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Franklin High School Takes Home the Class 3A State Championship

By Andrew Gersh

After taking down the Huntingtown Hurricanes, the Franklin High School Varsity Football team advanced to the Class 3A State Championship.

This meant they would face Linganore High School for a chance to win their third state championship in six years and make their mark in history, so the team did not want to disappoint.



The team holds up the Class 3A Championship trophy

Photo Credit: The Baltimore Sun

After going down 7-0 in the first quarter, the Indians were looking for a big play to change the momentum. It was not until the second quarter when Mekai Felton caught a deep touchdown pass to even the score.

"I just did my job just like everyone else on my team," said Mekai Felton when asked about his thoughts as the ball was in the air heading his way on his long touchdown catch.

He also added how he was just thinking "we didn't come this far to just come this far." He did not want to just make it to the state championships but rather take it all the way, and he would do anything in his power to make that happen.

The Indians then made the score 14-7 with well put together drive that was capped off with an 8-yard rush by Elijah Solomon.

Linganore then tied the game up with 4:50 left in the 4th quarter. It was time for Franklin to start their drive.

When asked how he felt while warming up at the kicking net, junior Simon Spath said, "I was ready for it and just kept telling myself to do it how I do it in practice and not to be nervous."

Simon Spath spent the final minutes warming up his leg as he saw his team marching down the field. He knew he had to prepare for a potential game winning field goal attempt if his team did not score a touchdown.

The score being tied 14-14 with two seconds left, Simon Spath ended up going in to attempt the game winning field goal.

The crowd was silent as the kick went up, but the second it soared through the uprights, Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium erupted.

The Importance of Being Earnest, a Franklin Success

By Megan Schanker

This fall on the second and third weekends of November, the theatre program at Franklin High School performed *The Importance of Being Earnest* by Oscar Wilde like never seen before.

The fall play that was chosen this year was a modern spin on a classic tale. The play entails a man named, Jack Worthing living in 1977, Philadelphia living 2 lives. One in the country where he is Jack and has an 18-year-old ward named Cecily, and one in the city where he goes by Earnest and spends his time with Algernon and his fiancé Gwendolen. Jack spends the story trying to keep his 2 lives apart, but mayhem ensues when they collide.

"The story presented a ton of twists that ended up being really funny and entertaining", says Junior, Andrew (Alix) West. "It created an awesome experience while on stage".

The acting in this show made the play come to life, with actors that become their characters. Jack played by Logan Snyder made it appear as if he was the character rather than a person portraying him. Alix West made the audience laugh and smile with his version of Algernon. Other actors such as Emily Signor and

Lilah Henderson, who played Cecily and Gwendolen respectively, took the stage and made it their own by creating a version of their characters that has not been seen before.

"Acting on stage with some of my favorite actors and seeing how I improved since freshman year is a wonderful thing to see and feel", says Junior Logan Snyder.

The Importance of Being Earnest consisted of 9 actors each playing one part in a 2-and-a-half-hour play split into 3 acts. The rest of the theatre program consists of the tech. These are students that are not in the performance but make everything on stage and backstage for the performances. Tech aspects included are props: furniture, hand held items, items that make the set: the walls, paint, costumes, marketing and publicity: posters, shirts, social media; lights, sound, and stage management.

"The tech was very social but still productive" says Freshman Rosie Rich

Although the play was a success there were some aspects of the show that could have been improved. "Rehearsal definitely could have been better", says sophomore Rori West. "Also, characterization, and better instructions for tech as a whole". Other students believe that they would have benefited from more rehearsal and believed that actors could have learned lines sooner.

No matter what goes wrong "Being a part of the show is like being a part of a family", says Freshman Rosie Rich.



Full cast and crew photo

Franklin High School MCJROTC Program

By Ruben Amaya

Camouflaged uniforms, steel-toed boots, and starched covers is what symbolizes the cadet in MCJROTC. The moment one enters the classroom, its “yes sir” and “yes mam.” Displays of valor and courage are exhibited by each cadet. It is what defines this program and its motto, *Semper Fidelis*, which translates to “Always Faithful,” which is why MCJROTC is revered as a positive and impactful program.



President of Baltimore County Student Council Ruben Amaya meeting Mayor Catherine Pugh of Baltimore

“It is a program that has defined my entire high school career, making me the person I am today, and it’s all about giving back to our communities” says senior Corey Tillman, who is the Operations Officer of the program.

Cadet Captain Corey Tillman is in charge of the logistical operations of the program, ensuring everything is flowing within the day-to-day operations. Everything he has learned has prepared him to be an effective leader.

While most senior cadets display leadership, the newest cadets display anxiousness, nervousness, and a sense of uncertainty. Though quickly they learn to get in line and face fears they’ve never faced before.

“It was an immediate rush,” says freshmen Tyler Bowling. “They teach you how to have honor, courage, and commitment, which taught me how to have confidence in myself and others.” Tyler, like many other freshmen, learn Marine Corps terminology, train physically and mentally, and conduct drill, which is what defines the entirety of the United States Marine Corps.

Self-discipline and bearing are at the forefront of drill what drill teaches. With both combined, it prepares cadets for a challenge, though its one with its own reward.



Members of the FHS Varsity Color Guard

“Never did I think this would be easy. Many early mornings, many practices, but it’s all worth it in the end,” says junior Brandon McKenny. It’s this discipline that gives many cadets an advantage to their peers, and most importantly, it prepares them for the demands of the world.

The JROTC program is a testament to what our school reflects, one of tenacity and grit.

