pursuing STEM careers, Mrs. Bittinger encourages you to be “persistent, and not be quiet”.

Another amazing instructor is Mrs. Givney, the creator and 5 year teacher of the Engineering pathway at THS. Throughout her career, Mrs. Givney has taught a multitude of STEM classes for 25 years, including physical science, forensic science, chemistry, engineering, and others. Her journey began at Cornell University studying Animal Science, and later went back to get her Masters in Education. Pursuing STEM careers isn’t an easy task. When Mrs. Givney was in school, women pursuing a job in STEM were unheard of. Then, at her first teaching job, she was asked “how [she] felt about being the only woman in the science department?” Little comments like this did not discourage her, they just drove her to be better in her career because “it has nothing to do with gender, it has everything to do with knowledge.” Despite these challenges, she continues to teach because it’s rewarding to see students “discover and understand something.”

For young girls going into stem fields, she encourages you to not be intimidated by guys and to take classes you are interested in.



Mrs. Givney and Mrs. Bittinger

Another prominent figure in our THS STEM department is Mrs. Del Gaudio. THS is very fortunate to have computer science classes readily available to students, because Mrs. Del Gaudio was not able to take one until her senior year. It was just a class on HTML, and she fell in love with it. This interest led to her getting a job in IT after graduating from the University of Tennessee. Mrs. Del Gaudio truly

paved a way for herself; she’s “always been the only girl in whatever department [she’s] been in.” She recalls a time at a previous job when her necklace got hooked on a computer she was working on, and a lady told her “she can’t wear jewelry” in a mocking way. However, preconceived biases like this haven’t stopped her; she has been teaching various Computer Science classes for 11 years. Her favorite part of teaching is inspiring kids to pursue Computer Science and Tech careers. Her advice to girls going into stem fields is to “pick your passion and go with it.”

Mrs. Julie Bittinger, Mrs. Chelsie Del Gaudio, Mrs. Lori Givney, and the many other women in our school’s STEM departments, have fearlessly blazed a trail here in Bristol. They inspire countless students to believe in themselves, and just as they have, we must overcome adversity and sexism in STEM to pursue our dreams. Remember to thank them and the many other female figures in your life this month for being themselves and believing in the future generations of women in science.

The Real Reason Mr. Alex Greer Teaches

By Scarlett Farrey

Why would anyone want to become a teacher? This question may have run through your mind once or twice. After all, they are paid next to nothing for their educational background, endure long hours, and still love their jobs—most of them, that is. One Tennessee High teacher who has managed to keep a positive attitude throughout Covid and the many tragedies Tennessee High has been through is Mr. Alex Greer.

Mr. Greer is one of the hardest working teachers in this building, and has managed to stay consistent and kind towards his students.

Why is he so passionate about teaching? Like many, Mr. Greer struggled in school, not only socially, but academically as well.

“Teachers were the people in my life that helped me to come out of abject poverty and helped me find my passion,” said Mr. Greer.

He wants to give students just as much as his own teachers gave to him when he was making his way through school. His favorite part of teaching is spending time with students, interacting with them, and being a part of their lives. This is proven through his dedicated attendance at sporting events and extracurriculars throughout the year.

Many of the values that Mr. Greer holds dear come from personal

experience. Mr. Greer spent time studying Spanish abroad in Buenos Aires, Argentina, at the University of Belgrado. Spending time immersed in another culture gave him a new outlook. “I learned to be friendly to strangers, and not to take everything we have for granted because a lot of people there don’t have much money,” Mr. Greer said.

Being the first person in his family to graduate college, Mr. Greer has overcome so much hardship in his life. The real reason Mr. Alex Greer teaches is because so many passionate teachers inspired him to inspire others. Anyone who truly loves what they do, will lead others to do the same.



