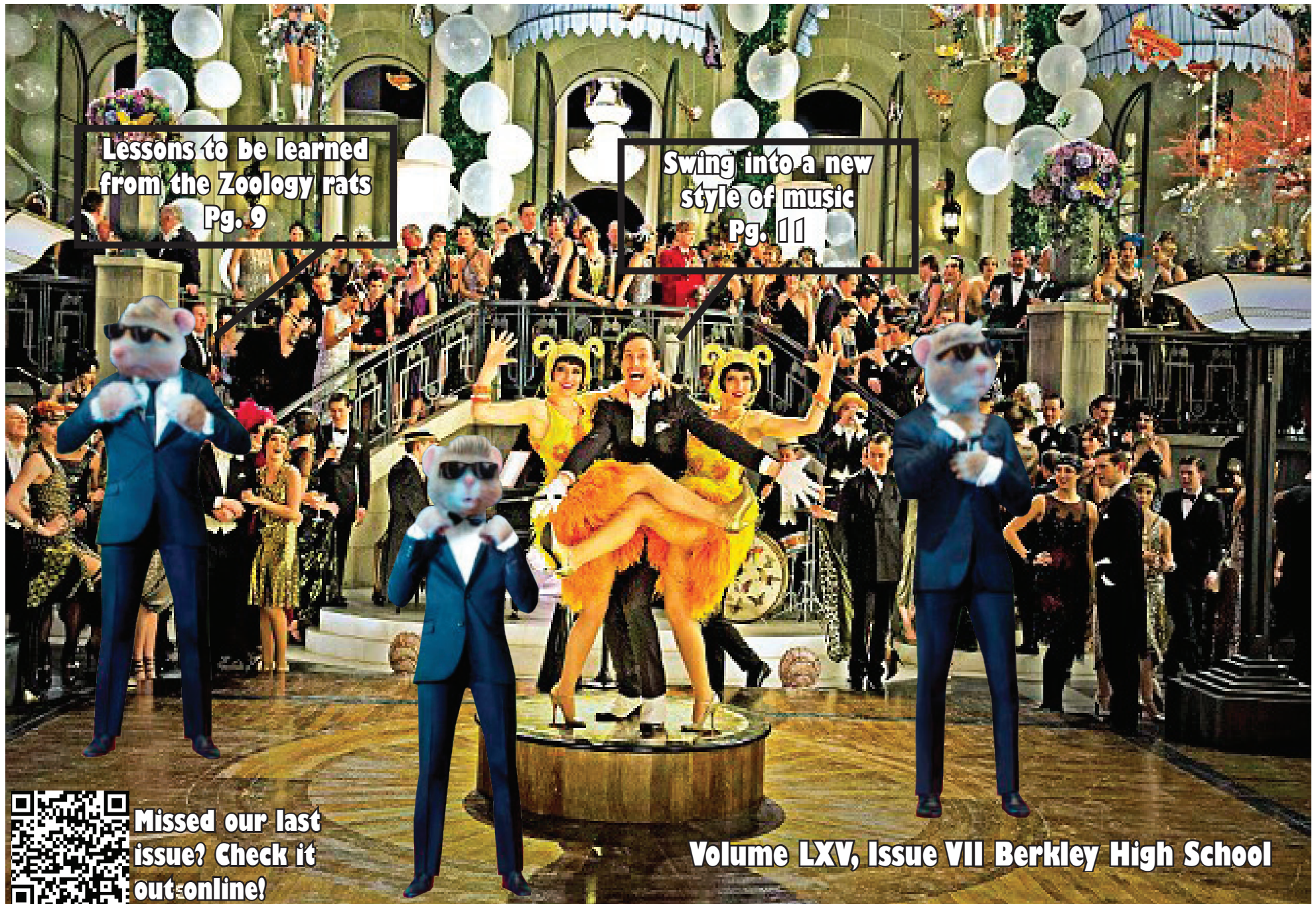


SPECTATOR

April 2014



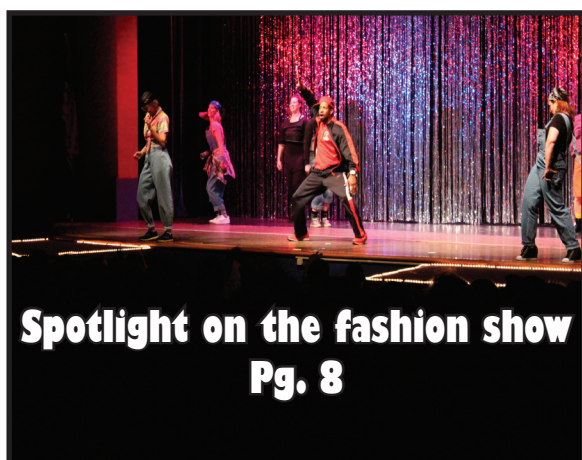
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APRIL HOROSCOPES

Spectator Staff '13-'14

Aries: March 21 - April 19

This past month has been rough. But don't worry, because very soon you will receive amazing news. You may come into money, a new relationship that is very enjoyable, and even have a chance at stardom.

Taurus: April 20 - May 20

Things have happened to you. Things will continue to happen to you. The aforementioned things may be favorable or unfavorable. You're a mostly developed and at least adequately adjusted human being. Deal with it.

Gemini: May 21 - June 20

Cheer up, buttercup. Your love life is about to prosper, so keep an open eye for your next potential significant other. Do not stress about it, be happy, go with the flow and let love find you.

Cancer: June 21 - July 22

This month, your wildest dream will come true after you complete one task. This obstacle will be something that you will be forced to overcome. Try your hardest, and you will have no difficulty conquering this fantasy of yours.

Leo: July 23 - August 23

This month you will experience great fortune. Not only will you ace all your tests, but you will be able to conquer all your extra curriculars with flying colors. So relax, sit back, and don't sweat the April showers because soon enough, May flowers will be blooming.

Virgo: August 24 - September 23

Stay positive, young one. You may be in a financial bind this month, so start thinking of ways to make your money last. Pinch your pennies, stretch your dollars, and you will be finding relief in no time.

Libra: September 24 - October 22

You have been wanting to change something about yourself for a while now. Whether it is a sleep schedule or daily routine, do not give up until it is changed. This will result in a more joyful time.

Scorpio: October 23 - November 21

Here you are once again, looking at your horoscope. I'm going to offer just one piece of advice. Take charge of your own life. You don't need me telling you how to live your life. You are more than capable.

Sagittarius: November 22 - December 21

Lately, you have been putting others before yourself. So, spice it up and think of yourself first for once. Indulge in a special occasion or make one of your dreams a reality. You deserve it.

Capricorn: December 22 - January 19

This past month has been rough. But don't worry, because very soon you will receive amazing news. You may come into money, a new relationship that is very enjoyable, and even have a chance at stardom. After anything good happens to you be sure to not become arrogant.

Aquarius: January 20 - February 18

This month will be very easy-going for you. You will have very simple tasks to complete, that will not cause you much stress, if any at all. Be aware of this free time and plan accordingly. Have fun on your month off because next month may be different.

Pisces: February 19 - March 20

Do not get too comfortable, a wave of change is flowing your way. It could have something to do with your love life, family, or friends, so expect adjustments in the near future.

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The Spectator Staff understands that some articles may not spark each student's interest, so we have organized a scavenger hunt for our beloved readers: look for junior Eric Braun hidden within these pages. Once you do, bring your paper to Ms. Emily Mullins in room 165 and show her where Braun is! If you are the first to do so, your name will be taken down, and you will be hidden in the next issue.



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August 11-28 (M T W TH) 4:30-6:30	August 5-7 (T W TH) 5:00-7:00
Sept. 16- Oct.9 (T W TH) 5:00-7:00 *(No class 9/24 & 9/25, instead class M 9/22 & 10/6)	October 14- 16 (T W TH) 5:00-7:00
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Remembering the Boston Marathon

Maisy Cece '15, Staff Writer and Malindi Lubinecky '15, Layout Director

In March 2011, Russian authorities warned the FBI that there was a prospect of danger involving Tamerlan Tsarnaev, one of the two brothers accused of carrying out last year's Boston Marathon bombings. According to a NBC News report on March 25, United States authorities missed chances to detain him. A congressional report written by the House of Representatives Homeland Security Committee released on March 27, 2013 stated that the Russian Intelligence Agency (FSB) contacted the FBI in March of 2011 warning that Tsarnaev was known to have been associated with an Islamist militant group. Several days later on April 15, 2013 the Boston Marathon bombings occurred and resulted in the death of three people and the wounding of over 260. Shortly after, Tsarnaev died following a gunfight involving Massachusetts State Police when he and his brother Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, now 20, were trying to flee the Boston area. The younger brother was wounded in the interaction and was later arrested on April 19, 2013. His trial is set to take place in November of this year; if convicted, Tsarnaev could potentially face the death penalty.