This is proven each day from cadets who uphold the highest values of our nation’s most revered military branch, even living up to our school’s motto, *Nulli Secundus*.

Security Enhancements at FHS

By Douglas Ditto

Recently Franklin High School added some security enhancements to the school campus in hopes of keeping the school safe during the 2018-2019 school year. The primary addition is ID card readers that are now installed at 10 exterior door locations around the school.

The students must use their school ID card to unlock the doors and are able to do so from around 7:00 A.M to 2:30 P.M. This helps Franklin keep all non-student or staff out of the school buildings which is important given Franklin’s location on busy Reisterstown Road. The ID card readers were paid for by Baltimore County Public Schools, choosing Franklin as the first school in the county with this technology.

Franklin has a new Student Resource Officer (SRO), Officer Bryan Spicer. In addition, Franklin has added a part-time SRO, Officer Christopher Keller. The primary role of SROs is to “be a resource for students in any way possible as well as to be a positive, reliable presence in classrooms and the halls,” said Assistant Principal Russell Valentine.

Due to Franklin’s size, having two officers allows for more ground to be covered. Franklin also made the decision to relocate the

Student Resource Officers, or SROs, from the North Building to the South Building. This was done in hopes of being able to lessen response time in case of an emergency.



A view of Franklin’s annex, which now has 4 new ID card readers.

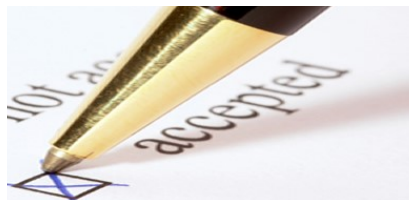
The additions have left some students still questioning the safety of the school. Junior

Caleb Kidane said, “Though a great idea, I do not sense a large improvement in my educational environment due to the many loopholes of said scanners because someone can just hold the door, and if we were being attacked by a fellow student it would obviously prove ineffective.” Kidane also offered another potential solution although acknowledging the potential discomfort of the situation.

“I feel some sort of metal detectors could be added however this may be uncomfortable for students to experience daily as it is somewhat prison like.”

Tips and Tricks for College Applications

By Molly Donatelli



(Great Basin College)

The beginning of senior year also brings the start of college applications. In this hectic and busy time, many seniors need to be able to separate fact from fiction and figure out what they need to do for college applications. Listed below are the most important points students need to know when applying.

Application and Admission Types:

Early Decision – Early response to an application which is binding. This means if a student is accepted, they must withdraw all other applications to other colleges. The student can only apply early decision to one school.

Early Action – Early response to an application that is non-binding.

Regular Decision – the application is submitted at the regular deadline and is non-binding.

Rolling Admission – A large application window where applications are looked at based on the sequence they come in.

Open Admission – Admission process is unselective and non-competitive, the only thing required to apply is a GED or diploma.

Early Decision II and Early Action II – Similar to Early Decision and Early Action except the applications are due later and letters about getting in will be sent out later. This all still occurs before the regular decision deadline.

What you will need:

- A Naviance Account
- Common/Coalition/School Specific Application
- Official Transcript
- Counselor Recommendation
- Teacher Recommendations
- Standardized Test Scores
- FAFSA

Tips:

- Start early!
- Transcripts and recommendations can take a

long time to come in, so make sure to request them as early as possible.

-Make a list of what needs to be done and cross off things once they have been completed.

-Only apply to schools you are interested in and like.

-Make a pros and cons list for each college you are unsure of applying to.

-Don't let the status of other people in the college application process impact your personal application process.

-Make sure you apply to reasonable safety schools.

-There are thousands of colleges in the United States that many people have never heard of, so make sure to do lots of research.

-The SAT sends scores two weeks AFTER the request is filed for it to be sent.

-Know your deadlines!

While college applications appear daunting, they can be more simplistic as long as you are well informed of what you need to do in order to submit the best application possible.

Mock Trial Tryouts

By Jenifer Fridman

The Franklin High School Mock Trial team held tryouts for the 2018-2019 season on October 16.

"At the tryouts, prospective members are expected to conduct a direct examination, a cross examination, and perform as a witness. They gather all of the necessary information from an affidavit provided at an initial meeting held before tryouts," said co-captain Asia Chester.

Mock Trial requires extensive preparation and judges look for that when making their decisions.

"When judging the tryouts, the coaches look for more than just an understanding of the information. They always tell us that information can be taught, but the important thing to look for is how someone naturally delivers that information; their poise, composure, and confidence when they are talking in front of other people," said co-captain Maddie Ballan.

These tryouts normally fall at the end of October or beginning of November, but in an effort to start the season earlier and get in more prac-

tice, the tryouts were held in the middle of October. This year, the Mock Trial team gained six new members; for the returning members, this is the most exciting part.

"Tryouts were so exciting! It was amazing to see how many underclassmen were already so invested. I am looking forward to getting to know all the new members as they become part of our Mock Trial family! I can not put into words how excited I am for this season," said Captain Lexi Taylor.

The team has high hopes for the season to come.

"I'm really excited to meet new people on the team and bond with everyone. I also can't wait to find my voice and speak more confidently. Finally, I'm excited to win!" said returning member Nada Abdalla.

With every new season comes a new attitude and bigger goals. This year, the goal is to continue growing the program so more opportunities open up.

The team plans to approach this new season with a positive, ambitious, and passionate attitude.



Members of the Franklin Mock Trial Team (SmugMug)

Franklin High Continues the Tradition of the Senior Fundraiser for Prom

By Megan Schanker

It's that time of year again, time for the annual senior fundraiser to make money for prom. For 3 weeks seniors go around selling food and miscellaneous items to students, teachers, friends, and family to raise as much money as possible for prom.