Viking U: A Leap into the Unknown

By Danica Mai

Davis Akard sat in the THS library with his parents by his side. The room was filled with half of his grade and a representative from Tusculum University and Northeast State. The college delegates introduced the new program, Viking U, to the room full of beaming sophomores. Many sat in that meeting contemplating whether or not they would participate in the school’s new Associate’s degree program, however Davis knew exactly what decision he was going to make. Akard decided to take a leap into the unknown and go down the route of Viking U.

To even be enrolled into Tusculum classes, Davis would have to receive at least a 21 ACT score and would have to attend a summer orientation course. However due to Covid, Davis did not need to submit a score right away. Starting junior year, Davis had 2-4 Tusculum classes per semester on top of any other electives he wanted to take at THS. These online courses are usually 7 weeks long with some being a semester long. The short class time meant a fast-paced learning environment that Akard loved.

So as Davis finishes his final semester at Tennessee High and Viking U, he reminisces on the times with both programs. The THS senior enjoyed the “study hall-like periods” allotted to his college courses as well as those “classes being done at his own pace”.

Akard has many fond memories of working with his friends on hard assignments and taking much needed breaks in between his university work. However, Davis was also reminded of the fall and spring breaks spent doing Tusculum work. Because of holiday schedules not matching up, he was left sitting in the same room for hours hard at work.

To any sophomores considering the Viking U route, Davis has some advice: “The course is what you make it out to be.” The classes can be hard and unrewarding if one does not look at the material and cheats through all the work, but the courses can also be fulfilling and enjoyable if one digs deep into the material and has friends to make working on the assignments fun. One characteristic Akard believes to be essential to being successful in Viking U is self-motivation. Davis says “if someone does not have self-motivation to do their work, then I would not recommend Viking U because there is no one there to hold your hand to make you do your work, you have to do that yourself.”

Davis Akard, now a senior, sits in the library where his journey into the unknown started. He is reminded of all the hard work and memories made within these walls. Davis now looks towards the future which holds a high school and college diploma.

Mai Closet

By Danica Mai

Hey THS, love is in the air and whether you have a significant other or not, you can always take your style to the next level. For anyone who does not know what this column is about, this is where I give my fashion advice to help others wanting to change up their wardrobe. When Valentine's Day rolls around, many people are scrambling to find the perfect gift for their significant other. I have a great solution for their troubles: accessories.

Accessories, from rings to hats, is a broad term. In this edition, we will be focusing on jewelry. Jewelry is not exclusively for the ladies. In recent years, more guys have decided to take a chance and wear these fashionable accessories. When people first hear the word jewelry, they think of over the top necklaces and earrings. But, it does not have to be the focal point of one's outfit. The accessory could be a simple, thin silver chain or a pair of small stud earrings.

