Franklin Holds Walkout and Town Hall on One Month Anniversary of Florida School Shooting

Ms. Boyd, a teacher at Franklin, stated: “It is heartening to see young people so engaged in bringing the community together, and I am very proud of our Franklin High School students.”

Later that night, including a protest strictly on gun laws after school, a community town hall about school safety was held at Franklin. Parents, teachers, and students were able to come together to express concerns and ask questions to top BCPS administrators and officials. The panel included Mr. McCusker, Brian Schiffer (principal of FMS), Vicky Almond (Councilwomen for Baltimore County Council), a representative for Congressman Dutch Ruppersberger, Officer Bridges (Franklin High School Resource Officer), as well as the BCPS School Safety Administrator. People were encouraged to write questions down that were presented to the panel. Over an hour and a half worth of substantive information and planning was shared with concerned citizens. The two principals let parents and students know how specifically Franklin High and Franklin Middle were improving in school safety, such as bringing back swipe access cards and doors, and potentially adding another SRO officer. Concerns for BCPS safety, that were broader, were voiced to very influential figures such as Viki Almond and a representative for Congressman Dutch Ruppersberger.

Both events brought the community together in what can be defined as a very troubling period in our country’s history. The only way to make change overall is to start locally, which Franklin High School has done. With a united student body and concerned community, these events were very special to those in attendance. Franklin High School students are working towards, and will continue to, fight for change.

By Ryan Harrison

On the one month anniversary of the school shooting that left 17 dead at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, Franklin High School participated in a walkout to honor the victims of the shooting and to protest for stricter gun laws. Franklin High also held a community town hall, open to anyone who wanted to come and ask questions concerning school safety to BCPS officials and administrators. Both events were led by SGA members and inspired students.

The walkout at Franklin was part of a national walkout, in which tens of thousands of students participated. Students held signs in the front of the school with names of the victims from the Florida shooting, and also brought signs protesting stricter gun laws. While Student leaders gave speeches about unifying our school body for standing up against gun violence, it was mainly for paying respects to the victims who died. Every name of those who died in the Florida shooting was read off, and a brief description was given about them. After every name was given, the crowd shouted, “we stand with you!”

The walkout made several news channels, and cars driving by honked in approval. Parents and community members were gathered with students to join the walkout. A moment of silence was held for those who lost their life. Students were able to show their signs and join schools across the country in demanding change.
Franklin High School Choir Singing Their Way up the Ranks

By Melissa Otis

Chorale assessments rolled around March 15, 2018 at Owings Mill High School. The schools that attended the assessments were Franklin High School, Owings Mill High School, Catonsville, and Loch Raven. The assessments consisted of diction, dynamics, stage etiquette, musical interpretation, and melodic and rhythmic sequences.

When Franklin High School’s assessments began, the students were taken to the practice room to do a quick practice of their three songs which were all three traditional songs that were displayed to the judges. The first song, “Cum Sancto Spiritu,” was performed but not judged. The two others that were judged were “Think on Me” and “Hear My Prayer.” When done, the students walked out to either go on stage and present the songs, or wait in the hallway until the other schools’ choirs finished themselves. During the performance, the singers needed to focus their eyes on the conductor, and to focus their attention on their diction, dynamics, musical interpretation, and stage etiquette. If not focused on these things, they wouldn’t look or sound presentable, and points would be marked off the score.

The highest overall score to be given is a 1, and the lowest to be given was a 4 for the songs. The score that was given out to Franklin High School Choir was a 2 overall.

The Shooting Heard Across the Nation

By Zach Simons

On February 14th, Nikolas Cruz, a 19-year-old former student of the school, ended the lives of 17 innocent people. He did so with an AR-15, a semiautomatic gun. The Stoneman Douglas shooting brought out reaction across America.

Celebrities have used their platform to speak out. Actress Amy Schumer (mostly known for her roles in “Train Wreck” and “Dying Laughing”) posted a picture on her Instagram that had five steps outlining how to replace elected officials with ones who will do things to prevent another fatal school shooting. Reese Witherspoon (mostly known for her role in “Mud”) posted a photo of a poster that said, “Protect kids, not guns.” Gal Gadot (mostly known for her role in “Wonder Woman”) then reposted the photo. Ellen DeGeneres brought awareness to the issue on her show, saying, “No words, no actions, no laws are enough until we end this epidemic of school shootings in our country. My heart is with the students and parents of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School.”