"I think we should have known about it sooner, because I wasn't able to do the fundraiser, due to how busy I was", said Senior Sophie Freedman. "I really wanted to participate because I think it's a great way to make money for our class. I regret not participating."

The fundraiser comes with a prize for the participants to be more motivated to sell more. The prize awarded to students who participated was a certain amount of money off prom tickets per items sold, for example half off for 10 items. Although some students believed

that they were not given enough time to participate and to sell items.

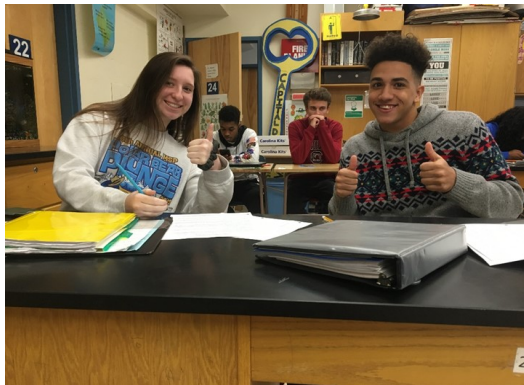
"I didn't participate, because I didn't have time", said senior Emma Diaz. "Next year, the seniors can find more things to advertise that more people would buy."

Some of the products that were included were food such as desserts, as well as household appliances. The majority of foods available were pre-made that the customer just had to put in the oven to cook and would be received in December just in time for the holidays. Most high school students prefer not to wait that long; they prefer to buy from fundraisers such as the JROTC one that provides products directly to them.

"I would prefer to get the item straight away", said junior Alexis Campbell. "But it's still well organized."

The fundraiser was organized by the class of 2019 student government, a group dedicated to ensuring that the senior class has fun activities and ways to be involved throughout the year. One of the events they are responsible for is senior prom. Senior prom can be expensive due to the price of renting a space for the event, buying decorations and concessions, and other costs that might occur throughout the process. The fundraiser was meant to ensure the prom is fun and lives up to everyone's expectations of a fabulous senior prom.

"It's a cool thing to do, people are motivated, and we raised a lot of money," said senior Jennifer Fridman.



Bethany Stallings and AJ Sims excited about raising money



Daniel Rickel, and Bryson Neverdon ready to sell their products

Candy Sales Halted during School

By Luqman Ssengo

In schools today, selling candy to other students has become a common occurrence for fundraisers. Students sell items without considering what could come out of it.

Some students disregard the fact that nutritionally, no one should be selling candy in school. Laws made by Maryland will tell why this has come to a stop.

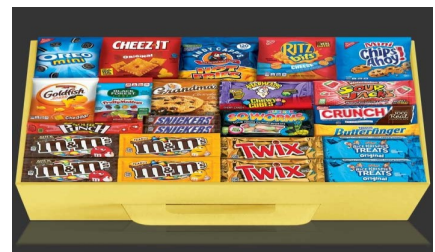
Expressed by Ms. Karen Levenstein, director of food & nutrition for BCPS, even if these standards of goods are met, stats of nutrients are still a factor. As all foods sold must be 200 calories or less. Sodium must be 200 mg or less. No items sold can contain 35% or more of total fat. All drinks must be at a maximum 12 ounces and still 200 calories or less with no

high fructose corn syrup. These requirements eliminate almost all delectable sweets. "With no exceptions" said Ms. Levenstein.

"It's not the school; it's a state law," said Principal McCusker. Since July of 2014 these nutritional standards have been well managed and authorized by BCPS. To make sure the students get the full understanding of why candy selling during school might not be the best option, they must take a deeper look into the very detailed nutritional requirements.

Though ignored by most, any profitable systems set up by students are not allowed. Although, no major consequences are going to be enforced if found guilty for the selling of sweets. Being as though it's a state law,

possibly some backlash could come upon the school.



www.freedomfundraising.com

Girl Up!

By Alexis Campbell

Girl up is a school club that helps girls in developing countries through education, fundraising, advocacy and service. This club is in 48 U.S. states/territories and 98 countries. Last January, senior Naomi Yankellow decided this would be a great addition to Franklin High School, and she is now the president of Girl up. This was something new to Franklin, so many were excited!

Girl up is a club that advocates for change. Girls and boys all over Franklin are welcomed to make a positive difference in girls lives everywhere. Last year, they did a service drive where people brought tampons, pads, other girl necessities for girls all over the world.

So, when students join the club, they are not only empowering people in their communities but also outside of the community, too.

Art teacher, Ms. Campbell is the teacher that manages Girl up. Ms. Campbell said, "I was talking about Girl up with Ms. Dunn because my roommate has it at her school. The club is so awesome!"

This club is important to many students, but senior Naomi Yankellow said, "The response that I have gotten over the club has been the biggest thing. The people that come to each meeting make it so special and to know that they want to help make the world a better, more equal place, is incredible."



Girl up members showing women power!



(Left-Right): Ashna Dalwadi, Naomi Yankellow, Annalee Peacock, Elena Rivera

Senior Annalee Peacock, who is the vice president of Girl Up wants to improve the club a little more. Annalee said her goals include "getting more members to join, doing more fundraisers, and finding more local things to support the club, to make sure it continues."

In addition, this club has a huge impact on girls around the world and the students too. Furthermore, it has helped shine a light on a topic that has been neglected over and over. Many participate in this club to show leadership skills, ability to delegate, inspire, and communicate. Girl up also, has an Instagram page (@girlupfhs) for students to visit to see not only what events are going on but also, the creativity that goes along with it. As Ms. Campbell would say, "Go women!"