The emotional impact of the Boston Marathon bombings led to the creation of an impromptu memorial at Copley Square in the city of Boston. The square has become a shrine for current citizens affected by the events, as well as people from around the world to visit the site and express their condolences for the city and its victims from the day of the bombing. The city of Boston's archive facility has received many items that have been placed at the memorial. For example, according to CBS News, the facility acquired a stuffed animal with a simple note to honor Martin Richard, an 8 year old boy killed in

the explosion. Additionally, a family member of a 9/11 victim wrote a heartfelt letter to the families of those affected by the bombings, expressing empathy towards being victimized in a large-scale terrorist attack. Lastly, soldiers stationed in Afghanistan sent a flag with letters



Photo courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

The aftermath after the first bomb went off at the end of the marathon on April 25, 2013.

and posters to commemorate those who lost their lives. The memorial has grown substantially since 2013 and has become a place of reverence for people to stop and reflect on the tragedy and resilience of Boston. The goal of the archival facility is to ensure that the gifts and tributes that they have received become permanent records of how the city responded to the events. According to NBC News, an exhibit with items from the memorial is planned to open in early April at the Boston Public Library and will be named "Dear Boston."

This year, participants in the Boston Marathon have also pledged to donate money towards charities and foundations that are intended to help the affected

families. The Head of the Cleveland, Tennessee Branch of the United Way Charity, Matt Ryerson, has planned to donate over \$50,000 after running the entire 26-mile race to charity. He has chosen to contribute his earnings from his job towards two Boston foundations, One Step Ahead and Dream Big. The Boston-based charity, One Step Ahead, helps children who lost limbs when the homemade pressure-cooker bombs went off at the finish line last year. On the other hand, Dream Big provides equipment and funds that enable girls from low income families to participate in sports.

In addition to the support that Boston has received since the bombings, the city's major league sports teams have helped reunite the city as a whole. The Boston Red Sox have contributed by visiting injured participants in the hospital, franchising the brand "Boston Strong," and casting a video tribute towards victims in commemoration before a recent game on April 15, 2014. Another aspect to honoring the tragedy was the success that resulted from this year's Boston Marathon race. The first American man to win the Boston Marathon since 1983 crossed the finish line on April 21. Meb Keflezighi, 38, won the men's division with an efficient time of 2:08:37, according to the Boston Marathon's Facebook page. For Kenya's Rita Jeptoo, 33, it was a second consecutive victory. She again won the women's division with an unofficial—and course record—time of 2:18:57, according to the event's official Twitter account.

It is important to remember the events that took place on April 15 of last year. The unmatched support the city received and continues to receive has helped motivate the healing process of families and citizens affected by the terrifying attack at last year's marathon.

Michigan judge strikes down gay marriage ban

Kit Charlton '16, Staff Writer

A Michigan Federal judge has struck down the ban on gay marriage in a case that received its ruling on March 21. Bernard Friedman, the senior judge of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan, handed down the decision, following a challenge on the ban from April DeBoer and Jayne Rowse, a gay couple from Hazel Park, Michigan.

After the ruling, the clerk's offices of Washtenaw, Ingham, Muskegon and Oakland counties announced that they would issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples. Attorney General of Michigan Bill Schuette filed for an emergency stay of the ban, which was extended indefinitely on March 25. The ban will be upheld pending a decision from the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals. Governor Rick Snyder says the state of Michigan will not recognize same-sex couples, but the over 300 couples who obtained marriage licenses before the ban went back into place are legally married. DeBoer and Rowse were not among those married in the interim. They have decided to remain unwed until the case is completely sorted out by the Michigan court system. "Jayne and I talked about it, and we decided that we were not going to get married until every gay and lesbian couple in the state of Michigan [can marry]," DeBoer said in a radio interview with WDET's Craig Fahle.

The most common reason for opposition to the legalization of gay marriage is conflict with religious beliefs. "Many Michigan residents have religious convictions whose principles govern the conduct of their daily lives and inform their own viewpoints about marriage," Friedman said in his 31-page report on his decision. The Census Bureau estimates that 20,000 same-sex couples live in Michigan, over 300 of which were married

on March 22. A poll conducted by Michigan State University in Feb. 2014 said that 54 percent of Michigan residents support the legalization of gay marriage, 36 percent opposed, 10 percent were unsure and a margin of error of three points. "It's another affirmation that discriminating against LGBT individuals is arbitrary," senior Jessica Vovk, leader of the gay-straight alliance at BHS, said. Same-sex relationships have been legal in Michigan since 2003 and adoption by gay couples has never been contested by the courts.

If Friedman's decision is upheld, Michigan will become the 18th U.S. state to allow same-sex couple to marry. Should the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals rules in favor of Friedman's verdict, Michigan will adopt marriage equality and become the latest state in a recent trend of gay marriage legalization in the United States.



Photo by Zoe Lask

Bridges, the LGBT chapter at BHS, tries to close the gap between gay and straight students.

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Ukrainian revolution: where it is heading

Rostyslav Yeshchenko '14, Senior Copy Editor

For the last six months, the conflict in Ukraine captured the world's attention. What started as a protest against ex-president Viktor Yanukovich's refusal to sign a trade agreement with the European Union escalated to the biggest international conflict since the fall of the Soviet Union.

The conflict originally began in November of last year with a small peaceful protest supporting the trade agreement with the EU. However, after the violent police crackdown on protesters in December, thousands of people traveled to the capital demanding Yanukovich's resignation and an early presidential election. What followed then were three months of massive protests on Kiev's Maidan square. During those three months, there were numerous violent clashes between police and protesters in which hundreds of people were injured. The most violent incident occurred on Feb. 20, when police snipers opened fire on protesters, taking the lives of more than 100 activists. The incident was followed by protesters' demand for Yanukovich's immediate resignation, which led the president to flee the country, and a new temporary government to be appointed by parliament.

This serious event, which became known as Euromaidan, was widely supported by the western countries, however, the escalation of the conflict was met with harsh criticism and disapproval from the Russian Federation. Russia saw the overthrow of Yanukovich as an armed coup d'état by Western backed rebels, and considered the newly appointed government illegal according to Ukrainian constitution.

The Crimean region of Ukraine was officially an autonomous republic within Ukraine, with the majority of people living there being Russian. After the events of Euromaidan, the Crimean people and the local government, with Russian soldiers' aid, pushed for a referendum to separate themselves from Ukraine. During the month of March, Russian soldiers, originally without any insignia identifying them as such, successfully took over most Ukrainian military and naval bases, and established their superiority in the Crimean region. The international community was appalled by what they consider Russia's blunt annexation of Ukraine's land. Some European nations, led by Germany and the United States, approved various economic sanctions against Russia, however none of those were effective enough to make Russia reconsider their strategy regarding Crimea.

The recent developments in the eastern regions of Donetsk and Lugansk in Ukraine, however, are the most alarming yet according to the West and Ukraine. Many cities in these eastern regions have seen armed takeovers of police stations and government buildings by pro-Russian supporters, many of whom are heavily armed, who call for local referendums and federalization of the country. Kramatorsk and Slavyansk, both in Donetsk regions, are under full control of the pro-Russian forces and activists. Ukrainian authorities and the international community blame Russia for fueling the recent wave of pro-Russian takeovers, although Russia denies the allegation. Ukrainian government started an anti-terrorist operation in the region, focusing on liberating Kramatorsk and Slavyansk, but thus far, the operation has seen



The Ukrainian military prepares for an anti-terrorist operation.

Photo courtesy of REUTERS/Marko Djurica

little success. A peace deal has been reached in Geneva on April 17 between Ukraine, Russia, the United States, and the EU, however it did little to de-escalate the violence in Ukraine.

Russian actions regarding Ukraine and American indecisiveness and lack of a concrete and efficient plan to counter Russian aggressiveness present many long-term political issues. American reaction, for the

most part, has been non-existent with only a handful of economic and individual sanctions against Putin's associates. Poland and Ukraine ask NATO for military support, but it is clear that the West wants to avoid any further escalation, thus giving Russia an advantage in Ukraine. Many experts consider Russia's actions as retaliation against NATO expansions in eastern Europe in 1999 and 2004, although NATO originally promised not to commit to any eastern European expansions. Additionally, in Putin's mind, and in the minds of many Russians, the United States took advantage of Russia's weakness after the fall of the Soviet Union, and disregarded, for the

most part, Russia's interests in international issues. Ukraine, having been under Russian rule for the last few centuries, has close ties with Russia, and the recent developments put those relationships at danger. Ukraine is Putin's red line and Russia will never tolerate Western influence in Ukraine. Simply put, the West managed to poke the Russian bear in its most sensitive area.



Crimean Pro-Russian self-defense units prior to the referendum.