Kim Kardashian said, “We owe it to our children and our teachers to keep them safe while at school. Prayers won't do this: action will. Congress, please do your job and protect Americans from senseless gun violence.” Cara Delevingne shared via Instagram a link that leads you to a video of Emma Gonzales, a survivor of the Stoneman Douglas shooting, speaking publicly on the incident. Hillary Clinton said, “Our grief isn’t enough. We can and must put politics aside, stand up to the NRA, and work together to try to stop this from happening again.” These are just some examples of the big name people speaking out; there are many more.

In addition to speaking out, people are taking action too. On March 24th, people gathered to peacefully protest the lack of gun control in America. There were marches on this date all across the country, but the one with the highest attendance and media attention was in the nation’s capital. There were an estimated 850,000 people marching in Washington. There were some guest speakers, including Emma Gonzales. She has been very out-spoken and delivered a powerful speech. Her speech lasted exactly 6 minutes and 30 seconds: the time it took for the shooter to kill 17 people. Cameron Kasky, another Stoneman Douglas student spoke. He said “My generation has spent our entire lives seeing mass shooting after mass shooting.” The speakers stressed how it is important to make this march a movement, not a moment. The march also featured a performance by the Stoneman Douglas choir which sang “Shine,” a song that they wrote themselves.
Why Fortnite is Taking over the Gaming World

By Jake Hermann

The time from February to April is the most stressful time in the lives of seniors across the nation. It is decision making time in the households of American teenagers everywhere. A financial, social, and life decision is in the hands of the teenagers and their parents as they decide where to spend the next four years of their life.

This year was a record breaking year for applying to colleges. The class of 2018 applied to more schools than any other graduating class in history. The University of Michigan reported that they received over 40,000 early action applications for a class of just over 8,000 students, and that was only early action. Penn State reported that, in total, they received over 80,000 applicants for a rolling decision application pool for a class of just over 8,000. It is getting tougher and tougher for students to get into the school of their dreams.

Franklin High students look to in-state options. Jesal Rami, a senior, applied to four schools: Towson, UMBC, University of Maryland, and Salisbury; all of them have high acceptance rates. Jesal got into all of his state options. Jesal had over 20 million players on their platform and about three million a day, which beats PUBG by over a million.

Epic found itself in a unique position as it stood head to head with PUBG blow up before its eyes, using its own engine, Unreal. Fortnite had been developed as a build-focused defense game for over a decade, but Epic’s flexibility allowed it to experiment with its own spin on a Battle Royale mode. Make a map full of destructible objects, use the shooting controls and building mechanics of the original Fortnite, and you have your own Battle Royale title on the market just as the genre is really starting to heat up. This has upset PUBG and its creators because they came out with their shooter game before Fortnite, but you can’t copyright a genre. Epic happened to be at the right place at the right time with the right engine to work with.

People are beginning to believe that a large part of Fortnite’s success is because of its cartoony, almost Pixar presentation. Not that PUBG is a terrible looking game, but it does blend in with a landscape of other realism-based shooters, where Fortnite clearly stands out. And because of its cartoony nature, they’ve been able to go all out with creative skins and weapons like boogie bombs, guided missiles, and loot llamas.

Fortnite has been given even higher revenue by the gaming live stream company, Twitch, who support millions of broadcasts daily and have appointed their Fortnite King, Tyler Blevins, aka Ninja. Ninja recently in a news interview with CNBC revealed his monthly income of over $500,000 from his Twitch subscriptions and Amazon Prime subscriptions. He streams daily for his usual audience of about 300,000 people on average and holds the record for most people watching a single stream after he played Fortnite alongside world-renowned, Grammy award-winning artist Drake with Travis Scott and Steelers rookie wide receiver JuJu Smith-Schuster.

April: Seniors’ Decision-Making Time

By Matt Stine

Unless you have been living under a rock the past few months, you know that Epic’s Fortnite: Battle Royale has taken over the world. The game has attracted players at an insane rate. Once a rival to Player Unknown’s Battlegrounds, aka PUBG, it now has overcome its rival. Past that, more people are playing Fortnite than any other shooter game on the market right now, from Call of Duty to CS:GO to Battlefield.