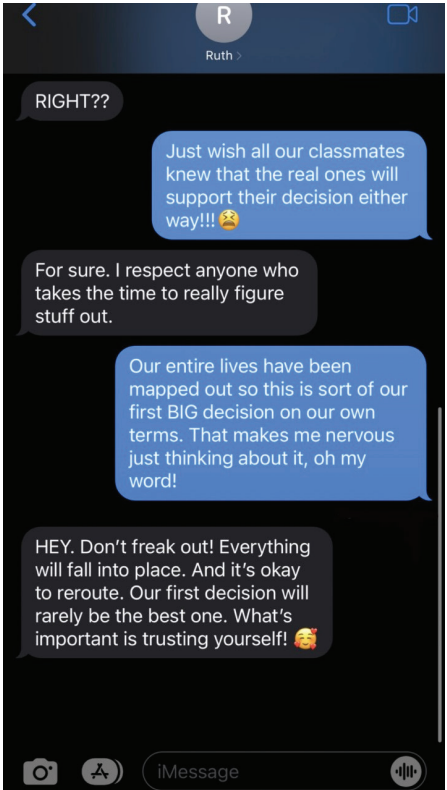
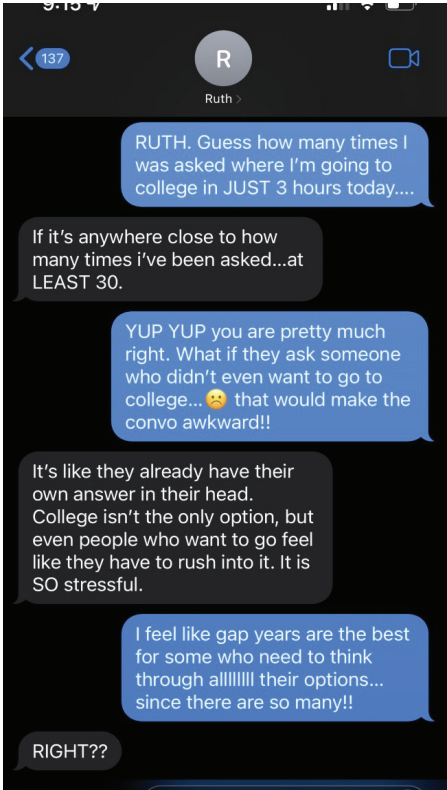
Jewelry can be used to bring together small accent colors on clothes or it can be used to complement the outfit's main color scheme. I would recommend starting with a basic gold or silver chain. These necklaces can be worn with almost any outfit and they are a good base to build a jewelry collection. The basic chain can branch into other types of jewelry such as rings, bracelets, and earrings of the same metal. Once a solid foundation has been established, it can grow into jewelry with different colored gems. Start off with gems in the colors you wear most frequently and then enhance from there.

Mixing and matching jewelry is also a terrific way to amp up any outfit. Mixing gold and silver jewelry could make for a different look from a normal homogeneous ensemble. It does not have to stop at combining different metals, but one can also switch up their earrings. Instead of the traditional way of wearing matching earrings, try shaking up the norm and put two different pairs of earrings on each ear. Not only does this method spice up outfits, but it also uses earrings more efficiently as it can be worn in so many different ways instead of sticking to its typical partner.

Hopefully this column has helped someone find a gift for their significant other for Valentine's Day. A great jewelry collection can lead to an array of avenues to liven up some outfits. For more tips and tricks for upgrading your closet, make sure you read the April issue of Maroon and White!



Spilling The Truth With Rachel and Ruth



The Great Debate: Computer vs. Paper

By Molly Johnson

Since the first computer was invented in 1936, students have been debating doing their work "old school" with paper and a pencil or doing assignments online. Today, the answer to this question is obvious: it is more beneficial to a student if they use a computer. Not only does it make work simpler, but it also wastes less paper and is better for the environment. According to Record Nations, on average, a school uses roughly 2,000 sheets of paper per day or 320,000 sheets per year. The Business Finance Corporation shows that by using computers instead, a school can save as many as 32 trees per year. Another great benefit to using computers is being able to get test scores back way faster. When taking a test online, students can get their results back almost instantly. Paper tests, on the other hand, can take almost a week if not more for teachers to grade. In addition, the SAT, which is an exam taken worldwide by high school students for college entrance, plans on going digital within 2 years. By adapting to online test taking now, students will already be prepared when the time comes.

On top of that, using a computer to write essays is far more convenient than writing them on paper. You can write more in a shorter amount of time.

On computers, you can also use things

like the spellcheck feature or even the grammar check feature. Everyone knows the struggle of going back and realizing you accidentally left out a word at the beginning and then trying to rewrite the whole sentence smaller so you can fit it in. With a computer, you never have to worry about that because you can simply type the word in wherever it needs to go.

Some students may feel that using paper is more beneficial because it makes life a lot easier in certain subjects, like math. Students may think this because they can see graphs better and mark on them directly. Also, when using paper in math class, one can work out problems more accurately instead of trying to solve them in their head. However, this is impractical and not environmentally friendly, because one will end up using double the amount of paper: one sheet for the test and then a whole other piece on which to show all the work. This just goes to show that using a computer has far more benefits than using paper for your schoolwork.



