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Phot Credits below of Henry Wallace and Grace Gersack: Courtesy of Marios McConnell & Yearbook



To the left: Senior Henry Wallace, MSA Salutatorian, Class of 2020.

To the right: Senior Grace Gersack, MSA Valedictorian and STAR Student, Class of 2020





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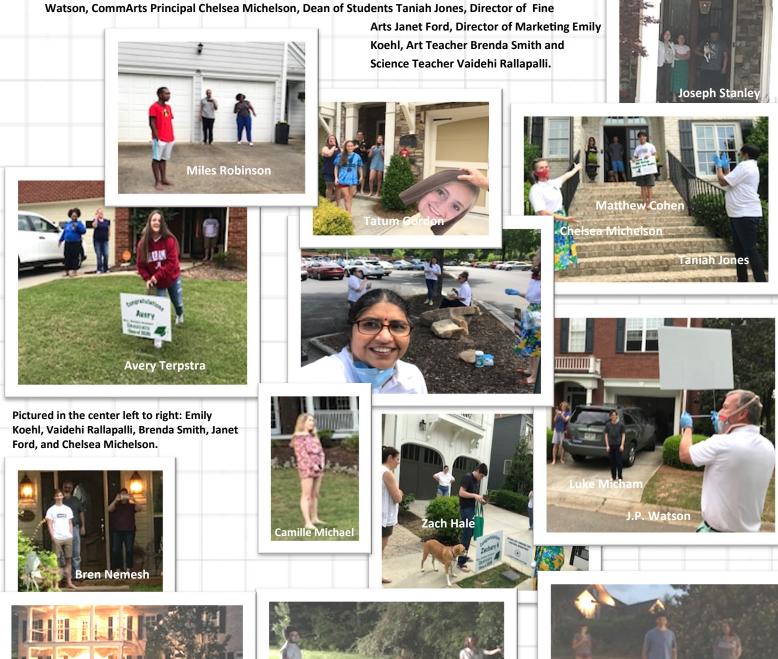
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Upper School & Communication Arts

Scenes from the Senior Honor's Day Quarantine Edition Tuesday, May 8, 2020

Compiled By Shilpee Kathuria

Not being able to have an in-person Senior Honor's Day did not stop our intrepid leaders from traveling to each of our 37 Seniors' places of residence to personally deliver name signs, face cards, cords, awards and Senior Sentiments! This group included Registrar and Organizer Lisa Imsand, Upper School Principal J.P. Watson, CommArts Principal Chelsea Michelson, Dean of Students Taniah Jones, Director of Fine





Quarantine Edition

Nic Allen

Daniel Garguilo

Spring 2020

By

Avery Terpstra

New Teacher: Marlena Alvarado

Milk.





Marlena enjoying lunch at Marietta Square during Winter Learning 2020.



Marlena Alvarado joined the Upper School English department this year. She teaches British Literature to the 11th graders, as well as a Study Skills elective. Marlena's favorite thing about MSA is how community- oriented it is.

She grew up in Seoul, South Korea before moving to the U.S., where she graduated from Columbia University. She has a Golden doodle named **Gina**, and one daughter, **Juliana**. Before joining our community, she taught at North Cobb High School. In her free time, Marlena enjoys playing video games, reading, and doing yo-ga. Some fun facts about Marlena is that her favorite food is eggplant parmesan, she listens to K-Pop, and her favorite movie is a Korean one called *The Royal Tailor*. The most surprising thing to know about Marlena is that she's has never tried red meat because she's a vegetarian.

Marlena is also an incredible artist. She mostly does modern art and creates realistic pieces.

Photos Courtesy of Marlena Alvarado

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Marlena's art: A still life of penny loafers.



A picture of flowers in a vase.



A pro-basketball player, inspired by a picture in a magazine.

Quarantine Edition

New Teacher:

Ginny Berkemeier



Cohen



Here is Ginny, who is a practicing yoga instructor.



Can't solve this? Ginny can help!

Berkemeier is a Ginny Communication Arts teacher who specializes in math, such as Algebra and Geometry, and other courses, such as Study Management. She reads any book that is available, and her hobbies are yoga and traveling.

While Ginny has interests for herself, she wants to give back to the world. For example, she likes to volun- A personal favorite: books! teer within any community. In addition, Ginny would start a scholarship for low income Courtesy of Ginny Berkemeie families if she won a billion dollar lottery. Her highlights of teaching at Mill Springs Academy is getting to know her students and being a part of the Communication Arts community.

Lastly, Ginny strives to follow the path of doing her best and considers all her moments at Mill Springs part of one large journey.

Courtesy of Newsweek.com





Ginny when she was traveling in Italy.

Quarantine Edition

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By Matt Campbell



First Classroom Selfie! Halloween at MSA is serious business: riddle me why! New Teacher: Michael Goodwin

Michael Goodwin grew up in Kenne-

Milk.