Photo courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

Now that the situation is escalated in the eastern regions, many are afraid of Russian invasion, a plausible possibility considering Russia has a buildup of 30,000 to 100,000 soldiers at the Ukrainian border ready to enter. Although many call for Ukrainian unity, it is best to allow each region to hold an official referendum regarding their status in Ukraine in order to limit further escalation and regional divide. The Ukrainian government, however, will not consider such an option because they cannot afford losing industrial regions in the east of the country to Russia.

Mud slide leaves Washington State in despair

Cam Cece '16, Staff Writer

On March 22, Washington State was shocked by a large mudslide that ran through the town of Oso, approximately 50 miles from Seattle. The debris covered most of the town, taking out anyone or anything in its way. Forty-one people were found dead and two unidentified persons are still unaccounted for.

This crisis occurred when the land surrounding Oso was exposed to large masses of rain fall which were breaking down the land, thus triggering the massive flow of debris that devastated Washington State, covering approximately one square mile of land. The National Guard and local law enforcement tried to execute rescue missions, but most were unsuccessful. Governor Jay Inslee declared Washington in a state of emergency and recovery areas were established in Arlington and Darrington within the first ten hours. The damage of the mudslide left most places unrecognizable; Oso's main highway 530 was covered by trees and mud. The final estimated financial loss reaches ten million dollars.

The controversy surrounding the event deals with the fact that this is not the first mud slide that has occurred around Oso. Environmental specialist Jim O'Connor had been researching this land for the past

several years due to the fact that these mudslides are a common occurrence around Oso and was interviewed on Mar. 23, on CNN further explaining his study. The land had always been unstable, and O'Connor proved this by recording several smaller mudslides within this area during the past seven years. "This area has had slides in small increments over the last several years, but this took a huge bite of the hill slope this time," O'Connor said. Though this information was proven useful, no one could have predicted an event of this magnitude.

Recovery has not been easy and aid from volunteers has been welcomed. Governor Inslee is working to make sure Washington is getting the help it deserves. Citizens are hopeful that recovery will be simple and quick, but this is not an easy event to move on from. The mudslide brings an obvious environmental and economic disaster for the people, but not many think of the emotional disaster that others face while dealing with these events. That is why people like Governor Inslee and O'Connor are working for the people trying to make the aftermath of the mudslide somewhat more manageable, by offering help to the people and information on how to counteract it.

The POPS and FLOPS of April 2014

300: Rise of an Empire

Ty Eldridge '14, Assistant Photo Editor

The 2006 film *300* directed by Zack Snyder was arguably one of the most entertaining movies thus far. In 2014, with Snyder out of the director's chair, first time-director Noam Murro took his place for the sequel. The acting in the film was crummy and hard to follow due to the characters screaming out obvious declarations at inappropriate times. *300: Rise of an Empire* also did poorly in the box office. After all the gore and obnoxious music, let's hope this film was a publicity stunt for newbie director Murro and not a serious attempt to make a catastrophe of a movie.

Sweatpants

Drew Leshman '17, Co-Circulation Manager

The incredibly brilliant creation of sweatpants has made, and will continue to make, a better place in which to live in. There is nothing better than wearing soft, comfortable sweats with the exception of wearing no pants at all. They are like a constant hug around your legs. The relaxing pants are great for lounging at home with your dog, or even going out in public, depending on the situation. It is also extremely easy to hide objects in their baggy pockets. If sweatpants have not yet made it to your closet, please do yourself a favor and re-evaluate your life choices.

Broad City

Zoe Blake '17, Publicity Director

Before making its way onto Comedy Central on Jan. 23, *Broad City* was a popular online web series that debuted in 2009. The show follows the lives of two broke girls, Ilana and Abbi, as they work and live their lives in Queens, New York. Within the show, the girls deal with financial struggles, long hours that conflict with social events, and awkward run ins with ex's. Even though Ilana and Abbi's lives are not always easy breezy, the two are always able to laugh their way through their misfortunes. Due to their fun-loving personalities and hilarious situations they find themselves in, viewers are guaranteed to have a laugh or two while watching the show.

Making Plans

Josh Radom '16, Student Life Editor

The weekends are really the only days that high school students have the time to go out with friends. Lately, however, having a fun weekend has become a struggle. Although there is not much to do around the BHS area, the problem does not lie with having something to do but making plans to do them. Almost everyone has a cell phone, so communication between friends cannot be the issue. "I really think the problem is that people don't have the guts to make the first effort to communicate, so they end up hiding in their homes," senior Kayla Sternthal said. The people who feel this way should know they are not alone and should make the first step.

Sneaker heads run with their hobby

Cameron Cece '16, Staff Writer and Drew Leshman '17, Co-Circulation Manager

Berkley High School has recently been captivated by a shoe craze. A small group of students has worked hard to improve their shoe game to be able to show off their kicks to fellow classmates. These students want others to realize that this hobby is bigger than the shoe itself; it is a connection to the student body's 'sole'. Students are now giving a sneak peek into their sneaker closets and giving advice on how to become a fellow sneaker guru of BHS.

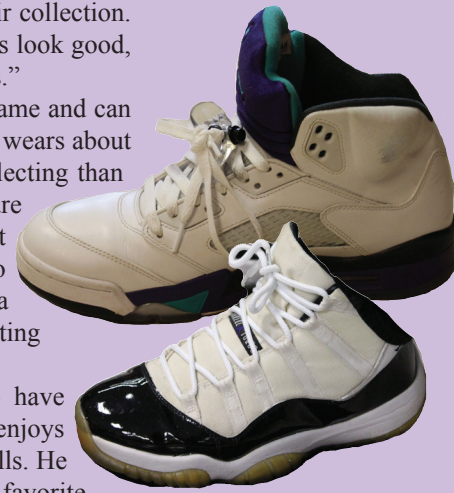
Junior Jacob Herskovitz can be seen wearing almost exclusively Jordan or Nike brands. He is anything but humble about his style as he typically shows off the most impressive shoes in his collection like original Jordan Concord 11s, Black Cement 3s and Raging Bull 5s. He has been collecting for about two years and is proud to have owned and sold over 50 pairs of shoes, while spending over \$3,000 in his brief collecting past. This year, Herskovitz aims to pick up a pair of the popular Diamond SB dunks and the classic Jordan Carmine 6s. Herskovitz encourages all to join in on the fun of shoe collecting and offers this advice: "Start out with a few general releases then move up into the rare or even classic shoes." Herskovitz is a "sneaker head" who has gained a lot of respect within a short time and is still making a name for himself inside and outside of BHS.

Foamposites and Jordans are what sophomore Jordan Johnson can usually be seen wearing from class to class. This shoe consumer chose to endorse these shoe brands due to the fact that they fit his "classy, yet relaxed style." Recently Johnson has taken an interest in the classic Jordans and has chosen to trade up his flashy

Weatherman Foamposites for a pair of classic Jordan Bred 11s. He is currently searching for a pre-release of the instant classic Jordan Thunder 14s to add to his 15-pair collection. Johnson has spent about \$2,000 on sneakers because he believes "if your shoes look good, then you will feel good. The only things that matter that you wear are the shoes."

Freshman Bryson Payne is one of the few freshman who have solid shoe game and can be recognized as a "sneaker head." Payne has around 25 pairs but usually only wears about three to school. He is one of the shoe collectors who is focused more on collecting than actually wearing the footwear. His favorite pairs of shoes in his possession are "[Nike] Kobe 9s or Floral Ks [because] they are unique; they don't look like a lot of other shoes that I have," Payne said. He frequently buys his shoes from Pogo in Birmingham or Burn Rubber in Royal Oak, but he has also traveled to Canada to get some exclusive pairs such as Wheat Jordan 13s and Grape 5s. Collecting shoes is one of Payne's hobbies, and he will continue to keep it that way.

Freshman Chauncey Bridgewater is another one of BHS's freshmen to have an impressive shoe game and be noticed as a "sneaker head." Bridgewater enjoys reselling his kicks and specifically likes making a profit from the shoes he resells. He has about 16 pairs and wears most of them on a regular basis. Bridgewater's favorite shoes out of his collection are his Nike Kobe 9s. He gets most of his shoes from online stores such as Nike, Footlocker, and Finishline and will continue to do so as his "sneaker head" career strides to amazing heights.



Photos by Drew Leshman

Marketing the runway

Zoe Blake '17, Publicity Director and Josh Segall '17, Co-Circulation Manager

The 26th annual DECA fashion show took place on April 17 in the auditorium. Students and staff had a wonderful time full of robust laughter. The outfits were flattering, and their modeling was unique and entertaining.

The fabulous clothing was provided by local sponsors, including Burn Rubber, Council Thrift, Men's Wearhouse, Joe's Army Navy, City Style, White House/Black Market, Detroit Motor Apparel, and En Pointe!. The five dollar ticket cost went to support the costs that the marketing classes at BHS accumulate over the year. The fund helps to raise money for new items at the school store, the Bear, as well as contributes to sending marketing students to DECA, a national business competition at which BHS students thrive.