Valentine's Day Controversy

By Ruth Rose and Caden Cartwright

The red means I love . . . blood. Lots of blood. That is how what we know as Valentine's day began. Though the exact origin isn't known, it is believed to have roots in ancient Rome, where a feast known as Lupercalia was held from February 13th-15th. During this celebration, men sacrificed a goat and a dog, then proceeded to whip women with the hides of said animals in a believed attempt at fertility. During the 3rd century A.D., Emperor Claudius II executed two martyrs, both named Valentine, on February 14th of different years. Later, in the 5th century, Pope Galasius I combined what the Catholic church dubbed St. Valentine's Day and Lupercalia in a more theatrical, fully clothed display. Shakespeare is responsible for romanticizing the holiday, starting with A Midsummer Night's Dream, written in 1595, and it gained popularity. Hallmark began mass-producing Valentine's cards years later in 1913, which inevitably led to its commercialization as a holiday.

Valentine's Day has since net corporations billions. Companies employ a multitude of manipulative marketing methods to pressure consumers into giving them money: spiked prices, constant commercials, social pressure, etc. Companies often manipulate consumers with specific colors and ads as a constant reminder to buy from them. Greed and competitive capitalism further encourage these enterprises to spike prices and exploit customers. During the early years of education, we are forced into this celebration with a plethora of crafting supplies and the pressure to give each of our classmates a valentine and candy. The standard set for expensive jewelry and flowers puts an immense amount of pressure on relationships. From the fear of not getting something good enough to financial insecurity to the constant reminder of a single person's solitude - no one wins. Valentine's Day has become extremely materialized, taking away from what is supposed to be celebrated, what should be shown daily through actions, not items: love.



Black History Month Oratorical Contest

By Ruth Rose

Three Tennessee High students have made it to the Top Five of the Eastman Black History Oratorical Contest. Juniors Claire Hankins and Sydney Cunningham, and senior Angelina O'Connor, who each submitted a research essay in December, were asked to deliver a 3-5 minute in-person recording based on their essay. Their memorized oration was scored on diction, tone, pronunciation, creativity, and body language. The girls are competing against two Dobyns-Bennett students for the grand prize of \$1,500, as well as several other cash prizes. They will be notified of their placement in the competition later this month.

Annually, Eastman conducts a Black History Oratorical Contest for high school students in Northeast Tennessee and Southwest Virginia. The Kingsport-based company, which employs almost 14,000 people, strives to hear and honor important voices among their employees and community. Their goal is to inform the public about remarkable contributions made globally by African Americans in Science, Technology, Engineering,

Arts and Math—or S.T.E.A.M. fields. Hankins wrote about Lorraine Hansberry, a writer, poet, and playwright who became a prominent black leader during the 50s and 60s before her untimely death at age 34. Hansberry wrote the record-breaking play, *A Raisin in the Sun*, which debuted on Broadway. Claire writes that this play is about “a dysfunctional black family recovering from the loss of their father, trying to decide how to use their money, and settling into an all-white neighborhood—inspired by some of Lorraine’s real-life experiences.” Living during The Great Depression and World War II as a black woman, Hansberry’s accomplishments are beyond just inspiring.

Cunningham spoke on Dr. Shirley Ann Jackson, an inspiration in the science field. Jackson became the first African-American woman to earn a doctorate at MIT while also being one of the only African-American’s majoring in theoretical science. Cunningham explains that “Jackson’s work led to breakthroughs in the creation of the fax machine, solar cells,

touch tone phone, fiber optic cables, and the technology for caller ID and call waiting.” She earned several awards for her accomplishments. From being the first black woman to be asked to chair the Nuclear Regulatory Committee, to being elected president of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and the American Association for the Advancement of Science, to serving on the Governor’s Economic Master Plan Commission - Jackson continuously broke bounds. She showed a world of possibilities for not only women, but black individuals.

