Maroon & White

"For a better Tennessee High"

Volume CVII, Issue 5 | Tennessee High School, Bristol, Tennessee | April 1st, 2022

The Chrome Dome Clones

By Sophia Detrick

Have you ever wondered why Tennessee High School hires so many bald people with facial hair? Yeah, me too. The prime example of this trend stars Mr. Proffitt and Mr. Wampler. In fact, a quick Google search of 'Wally Proffitt Tennessee High School' will actually bring up photos of Mr. Wampler. So, it's okay. Even google can't tell them apart. But this phenomenon has got to stir up some suspicion, doesn't it? So many Tennessee High teachers look so alike it's suspicious… a little too suspicious…

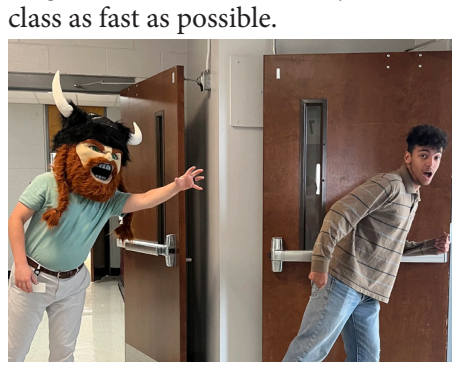
Now this news may shock you, so I advise you to sit down and mentally prepare yourself for what I am about to tell you. It's a valued secret within the Tennessee High staff and it is VITAL that no student ever knows about, so please don't tell Principal Kirk I told you this. The truth is that Tennessee High isn't hiring new bald people with facial hair to be teachers because Tennessee High isn't hiring teachers. Every bald teacher with facial hair at THS is the same person. Think about it. Mr. Meade, Mr. Reece, Mr. Richardson? Could be triplets. It can't be a coincidence. Have you ever seen Shipley and Strickland in the same room? No, you haven't. And if you think you have, no you haven't; I'm not gaslighting you right now, and you definitely were hallucinating in that moment because it's simply not possible. When Tennessee High has this issue of needing to put Proffitt and Wampler in the same space, they don't. They're just really high-tech cardboard cutouts. This immortal being that portrays themselves as different people but in slightly different fonts has slowly but surely creeped into THS culture. If you see this individual, watch out. Don't associate, don't interact, just get out of there as soon as possible. If you have their class… well, you're on your own. Even teachers with beards who aren't yet bald are on the board for increased suspicion. Snyder, Slone… I'm looking at you. So next time you walk in the hall and pass a bald man with facial hair and wonder, "What teacher did I just walk by?", be on the lookout, because now you know the truth.

"I Survived" : The THS Magazine

By Halle Mullins and Rachel Kent

It was the Spring of 2019, much simpler times. It was before smart passes, Covid-19, and TikTok was just on the rise to fame. Rushing down the hallways, which seem to alternate temperatures of either Antarctic or the Sahara desert, the struggle is real. All in pursuit to make it to the first floor before the bell is due to ring in a few seconds. The fastest route available for Ayoub Hrirou is the staircase near the restrooms adjacent to the second floor math rooms. Hrirou is suddenly ambushed and dragged up the daunting stairs that led to "nowhere". Or so he thought.

Grabbed by two upperclassmen, and taken into the "abandoned" room atop the staircase, Hrirou knew he was in trouble. Loud voices mixed with the attempted hushed whispers, welcomed the potential new member to the hidden society of Tennessee High School. They called themselves the underground, or rather aboveground, school magazine since they met on the 3rd floor. There were five current members staring back at him with menacing looks on their faces. In the middle of the room stood a large stone pedestal housing the Viking mascot. Hrirou describes the traumatic experience in detail and describes the mascot as "its own thing, it was animate". He described the body of the mascot as an "iron maiden" noting its sharp spikes that close to crush its victims. They informed him he was to be the next victim due to his almost-tardiness to his next class and that he must take on the role of the most important aspect of the school's magazine. Becoming the ink. Most THS students remain oblivious to the fact that the ink of the school magazine is the blood of the systematically chosen tardy. They also remain oblivious to the school having a magazine as well. As they were preparing for Hrirou to enter the mascot costume, another staff member rushed in to inform them that the next magazine issue could not be made because they were an ad short. This is when Hrirou knew he could make his escape and now three years later he could finally tell his story. It is believed that the magazine staff still works to inforce students to get to their classes on time. Now, with the upgrade of smart passes, the hunt for the next victim is easier than ever before. Don't become the next unlucky person to fall into the clutches of the supposed THS magazine staff and rush to your next class as fast as possible.