Georgia and saw, attended Kennesaw State University for both his Bachelor degrees. Before coming to Mill Springs, he worked at Kennesaw Sate doing Academic Integrity and making sure that students did not plagiarize. Now teaches Ninth he Grade Composition & Creative Writing.

Michael's favorite part of MSA is the community. He says "It's almost cliché for a smaller organization to describe itself as a family, but that's very much what this school feels like: a large extended family". He also says that he likes how kids and faculty look out for each other and how teachers are willing adapt to kid's needs.

As a teacher, believes he "everyone can learn, that learning is a worthwhile endeavor, and that we are our best selves when we deliberately push ourselves to grow. I believe it is the job of a teacher share to knowledge, explore wisdom together, and to inspire students to want to push themselves. I believe in character. curiosity. play, and

the power of storytelling to speak the sagas of humanity from age to age"

Outside of school he likes to spend time with his wife and cats. He likes to binge Netflix, do board games and cook and watch his son play Minecraft. He says he cannot favorite choose а book, but he likes a roleplaying game known as The Mummy. He also likes his own books that he is currently writing. His favorite place in the world is the country side in Greece.



Upper School Substitute Teacher Julie and Michael Goodwin (and husband to Julie) out on a date night. MSA Board Game and Card Game Advisor seen shamelessly promoting his favorite card game at Momocon 2019. Unsurprisingly, this comicbook themed game would turn out to be popular during Winter Learning with the Gaming students.

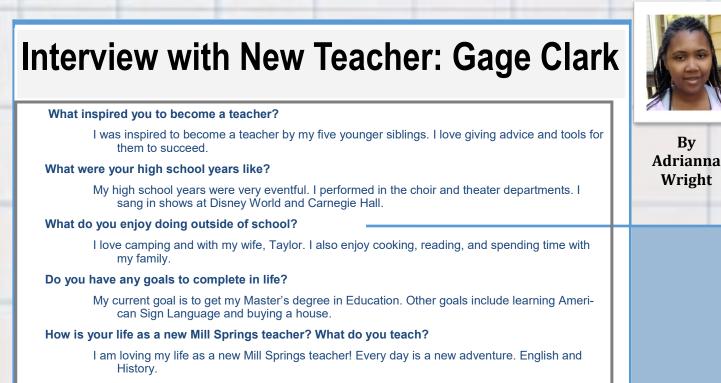


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Photos Courtesy

of Michael

Goodwin



What is your happiest moment of being a teacher?

My happiest moments of being a teacher include any moment I can help a student. I am passionate about being in a position to influence students' decisions, behaviors, strengths, weaknesses, and imaginations.

What kind of education did you get to become a teacher?

I have a Bachelor's degree in English Literature from Kennesaw State University.

What do you and your family do as hobbies?

My wife, Taylor, and I love camping, going on trips, seeing new places, and doing puzzles.



The Winter Learning trip to Europe this year was adventurous and lively! Pictured from left: Gage Clark, Josiah Altland, Jack Holt, Mellik Johnson, and Jackson Wickley.



Gage really enjoys camping through the mountains and taking in the beauty of wilderness.

Photos Courtesy of Gage Clark



Gage reads to his nephew, to instill a love of literature.

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Say Hello to Our New Students!

Conner Hughes (pictured below)	
Grade Level?	
9th Grade	K
Previous school? Creekview High School	
Favorite Hobby?	
 Favorite free to and play games Draw and play games If there is one thing you would wish for, If there is one thing you would wish for, 	
If there is one what would it be? For anime to be real	
Eavorite type of food?	
Mexican food	
Favorite show? Forensic Files	
Favorite video game?	
VRChat	





Gail Palmer (pictured above)

Grade Level?

10th

Previous school?

Eaton Academy

Favorite Hobby?

Drawing and listening to music

If there is one thing you would wish for, what would it be?

To be a millionaire

Favorite type of food?

Cereal or pizza

Favorite thing about MSA?

The community and support

Favorite celebrity?

Marsha P. Johnson

Favorite movie?

Any Marvel movie

Favorite video game?

Animal Crossing

My dream in life is...

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...to be happy, successful, and surrounded by friends and family.

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Sarah Palmer (pictured right)

Grade Level?

Junior

Previous school?

Eaton Academy

Favorite Hobby?

Musical Theater: acting, dancing, and singing!

If there is one thing you would wish for, what would it be?

> It would be pretty cool to breath underwater, or talk to animals.

Favorite food?

Tacos

Favorite show to watch?

I like watching Brooklyn Nine-Nine, or Malcolm in the Middle.

Favorite video game?

I just started playing *Animal Cross-ing*, and it's quickly become a favorite.