Taking on the many contributions of Mamie Phipps Clark, O’Connor informs how Clark first gained her master’s in psychology at Howard University and eventually her doctorate at Columbia University. Angelina writes that “The Clarks testified as expert witnesses in one of the five trials that made up *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas*.” This case fought over the Equal Protection clause of the 14th amendment. Working to promote equality, Clark and her husband later established an agency in Harlem that

provided minority children with essential psychological services. Her hand in desegregating schools alone was imperative. Make sure to wish these competitors luck as they await results for the top prize of \$1500! Regardless of rank, Eastman has fulfilled their goal. Each year, participants are able to educate anyone who is willing to listen on how just a few of many African-American’s have left their mark on the world, pushing limits and motivating growth and equality. A few ways you can celebrate Black History Month are by supporting black-owned businesses, donating to black owned charities and organizations, researching black history online, and purchasing, reading, and sharing books by black authors.



Claire Hankins, Angelina O'Connor, Sydney Cunningham



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How to Shop Sustainably

By Alex Akard

1. Buy Less, Wear More.

Instead of buying clothes for that one special event, re-wear old clothes and find new and creative ways to style them. In some countries, 40% of purchased clothes are never used. According to the Fixing Fashion report, if 50% of clothing was extended by nine months it would save: 8% carbon, 10% water, and 4% waste per metric ton of clothing.

2. Shop Second-hand

Shopping second-hand allows you to help reduce the waste the fashion industry produces. You can also donate the old clothes lying on your closet floor to someone who will cherish them. Not only will this benefit the environment, but it will also benefit your wallet. Secondhand items can often be found for 50% cheaper, including name brands.

3. Order in Groups

Every time someone orders from an online store, there are more delivery vehicles on the road. Ordering

multiple items at once instead of splitting up the orders can lessen the number of vehicles on the road and allow the sellers to group everything in one box. Ordering one thing at a time is less efficient and adds more delivery trips.

4. Repair Damaged Clothes

Just because your pants have a hole, or a seam ripped in your shirt does not mean the items are unsalvageable. Repairing damaged items yourself or by a tailor, can save the environment and your wallet. You will not have to continue buying clothes simply because your old ones are damaged.



Unique Valentine's Day Gifts

By Keona Fielitz

To make this year's Valentine's Day special, consider one of these unique gifts to bestow upon your partner! Try making a mixtape. Think of some songs that you two enjoy together; ones that have meaning in your relationship. This could be your first date song, the one you sing together in the car, or one that makes you think of them. You can take the collection and burn them into an old-fashioned CD. There are plenty of tutorials on the internet, and this extra effort makes this gift extra special. If you are good at cooking, make a homemade meal. Taking someone out to a nice restaurant is nice, but didn't you do that last year? With a home cooked meal, you can make them their favorite foods with a touch of personality. Even if it turns out bad, the restaurant will still be

there. In addition to a physical gift, you could make them a video collage of moments you've shared together! Compile cute pictures, videos, and events from your relationship into a slideshow with a sweet love song playing overtop. Don't worry if you aren't good with technology because nothing says love like poetry. Poems are an elegant and romantic way to display your adoration of someone. You can string your feelings into words they will read over and over while thinking about you. These are just a few ideas to help you get started with brainstorming, but the real gift is your love for them. While you're stressing over the perfect Valentine's Day gift, don't forget to cherish the precious time you have with your other half.