October Coffee House

By Giovanni Parks & Esmeralda Samudio

On October 26, Franklin's finest singers, musicians and jokesters graced the library with their abundance of talents. Franklin High School's SGA provided hot coffee, hot chocolate, donuts, chips, and cookies.

Featured in this diverse display of talents were guitar solos, the beautiful and soothing voices of many students, and jokes that were sure to make everyone in the room laugh.

Juniot Lili Stokes said her favorite part was "seeing everyone perform". Stokes "enjoyed seeing different sides of people outside of school and learning about people's talents."

Coffee House is an opportunity for students from all grades to step outside of their comfort zones. Students from all grades have the chance to attend Coffee House, make new friends and have a good time.

Stokes performed "How You Gonna" by Sydney Renae which was a great song to start

the night. And later sang "Like I'm Gonna Lose You" by John Legend a perfect song to end such an energetic night.

This year's first Coffee House seemed to be quite popular. The doors opened at 6:00pm and students enjoyed the food and company until 8:00pm. It was many students' first coffee house, and it was a hit. The SGA events committee planned and prepared an excellent array of snacks and delicious desserts. The committee was led by Asia Chester, who also serves as SGA president.

Senior Cromwell Fiorenza, said "It was very laid back and fun to hang out."

SGA plans to endeavor on another task for the month of December, so make sure to keep an eye out, so you don't miss out. Please stay tuned for more information on the SGA's plans for the future. "We should do it again!" says Junior Kenneth Brown.



Non-Avid Students are unaware of AVID's benefits

By Zack Ziman

Franklin High School is home to the Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) program for students to prepare for college. The program directs students on how to work more efficiently, and they are given opportunities to meet with experts to help in the college process. This program requires interested students to submit an application in order to be accepted.



College Acceptance Letter

(Credit: Lynchburg.edu)

Franklin High students have mixed feelings on this program. Some feel that it does not help in the process at all and is not needed, while others feel that they were unaware the program exists and never had heard about it.

Senior Anya Litofsky has already been accepted into YorkCollege's nursing program. She never attended an AVID class and does not grasp its purpose. "I was able to work through the college application process with my friends and I think that AVID would be a waste of time for me." When introduced to the fact that AVID can be used similarly to a seminar, she began to recognize how AVID can help students with rigorous schedules.

Junior Colin Talbot believes that AVID takes time away from learning in class and ruins students weighted GPAs. "I take a very challenging course load and enrolling in AVID would not only lower my weighted GPA, but it would also stress me out to rush into the college process at the start of high school." He also said that he did not see the class as being necessary.

Senior Sophia Trachtman is very stressed out about college applications. "I am applying to eight schools, and I feel very lost in this process," she said. "I think the program needs to raise awareness for incoming freshman because not many people know about it."



AVID Logo

(Credit: gearup.Hawaii.edu)

Avid Helps Students Apply to College

By Andrew Gersh

From the perspective of AVID students, AVID is an amazing class because of the way it offers many instructional resources to help, while also serving as a study hall at times. AVID also aims to help students in their college application process as well.

AVID has a focus on preparing students gradually. They began going on college tours in their freshman year to schools such as John's Hopkins, Temple, and the University of Pennsylvania

"AVID allowed me to begin the college process as early as freshman year so that I did not cram and feel stressed all in senior year," says Douglas Johnston. "It helped organize my journey."

In addition to helping research colleges, students also begin their applications earlier than other students would.

"Because of writing in my junior year during class, I felt less stressed than my friends who did not take AVID," Johnston said. "This made me feel even better about my decision to take AVID."

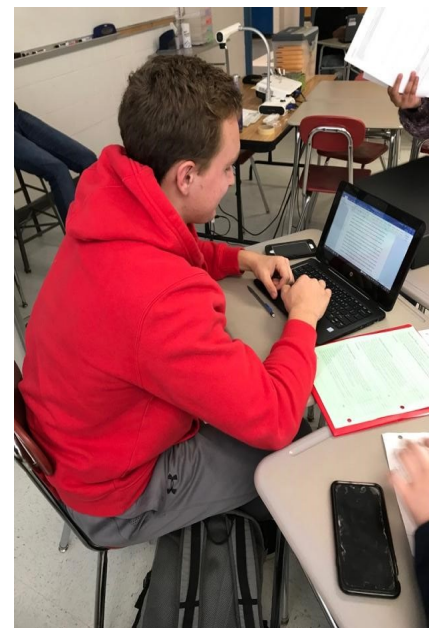
In addition to directly helping with applying to college, AVID aims to help students improve with classroom skills. Often times those skills also translate into college help.

"Ms. Will has us do Cornell notes on PowerPoints that she creates with college application information," says senior Billy Yurcik. "These notes help me to become more efficient note takers, as well as gain more information regarding the college application process."

However, one student did have a different opinion on the way in which AVID helps.

"AVID has been no help besides just being a free period," Lauryn Sanchez said. "Ms. Will did help a lot but the class overall did not help me in my college process due to me being on top of it on my own."

"I recommend every student to take AVID so that they can be helped just like I was!" said Johnston.



Billy Yurcik working on his college essays

The Block on Google

By Kasson Williams



On Friday, October 26th, 2018 an update went live that sent a ripple throughout Franklin High. The update was to “fix intermittent device connectivity issues,” as gleaned from an official

statement from the Department of Information Technology (DoIT), but many perceived it as a block on Google after issues arose using Google drive and other popular Google services.