A special surprise at the fashion show was a performance from the teachers. When Counselor Mr. Darryl Beebe joined in during the number, the crowd roared with surprise and delight. The teachers and Beebe certainly added a dimension to the fashion show that made it unique from previous years.

The students that participated in the fashion show were courageous as they were willing to

dance and showcase their temporary wardrobe to the rest of the school. Sophomore Sakina Toure said, "Right before we got on stage, I kept going on and on about how nervous I was and how I would forget the dance, but as soon as the lights shined upon us, all the nerves I had went away." Extremely proud of her students, marketing teacher Ms. Beth Cameron said, "[I love] whenever kids step outside of their comfort zone." She continued, "I think that it is a huge part of learning."

This was Cameron's last fashion show as she is retiring at the end of the year. To her, most of the fashion shows over the years have been the same, and this year she only hoped to, "Not do anything inappropriate." Assistant Principal Mr. Ronald Kane commented about Cameron's work throughout all of the years. He said, "We appreciate everything [Cameron] has done; she has really grown the marketing department, and [she] has done an outstanding job, not only for her class or program, but the entire school."

Once again, the fashion show was amongst the most memorable experiences for students this year. Cameron certainly had a memorable finale as she went out with a bang in her last fashion show.



Photos by Zoe Lask and Drew Leshman

Life lessons learned from rats

Sebastian Betzer '14, Opinion Editor

Second semester Honors Zoology entails one of the most challenging projects ever undertaken by man—training rats to play basketball. If you have never attempted such a feat, you should know that rats are far from the most intelligent creatures, and training them is almost as difficult as keeping them alive. The objective of the project is to understand the concepts of behavioral conditioning, rewarding certain actions in order to train animals to repeat them. For many, it seems like this project is only helpful for those who will continue to study biological sciences in their future. I, however, have realized that there is more to this project than simply reaching the objective. Through working with the rats and observing their interactions with the world around them, I have compiled a list of valuable life lessons that the rats we are working to train can teach us.

Coexistence = Survival

My group's rats: Donna Quixote, Sasha, Catie, and Jimmy Acha, are not the most active of rats. Without human interference, they are perfectly content to cuddle together in the hat that they call home. All four of them are mashed together in a wool hat; it seems like they cannot possibly be comfortable, and yet, when they get a chance, all four of them will choose to run into the hat and refuse to come out. For rats, to whom catching a chill means certain death, living together is essential to their survival. The rats are not concerned with fur color, the white rats are perfectly content with the black and mixed rats and visa versa—even the albino rats are treated equally. And I have not yet heard the rats discriminating based on sexual orientation or religious preference either. Sure, we humans would not die if we were forced to live separate from one another, but the world would certainly be a lot warmer if no one discriminated and could benefit mutually from each other.

S*** Happens

And it happens a lot. The worst part of keeping the rats is the constant smell of fecal matter and ammonia. The rats poop with reckless abandon, not caring if it takes place out in the open or in private, outside or inside the tank, onto a human or onto the table, floor, or whatever else happens to be in the wrong place at the wrong time. Because we constantly have to clean up the rats' messes, we miss the true lesson to be learned here—in life, messy things happen, sometimes they are small, and sometimes they are massive, wet, and smelly, but we, like the rats, can always move on. The rats have perfected the ability to leave their waste behind them, and many humans would do well to learn the same skill and stop dwelling on their past mistakes.

The "Rat Race" isn't all that appealing

For many students, their aspirations after college include getting a secure, well-paying job. This may lead them to working for large corporations. The rats, with their inability to question the world around them and their compulsive desire to perform for treats, reflect the true reality of what certain people are hoping to accomplish. The rat is similar to the white-collar office worker whose tasks are decided upon by the corporation, and whose work is motivated by "treats" such as pay raises or the promise of promotion. This is certainly a dark proposition, and one that warrants consideration before entering into any job in the future. It is important to find work you find fulfilling, or you could end up trapped like a rat in a cage.

Sometimes things are out of your control

For the Zoology rats, this could not be more true. Every day, we humans manipulate their environment by moving things around and carrying them to different places, forcing the rats to adapt to brand new surroundings. Shockingly, we humans are similarly powerless against outside forces. Crises such as losing one's job, or facing the aftermath of a natural disaster, often paralyze people by removing control from their lives. The rats, however, after searching their new surroundings, proceed with their normal activities as quickly as possible. People are certainly more complex than rats, but it is still important to learn about the benefits of being able to adapt to new surroundings.

It's a "rat eat rat" world out there

One day, the class returned to find that overnight a rat had died. While this is sad on its own, it was worse finding that the rat had been consumed by the other rats in the tank. In regards to the tattered, bloody, remains, zoology teacher Mr. Scott Doty explained that the dead rat represented an abundance of unused resources, so it was no surprise that the other rats consumed it. Some students were traumatized by the fact that the cute, furry animals they had been kissing for a week were capable of voraciously consuming flesh. I was more preoccupied with the realization that our world is similarly "rat-eat-rat." In the workplace, a worker represents a commodity; the concept of "labor capital" literally means that the workers are just numbers (expenses) to the company. This means that if you are not as productive, or are more expensive than another worker, chances are you will lose your job. This can lead to intense competition among co-workers who may not hesitate to try to make you lose your job, in order to gain the nourishing job security that your failure would provide.

I never would have thought that I would learn lessons in Zoology that I would apply to my life now and in the future. Yet, the way I see it, even if my understanding of operant conditioning fades in the (presumably near) future, I will still have learned important lessons about life from the most unlikely teachers, the rats: Jimmy Acha, Catie, Donna Quixote, and Sasha.



Photos by Josh Radom

HOW WE MET YOUR MOTHER

Emma Weisberger '16, Feature Editor and Nicole Doctoroff '16, Business/Ad Manager

For the discretion of the reader: This article is high in *How I Met Your Mother* content, so if you are not a HIMYM fan, it is advised that you stay away from the following text. We apologize for any inconveniences.

Kids, let us tell you the story of how we met *How I Met Your Mother*. Much like Ted, we were quick to fall in love with the show. Lucky for us, this is a tv show, and it is socially acceptable to announce our love for it at first sight. Unlucky for Ted, the same rules do not apply for women as he learned when he said “I love you” to Robin on the first date. Yet, this show had us at the word “kids” (for those of who do not know, the show starts with the word “kids”). Since the show began in 2005, or whenever your Netflix account was created, viewers have waited eagerly to find out the owner of that iconic yellow umbrella. Although the show is premised around trying to find out who the mother of Ted’s children was, we were just as invested in the lives of Lily, Marshall, Robin and Barney as we were in Ted’s journey to find love.

We may not have had a tangible seat at MacLaren’s Bar, but we were there along with millions of others as if we did. We were there for the new friends, the fights, the break-ups, the make-ups, the girlfriends, and the boyfriends. With all of this madness came our unhealthy, emotional attachment to these people who do not actually

exist. However, the fact that the show is fictional did not mean the events that occurred did not affect our Monday nights, and our Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and basically our entire lives. We all silently rooted for Barney during his “perfect week,” not because it is morally correct to encourage bringing a girl home every day for a week, but because speaking of it would jinx the streak. In the hunt for doppelgangers, we were another pair of observant eyes. We went through an abundance of tissue boxes during the infamous break up of Marshall and Lily. Everyone judged when the only thing Robin’s father sent her for her birthday was a pen, but nobody judged every play from Barney’s Playbook that was flawlessly executed. We believed in miracles along with the gang, yet from the show, we took away more than just jokes.

Within the chaos and randomness, valuable life lessons were learned through the nine seasons of the show. Of these lessons, we learned that nothing good happens after 2 a.m and if the unwise decision is made to go out after 2 a.m, as the group did plenty of times, the results may vary from breaking someone’s heart to waking up with a person

on your right and a pineapple on your left, both of which the origin cannot be easily determined. Also, a person is worthy of your time and energy only if they pass the porch test. If you can picture sitting on a porch with them in old age with wrinkles, grey hair, while playing a hand of cards, then congratulations, they have been deemed worthy of your presence. The last and most vital lesson: if you are stuck in a bad place in life, just remember everything happens for a reason, so let the universe take over.

On March 31, 2014 all of the show’s remaining questions were answered during the premiere of the 208th and final episode of “waiting for it.” We were given closure to recurring anecdotes that had taken place over the course of the entire show, and we did in fact meet the mother—although the ending is not what many viewers predicted. Even though the reactions to the ending ranged from tears to anger to joy, the show was legend — wait for it and be careful in case you are lactose intolerant because the next word is — dary.