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Editor
Danica Mai

Assistant Editor
Ruth Rose

Journalists
Alex Akard
Ryan Bunning
Caden Cartwright
Ayden Dotson
Scarlette Farrey
Keona Fielitz
Avery Hommel
Molly Johnson
Campbell Kent
Preston Matthews
Nathaniel Morefield
Halle Mullins
Harper Robinette
Caitlin Vining
Kaeman Wilcox

Copy Editor
Sophia Detrick

Business Manager
Rachel Kent

Advisor
Mariel Story

Design Consultant
Dereck Shipley
"The Bearded One"

THS Chorus Presents The "I Hate You Mariachi" Service

By Kaeman Wilcox

Chorus teacher, Mr. Whitson, announced after the wild success with Singing Valentines in February that a similar service will be available in the month of April. For just five dollars the chorus students will come to disrupt your enemy's class by barging in and performing a song to voice your displeasure! This Mariachi song is a fun and unique way to declare to someone that you do not care for them at all, and a way to embarrass them that they will never forget… and if they do their classmates won't. We recommend this service for everyone, but especially for those of you going through breakups, petty spats with friends, or even if there's a special teacher in your heart that you would like to call out.

Soccer Games Become the New Friday Night Lights

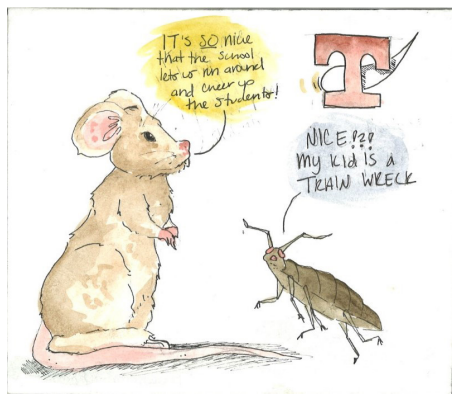
By Harper Robinette

Word on the street is that soccer games have become the new Friday Night Lights. The outstanding attendance surpasses that of the football games. The stands have become packed. Yesterday, our boys took on Union at home and let me just tell you, it was insane. There were more spectators in the Stone Castle than ever before, breaking several school records. No seats were left vacant. Tennessee High has been recognized by not only our local stations, but by national news as well. Professionals have been considering expanding the castle; however, the soccer season will only last for several months so the project can wait for the summer. The school is hoping that the football games this fall will have the turnout, but football hasn't been our main attraction in the past. The best advice would be to camp out the night before outside the main gate. That's the only way you may be able to get a seat. Good luck!

School Rats to Be Repurposed as Emotional Support Animals

By Ryan Bunning

As a way of combating the present rat infestation issues, the Tennessee High administration has announced their decision to recruit the rodents as mental health support animals. The school claims that the new program will serve as a permanent solution to any problems caused by the roaming pests. "Seeing as the rats will now be employed full-time, they will have no time to bother our students," a spokesperson from the school told Maroon and White. In order to better understand the rats' view on the matter, we interviewed Dave, a lifelong rat. "We are excited by the opportunities presented by the Tennessee High Mental-Health-Support-Animal-Department, and we look forward to a longstanding and successful partnership." Following the interview, Dave told us he wished to soon work in the school kitchen, just like in a specific animated film from the 2000's. Tennessee High hopes their new, revolutionary policies will inspire similar programs in classrooms across the nation. Schools in the Phoenix Metro Area have already announced that local desert snakes will now serve as jump ropes for kids in grades 1-5. As for Tennessee High, rats will be passed out alongside school breakfasts starting on Wednesday, April 6th.



Papa's Pizzeria Pops Off

By Alex Akard

As a childhood favorite of this generation, Papa's Pizzeria makes a comeback. Found on the #1 video game website, CoolMathGames, Papa's Pizzeria is an online pizza store simulator where the player works at the pizza store. While taking orders, cooking pizza, and decorating pizza may seem boring on the surface, the game gets intense quickly. The fear of burning the food and the customers with burning red name tags inspires fear of failure in the player of the game, driving them to succeed.
Many video games have come and gone over the years, but Papa's Pizzeria stays in the hearts of the players. Sure, it may not be as creative, entertaining, or fun as many other video games free to play, but Papa's Pizzeria is able to thrive off the nostalgia of the players. When walking through an elementary school classroom, you could see uniquely decorated pizzas on the bright screens of the computers. Children's eyes turn red as they focus carefully on precisely placing each ingredient. Now, children's eyes turn red all over the globe as Papa's Pizzeria becomes the #1 video game.
Not only has Papa's Pizzeria topped the charts, but so have other versions. Papa's Bakeria, Papa's Cheeseria, Papa's Burgeria, Papa's Cupcakeria, Papa's Donuteria, Papa's Freezeria, and Papa's Taco Mia are just a few that have suddenly risen to worldwide fame. Some people say Papa's Pizzeria is "just a kid's game", but that does not stop the 9.6 billion players all over the world from enjoying a "cheesy" game.

Grace Singleton Joins the Wildcat Family

By Molly Johnson

THS Senior Grace Singleton has decided to sign to the ETSU Cross Country and Track team. Grace has been running since as long as she can remember. She is most known for winning the NMC (national marathon competition) for the ages 3 and under group. Grace was faced with a very difficult decision as she had to decide between signing to Wabash College (a private all-boys school in Crawfordsville Indiana) or East Tennessee State University. However, in the end ETSU offered her a scholarship she just couldn't refuse. The scholarship comes to a grand total of $0.77 over the course of all 4 years. Grace says she is most looking forward to saying goodbye to all of her free time to meet the high demanding practice schedule that the ETSU team has. Although Grace is sad to say goodbye to her Viking days, she is overjoyed to be joining the wildcat family next year.