The original Fortnite covers when the game was released to Destiny. The game’s takeover has been similar to the one of the app Pokémon Go back in the summer of 2016: both games had so many people downloading it that it broke the initial servers of the game itself. Fortnite has had over 20 million players on their platform and about three million a day, which beats PUBG by over a million.

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Liberal Roseanne Barr voted for Trump

By Kennedy Allen

Roseanne Barr has always been known as a feisty liberal who’s always shaking things up and pushing the boundaries, but with the new release of her rebooted show “Roseanne” some of her political views have come to light. Barr’s social media presence is beloved by pro-Donald Trump supporters. Her posts are even reposted on Trump internet mainstays. Barr’s activity on the Trump internet has recently increased due to the upcoming reboot release of “Roseanne.” Barr has since denied being a liberal, tweeting, “4 those who wonder-back in the day when I was called a ‘liberal’ by journalists, I used to answer ‘I’m not a Liberal, I’m a radical!’ & I still am-I voted Trump to shake up the status quo & the staid establishment.” Barr began a heated argument with Liberals on twitter, which resulted in her threat of retirement. Many of her ex-fans have admitted how disappointed they are in Roseanne’s new political choices, saying, “So hurtful and sad. I used to adore you [Roseanne]...You have broken the hearts of so many fans with this nonsense.” Also during her twitter rant, Roseanne has expressed many of her anti-Semitic views, insisting that Jewish people are the reason for America’s political, financial, and social instability. Barr also was asked to pose in a satirical news article where she was dressed as Hitler and was depicted eating “burning Jews.” Roseanne is jeopardizing the success of her “Roseanne” reboot greatly. On twitter the hash tag “#boycottroseanne” became very popular. After realizing how much damage she was causing her reboot, she deleted all of her tweets and announced that she was taking a social media break.

Stephen Hawking: One of the Most Remarkable Men that has walked this Earth

By Andrew Gersh

The name Stephen Hawking is very recognizable among most people, but many students do not really understand why that is. It was remarkable to hear what people thought about Hawking considering many could not say what he has done in his career. When asked about his accomplishments, many students stated how he was a strong scientist that lived with ALS, which is true. However, there was not a single student (of those interviewed) that could explain or even state one of his scientific accomplishments. This poses the question of if he would actually have been this famous if it were not for his medical condition. The sad truth is that of all the amazing discoveries and theories he has made, he is really known as a fighter of ALS. However Hawking should be known for his greatest accomplishment of black holes not being completely black (opposing Einstein’s theory that they were completely black). What is now called “Hawking Radiation” is what he believed to be the reason why things can possibly make it out of a black hole (TIME).

Throughout his career, he has made many notable discoveries such as the idea that the current laws of physics must be tied to the historic “Big Bang” that everyone has heard about. All students could tell the general idea of the Big Bang, but they could not say that Hawking has worked on it. This is something that students must be educated on so that Hawking’s legacy lives on rather than just being “that famous guy with ALS.” As previously said, when asking students about Hawking, the vast majority could not say anything about him. However, some interesting responses were given. Sophomore Reid Jones did know that he was tied to the Big Bang and actually disliked and disagreed with him because of it. He said, “[Hawking’s] ideas of the Big Bang directly contradict the Christian views of creation, so I cannot agree with him.” This is a very interesting point because due to the numbers of Christians in this world, there may be a lot of people who directly disagree with Hawking’s beliefs.

Aside from the controversy and opinions, it is still extremely important to know who this man was on a scientific level instead of a personal level. Hawking also advanced the knowledge on black holes describing them as an area in which gravity is so strong that time stops (TIME). Also, he was a notable author who wrote books such as A Brief History of Time in order to spread these scientific discoveries for the sake of education rather than personal benefit. Whether a person believes all of Hawking’s theories or not, everyone should be able to agree that his life and accomplishments should be respected and his legacy should live on as a very intelligent and curious man who contributed to science on a high level.
Beyoncé and Jay-Z are On the Run Again with Their New Summer Tour

The couple’s second time on a joint tour of their own, taking place about 4 years after the On the Run Tour I that kicked off in the summer of 2014. Although it’s been quite a break since the duo has toured together, neither of them have been too far estranged from a stage at all! Beyoncé concluded her Formation World Tour not even 2 years ago in October 2016 and Jay-Z is fresh off the stage of his 4:44 Tour that only ended last December!