COSMOS: A SPACE TIME ODYSSEY

Kit Charlton '16, Staff Writer

In 1980, Astrophysicist Dr. Carl Sagan brought the mysteries of the universe to the American living room with the television series *Cosmos: A Personal Voyage*. Sagan’s expertise of explanation was rivaled only by his scientific knowledge. Now, 34 years after the original premiere and 18 years after Sagan’s death, the revolutionary show has returned to the public’s television sets.

Astrophysicist Neil DeGrasse Tyson hosts *Cosmos: A Spacetime Odyssey*, the sequel to the original series. Tyson is often regarded as the most effective science communicator since Sagan himself. The series is slated to span 13 episodes, and will likely continue if this season is anywhere close to as successful as the previous incarnation, which was the most watched television series from 1980 to 1990. Tyson takes us on a journey in the “spaceship of imagination” to distant galaxies, minute ecosystems and anywhere in all of space and time. In the eight episodes that have already aired, he has taken us all around the solar system, to faraway worlds, and deep into the Earth’s past. This new series often harkens back to aspects of the old series, such as Sagan’s famous “Cosmic Calendar.” That is, compressing the entire 14 billion year existence of the known universe into a single 12-month calendar year, putting the massive age of the universe into perspective.

In addition, the show employs unique animation to display the past rather than potentially shaky actor reenactments. In an era of television fraught with such networks as The Learning Channel, Discovery Channel, and the History Channel airing shows not representative of the networks’ names and purposes, *Cosmos* is a stand-out show. It is full of nothing but hard science in an easily digestible form.

Ann Druyan, Sagan’s widow and writer of the original show, joins Tyson in writing the show, giving *Cosmos* the same charm it once had and making it easy to understand with just a basic understanding of science. Seth MacFarlane, creator of *Family Guy* and self-described science buff, is on the team as an executive producer. His influence made it possible for *Cosmos* to make it onto the Fox Network, while still keeping the control of the show’s content with the writers rather than Fox executives.

Cosmos: A Spacetime Odyssey will bring the same wonder and curiosity to the viewer as when they were young, chanting “Bill! Bill! Bill!” along with the television. *Cosmos* airs every Sunday at 9 p.m. on Fox, and is rebroadcast the following evening at 10 p.m. on National Geographic.

The return of swing

Sebastian Betzer '14, Opinion Editor

Swing music was the party music of the 1920s, the backdrop to the wild parties F. Scott Fitzgerald describes in his novel, *The Great Gatsby*. Its absence in the recent Baz Luhrmann re-imagining of the *Gatsby* film was one aspect of the movie that let many purist viewers down. How can one make a film set in the Jazz Age without swing music? Luhrmann, known for rebooting old stories for a modern era, used current rap, pop and techno music to convey the partying atmosphere to a new generation of viewers. The effect was a film that told the same story quite anachronistically; it made the parties wild in a way that kids today could relate to. There is an alternative music style, however, that would have kept the sounds of the Jazz Age while adding beats that appeal to youths — electroswing.

Electroswing is exactly what it sounds like: jazz instrumentation and melodies fused with electronic and dance beats. The effect is an up-tempo, high energy, listening experience that is refreshing due to its use of band instruments such as saxophones, trumpets, trombones and piano, along with the synthesizers. The genre is relatively new; the first albums labeled as electroswing came out in the early 2000s. Soon after, the genre became very popular throughout Europe. Significant groups in the genre are Caravan Palace, Parov Stelar, Gramatik and Goldfish. They each add their own twist on the electroswing scene because they emphasize different types and styles of electronic beats while maintaining the fusion with organic swing music.

Given that this year's prom theme is *The Great Gatsby*, or *Gatsby's Mansion*, it is certainly worth checking out the unique sound and style of electroswing. Even though the music at prom will certainly reflect the Baz Luhrmann re-interpretation, one could enjoy this music beforehand to better immerse themselves in the sounds of the 1920s.



Photos courtesy of vinylsound.nmm.me and latimes.com

Photo portraying the transition and modification of the style of swing music through the years.



The Excision experience

Madison Huff '15, Bull's Eye Editor

Excision played at the Fillmore Theater in Detroit on April 5. What or who is *Excision* one may wonder? By the music industry's description, *Excision* refers to a dupstep producer and DJ who performs concerts across the nation. Luckily, *Excision* decided to stop in Detroit during his 2014 tour.

Excision, also known as Jeff Abel, hails from Canada and is currently touring with some fellow DJ artists including Ill Gates and Dirtyphonics. He has been an active player in the world of dubstep since the year 2004. Still in the game today, Abel has continued to alter the sound of modern bass music. Not only has he tested the limits of electronic music by integrating various genres he too has incomparable energy and flare that has set the bar at an unreachable height for other artists. All of this molds his shows into a virtual apocalypse of mutating sounds which in turn pierce the ears of frenzied fans with the blasting bass. Therefore, *Excision* is known

as the true champion of bass music by fans and artists everywhere.

This recent performance blew the minds of hundreds of his Detroit followers. It was chock full of strobe lights, dancing, mosh pits and rowdy fans. "The music was great, the people weren't acting *too* stupid, and overall it was a good time," junior Shane Muldoon said. Dubstep may possess little to no words, but regardless, everyone who attended the show got down with the tricked out beats and intense drops of each song. This experience is a complete sensory overload thanks to the never ending blare of electronic music. While the room may have been cramped to its maximum capacity with raging fans, the air tight and crazy atmosphere only added to the extremity of the concert. This gig was one for the ages as fans were kept entertained all throughout the night or until the clock struck midnight indicating the concert's final moment.



While on tour, Excision plays for excited crowds.

Photo courtesy of Wikimedia Commons (author unknown)

When school systems fail

Emma Weisberger '16, Feature Editor

It is nothing new or shocking to hear that students are not the biggest fans of school. Waking up incredibly early after a nearly sleepless night of homework tends to make for an unhappy and exhausted teen. School is stressful; there is no doubt about it. However, this is not because students are putting unnecessary pressure on themselves, but rather because it is because the pressure to get into a good college has forced them into an abnormal frantic state of anxiety.

This pressure is suppressing the eagerness and passion that should come with learning. Students should be taking the classes that they are interested in, not the ones that they feel obligated to put in their schedule. Students are therefore unmotivated to learn in the classes that they find themselves in, and instead of being focused on gaining knowledge, all that matters is getting the "A."

Since the moment students began their high school careers, they are told time and time again about the importance of making themselves the perfect applicant for the college of their dreams. These "college talks" all include the same basic talking points: ACT scores and class rank along with the extracurricular activities one should participate in. While it is appreciated that this is in an effort to motivate students into being the best student they can be, in reality, those talks cause high pressure competitions between peers. The school puts a number on the ability a student has to successfully take a test or compete with their peers. The method in which the school system attempts to motivate its students has turned into an unhealthy competition between students, forcing them to go through their education in an unfortunate state of stress.

One of the most basic ways that students ensure themselves an admission into their college of choice is their grades. Entire years of work are displayed on a single transcript. This desire to receive an "A" has created a population of students that more than likely and on more than several occasions "cheat the system." This does not mean that they actually are cheating, in most cases, but that by doing the bare minimum necessary to maintain their desired grade. This may be because students are unwilling to put in the work, but this is not the most common cause. Cheating and finding ways to evade doing work is due to the amount of exorbitant work they are given in each class. Without "cheating the system" it would be nearly impossible to get anything done. Assignments are no longer viewed as a way to expand one's knowledge, but they are instead an exact amount of points to be entered into the grade book.

Then there is the ACT. Those three letters are enough to send a student into an immediate state of panic. Just as four years of work are displayed as a letter, the goal of the ACT is to take one's entire high school career and accurately represent it in a number ranging from 0 to 36. A single standardized test is enough to make or break one's admission. Some very intelligent students, who may not be good test takers but succeed in other areas of school, are faced with the unfortunate circumstance that they have to take the ACT in order to get into almost all colleges. It is just one more way to rank students, and, therefore, it creates even more intensified feelings of anxiety in every student.

Today, in order for a student to be competitive in their class, they must make decisions that oppose their true will. They must choose courses that they are completely uninterested in because it is as if the choice has already been made for them. When it comes to their GPA and class rank (because those two things determine who is considered a top student), one must take AP, honors, and advanced courses that have the benefit of being graded on a 5.0 scale. A student may be passionate about a particular subject or even interested in expanding their knowledge in a new one, but they are limited because the classes that they truly enjoy will usually cause them to have a more challenging time getting into the college that they want.

Aside from the grades that one receives, the other components of a college application are volunteer work and clubs in which a student participates in during high school. These groups include, but are not limited to National Honor Society (NHS) and Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD). There is no doubt that these clubs were founded with good intentions in mind and provide a lot of support in social and academic aspects for many students. Due to the reputation that these clubs are associated with, they are unquestionably an asset to a college application. While it is good that these clubs have members, this creates groups of people that are a part of an organization, not because they necessarily believe in its purpose, but because they feel obligated to be a part of it so it can go on their application in order to put them in an even playing field with their grade. There are exceptions, but the majority of students are only in those clubs for the title and recognition that come along with becoming a member.