Faculty at Franklin High addressed the issues with using Google by calling it a block, saying a student used the software inappropriately. That explanation raised the question of why they blocked Google entirely, instead of strengthening the content filter. Or why they took the service away from us all instead of punishing those individuals who did it.

An official statement from the BCPS Department of Information technology said that any issues using Google or any of its services is a result of the update and is not intended. A frequently asked question is why exactly it hasn't been fixed if it was not intended.

The block on Google has caused many inconveniences for both teachers and students alike. For example, journalism students are supposed to use Google Drive to publish stories. They had to revert to the much slower more convoluted method that they had employed prior to the update. School librarian, Mrs. Rigilano, said that it “was an unpleasant experience for most of everybody.”

There are alternatives to using Google of course, leading some to believe that the widespread outrage is completely unnecessary. Internet Explorer is an easy alternative, but students often say that Internet Explorer is slow, and unwieldy sometimes. Internet Explorer was proven to be more susceptible to viruses.

Another alternative is using Bing, which faces the same issues as Internet Explorer. There is a reason that these search engines have been left behind from Google's success.

Questioning of any staff here at Franklin High seemed to confirm the rumor that someone had gotten “past the content filter and used the school laptops inappropriately,” as stated by English teacher Dr. Merkel. But, what are we to believe? An official statement confirms that it was a glitch caused by the update, but the DOIT has put out no further statements concerning our ability to access Google.

Entertainment

The Second Creed

By Lili Stokes

Creed is a Rocky spinoff, featuring Sylvester Stallone and Michael B. Jordan. The movie hit theaters Thanksgiving Day. Stallone plays Rocky as he helps Adonis, played by Michael B. Jordan, prepare for one of his biggest fights. It centers around Adonis trying to avenge his dad's legacy after the events of Rocky 4 when Apollo Creed died fighting Drago, a Russian Boxer.

Creed has become a nationwide phenomenon. With the nationwide box office sales grossed at \$109.8 million and \$63.8 million in other territories, for a worldwide total of \$173.8 million. Creed won 7 awards including: a Golden Globe, 4 NAACP awards, Critics' Choice Award, and an award from the National Society of Film Critics.

Junior Natalie Yuhn said, “Creed was excellent.”

Creed 2, focuses on Adonis Creed who is training to defeat the son of the man who killed his father 30 years prior. This is risky for Adonis who now has a child and a wife whom he doesn't to lose.

“I hope everything works out for Adonis. I am so pressed,” says Junior Joselyn Castellon-Gutierrez.

The outcome of the movie's success isn't predicted to succeed as much as the first movie.

Contrary to popular belief, Mendelson said, “folks are generally more excited for a second Creed movie.”



Stories That Will Restore Your Faith In Humanity

By Tori Wesley

With all the depressing news going around, people need to be reminded of the good moments in life. That's why articles like these exist.

It's easy to look at the world and think there's no good left in it. However, it is not healthy to dwell on the negatives. Doing so will prevent people from seeing the positive.



Good feelings! Smiling can decrease your stress level.

Janitor Gets A Birthday Surprise

James Anthony is a custodian that works for Hickerson Elementary. There's only one thing that makes this man different from the others: he is deaf.

On October 23rd, a kindergarten class decides to do something for the janitor. They sang him "happy birthday," in sign language.

This was done to thank Anthony for the things he'd done for Hickerson. Yes, he did more than just clean. Every now and then, Anthony would teach students sign language.

No one paid him to go and do it. There was no ulterior motive. Anthony did it simply because he wanted the children to learn.

For that alone, the man got a birthday present he would never forget.

Bullied Bus Driver Shown Kindness

According to Entrepreneur.com, even authority figures experience bullying. 69-year-old Karen Klein worked as a school bus monitor. She had been bullied by several students throughout her career.

One day, a group of students posted a video in which they verbally assaulted Klein. A stranger responded by making an Indiegogo (a Go Fund Me-esque website) account.

This account was created to raise money for Klein to go on a well-deserved vacation. While originally having a goal of \$5000, the final amount surpassed it with \$700,000 raised. Klein used this money to retire.

The kindness of that stranger led her to start her own anti-bullying campaign

This may not be much, but hopefully, it gives readers an inkling of hope; A reminder that there is still kindness in this world.

As Business Insider said, "...it's also important to highlight the good that happens around the world—stories of triumph and courage, community and giving back."



Googleimages.com

Attention Seniors!



Apply Now for Scholarships



Baltimore County Retired School Personnel Association

Multiple Scholarships Available!

Six—\$2000 BCRSPA

\$2000 Matthew Tress Memorial (Education Degree)

\$2000 Mildred Murray Memorial (Physical Education Related Degree)

To Apply:

Visit www.bcrspa.org (Click on Scholarships to download an application or call 443-793-5867)

Application deadline is February 25, 2019

Thanksgiving Holiday Celebrations

By: Hailey Rami

The meaning of Thanksgiving is “the expression of gratitude, especially to god. In north America, an annual national holiday marked by religious observances and a traditional meal eating turkey.”

The holiday usually goes something like this...

Family members travel from all over to meet up with family they haven’t seen in a while. Most families have spent many hours in advance preparing the food, and at the end of the day, everyone gathers around the table to enjoy the food they have made. After families have had their meals, they play fun games and party.

I went around our school asking students if they do anything different during their Thanksgiving holiday, and I found a few interesting answers.