A speculation that came out of this tour’s announcement was that the couple is expected to release new music to go along with the tour. Many people are weighing the possibility that the two are releasing a joint album to perform songs from on their joint tour. This speculation comes from the thought that it would be a little too soon for them to release their own individual projects. HOV only dropped his 4:44 album last June and Beyoncé’s Lemonade project isn’t even two years old yet. While that aspect of the tour may be unclear, the exact dates are out and the first leg starts up on June 6 in Cardiff, UK to kick off the European installment of the tour. The North American leg will begin on July 25 in Cleveland, OH.

To find out when music’s most dynamic duo will perform in a town near you, all of the dates are currently on www.ticketmaster.com!

Virgil Abloh Named Artistic Director of Luis Vuitton’s Men’s Line

Virgil Abloh was born on September 30th in Chicago, Illinois to Ghanaian immigrant parents. His mother was a seamstress and he quickly learned the ins and outs of fashion. Abloh graduated from the University of Wisconsin with a degree in Civil Engineering. It is rumored that he skipped one of his final classes before graduation to meet with Kanye West’s manager at the time: John Monopoly.

By Myles Jay Wortman
On the morning of March 12 2018, the music industry’s biggest power couple announced and released the dates of the On the Run Tour II. This is the first clothing line called Pyrex. He purchased dead-stock flannel shirts from Polo and screen-printed “Pyrex” and the number twenty-three on the back. The shirts were a hit and were worn by Hip Hop’s biggest stars. Only a year later, Abloh discontinued “Pyrex” to start his break-out brand “Off-White.”

By Jake Hermann
On Monday, March 26, Virgil Abloh, formerly the founder of his own Milan-based brand Off-White, was named the Artistic Director of Luis Vuitton’s men’s line. This is not only a huge step in Abloh’s career, but also a groundbreaking move to equality in fashion. He will be the first black Artistic Director of a major luxury brand. Virgil Abloh’s career has been a whirlwind of success and he continues to show his hand in art, fashion, and pop-culture.

Abloh’s fashion career took off in 2009 when he interned with Kanye West at Fendi in Rome. Louis Vuitton CEO, Michael Burke, said “I was really impressed with how Abloh brought a whole new vibe to the studio and were disruptive in the best way. Virgil could create a metaphor and a new vocabulary to describe something as old-school as Fendi. I have been following his career ever since.”

Abloh has worked with a slew of Hip Hop artists including Jay-Z and Kanye West on Watch the Throne and Lil Uzi Vert on Luv is Rage 2 making his mark in the music industry. In 2012, Abloh started his first clothing line called “Pyrex.” He purchased dead-stock flannel shirts from Polo and screen-printed “Pyrex” and the number twenty-three on the back. The shirts were a hit and were worn by Hip Hop’s biggest stars. Only a year later, Abloh discontinued “Pyrex” to start his break-out brand “Off-White.”

Abloh describes his brand as “the gray area between black and white as the color Off-White.” Off-White takes off when Beyonce is seen wearing an Off-White shirt and Nicki Minaj wears Off-White in her music video for Feeling Myself. Over the course of 2017, Abloh and Off-White had many successes throughout 2017 partnering with the World’s top designers, jewelers, and artists, but Off-White’s biggest success was “The 10.” Abloh partnered with Nike to recreate ten sneaker silhouettes with the concept of deconstructed sneakers in their most basic form.

It is an honor for me to accept this position. I find the heritage and creative integrity of the house are key inspirations and will look to reference them both while drawing parallels to modern times.” It will be exciting to see what Virgil Abloh will bring to Luis Vuitton and the fashion world. He has made a big splash in the pop-culture world but sky is the ceiling for Abloh and his potential for greatness is endless.