The future is a scary subject and for many high school students, the future means one thing: college. Parents and counselors have expressed the importance of putting oneself in a good position to be successful since the beginning of school here at BHS and at middle school. These are all pure intentions, but the way that students go about this can lead to many negative outcomes. This occurs when students are put in a position to where they are just going through the motions of school instead of taking advantage of everything the learning process has to offer. This generation of students is rarely passionate about anything that they do which leads to their unhappiness and stress now and inevitably, in the future.

Feminism: a clarification

Olivia Wood '14, Freelance Writer

Julia Pompilius '14, Freelance Writer

Oftentimes, the word "feminist" has many negative connotations associated with it. Many shy away from being labeled a feminist because of what they are told--both from the media and their peers--being a feminist means. However, the term feminism simply means equality of genders. More and more frequently, women have been claiming that they are not feminists in an effort to distance themselves from stereotypes that surround the word, such as being a "man hater." It does not help that popular celebrities constantly reject classifying themselves as feminists. During an acceptance speech for receiving the Woman of the Year prize in the music industry, Katy Perry recently said, "I am not a feminist, but I do believe in the strength of women." What strength can a woman achieve, though, if she is not equal to a man? If more women, and men for that matter, understood the true meaning of the word, perhaps we would be living in a much more accepting society.

Though many might claim that sexism is no longer present today, it is shockingly so. By labeling feminists as angry women who are unable to listen to any other perspectives, people are only narrowing the scope of the issue. While some feminists may fit these labels, it is an overstatement to assume that all feminists do. One does not need to fit a certain mold in order to be a feminist--one only needs to believe in equality. If there is a better understanding from a younger age, then there will be more support for the advancement of women.

We interviewed some of our peers to see what they think about the issue. One female junior said that she would describe herself as a feminist because she believes that "women are people." Although she is confident in her decision to identify as a feminist, she says that she has been told multiple times that she will never find a boyfriend. While some students agree with this junior, many do not. Some young people, even if they are not resentful of the term, are reluctant to support it. This is because they only believe in the certain kind of feminism that is broadcast to them, a kind in which their girlfriends don't wear make-up and actively participate in protests. Many students at BHS have adopted this mindset. One male senior said that he does not identify as a feminist because he does not "know enough about the issue." He, along with many others, is under the misapprehension that supporting feminism does not support his own interests, and it is not so far-fetched of an idea. We are told that if a man self identifies as a feminist, he must be wildly radical and go against American ideals of masculinity. This is where the real issue lies--believing that feminism is something foreign and controversial when it should just be common sense. Like our interviewee so wisely said, "women are people," and that's that.



Photo courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

Should we keep up with the Joneses?

Ty Eldridge '14, Assistant Photo Editor

In a society where people are influenced by those surrounding them, it can be hard not to try and keep up with the hottest trends. Our society revolves around conspicuous consumption; a big part of our culture is “don’t stop shopping until you’ve gone broke.” Advertisements, media, celebrities and even our own friends influence our aspirations to obtain the latest and greatest product. This is known by some as “Keeping up with the Joneses.”

The phrase originates from the comparison to ones neighbor as a ranking for social scale. When one fails to “keep up with the Joneses”, it is viewed as having socio-economic or cultural inferiority. It is time to stop trying to keep up with them because they don’t exist in a world where satisfaction seems unattainable.

We all think we know the “Joneses”— they’re the ones who have just gotten back from a two week long trip to Europe, bought their youngest kid a BMW and purchased brand new iPads for the whole family. The Joneses are effortlessly fashionable and always go out to eat at their favorite restaurants every night spending 100 dollars on dinner. Looking at them, people wonder, “How can they do that?” Honestly, when thinking about blowing money, logically, it is not worth it. As young adults, we create artificial qualities of what it means to be rich and we try to attain that, going after false ideals of how to be “posh” or high class. Celebrities have enslaved the teenage mind to materialistic items. We spend tons of money or even our parents’ money trying to have what we see celebrities wearing, like Timbs, leather pants and muscle t-shirts.

We dream up a fantasy, a fantasy that the trendy, rich “Joneses” have got it all together and their life is totally peachy. We watch Daddy Jones (or maybe someone

he has hired) water the grass of his 6,000 square foot home, while Daughter Jones twirls over to her Mercedes Benz convertible, and Mother Jones sits on the porch in her vintage swinging chair in bliss because we assume she simply has no job and that she shops all day. We fail to think that maybe their money comes from a paycheck and maybe a paycheck comes from a job. Basing “rich” ideas on what kind of car people drive or how big their home is, leads us to develop the desire to live like who think are rich. Teenagers are hypnotized into conformity because our idea of being rich looks good. We, as teenagers, assume those people have got all the goods; and the money and thus, they are definitely happy. The Joneses appear to be satisfied, so we aim to gain what they have. “People try and fit in, spending a lot of money so that they can feel equal,” senior Mariah Brown said. In almost a surreal world, the Joneses are characterized by the achievable ideal that money comes easily. Society places this false idea of what it means to be rich on a pedestal, and we are all scrambling to reach something that is beyond our means.

As teenagers, we fail to develop saving habits because we always want more of everything. Trying to achieve the ultimate Jones-like lifestyle may seem simple when you are cashing out in the mall, flashing your debit card, or maybe even digging into your wallet and scrapping change together just to get a new shirt from Nordstrom. I have been there, putting pennies, nickels and quarters together with my few bucks trying to buy my first pair of UGGS just

because I saw that every teenage girl around me had a pair. Most teens sit around googling outfits that a specific celebrity would wear and then thinking “I’m going to get an outfit similar to theirs, if not the same.” In reality, the grass isn’t always greener. Materialistic items will never leave anyone content. Spending all of our money will only lead to disappointment, which causes us to keep spending money until we reach our desired level of happiness— a Joneses lifestyle. While teenagers and families are supposed to be saving for college and other important things, they are attempting to live like the “Joneses.”

Attempting to keep up with people like the “Joneses” will only lead to disappointment even if teens do get what they want. Once you get what you want, you will find something else to want because someone else has it, leading to more money that is spent. You’ll have a better life if you forget about what other people think and hold onto what you know is true. Stuff will never make you happy; more is never enough. Trim your wants and do some soul searching and ask yourself what satisfaction really means. Just remember if it cannot be bought outright, then you should not be buying it. “As long as you are comfortable and happy, that’s all that should matter,” Brown added. Contentment comes from within. When one is content with themselves, it is easier to be content with life and what you have but when one tries to endlessly match others’ goods, that perfect state of contentment is unattainable. It is your money, so spend it wisely. Stop trying to keep up with the Joneses, because it is a fantasy ultimately unattainable in the world of reality.



Photo courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

18-year-old decides what job he will hate for the next 50 years

Rostyslav Yeshchenko '14, Senior Copy Editor

Local soon-to-graduate senior has been given a unique opportunity to personally choose what he will hate doing for the next 50 years. Senior Jacob Foster who was recently been accepted to Michigan State University for the fall of 2014, was presented with a lengthy list of available areas of work he will start to hate four years later. The university’s admission officer Alexander Clayton said that, “I think it’s important for our youth to make this selection in such early stage of their life so that they could have more time hating what they do as they get older. Just a month ago, these kids had to ask permission to go to the bathroom and now they need to make a life changing decision. It is the perfect timing.” Foster is currently undecided. “I mean, I am investing \$100,000 and four years of my life on this decision; I must find something good to hate,” Foster said.

Clayton said it is common for students to change the job prospective area they will hate doing sometime during their college career. “We have many students like that. One girl, for example, originally decided she will hate working in accounting, but now she wants to hate working as a nurse,” Clayton commented. Many students change the field in which they plan to be miserable in multiple times, and some lucky students even decide to study two things that they will hate in their future. Most though, will come to college undecided, so that they can explore all fields of studies and choose the one they will hate the least.

Lloyd Carr: Legendary Wolverine nearly a legendary Bear

Jake Rothman '14, Editor-in-Chief

The Harrison Hawks, Brother Rice Warriors, and Detroit Catholic Central Shamrocks have all, as high school programs, reached the pinnacle of MHSAA football in large part due to the legendary careers of three great coaches. John Herrington, Al Fracassa and Tom Mach are all legendary leaders that propelled their football programs to repeated success in their tenures. While the Berkley Bears cannot necessarily be mentioned in the same conversation as these three regional football powerhouses, there was a time when excellence on the gridiron was in the hands of the BHS athletic department.