NEW Traffic GO-GO!!

By Harper Robinette

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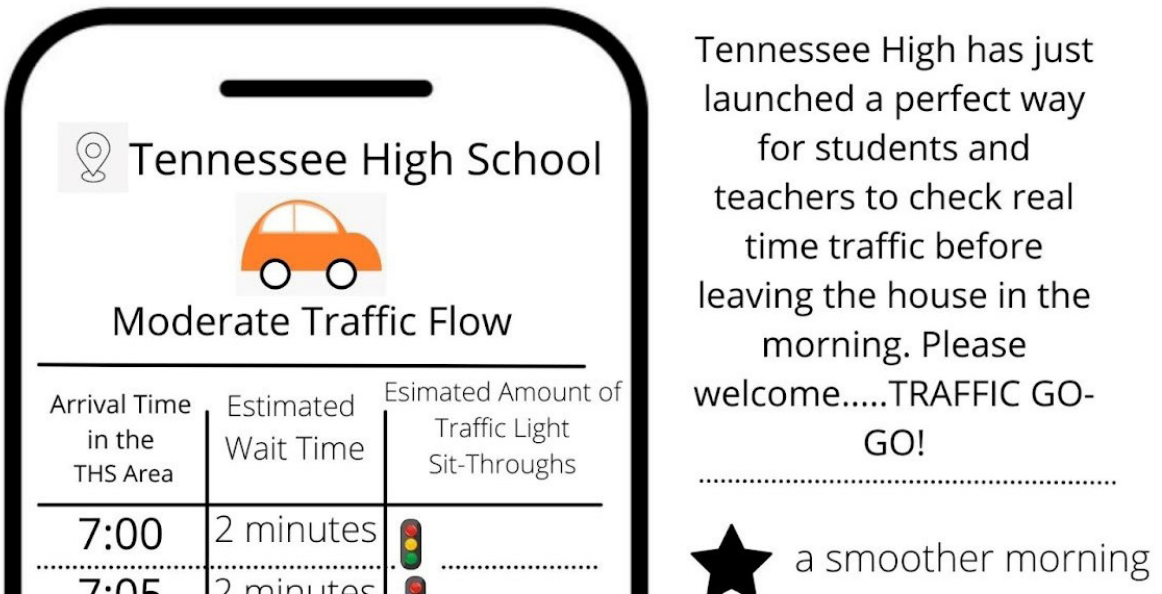


I Stand Against Bullying Your Friends

By Danica Mai

I, Danica Mai, am taking a stand against bullying. I have never spoken ill of anyone nor have I ever committed an awful act in my life. When I came out of the womb, it was said that I had angel wings because I was that pure of a human being. Many people cannot see it, but there is a bright glow ever-present around me because all the kindness I have can't be contained within my body. I am not only kind beyond bounds, I am also humble, to bat.

I have a strong moral compass and I believe that messing with people, even if you are friends with them, is always wrong no matter what. To demonstrate my unbreakable ideal of anti-bullying, I have asked my fellow Maroon and White staff members to back up my claim. Sophomore staff member Caden Cartwright says "the damage is genuinely irreparable". The aforementioned damage he is talking about is his broken knee that was caused from him falling so hard at my beauty. When asked if I was a bad person, Maroon and White staff member… Extra #5 said "it depends on how you would define a bad person". This is concrete evidence that I am as awe-inspiring as I describe myself. I even went through such thorough research as to ask past Maroon and White staff their glowing opinions about their own chief editor. Previous Maroon and White journalist Joseph Burriss stated "[Danica] is the most awful and horrible person I have ever met. I still have nightmares about going to Maroon and White. Thankfully [she] will be gone next year and the bullying will cease". It appears that Joseph has become delusional because he has not seen my amazing face in a long time. From those accounts, anyone can discern my undeniable awesomeness and my enduring crusade to stop poking fun at your friends. This is my formal announcement that bullying is a heinous act that is completely unforgivable. If anyone is found even saying a statement towards someone that has any disagreeable connotation, the punishment for such egregious crime should be life in prison with no parol, because the legal system is always fair. I believe that everyone must join in my campaign to stop these offenses. In conclusion, everyone should be exactly like me.

The Shocking Truth About Being Bald

By Scarlette Farrey

Have you ever been bald? Have you ever wondered what the life of a bald person looks like? One Tennessee High teacher, John Richardson, knows very well the shocking truth about being bald. "I first started to notice my condition when I was 25, so I shaved it all off and it hasn't been back since." Upon shaving his head, Mr. Richardson realized he had a head shaped like a "pool ball". Of course, one would assume that there are many disadvantages to being bald. Your head gets cold, you get weird tan lines from sunglasses, and people can see the weird lumps on your head.

"There are absolutely no disadvantages to being bald. I get to sleep in every morning because I don't have hair to worry about." This statement from Richadson begs the question, could it be a good thing to be bald? Could it be cool to be bald? "Nowadays all the cool people are bald," says Richardson, "one day people will wake up and start shaving their heads to be cool."