Bistro on 6th

By Ryan Bunning

I have always taken an interest in local businesses, so I was excited to check out a restaurant I had not visited yet. The Bistro on 6th is, you guessed it, on 6th Street in Downtown Bristol, TN. The restaurant is housed in a cozy historic storefront on a sidewalk strung with lights. Upon walking in, I immediately noticed that the restaurant was rather small and that the reservation I had made was probably going to be necessary as the dining room was already bustling. After being seated, I was made aware of the day's specials by the friendly staff. Following a read-through of the menu, I decided I'd go

with the stuffed fried green tomatoes as an appetizer and the bistro burger as my entrée. The menu is the perfect size, offering a solid selection of items without being overwhelming. The stuffed fried green tomatoes were filled with pimento cheese and topped with a spicy mayo, creating a flavorful combination. The burger was topped with pimento cheese, leaf lettuce, tomato, pickled red onion, dukes mayo, and a potato bun. The kitchen team who made my bistro burger did brilliantly as it was cooked perfectly and is easily one of the best burgers I've had recently. With a combination of a modern atmosphere, good food, friendly staff, and a location in walkable Downtown Bristol, I would recommend the Bistro on 6th to others.



Strong-Robinette
Machine Corp.

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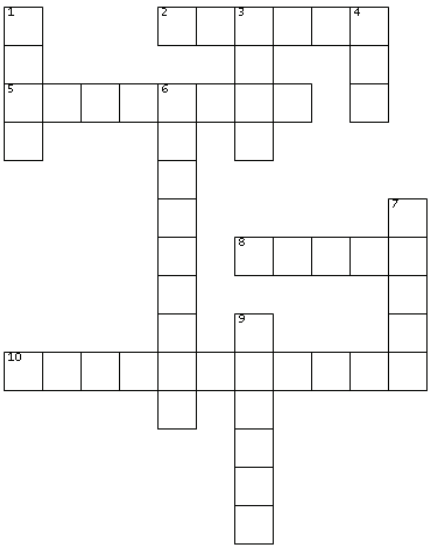
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THS Meme of the Month

By Ruth Rose



Viking Pride Crossword Puzzle



By Ayden Dotson

ACROSS

- 2. Mascot
- 5. What class does Chef teach?
- 8. Where everyone eats
- 10. The Stadium

DOWN

- 1. Our School District
- 3. Principle
- 4. Where can you go play basketball?
- 6. Maroon and White is Tennessee's oldest High School _____
- 7. Don't have your _____ out in class
- 9. Don't forget to charge your _____

A Valentine's Playlist

By Sophia Detrick

- For those utterly in love
- "All Your'n" - Tyler Childers
 - "Even the Darkness Has Arms" - The Barr Brothers
 - "Somethin' Stupid" - Frank Sinatra & Nancy Sinatra
- Uhh... It's Complicated
- "Oh! Darling" - The Beatles
 - "Cherry Wine" - Hozier
 - "Stubborn Love" - The Lumineers
- For those going through a tough breakup
- "Right Where You Left Me" - Taylor Swift
 - "Love of my Life" - Queen
 - "Someone New" - Hozier

M.A.S.H. Not M*A*S*H

By Caitlin Vining

The rules are simple, tell your friend when to stop drawing the spiral to seal your fate. M.A.S.H. is the infamous game that "predicted" your future. Who were you to marry? What kind of house would you live in? What would your job be? How many kids were you to have? With categories upon categories, our elementary and middle school selves would crowd around a small desk suggesting which topics to scribble onto the piece of paper. Devastation would ring from kids when a good option was marked out, inching them closer and closer to what our young minds thought to be our destiny. But the rules are simple, the writer draws a spiral as you determine the stop of their hand. Next the writer counts down the points on the spiral to see how many options you move across before one is checked off. M.A.S.H. (M)ansion, (A)partment, (S)hack, and (H)ouse, starts off the list as the writer moves down your "future". Names of future spouses, number of kids, jobs, and the cars we would drive were just a few of the topics we waited to see circled. Now we look back at this silly game as high schoolers, wondering if M.A.S.H. would have the same effect on us now. Sophomore Bailey Vining played this game recently, reliving the anticipation of predicting her future. "I remember finding it funny when your house came down to "S", because no one wanted to end up in an old (S)hack." Bailey said. Bailey sealed her fate in one last round of M.A.S.H. a few weeks ago.

Zodiac Compatibility

By Campbell Kent

Some signs are compatible, others not so much! Are you compatible with your crush?