Senior Corey Tillman said, “I am going to celebrating Thanksgiving with my family and having dinner with my girlfriend’s family for the first time and then watch football.”

Mrs. Shovestull said, “I will be cooking and preparing for the dinner and by the end of our night we will set up our Christmas tree.”

Junior Jeremy Frisby said, “I will be going to my grandparent’s house and having dinner and watch the thanksgiving parade on tv.”

Something interesting happens in the White House during Thanksgiving called “The Thanksgiving Turkey Presentation.” During the event, the president gets presented a live turkey. The tradition goes back to the 1940’s, with presidents often sparing the turkey. During George H. W. Bush’s first Thanksgiving as president, it became an annual tradition for the president to “pardon” the turkey.

This time of year can get lonely for those who sadly don’t have families to spend the holidays with, so families take this as the time to go volunteer at homeless shelters and charity locations to give a meal and donate.

A few fun facts

- Abraham Lincoln declared the day of Thanksgiving in 1863
- All turkeys have a wishbone
- The first Macy’s Thanksgiving Day parade was held in 1924

All facts were found on NationalGeographicKids.com



Opinion

Trends

By Nakira Boyd

Holidays, snow, cheerful music, and don’t forget the trends that come with this time of year. The new trends are out, and the cool outfits are finally here.

After a long summer there has been a lot of talk about the new winter wear. Things that will make people remark on everyone at school, work or even outside in public around strangers. There is always time for fashion and a great outfit.

“What you wear is how you present yourself to the world, especially today, when human contacts are so quick. Fashion is instant language,” fashion designer Miuccia Prada said. “Style is something each of us already has, all we need to do is find it.”

Because of fashion, trends and style there has been a new wave of fresh new looks and a change in the industry of fashion. “Style has been an opportunity to express myself without saying words.”

Students from Franklin High School reported that compliments are always given to them

when the seasons change. What they wore that specific day will always leave a mark.

“Shoes are things that tell you about that person,” said Kyree from Newtown High. Kids at Franklin agree that the shoes are the eye opener for the person. It has been said for years about a person. “You can tell who’s popular by their clothes” says Giovanni Parks.

“If their clothes aren’t a certain way, then they are treated a certain way.” Two anonymous sources agreed that “Clothes do define who you are to another person. That’s why trends are formed to help people pick who they are. Just how we are all given a number when born, it identifies us.”

Most kids look to see how a person is perceived, before knowing who they are, by the base of fashion. It has been like that since fashion was created.

“Anyone can get dressed up and glamorous, but it is how people dress in their days off that are most intriguing,” said fashion designer Alexander Wang

Franklin High School fashionistas agreed anyone can wear a suit and fancy shoes, but it only truly matters if that is them. Fashion doesn’t always have to be the most expensive and exclusive clothing out there. All that matters is if it works for their persona.

Designer Alexander Wang said, “Style is the only thing you can’t buy. It’s not in a shopping bag, a label, or a price tag. It’s something reflected from our soul to the outside world – and emotion.”



Reisterstown Mustangs Youth Football Organization Disqualified from the Carroll County Football League on October 28th by Unanimous Vote

By Jaylen Dorsey

This year for the 2018 qualifications of being in the Carroll County Youth Football and Cheerleading League (CCYFCL) has cost the Reisterstown Mustangs Youth Football Organization (RMYFO) their position in the league because of Carroll County believing that they have several behavioral issues.

The Reisterstown Mustangs have altogether six teams that were disqualified. In all, there were about one hundred and fifty students between the ages of five and thirteen that participated on the team.

"It was devastating" said Kristina Ramsey-Allen, one of the parents of two of the boys on the disqualified football team. "To have to explain to them something they didn't understand."

The Carroll County Youth Football and Cheerleading League posted on their official football page on the 28th of October that the Reisterstown Mustangs Youth Football Organization is "no longer a probationary member of and are Carroll County Youth Football and Cheerleading League excluded from all post season activities."

This decision was made by a unanimous vote taken by the Board Directors at the Carroll County Youth Football and Cheerleading League. The Reisterstown Mustangs Youth Football Organization contacted the League officials, determined to gain a better understanding of why they were prohibited. The officials told them it was due to "several behavioral concerns."

The reasoning behind this was not political. Marquita M. Melvin, the president of the RMYFO, wrote in an email. It was seen as ineffective to the parents because it was rude to Carroll County officials.



She stated "this was done without citing any reasons, most likely because the reasons are not politically correct, CCYFCL is a 'good old boy' network which only tolerates a majority African American Youth Football Organization as long as they know their place and don't have too much success."

This quote is where a lot of the readers and other journalists founded the headlines of Carroll County racial profiling the RMYFO.

These headlines about the RMYFO have caught the attention of former Baltimore Raven Ray Lewis. He donated \$1000 so they could still go to out of state tournaments, and

<https://www.bing.com>

support them through the loss of a chance in the CCYFCL league this year. This made it difficult for the heads of Carroll County because it may cost them a lot of the support for their programs.

The Mustangs decided to pull through and move on forward by finishing their season and waiting for next year to start over. Also, the CCYFL decided to move forward with the program and try to make better and more people-friendly decisions to succeed in others wants and needs.

Jv Football

By Evan Ternent

Franklins JV football team's season came to an end; with a final record of 8-0, it is time to look back on their best games they have played.

Some of the best games were played and won at the beginning of the season back in September and October. One of the best games played was against Dundalk with a score of 55-0. Sophomore Sam Canapp said, "It was a very easy game to win". The game against Catonsville was also "no sweat at all" said Canapp. The team won against Catonsville with a score of 42-0. The game against Kenwood provided no challenge for the team with the winning score of 39-0.