Of course, if one was going through such a trial as being bald, they would want to be a part of a bald-based community.

Mr. Richardson does not feel that he needs to lean on other baldies. "I don't need to be in a bald club, but they do have my support." Richardson told a story about a barber he used to have. "When I was 25, I used to go to this barber named Speedy, he would give 2 dollar haircuts in 2 minutes or less. No scissors in the whole shop, just clippers. He would always ask the same questions, 'How ya doin?' and 'You been doin' any fishin?'. And no joke, one day he said his chest hurt in the middle of a haircut and he walked outside and dropped dead. Speedy was a very religious man and I really believe he's cutting my hair in heaven."

If you don;t have the comfort and confidence Mr. Richardson has about his hair, it's okay to seek help. If you are a student who has noticed their impending baldness, there are others who feel your pain, and support you. They have even formed their own club here at THS, the THS Chrome Domes. If you are interested in joining, they meet on the saddest day of the week in the saddest place in the building. If you are bald and sad, don't worry, you are not alone.

Your Closet

By Danica Mai

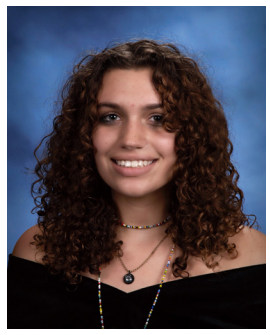
Hey THS, April is upon us as the never ending rainfall and cloudy skies heals us of our seasonal depression. For anyone who does not know what this column is about, this is where I give my fashion advice to help others wanting to change up their wardrobe. April Fool's Day is the perfect time to really experiment with your style.

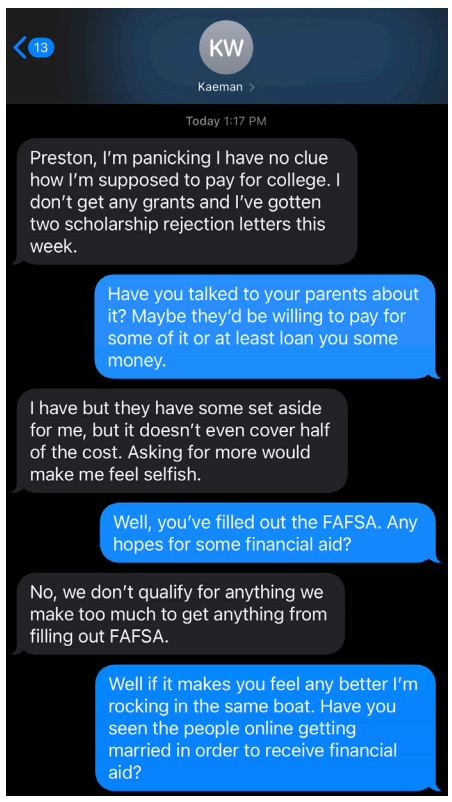
One way to spice up your fits is to wear all your clothes inside out. Wearing your clothes in this alternative way brings a different shade to the clothes you already own. Everyone will be wondering why your jean pockets are on the outside of your pants, but those are the tiny details. The visible seams jutting out of your clothes give your outfits a free accessory that adds an extra pop. With wearing your clothes on both sides, this means less laundry as you can just flip your shirts and pants inside out and wear it again. Not only does wearing your clothes inside out save time, but it is also environmentally friendly. Wearing your clothes flipped leads you to want to buy less clothes because you get 2 pieces of clothing for the price of one and you also use less water by doing less loads of laundry.

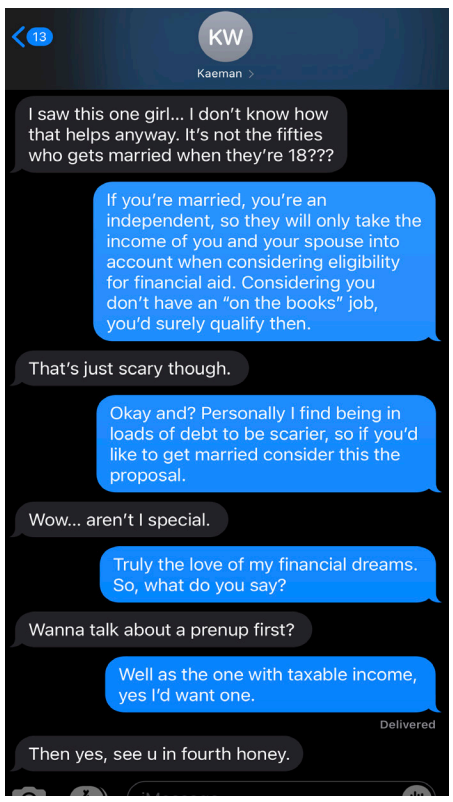
Many billion dollar fashion corporations do not want you to use this technique because you would not have a need to buy new clothes. This decrease in demand would lead to a drop in sales. To prevent this crash from happening, fashion companies implemented people to brainwash the general population into believing that wearing your clothes inside out is embarrassing and that it is a sin against humanity. They have conditioned us into believing we need to be in a continuous cycle of buying clothes and then throwing them away within a few months. The extreme waste is not only filling the CEO's pockets, but it is also killing the earth along with it.