Now, BHS's athletic department cannot be blamed for letting one of the most transcendent coaches in college football history slip through their fingers. After all, who could have guessed that former Head Football Coach of the Michigan Wolverines, Lloyd Carr, would be sitting across the interview table from them? Yes, you heard me right. The Bears' football program had the opportunity to run under the regime of mastermind Lloyd Carr.

At an event back in February, I ran into the former Wolverine coach and, upon informing him that I attend BHS, I heard a story that would put any football fan into shock. Carr told me that in the 1960s, while he was just an assistant looking for a head coaching job at any high school, he noticed a job opening to lead the Berkley Bears. Carr recounted earning an interview with our school, but believe it or not, he did not

receive the job. Was it the opportunity that could have propelled our football program into the ranks of some of the best in the state of Michigan? We will never know.

However, it is certain that with the vision and passion for the game the Carr possessed, our program could not have faltered under his leadership. Surely, the rejection did not inhibit Carr's career as he went on to coach the Michigan Wolverines for 13 seasons, finishing his career with a record of 122-40 and capturing the 1997 national championship.

In the end, the Bears didn't end up suffering from the loss too much as the program has been relatively successful over the past few decades. With Carr's fantastic leadership skills it is sure that he would have left the Bears' team shortly, but it still would have been nice if our football team was graced with the presence of the immaculate coaching skills of Mr. Lloyd Carr.



Photo courtesy of Creative Commons

The Bears missed out on a coaching legend.

Red Wings surge into the playoffs, again

Josh Segall '17, Co-Circulation Manager

Considering the horrid Lions, the previously struggling Tigers, and disgraceful Pistons, Detroit's athletic backbone since the early 90's has undoubtedly been its Red Wings. The Red Wings finished this season qualifying for the eighth and final spot in the playoffs, which is something that they are not very accustomed to, usually having finished amongst the top seeds. Nonetheless, the Hockeytown heroes found a way to overcome many of the obstacles they faced this season to make it to their twenty-third consecutive postseason.

The obvious excuse for the Red Wings' inadequate performance this season is the injury bug. Elite young defenseman Danny DeKeyser, out of Western Michigan University, was injured near the end of the 2013 season and injured his shoulder on Nov. 20 of this year, which put him on the injury reserve list and hurt an already depleted defensive unit. Goaltender Jimmy Howard, in spite of his inconsistent play, has been in and out of the lineup all year due to a nagging knee injury. The two most crucial injuries that hit the Wings this year were center Pavel Datsyuk, who is considered to be the most talented player on the team and one of the most skilled centers in the league, and forward Henrik Zetterberg, who is the captain of the team.

This season was especially unique because it was Detroit's first season moving from the Western Conference into the Eastern Conference. The East is full of talent, including the defending Eastern Conference Champions, the Boston Bruins, and other perennial powerhouses like the Pittsburgh Penguins and the Tampa Bay Lightning. One of the benefits of playing in the East is competing in more games against the Penguins, which are always fun due to the increased intensity of play. As far as other benefits of the Wings moving to the Eastern Conference, freshman Adam Cohn said, "It allows us

and [the Blackhawks] to meet in the Stanley Cup." The Blackhawks are the only Original Six team to remain in the Western Conference, which of course means the Red Wings will get more matchups against the other four members of the Original Six. The downfall, however, is that there was fewer games in the regular season against the Blackhawks who are known as the primary rival to the Wings, and who belong to the Western Conference. The Red Wings vs. Blackhawks matchup is an Original Six rivalry that is and has been among the best in all of hockey.

From Steve Yzerman, Brendan Shanahan, Nick Lidstrom and Dominik Hasek, to Datsyuk, Zetterberg, Niklas Kronwall and Jimmy Howard, all these exceptional Red Wings have carried on the historic playoff streak that has now gone on for 23 straight seasons. Of course, the head of the whole operation was former head coach Scotty Bowman, and is now head coach Mike Babcock, who has been selected for many honors such as being the head coach of the Canadian National Men's hockey team. The face of the modern 2000s Red Wings was Yzerman, who became captain of the team at the raw age of just 21, which makes him the youngest player to be named captain in NHL history. Yzerman helped pave the way for the Red Wings future, including molding Datsyuk and Zetterberg into the star players and leaders they are today.

One positive takeaway from this rocky season is that the Red Wings are definitely well prepared for the future. Notable young players that have stepped up are DeKeyser, forward Joakim Andersson and forward Tomas Jurco. However, the two biggest young stars for the Wings, and arguably the whole NHL, are wingers Tomas Tatar and Gustav Nyquist. Tatar's unconventional and dangerous style of play makes him a spectacle to watch as his trickery

produces great numbers. Tatar completed this season with 19 goals and 20 assists to finish with 39 total points. It has been a very emotional season for Tatar as his father passed away in January. Tatar honors his father with a salute to the sky after almost every goal he scores. Nyquist has been simply outstanding this year and is showing potential similar to the skillset that Datsyuk had shown when he was younger. Nyquist, standing just five feet ten inches tall, is not afraid to play physical and take chances on the ice. His deadly wrist shot sparked a good streak in mid-March, which led the Wings on a late-season surge into the postseason. Nyquist's impressive moves around defenders and quick shot release have drawn comparisons to Datsyuk, of course, along with center Patrick Kane of the Blackhawks and Los Angeles Kings winger Marian Gaborik. His talent guided him to lead the team with 28 goals, while adding 20 assists to go along with his many snipes. It is evident to any fan of Detroit that Nyquist is the future face of the organization.

As of April 24, the Red Wings' first round playoff series with the Bruins for a spot in the Eastern Conference semifinals is 2-1, Bruins. It is certain that the Red Wings will not be taking these playoffs for granted as they have done most of the past 23 years. This subpar season was not expected by any means, but it is justified by the bad injuries the team continues to overcome. In spite of the low ranking in the postseason, this season should still be considered a success because key pieces for the future of the team were discovered, utilized and improved, in turn setting up a future for Hockeytown that will be as glorious as its past.

*Stats and other information are accurate as of April 24, 2014.

2014 World Cup approaches:

A preview of the host country and the United States

Bennett Hart '16, Sports Editor and Jake Kreinbring '16, Entertainment Editor



★ The U.S. Men's National Soccer team (USMNT) had been relatively successful ever since the 2010 World Cup. After taking most of the year off following the World Cup, manager Bob Bradley decided he was going to quit his job at the helm of the club and become the manager of the Egyptian Men's National team. Following the shocking departure, the U.S. team was forced to hire a new manager and ended up selecting Jürgen Klinsmann, a former World Cup champion who played for the West German squad in 1990.

The North American World Cup qualifying event was fantastic for the USMNT who ended atop the tables, easily claiming a spot in the 2014 World Cup. What made their victory even sweeter was a 2-0 triumph over rival club, Mexico, on Sept. 10, 2013 in Columbus. The USMNT is currently ranked fourteenth internationally and, as a result, has sky high expectations for this year's World Cup.

As the world approaches the upcoming 2014 World Cup, one team seems to be almost head and shoulders above the competition. This team is Brazil. Their young, key players will lead this team to a great year. These key players mostly include the rising star, starting forward Neymar Jr. His unmatched foot skills, as well as his amazing speed, will push their game above the rest, talent-wise. The hosts and favorites to win this year's World Cup are the Brazillians, and this team, consisting of both World Cup rookies alongside veterans will go far, undoubtedly. Their group stage should be a simple warm up for this team; no real challenges should be presented, and even if one should arise, then it will be crushed by the likes of Brazil's forward, Hulk.

Their explosive offense was last seen on the world stage when they demolished the defending champions, Spain, 3-0. The game was sad to watch, especially seeing as Brazil opened the scoring with a goal in the first five minutes. This game sent a message worldwide that Brazil is a force to be reckoned with.



DCFC turns heads of local soccer fans

Jake Kreinbring '16, Entertainment Editor

When one thinks about Detroit sports, they generally do not think about a soccer team being a big deal. The Detroit City Football Club (commonly known as Le Rouge), however, is a big deal. After a conference championship, this team is poised to come into 2014 guns, or feet, blazing.

This young team is in its third season in the National Premier Soccer League (NPSL), which is commonly recognized as a fourth tier league, with the major league soccer (MLS) being considered first tier. The team is composed mostly of college kids as well as local players. This blend leads to a great team that can out work, out muscle, and out play the normally older teams that make up the NPSL. This can be seen in their wonderful 2013 record, which was 11-1-0.

Heading into the 2014 season, many players on the roster have left the team, and with the loss of players comes the addition of talent to a team. Three notable players that will be joining the squad are the three coming from the University of Michigan: Tyler Arnone, William Mellors-Blair and Colin McAtee. These three will add their talents to that of returning players Josh Rogers and Zach Myers. This combination of players will lead to an explosive offense and a lock down defense that will hopefully

lead to another regular season championship in the NPSL.