Virgil Abloh Given a Lecture to a Sold-Out Audience at the Harvard Graduate School of Design. (Hypebeast.com)
Final Four

By Douglas Ditto

The 2018 NCAA Tournament truly captured the spirit of “March Madness” as it saw the first ever 16 seed over 1 seed upset in the history of the tournament, an 11 seed in the Final Four, and tons of clutch plays. The Final Four consisted of Loyola-Chicago, Michigan, Kansas, and Villanova. One of the biggest stories of the tournament occurred when local University of Maryland Baltimore County which was a 16 seed (the lowest possible seed) defeated number one overall seed University of Virginia.

The biggest surprise in the Final Four was the University of Loyola-Chicago who were making their first tournament appearance since 1985. Although none of the players have NBA teams salivating over them and no one is a household name, the Ramblers have gotten to this point by making clutch plays and playing hard team basketball as well as being a great three point shooting team. The team has also had 98-year-old team Chaplain Sister Jean, who prays with the team before games and has gone viral. The Ramblers got to the Final Four with impressive victories over University of Miami (FL), University of Tennessee, University of Nevada, and Kansas State University. The first three of those victories came by a combined 4-point margin. Their Cinderella run has been one of the most surprising and exciting in recent memory drawing some comparisons to the 2011 VCU (Virginia Commonwealth University) team, which also was an 11 seed that made the Final Four. A unique stat about the team is that they have gotten to this point without any players averaging more than 13 points per game. The Ramblers are taking on the number 3 seeded Michigan Wolverines, a major college basketball power with 8 Final Four appearances in school history.

The Michigan Wolverines came into the tournament following a Big Ten Tournament victory. Led by big man Moritz Wagner, a native of Germany, the Wolverines have won 13 games in a row and are trying to win their second national championship in program history. They got to the Final Four with wins over the University of Montana, a last second victory over the University of Houston, Texas A&M, and Florida State University. Jordan Poole delivered one of the best shots of the tournament in Michigan’s improbable win over Houston as he made a highly contested 3 pointer as time expired. Big Blue and Poole will play Loyola-Chicago in the Final Four.

The Kansas Jayhawks were one seed heading into the tournament led by seniors Devonte Graham and Svi Myhailuk as well as hall of fame coach Bill Self. Graham and Myhailuk have finally reached the Final Four for the first time in their careers after 3 years of heartbreaking losses in the tournament. Kansas beat Ivy League winner University of Pennsylvania, Seton Hall, Clemson, and another college basketball blue blood, Duke. The Kansas-Duke game was considered one of the best college games in recent history and an instant classic. The game went into overtime and featured tons of future NBA players like Marvin Bagley III, Wendell Carter Jr., Grayson Allen, Myhailuk, Graham, and more. The Jayhawks will face Villanova in what is sure to be a great game between two one seeds.

The Villanova Wildcats won the NCAA Championship just two years ago and still have members of that terrific 2015-16 season. Point guard Jalen Brunson was just awarded National Player of the Year and was named a First Team All-American. Brunson also has fellow star Mikal Bridges who was on the championship team as well as Eric Paschall and Donte DiVincenzo who play significant roles for the team. If the Wildcats can win, head coach Jay Wright and Brunson will surely go down as one of the best point guard/coach duos in recent history.

UMBC Retrievers: A True Underdog Story

By Ryan Harrison

Before the annual NCAA Tournament started for college basketball, no one knew who UMBC was. Two weeks later, they are at the forefront of every sports channel. This was made possible due to them pulling off the greatest upset in college basketball history. A 16 seed has never beaten a 1 seed in the tournament. Never. Before this year, 1 seeds were 132-0 to 16 seeds. Now they are 1-35-1.

UMBC defeated top overall seed Virginia 74-54 in the first round. The Retrievers earned their NCAA Tournament bid by winning the America East Tournament. At halftime, they were tied. Then, after a few quick scoring runs and forcing turnovers, they led by as many as 20 points on route to the 20-point win. Senior guard Jairus Lyles scored 28 points to lead UMBC. They entered the game as a 20.5-point underdog to the Cavaliers, who were also the ACC regular-season and tournament champions. The Retrievers had made only one NCAA appearance before this year.