The truth is that this whole column is a lie. I am one of the special agents placed by these huge fashion companies. I give "advice" so that you guys will go buy more clothes that you may already have but you feel the need to buy them, thus giving these mega corporations even more money than they already had. I have been brainwashing you guys this entire time under the guise of a friendly highschooler just trying to help others. So come back next time to my final brainwashing article in the Senior edition of the Maroon and White!

Preston and Kaeman's Pessimistic Post-Graduation Advice







The How-Long-Can-You-Hold-It Pass

By Campbell Kent and Avery Hommell

The bell rings, and with it comes the sudden urge to pee. At least its class change, the perfect time to go. But the long lane in front of the bathroom intimidates you so much, you decide to hold it. You go to class, slightly uncomfortable, and ask your teacher for permission to use the restroom. "Wait 15 minutes," your teacher says. So, you wait. The constant thought of having to pee does not interfere with Learning. At. All. After a relaxing 15-minute wait, you joyfully log onto SmartPass and find that your thinly-stretched bladder will just have to stretch a teensy bit more, because everyone else also has to go, and they have priority. Twenty minutes into class, legs crossed, you wait. Thirty minutes into class, the bathroom is finally free. You put in your request.

The app asks you for your teacher code. TEACHER CODE?! Panic grips you, but you breathe and manage to avoid any embarrassing accidents. "Excuse me…can you please write me a pass?" you ask in the middle of your teacher's lecture. Everyone rolls their eyes at you while your teacher walks across the room to their computer and issues you a pass. 40 minutes into class, with an approved bathroom pass, you walk down the hall, only to meet the entire class of Mr. So-and-So, who are all there for a bathroom break. Wonderful.

You make a bee-line for the stairwell. Surely there is a stall open on a different floor. Fearing for your life, or at least a serendipitous conversation with an administrator about why you, who were issued a third-floor restroom pass, are now on the second floor, you stealthily sidle into the bathroom and sigh happily. Alone at last.

The Truth Behind Identical Twins

By Caitlin Vining

Tweedle Dee and Tweedle Dumb, the infamous twin duo, the salt to the other's pepper, known for being, well, practically identical. Many twins will tell you that they are each other's best friends, soulmates and couldn't live without each other. But what they won't tell you is that they can read each other's minds and feel each other's pain, just like in the movies. They're basically the same person! I know I am right from experience. I could probably tell you exactly what my twin sister is thinking about right now. Parents always want to name their twins in a rhyming pattern, but doctors say it's best not to so that this secret isn't exposed. Can you imagine how cool it would be if it was Cailey and Bailey instead of plain Caitlin and Bailey! So instead a lot of twin parents settle for matching first initials like Sally and Sue. It's very hard not to expose this secret when one gets hurt. My sister broke her arm and in that moment I felt a painful shock ran down my arm, that was a hard scream to hold in.

But you're a part of this secret now too! You have to keep quiet, I can't make any promises that you might find a doppelgänger of yourself tomorrow morning.

Bristol's Ignored Uniqueness

By Ryan Bunning

When asked what sets our city apart, many Bristolians will cite the musical history or perhaps the nearby Speedway. We seem to ignore the most unique detail about our fair city: the fantastic landfill odor! Where else in America can you enjoy the sweet smell of decomposing trash on your morning jog or daily commute? While some industrial or port cities may claim to possess such an overpowering aroma as we do, none can quite match the mystical fragrance that creeps its way into the households of thousands of Tennesseans and Virginians.

To find out what non-Bristol residents thought of our great city's smell, I asked some recent visitors what they thought of the experience. Governor Lee of Tennessee described the dump as a "gift to us all". Similarly, Governor Youngkin of Virginia praised the positive effects of the landfill in Southwest Virginia. "The great tourism industry in the beautiful, booming city of Bristol, VA has enjoyed the influx of visitors coming to better appreciate where they came from," Youngkin told Maroon and White. So next time you reminisce on the city you call home, do not forget to appreciate the tremendous stench residing in our valleys!