With all the easy wins the team took home one of their most challenging games was against Milford. The team still came out with the victory, but it was a tough won victory. The score at the end of the game was 14-8. Canapp said "Milford is a very skilled and experienced team".

Franklins JV football team has had their easy games and there challenging games but in every game always put forth the effort and work together as a team. Canapp said "It was a great season to play and a great team to play for".



<https://www.bing.com>

Varsity Boy's Soccer

By Jacob McCarthy

"People doubting us keeps us going every game and makes us want to win". This quote stated by Junior Jonathan Habitamarium speaks about the motivation for this Franklin team. The team believes that they are loaded with talent and the ability to win a lot of games soon. Junior Hayden Paige said, "Our coach is the anchor of the team. He carries us through rough times and is our emotional and spiritual leader." They have each other's back.

The team's record this season was 5-4, and they faced some tough opponents. The teams most impressive win this season was over Chesapeake

High School. They won a one sided affair with a score of 9-1. Players from the team believe that this game was a huge confidence booster and earned them a lot of respect in the county.

Another one of Franklin's great performances came against Pikesville. The Franklin Indians won in a close and intense matchup with a score of 4-2. Players from both sides knew each other well, and the players believed that it brought the best out of them. When the playoffs came around, the Indians had high hopes to bring a state championship back to the school. The boys played the Towson Generals in a cold, rainy away game. Unfortunately, this game was the last for the team.

Although the team's season did not end as well as they wanted, they did well during the regular season, finishing 5-4. The team unfortunately wasn't able to capture a championship, however they captured a lot of great moments together as a team. The team is not satisfied with their result this season and are hungry to come back next year and dominate the competition.



Franklin High School logo

<http://franklinhs.bcps.org/>



<https://www.soccercorner.com>

Winter Sports

By Jordan Williams

Franklin High School has a variety of sports for students during the winter time. These sports include, Cheerleading, Basketball, Indoor Track, and more.

The school hosts tryouts for students who want to be a part of a team. Students that attend this school are the only people who can participate on the team. During the winter, all sports are played inside due to the winter weather.

What You Need to Know

The most popular seasons for sports are Fall and Winter. Football is the most popular sport in the fall season, while basketball is the most popular during the winter. Most of these teams have a JV team and a Varsity team.

Sophomore Ayanni Hurt said she wants to do "cheerleading again, or I might do the play." Sophomore Aisha Carrington said she will do Indoor Track.

Different students tend to pick different sports. Similar to Fall sports, the teams associ-

ated with the Winter season have a lot of students on each team. The school encourages every student to try out for a team.

Team Participation

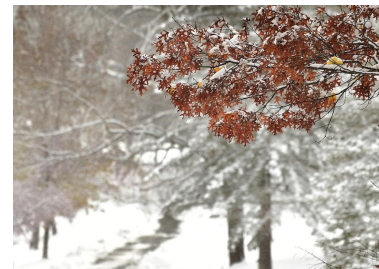
Each team must participate in at least one type of way. Since it is winter, they are mostly all inside. For example, basketball has games in the school's gym when there are home games. Any other time, they have games at the school that they are playing.

As a result, participation happens when teams have practice and when they compete against other teams. To be a part of a sport, you do not have to pay to participate. The only way you would have to pay is for something that you can keep; for example, cheerleaders must pay for their bows that they wear because they can keep them.

Unfortunately, injuries often happen during sports. If a student were to get injured, they are most likely not able to participate according to how bad the injury is.

Be careful because participation matters!

Tryouts were on Thursday, November 15, 2018. Registration online and an updated physical were required before students could be eligible to try out.



The cold winter weather in Maryland

Are the LA Lights Too Bright for LeBron?

By Seth Craven

On July 9, 2018, longtime Cleveland Cavalier and NBA legend LeBron James signed a four-year, \$153.3 million-dollar deal with the Los Angeles Lakers. James signing with the Lakers had always been a pipe dream for NBA fans, as the Lakers are arguably the most decorated and popular team in the NBA history, and James likewise as a player. However, since moving to Los Angeles, Lakers fans have been extremely critical of James' performance.

Many people suspected that part of James' reason for wanting to re-locate in Los Angeles was to advance his side-career as a movie star and producer. Because of this, many basketball fans have wondered if James is not 100% invested in the games anymore. James defended his passion for the game, telling sources at ESPN, "We just got guys that love to play basketball."

On the court, James and the Lakers got off to a rough start – they started the season off with a 2-5 record. In particular, James himself was hit with large amounts of criticism after missing two clutch free throws against the San Antonio Spurs



James at his press conference with Lakers GM Magic Johnson. [Source: Yahoo](#)

in late October. When asked about his free throw struggles this year, James promptly (and presumed jokingly) replied, "I'm garbage."

Students at Franklin are divided in their opinions about James' move to Los Angeles.

Senior Deonte Felder stated that "the greatest player of all time went to the greatest franchise in basketball. It's great." However, other students aren't so thrilled with the move. Senior

Jackson Rubin said that "The move to the Lakers wasn't about basketball, it was a family decision. He doesn't care about rings anymore."

No matter how you feel about this move though, it's hard to deny that a superstar like James signing with the Lakers is an exciting situation that we have not seen in the NBA in a while. The proof is in the sales. "When the Lakers come into different markets, we are seeing a massive pop," said Scott Jablonski, StubHub's general manager of the NBA.