The Retrievers did not just come up clutch against Virginia. They came off a game winning three by Lyles to beat the 1 seed Vermont Catamounts in the America East Tournament Championship. This was the only way they were going to earn a spot in the NCAA tournament. Vermont held the country’s longest winning streak coming into this game with 15 straight. UMBC entered the day’s proceedings without a win over the Catamounts in a decade and one day. The dagger to win the title game propelled them into a matchup vs Virginia that mostly everyone paid little to no attention to.
By Matt Stine

Lebron’s Free Agency has been in major discussion since his decision to leave his hometown of Akron in 2010 for the Miami Heat. James has recently come out and expressed his future free agency status and has decided that the only teams he will be looking to go to this offseason will be the Philadelphia 76ers, Houston Rockets, and Los Angeles Lakers. It is believed that if Lebron and the Cavaliers don’t finish this season as NBA champions then Lebron is undoubtedly out of Cleveland in order for him to collect his fourth ring.

Los Angeles:

If the arguably greatest player in the game is going to join a team like the Lakers that didn’t even make the playoffs in the season prior, then one of two things must happen – and preferably both. First, another top-tier free agent like Paul George must decide to join him. Secondly, the core that’s already there had better show some serious promise heading into the summer of The Decision, Part III. Since Jan. 7, the Lakers not only won 18 of 26 games but did so while giving us reason to believe the progress should continue. They have the league’s 10th-best defensive rating and the 12th-best offensive rating during that span. The turnaround began on the day that LaVar Ball, father of rookie Lonzo, told ESPN that second-year coach Luke Walton had lost the team. The Lakers also basically gave Lebron’s Cavaliers Larry Nance and Jordan Clarkson at the trade deadline that have both taken over their roles while on the Lakers and have excelled on the Cavs.

Houston Rockets:

If winning it all is Lebron’s first and last priority, it doesn’t get any easier than joining soon-to-be MVP James Harden. He and his best friend, nine-time All-Star Chris Paul in Houston. As the NBA community has collected back in early December, the Rockets are a possible landing spot for James. Add in the fact they’ve won 17 games in a row and look capable of threatening the Golden State Warriors’ throne, and in-season recruitments don’t get much better than this. The Rockets will need to clear up some cap space in role players like Ryan Anderson, Eric Gordon, and Trevor Ariza. If they don’t feel comfortable getting rid of the role players that do their jobs right, then they would need to hope that Harden or Paul will agree to a pay cut like Kevin Durant did this season.

Philadelphia 76ers:

Lebron James alongside Joel Embiid, Ben Simmons (who shares the same agent, Rich Paul, with James), Dario Saric and J.J. Redick sound tantalizing and would automatically make the Sixers a favorite in the Eastern Conference. James also has been complimentary of Sixers coach Brett Brown’s work with the team. The Sixers have salary cap work to do if they want to offer James a max salary, but it’s feasible to get there. When considering James’ legacy, think about this if he decided to play for the Sixers, a proud franchise with history (Julius Erving, Wilt Chamberlain, Allen Iverson, and Moses Malone) and a passionate fan base. The Sixers have won three titles but not one since 1983, and James would help revive the franchise, possibly bringing the Sixers another NBA title.

Inspirational Paralympic Stories

By Justin Magaziner

Although it may not be as popular as the Olympics, the Paralympics provide us with some of the most motivational stories we could imagine. For those who do not know, the Paralympics feature athletes with disabilities ranging from disfigured or amputated limbs, blindness, or skeletal disease. It always follows the Olympic Games and is hosted by the same city.

Amy Purdy

For Thomas Walsh, his disability came when he was diagnosed with Ewing’s Sarcoma, an extremely rare type of cancer that grows in bones or the soft tissue around bones. As a result, Walsh was forced to have part of his pelvis and lungs removed. The doctors told him that he would never again be able to compete in his favorite sport, skiing. Growing up in Colorado, he started skiing at a very young age, and became very talented in competitions. This is where he met Mikaela Shiffrin. They became good friends and were both planning on going to snowboarding schools in Vermont. Throughout his fight, Shiffrin was extremely supportive. The two even went to prom together. He had been completely out of skiing until he watched Shiffrin become the youngest Olympic slalom champion in history which motivated him to try to compete in Paralympic events the next winter.