Agnes Is Actually Terrifying

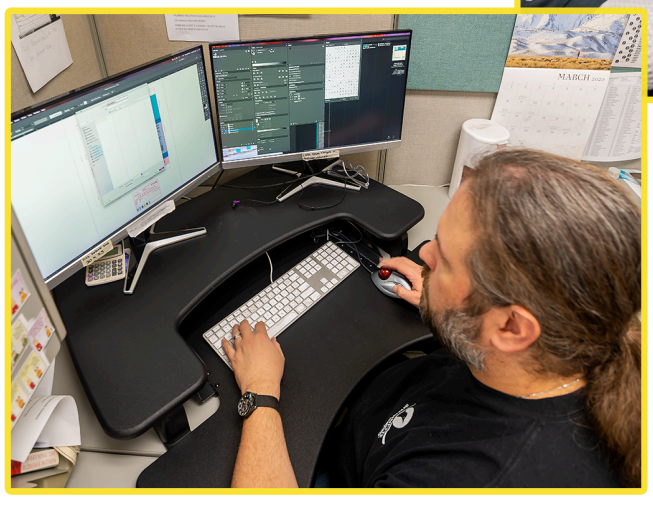
By Nathaniel Morefield

Around school, Agnes is often quite the popular topic of conversation. The Maroon and White staff have noticed though, that this conversation tends to take place behind her back. She is frequently blamed for a problem of some sort yet has no chance to defend herself. Such rumors are a shameful and dangerous form of bullying, and they have no place in our school community. The M&W staff have decided to give Agnes a well-deserved chance to finally set the record straight.
Agnes, however, proved to be quite an elusive interviewee. In search of her obscure whereabouts, we were seriously concerned to find that Agnes is not currently enrolled in a single course. We spent hours harshly scolding the school counselors for allowing such an educational atrocity to occur. We asked students for any knowledge of her daily activities, as one must wonder what Agnes would be up to in a school without any required classes to go to. There are roughly 10 trillion more interesting places to go within a two-mile radius.
We were informed by multiple sources that rather than being a living person, (as interviewees usually are) Agnes is, in fact, a non-living person. This provided some illumination to her lack of enrollment status. All of us here at the Maroon and White however, agreed that an issued apology to the counseling office for the excessive shouting would be quite tedious and completely unnecessary. The anger released was largely therapeutic, so they were basically just doing their jobs anyway. In light of Agnes' apparent inability to commune among the living, we found it necessary to resort to more extreme measures. Difficulty arose when none of our staff members knew how to use a Ouija board app, a Magic 8 Ball, or, for that matter, anything about interviewing the dead. After a great deal of ill-fated attempts appropriated from cheesy ghost movies, we were ready to abandon all hope.
All of the sudden though, we heard the faint thump of footsteps above us. We were sure that it wasn't rats, because that would be impossible. We realized that it must be Agnes talking to us in morse code. However, the things Agnes communicated to us were so shockingly obscene that it would be entirely inappropriate to include a single word she said in a school newspaper. As a result, we regret to inform you that Agnes deserves all blame she is given and more. We much prefer to give all interviewees the benefit of the doubt in journalism. However, our unbiased conclusion is that only an entity of pure evil would be so astonishingly rude to the Maroon and White staff.

Broken Daze Broke the Universe

By Keona Fielitz and Sophia Detrick

Two years ago, in March of 2020, Broken Daze, a rock band formed by a few students of Tennessee High, performed at the THS Talent Show. This seemingly energetic concert revived the souls of Tennessee High students, creating a concert with a mosh pit and flashing lights in the auditorium. Students were out of their seats jamming, and the fog machine was in full kick as the rhythmic sounds of music filled the auditorium. However, most might remember this day as the last day before spring break, and, unfortunately, the last day of normal school and life before the pandemic.
People often question how our world got to such levels of chaos. We ask ourselves, was it just the pandemic, or is there some sort of underlying curse that caused our arduous troubles? The answer is the latter. Unbeknownst to us students, Broken Daze actually ripped a massive hole in our universe's space time continuum that very day. They created an Earth sized worm hole in our dimension, Earth-616, and we were transported to dimension Earth-420. This act is to blame for all of the terrible things we have been put through the past two years.
Now, there is only one solution to send us back to our home universe, a solution so strenuous it's almost impossible to fathom: bring back Broken Daze to perform at the 2022 talent show. This action would close the time-loop we are currently trapped in, and it would restore peace to our world. To accomplish this, we would have to fight all the fundamental theories of space and time itself and overcome multiple uncrossed boundaries. This will be, more than likely, the most difficult and tedious task that human life has ever faced in the mere 200,000 years modern humans have existed. But together, as a student body, we can bring this rock band back, and we can restore order.



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Why Fitness Tests Should Replace the ACT

By Alex Akard

Running miles across a gym floor soaked with sweat while your peers watch on from the sidelines is a much better way to measure your readiness for college than the ACT. The determination it takes to run until you puke, to run until you pass out, to do pull-ups until your arms fall off is an essential quality every college should not only consider but require.

Preparing for the fitness test engages students more than studying for the ACT. This is because it requires both physical fitness and mental toughness, unlike the ACT which only engages the mind. However, many students do not properly prepare for this important test. Kids these days can barely even go up the stairs. An adequate plan would include running 20 miles, performing 100 push-ups, and completing at least 25 pull-ups each day. If someone fails to complete each workout, they must do it twice the next day. Failure is never an option.

"The FitnessGram Pacer Test is a multistage aerobic capacity test that progressively gets more difficult as it continues." These words should matter to each and every student because, hopefully, the fitness test will be the determining factor of whether or not you will get into college. While I know peoples' eyes fill with tears as they hear these words, that just shows the immense impact the fitness test has on our academic career.

Getting a mere 36 on the ACT does not compare to the celebratory joy after running 100 laps on the pacer test. The determination, skill, and athleticism are all valid reasons that the fitness test should and most likely will be replacing the ACT. Good luck Olympians!