LeBron takes the ball down the court vs the Spurs. [Source: ESPN](#)

NBA Season Tips Off

By Zach Simons

The National Basketball Association, commonly abbreviated NBA, tipped off their season recently. The first game was October 16th; the first of many; each team plays a lengthy 82 game season.

There are 30 teams in the league, and they are divided into conferences: Eastern and Western. The Eastern Conference is further divided into the Atlantic, Central and Southeast conferences.

The Atlantic Division consists of the Toronto Raptors, Boston Celtics, Philadelphia 76ers, Brooklyn Nets, and the New York Knicks.

"I think the Raptors," said junior Jordan Asch, "can legitimately win the finals this year." The Toronto Raptors have a lot of attention on them, as they started out the season winning their first six games, and the rest of the league is tuned in on the Kawhi Leonard situation. Leonard demanded a trade last year and wanted to be traded to the Los Angeles Lakers, but ended up being traded to the Raptors. Junior Colin Talbot thinks "the C's are definitely the team to beat in the east." The Celtics had a deep playoff run last year; in which stars Kyrie Irving and Gordon



Source: [vectorilla.com](#)

Hayward were injured. Their young stars Jaylen Brown, Terry Rozier and Jayson Tatum showed out. Nobody knew how Hayward and Irving would be incorporated into the team and how it would affect the chemistry. It is early in the season, so head coach Brad Stevens is still experimenting to figure out the best rotation going forward.

"If Philly gets MVP quality play from Embiid, they will win it all," said sophomore Ben Kim. The 76ers talent runs deep, especially in Joel Embiid and last year's rookie of the year Ben

Simmons. Their 1st overall pick from last year, Markelle Fultz, struggled last season but seems to have improved his shot. They added superstar Forward Jimmy Butler to their roster in a trade with the Minnesota Timberwolves.

"I say this respectfully, but the Nets suck," said Talbot cruelly. The Nets have been irrelevant for the past few years and remain irrelevant this year as well. The

Nets, however, have the cap space to sign a marquee free agent this offseason and hope to sign a superstar.

"Despite the Knicks struggles, they aren't as bad as their record says" thinks senior Max Sparks. The Knicks have struggled the past few years and that has not changed this season. They are still without their best player, Kristaps Porzingis, due to injury but there are rumors Kevin Durant wants to sign with the Knicks this offseason. The Knicks are slowly but surely fighting ...

(continued on pg 13)

NBA Season Tips Off

(Continued from page 12)

their way back into relevancy.

The Central Division consists of the Milwaukee Bucks, Detroit Pistons, Indiana Pacers, Chicago Bulls and the Cleveland Cavaliers.

The Bucks are interesting to watch, as superstar Giannis Antetokounmpo. The Bucks were the last team left with an undefeated record, starting off the season 7-0. The Pistons got off to a surprisingly good start, getting great production from Blake Griffin and Andre Drummond.

"Zach Lavine is ready to take the Bull to the next level," said senior Shovgi Novruz. Their early record does not look good, however; Bulls fans have some reason for optimism. They signed Zach Lavine to a new contract this offseason, and he is playing extremely well. The Pacers have a newfound superstar, as Victor Oladipo broke out last season, especially in the playoffs, capping it off by winning the award for most improved player of the year. They also have talent around Oladipo, such as Miles Turner and Boban Bogdanovic.

"Without LeBron, the Cavs are nothing," said Novruz. The Cavaliers started off the season 0-6. They fired head coach Tyronn Lue six games into the year. They have really struggled since LeBron James signed with the LA Lakers this offseason. They are banking on rookie Collin Sexton to bring them back into relevancy.

The Southeast division consists of the Miami Heat, Charlotte Hornets, Orlando Magic, Atlanta Hawks and Washington Wizards.

"Watch out for the Heat, especially in the paint with Whiteside protecting it," said Junior Raymond Banks. The Heat have attention on them, as Dwayne Wade has announced this season will be his last; he is retiring. They have one of the best rebounding big men in the league in Hassan Whiteside.

"If Malik Monk continues to grow as a player, Charlotte should be pretty good" said senior Jake Chisholm. The Hornets got a decent start to the season. Kemba Walker remains one of the more underrated players in the league and is playing phenomenal so far.

Chisholm also said "Mo Bamba is a future super star." The Magic were hoping for a better start, but rookie Mohamed Bamba isn't helping them out. He was drafted 6th overall with a lot of promise, but his early season struggles have set the team back.

"Trae Young has a bright future" said Asch. Hawks rookie Trae Young wasn't even born when Carter was drafted. The team isn't off to a good start, but they are relying on Young improving and becoming a superstar.

"The Wizards suck also" said Talbot who is proving to be quite frank. The Wizards have

struggled this season. If they continue to struggle, they will have to move on from the Bradley Beal - John Wall era. They will have to trade one of the two and leave one to lead the team, as that combo has not accounted for any success.

The season has brought out some student interest here at Franklin. Junior Ryan Platt said "In my opinion, the Celtics are the best team in the east and most fun to watch as well." Junior Nick Hall said "The best team in the east is probably the Raptors, but the most fun to watch is the Celtics." Freshman Evan Carr differed from Platt and Hall, saying the best team in the East was the Bucks due to their hot start. A poll was conducted, consisting of 63 people. Majority, 67 percent to be exact, said that the Celtics are the best team in the East. The Raptors came in second with 30 percent of the votes, while the Bucks received a mere two votes in their favor, making up for the remaining three percent.

This season has been quite intriguing and we wait patiently to see who represents the Eastern Conference in the NBA Finals, which start in the beginning of May.

"The NBA season is very captivating."

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