	Aries	Leo	Sagi	Taurus	Virgo	Capri	Gemini	Libra	Aqua	Cancer	Scorpio	Pisces
Aries		♥	♥	♠	♠	♠	♥	♥	♥	♠	♠	♠
Leo	♥		♥	♠	♠	♠	♥	♥	♥	♠	♠	♠
Sagittarius	♥	♥		♥	♥	♠	♥	♥	♥	♠	♠	♠
Taurus	♠	♠	♠		♥	♥	♠	♠	♠	♥	♥	♥
Virgo	♠	♠	♠	♥		♥	♠	♠	♠	♥	♥	♠
Capricorn	♠	♠	♠	♥	♥		♠	♠	♠	♥	♥	♥
Gemini	♥	♥	♥	♠	♠	♠		♥	♥	♠	♠	♠
Libra	♥	♥	♥	♠	♠	♠	♥		♥	♠	♠	♠
Aquarius	♥	♥	♥	♠	♠	♠	♥	♥		♠	♠	♠
Cancer	♠	♠	♠	♥	♥	♥	♠	♠	♠		♥	♥
Scorpio	♠	♠	♠	♥	♥	♥	♠	♠	♠	♥		♥
Pisces	♠	♠	♠	♥	♥	♥	♠	♠	♠	♥	♥	

K E Y:

♥ - Great match

♠ - Favorable match

♠ - Not favorable

A Coffee Cake Without Coffee

By Scarlett Farrey

- Coffee Cake:
- 1/3 cups room temperature butter
 - 1/3 cups white sugar
 - 1/4 cups brown sugar
 - 1 egg
 - 1/4 cups sour cream
 - 1/3 cups milk
 - 1 cup and 2 tbsp flour
 - Splash of vanilla
 - 1 tsp baking powder, not baking soda
 - Pinch of salt
- Crumble topping:
- 1/3 cup flour
 - 1/3 cups brown sugar
 - 3 tbsp butter in cubes
- Instructions:
- In a bowl, begin whisking your butter until light and fluffy, then add in white and brown sugar and mix until

creamy. Then whisk in vanilla, beaten egg, and sour cream until smooth. In a separate bowl, add your baking powder, salt, and flour and whisk until salt and baking powder are evenly distributed throughout the flour. Slowly incorporate into batter with milk. Be careful not to overmix. Then pour in a glass baking dish or pan. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. To make the crumble topping whisk the brown sugar and flour together in a separate bowl. Add in cold butter cubes and squish it with your hands. Spread an even layer over your batter. Pop your pan in the oven and bake for about 40 minutes. Once done, let cool for 30 minutes.

Maroon and White Staff Caricatures

By Kaeman Wilcox



Valentine's Day Pick-Up Lines

By Harper Robinette

- Do you have a name, or can I call you mine?
- Me without you is like a nerd without braces, a shoe without laces, aSentenceWithoutSpaces.
- You must be from Tennessee because you're the only ten I see!
- If I could rearrange the alphabet, I'd put U and I together.
- Are you a magician? Because whenever I look at you, everyone else disappears.

By Halle Mullins

- 1.) My Best Friend's Wedding- Julianne Porter is extremely surprised to find out that her childhood best friend, Michael O'Neil, has invited her to his wedding. After realizing that she is in love with him, she sets out to stop the wedding at any costs.

Romantic Comedy Rankings

- 2.) Crazy Rich Asians- This movie follows the main character, Rachel Chu, as she attends a wedding in Singapore with her longtime boyfriend, Nick. Drama starts when she finds out that he is super rich and must face his disapproving mother.
- 3.) Runaway Bride- When jaded writer Ike Graham hears of a

woman with a reputation of running from the altar, he deems her as the "runaway bride". But when his story is called into question, he travels to the hometown that is the source of the rumor, planning to expose the "runaway bride". Though he is there to write an exposé, he begins to fall for his subject.



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