Local Man Rants About Pictures of Monkeys

By Caden Cartwright

From Starry Night to a bizarre image of a fatigued cyborg monkey with sunglasses,

NFTs—lesser-known as non-fungible tokens—are truly something to behold. Baboon NFTs especially, every NFT is easily comparable to and better than the most influential works of humanity. Mona Lisa, The David, and even the Bible can only begin to rival the absolute, radiant brilliance that surrounds these

fundamentally worthless images. What truly makes NFTs shine is the guileless cookie-cutter templates with which each of the 10,000+ images are made, as well as the astonishing genius behind the autonomous, dispassionate, blockchain

creation of each equally blaisé ape with laser eyes.

So, you may ask: "How do I make my own valuable simian NFT?"

You do not. Don't be silly.

Unless you're already worth multiple millions of dollars, you are not making such an opulent monkey NFT. You could only dream of fabricating such a sumptuous

image! In response to this, you may ask: "So if I can't make my own NFT, why don't I just screenshot

someone else's?" You're being silly again. Although the picture itself has so much intrinsic value, it is

not where the money comes from. Each monkey image is a certifiably objective masterpiece, despite having little paramount value by

themselves. Where this incredible value comes from is the owners' history. However, you will likely

never be one of these owners now, as you must first be a true God among men—or in other

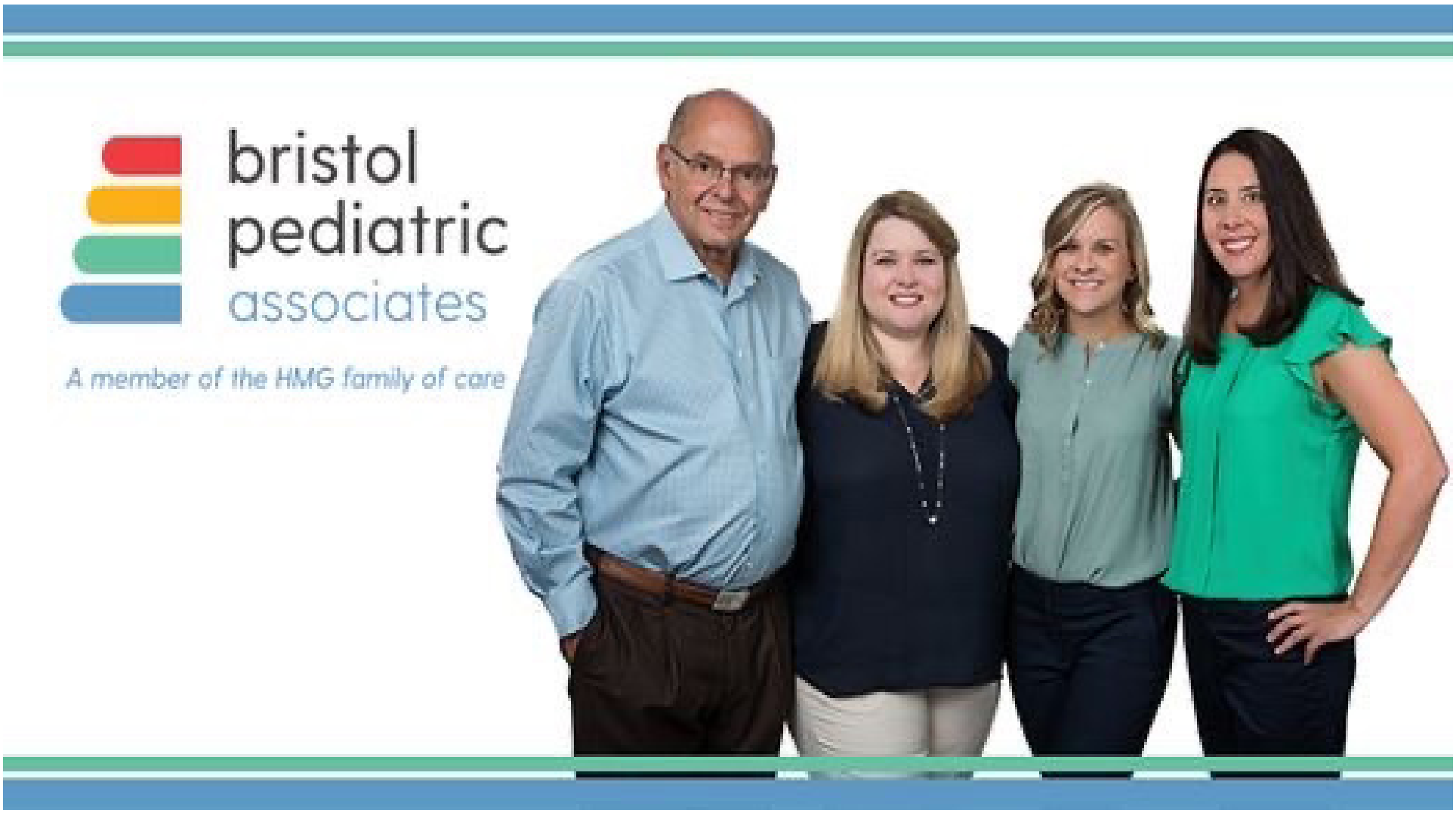
words—worth multiple millions of dollars and "in the know".