Amy Purdy is one of the most well known Paralympic athletes. She is a double amputee as she lost both legs in 1999 when she had bacterial meningitis. She competes in snowboarding. In Sochi, she won a bronze medal for snowboard cross, and in Pyeongchang she won a bronze for banked slalom and silver for snowboard. Outside of competition, she does motivational speaking, writing, and she even started her own clothing line.
NFL Free Agency and Signings

By Jacob McCarthy

The NFL free agent signings and trades have shocked many football fans. After a crazy finish in the super bowl this past season, players and owners were looking to maximize their potential and try to hoist the championship trophy. The first free agent to sign this off-season was Chris Baker, he agreed to a one-year $3 million contract with the Cincinnati Bengals. The next day the football world was shocked when the Broncos agreed to trade their star corner back Aqib Talib to the Los Angeles Rams for a 2018 fifth-round pick.

The most pitiful team in the NFL, known as the Cleveland Browns, made some very nice improvements to their roster even after their star offensive lineman Joe Thomas. The first deal they made was with the Buffalo Bills, they gave away their 65th overall pick for pro-bowl quarterback Tyrod Taylor. On the same day the team decided to exchange their quarterback DeShone Kizer for CB Damarious Randle of the Green Bay Packers. They also traded their DT Danny Shelton to the New England Patriots for a conditional pick.

The Browns aren’t the only team making a lot of moves this off-season. Multiple teams have been making some key adjustments to their roster. The Panthers re-signed DT Julius Peppers on a one-year deal for around $4.25 million. The Titans signed guard Josh Cline to a four-year deal worth $26 million, $12 million guaranteed. The New York Jets have been searching for a franchise quarterback for the past few years but now they found the guy they were looking for. The Jets signed former Vikings quarterback Teddy Bridgewater approximately half the $10 million amount that the Jets agreed upon Tuesday to pay Josh McCown on another one-year deal. The Minnesota Vikings have signed Kirk Cousins, The former Washington quarterback for the past few years but now they agreed upon Tuesday to pay Josh McCown on another one-year deal. The Minnesota Vikings have signed Kirk Cousins, The former Washington quarterback for the past few years but now they agreed upon Tuesday to pay Josh McCown on another one-year deal.

Franklin Lacrosse Suffers Early Blow

By Andrew Gersh

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The Browns aren’t the only team making a lot of moves this off-season. Multiple teams have been making some key adjustments to their roster. The Panthers re-signed DT Julius Peppers on a one-year deal for around $4.25 million. The Titans signed guard Josh Cline to a four-year deal worth $26 million, $12 million guaranteed. The New York Jets have been searching for a franchise quarterback for the past few years but now they found the guy they were looking for. The Jets signed former Vikings quarterback Teddy Bridgewater approximately half the $10 million amount that the Jets agreed upon Tuesday to pay Josh McCown on another one-year deal. The Minnesota Vikings have signed Kirk Cousins, The former Washington quarterback for the past few years but now they decided to trade their senior game. The team played Manchester Valley, and they knew this game performance proves that the team can do lot better. The coaches reportedly said, “If the offense scores eight a game, I am confident we [the defense] will be very competitive this season.” Sam’s point was very motivational, and the team held their heads high even though they had just lost.

Next the team faced Liberty, who have been very competitive over the past few seasons. The team knew going into this out-of-conference matchup that it would be one of the harder ones of the season. Due to a lack of getting the ball to the offense and possessing, the defense became very tired very quickly. As a result, the team lost 15-2. This was a demoralizing defeat because the team did not play well and it was on their own turf.

Now it was time for the first regular season game. The team played Manchester Valley, and it did not go in Franklin’s favor. The team knew going into this that it would be difficult but extremely winnable. The team had many reoccurring issues with possessing the ball and running the plays well. The team lost 14-2 in a shocking destruction. This meant that the team was now 0-1 (because the scrimmages do not count towards the record), and they look to improve that drastically with the upcoming matchups which will be played at home.

The next game was against Catonsville, and the team knew this would be a winnable game but a challenge. To keep it brief, the team lost a hard fought game 5-4, but they played a lot better. The coaches reportedly said that this game performance proves that the team can be extremely competitive for the remainder of the season.

To end this report, the team played against Lansdowne, who just recently moved up a division. To boost morale, the team destroyed them 15-1 and are now holding their heads high.