The team kicked off their season on April 19 with a game against Saginaw Valley State University.

Le Rouge did not disappoint the fans at the game, coming up with a 1-0 win, goal courtesy of Zach Myers. Their offensive power They displayed showed the fans that Detroit will be the attacking powerhouse that they were last year, but the offense was not the only thing that will be explosive this season.

The Northern Guard is the fan section that supports Detroit City, and they are a different breed of fan. The loud, foul mouthed, explosive loving fan base that follows the team religiously attended the preseason game. Although new restrictions have been put into place against the Guard, their performance on the sidelines shows that they will not let the league's restrictions kill the spirit. These fans make the games as fun as they are, and it is recommended, as already strong Berkley Bear Pack fans, to attend as many games as you can.



Photo courtesy of Detroit City Football Club

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What could have been

Shelby Silver '14, Managing Editor

There are thousands upon thousands of topics that I could write about and that you, as the reader, read about, but there are only so many topics that I could write about while still keeping you engaged and entertained. Unfortunately, all of the “good” ideas have been taken by my fellow Spectator staff members in past issues. It is the struggle that many of us, as writers, or even English students face, what with it being called “writer’s block” and all. I decided to turn my dreaded writer’s block into an opportunity. Step inside my mind, my friends, as I take you on a journey through the *Spectator*’s past and what could have been.

It is no secret that senior year is coming to a close for those who are a part of the graduating class of 2014, and it is no secret that we are all suffering from senioritis. I could go on while trying to explain to you all how great the seniors are and how much everyone will miss us along with our victorious loss during Powder-Puff. But alas, that just won’t do. That is too bad it has already been written back in October because that could have been cool.

What I could, maybe, possibly, write about is how the Jews and the Christians came together as one as we celebrated Jesus’s resurrection and the freedom of the Jews who suffered from enslavement in Egypt back in the day. I could explain how the holidays always bring out the best in people and explain when two holidays converge, we end up getting a bit of a history lesson. I mean, who wouldn’t want to bond over matzos and bunnies while telling tales of how Moses conquered the Pharaoh and brought the Jews to Mt. Sinai to create the first ever Torah, while simultaneously talking about how Jesus heroically sacrificed himself to the Romans? Sigh. If only, if only. That is too bad it has already been written about back in November because that could have been cool.

Well, maybe I could flash forward a few thousand years and write about how nostalgic all of us are being about the 90s. It is very confusing to me as to why all of us think the 90s were so great, so why not talk about how bad the 90s were and how great we actually have it nowadays? The TV shows that we all supposedly love and cherish like *Rugrats*, *Full House* and *The Amanda Show* are laughably bad, but for whatever reason, we watch these shows like there is no tomorrow. Along with the bad shows the 90s blessed us with; many of us were without the technology of today; that means no iPhones, no laptops, no GPS systems and no social media. Insert horrifying gasp here. That is too bad it has already been written about back in January because that could have been cool.

This writer’s block is really starting to get the best of me. There is literally nothing to write about that has not already been written. I could, however, write about the word, “literally.” The use of the word is astonishing and is almost as bad as when people say “like” after every other word. Maybe by writing about “literally” I could shed some light on what it actually means. According to the Wikipedia definition of “literally,” it means to take words in their usual or most basic sense without metaphor or allegory. It’s a shame that people use words such as literally, ignorant, like, and arrogant in the wrong context. Tsk, tsk. That is too bad it has already been written in March because that could have been cool.

For some miraculous reason, teens in the 90s thought they were the bee’s knees, but really they were just being thoroughly judged by everyone. Being judged is in a teen’s nature, so maybe I could write about what kids do to seem cool like smoking cigarettes and dressing in a certain way to try and fit in? We all know that in order to fit in at BHS, one must smoke cigarettes and be okay with destroying their adolescent lungs along with showing shoulders every. Single. Day. That is too bad it has already been written about back in February because that could have been cool.

Five great ideas. Five unfortunate let downs. An absurd amount of writer’s block. I could have written about the different fashions of BHS. I could have written about Mr. Weingarden and his glorious ways. I could have written about how music is actually good for studying. I could have written about anything, but there are limited ideas when it comes down to keeping you, as the reader’s, attention. Being a part of the *Spectator* grants one the ability to write about what interests them, what interests the student body, and what is newsworthy, but with all of the original ideas having been taken, what is left? Are the teens of today inept at conjuring up an original idea, or has our imagination gotten smaller and smaller with the commonalities that we share through social media? With technology growing and the students of today growing older, we are growing further and further away from the world of creativity and travelling to a dark and boring abyss, which frankly, does not sound too great. What should happen, and what needs to happen, is that we, as growing adolescents, need to step back and look at our world and what needs to change in order for us to go back to the world of creativity. If we as a whole do take a step back and ask ourselves what we could do differently to go back to being original, we could go from what *could have been* to what *could be*.

Being a cool parent, for dummies

Jake Rothman '14, Editor-in-Chief

We can count on them to maintain our busy schedule, to fill out all the paperwork, to know what food to bring us when we are hungry, and to remind us a million times to clean up the messes we made. Of course these people are our parents but, unfortunately, most high school students do not recognize all the simply amazing things our parents do for us and instead tend to focus on the irritating aspects of the parent-child relationship.

Most of us have progressed from the middle school phenomenon of being too embarrassed by our parents to show our faces in public, but now we resorted to much more distraught interactions. Sadly enough, we have lived up to the Disney Channel portrayal of a teen who is ashamed of their parents and is now reinforcing the tension that many movies predicted for parents and high schoolers. However, while it is certain that all of us will blame our parents for asking us to do too much or just simply getting in our way, another explanation is much more likely. Instead of outsourcing all the fault to our parents, we need to recognize that the pesky questions are our elders’ only way to relate to our complicated lives. Appreciating the effort they put in is the slice of satisfaction they need to finally look “cool” to us.

Our parents tirelessly ask us questions and concern themselves with our lives and we, unfortunately, understand that care and curiosity as our parents butting into business that is above their clearance level. But, again, they are our parents and their status as legal guardians gives them the assumed right to intrude into our lives. Even though we have heard it a million times, being a parent is their job. Constantly pestering us has become the only way for parents to talk to us without receiving the eye roll, shoulder shrug or barely responsive grunt. The never-ending effort to appeal to children consumes parents at every stage of their adult lives. After all, they were able to relate to us when we were younger when we could talk to them about anything and everything on our minds. But now that we have progressed through high school and are likely hiding many things from our parents, we have become more secretive and sneaky which, subsequently, evokes arguments. Giving parents credit where it is due is a relatively unpracticed method for today’s high school students. But making an effort to hold a conversation and stay interested in your life is more than we do for them.

Growing up, everyone adopts the thought that they will be the first cool parents to transcend this planet, finding a way to somehow recognize how to perfectly relate to that generation’s children. The struggle to avoid the stage of parenthood where all you are, amidst the tireless efforts to better your kids’ future, is a nuisance, is at the center of what everyone wants to accomplish as their children move through high school. Our parents likely thought they were catching on to the future of music when bands like The Beatles and The Rolling Stones revolutionized the music scene and introduced a new style of music to their ears. However, as our parents grew from young teenagers, whose Rock n’ Roll music could not be comprehended by their traditionalist parents, they lost touch with what was new and appealing to kids. Our grandparents likely could not discover why they could not relate to their children who had revolutionized their generation through a new style of music. We have been raised valuing the advances of technology and have again widened the relate-ability gap between us and our parents. We enjoy sitting in front of our computer or TV for hours, watching websites that put all of our favorite shows in to one place. When our parents were kids they thought that because they were up to date with the most recent societal advances, they would be those cool parents. Our elder become confused as they cannot decipher why we do not go and play outside like they did, just as their parents (our grandparents) could not discover why they listened to an alternative kind of music.

These situations are similar when noticing that this feeling of desire to remain cool is perpetually craved. Commonly, being the cool parent is unattainable by any generation of children because we both hold different ideas of what is “in.” Accepting that society moves at too quick of a pace to keep up with is the first step for parents. As it turns out, the parent that cares least about keeping up with fast-pace social norms and, instead, invests their time in improving their children’s lives turns out to be the most productive. Discovering that being the cool parents is a not accomplishable task will likely be perplexing for all of us who believe that we can redefine parental limitations. In actuality, being cool by parental standards has nothing to do with listening to the same music or having similar extracurricular interests. Rather, being a cool parent is centered around not being the happenin’ elder who gets down with the current lingo and is up to the minute in technological advancements. Instead, you must be invested in your kids’ lives so that they are set up to be successful in their own life. Although this strategy of parenting will surely provoke more than a few arguments, your kids will thank you just as we will thank our parents for raising us to be better people and not focusing on keeping pace with our trendy interests. It is a bittersweet reality, but to be cool, they must actually be what we consider the lamest of lame: pesky, bothering parents.