A real life example of an NFT

Glow In the Dark Prom

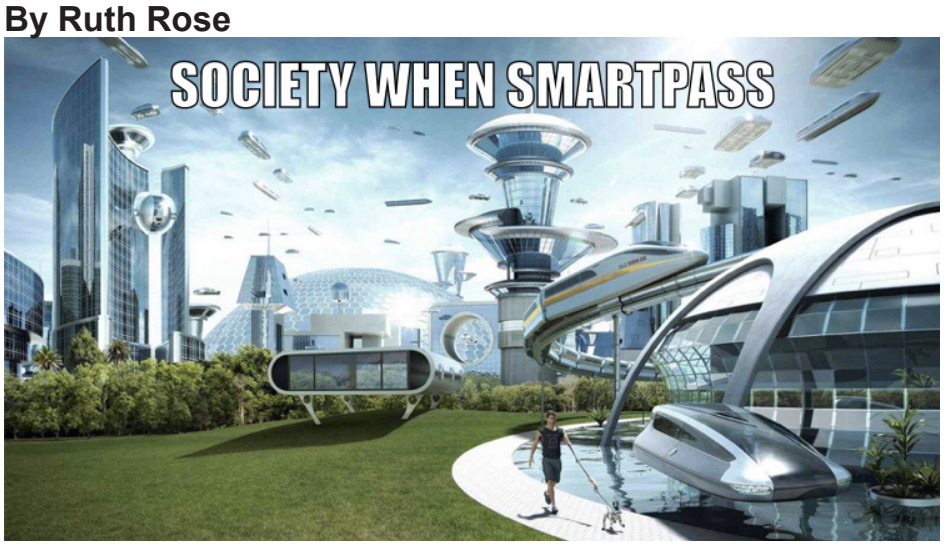
By Scarlette Farey

Local glow worm gets dolled up for her big night in the Stone Castle.



THS Meme of the Month

By Ruth Rose



What Teacher Are You Most Like QUIZ!

By Caitlin Vining

1. I am a(n)...
A. Student B. Teacher C. Ghost D. Principal/Administrator
2. I have ___ Lunch.
A. First B. Second C. Third D. I don't go to lunch.
3. Have you met Mr. Snyder?
A. Yes B. No C. Unfortunately D. Of course not.
4. How many cups of coffee do you drink per day?
A. 1 B. 2 C. >3 D. I HATE coffee.
5. Have you finished your personal finance Edgenuity?
A. Yes B. Sure... C. I'm like 10% finished. D. NOPE!

Mostly A Answers: Mrs. Kirk
Mostly B Answers: Mr. Ray
Mostly C Answers: Mr. Snyder
Mostly D Answers: Agnes

By Keona Fielitz

Word Scramble

By Halle Mullins

BWOI

MNLP

ERMZ

APZW

HGRW

Vikings Vocalize

"What are your thoughts on America's actions in NATO and our socioeconomic status in war times?"

By Keona Fielitz

Trinity Moore (9th Grade)
"Nike Jordan's and Air Maxs"

Gage Otey (9th Grade)
"Legs I guess, they provide mobility"

Briseida Cummings (10th Grade)
"They're so complicated! It was easier whenever you just got a note."

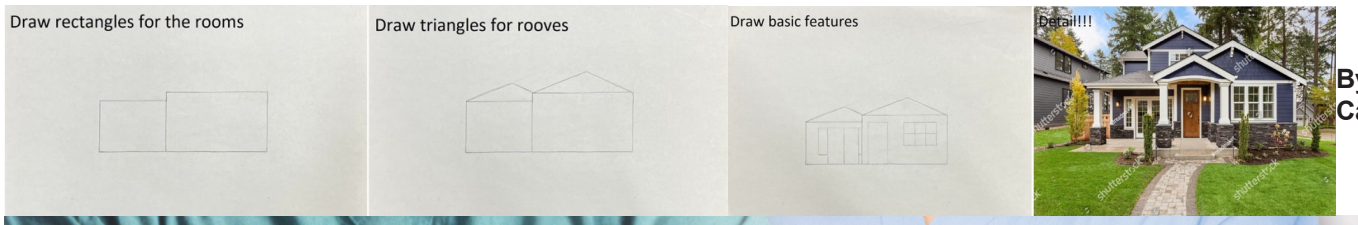
James Bowling (10th Grade)
"No, I wish I could say yes but no."

Claire Hankins (11th Grade)
"I'm a cat person, they remind me of myself"

Brady Stringer (11th Grade)
"It's disgusting, I don't like lemon anything."

Abigail Woodring (12th Grade)
"Gary the snail."

Ayoub Hrirou (12th Grade)
"I really liked it, and I hope Hush that's the next villain."



By Caden Cartwright

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St. Anne Catholic School
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Bristol, VA 24201
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Phone: 276-466-4481
JAPAN KARATE-DO ORGANIZATION
Chuck W. Newton & Marcus N. Smith
Chief Instructors
E-mail: JKOBristol@gmail.com

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