Compiled by **Josiah Altland**

Paige Wolf (pictron)	
Paige Wolf (pictured left)	
	0
11th Grade	
Previous school?	
_	0
Johns Creek High School Favorite Hobby?	
Horseback Riding	
If there is one thing	
what would it be?	
Wish Would be to got a l	0
borne type of food?	
- Mexican	
Favorite thing about MSA?	
 March 	
My friends	
Favorite celebrity?	
D The Weeknd	
Favorite show?	
<i>Forensic Files</i>	
Favorite video game?	0
Minecraft	
My dream in life is	
to been	
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I am Pro-Marijuana Legalization

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Spring 2020

By Daniel Garguilo

Legal Marijuana for recreational and medicinal purposes has been in the news for a while. States all over the country have or are considering legalizing marijuana for recreational purposes and medical purposes; however, many people are asking, is this a good idea?

I would say yes. To start marijuana has never been linked to an overdose death and is significantly less harmful to overall health than tobacco. Marijuana is also less addictive than alcohol and tobacco witch are already legal. Legalizing marijuana would also create quality control so there would be no deaths or hospitalizations from laced product. Data also shows teen cannabis dependence drops when recreational marijuana is legalized.

With legal marijuana also comes the ability to get tax revenue from sales we already get \$ 9.9 billion from alcohol taxes and \$12 billion from tobacco taxes. If we legalized marijuana, we could get a similar amount of revenue from sale. Money from this revenue could go to treat addictions to marijuana, alcohol and other drugs as well as fund roads, government services and any other area needing funding.

Legalizing Cannabis would most importantly would stop a good portion of mass incarceration about 21% of the US prison population is locked up due to marijuana charges Because of all the benefits, marijuana legalization would be a great idea.



A Cannabis dispensary

A Cannabis flower

Photos Courtesy of spainweedguide.com

Protesting Marijuana Legalization



By Zach Hale

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www.bostonglobe.com

It seems hazy what will happen to legalized marijuana in Connecticut.

treatments and but also crime.

A lot of people might believe there are many upsides to marijuana legalization, but they have to consider it might do more harm than good. It already harms teenagers, mental health patients, even people who aren't using it.

It is said marijuana might boost the economy and create tax revenues, but it could also increase costs for society and hinder the economy rather than help it. It will increase medical care and badly effect the people who are uninsured. It will even effect non-users, because not

only will it increase medical

Common sense might say that crime involving marijuana might be disrupted with the legalization, but crime can actually benefit from it. It gives dealers opportunities for more crime, like trading and taking the cover of legal operations. There is even a possibility that an industry can be found to commercialize marijuana and target children.



The act of drug dealing.

Not to say that Marijuana legalization is entirely bad. Marijuana is said to be one of the less harmful drugs. It is constantly brought up that alcohol and tobacco are legal, even though they're more harmful than marijuana. And Americans should have the right to choose to use Marijuana or not, and that is the point that needs to be set across, it is up to us to use mariju-

www.empireonline.com



Movies like 'Thank You For Smoking' tackle this belief and say people should be given the chose to use marijuana or not.

ana or not.

Americans have choices, and they deserve those choices. They need to teach there kids to grow up and how to make those choices. We can take away from any argument, examine both sides and come up with our own conclusions. That is the thing, we must acknowledge both sides. The point is, there are many downsides to marijuana legalization that we must take into account, but that doesn't mean there are no good sides to it. We humans must examine both sides, use our own free will and make our own conclusion.

The Placebo Effect: More Harm than Good?

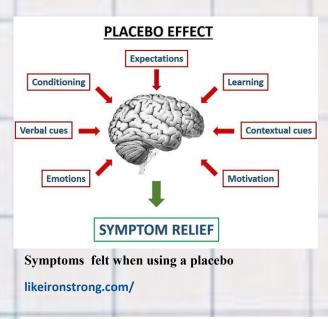
Milk.

By Avery Terpstra



The placebo effect refers to any medicine that is thought to be real, but is actually a fake treatment. Placebos do not have any active ingredient that affects one health. Often times, placebos may be referred to as sugar pills. They do not actually do anything to heal a person; the brain just thinks that the medicine is working. Placebos can harm someone however. If a person knows they are taking a placebo, it might affect a preexisting condition they have. For example, it may affect sleep disorders, depression, or even menopause. It may also make someone's pain worse instead of better. Why does this happen?

Many researchers believe placebos work because of the relationship between the mind and body. A person can have an expectation that the medicine will work, and then the body's chemistry will creates the results the mind was looking for. This just shows that the mind is a very powerful thing and can create unreal situations throughout our body.





Picture of placebo pills uofmhealth.org

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Racism is Racism. Period.

The history of racism has gone back to beginning of human civilization, and it has continued all the way to today. However, the term racism goes back to 1902 when Richard Henry Pratt uttered it for the first time. The most well-known acts of institutional racism throughout history are the "White Man's Burden" during the colonial era of the late 1800s by major European powers; the various acts of Nazi Germany Imperial Japan during and WWII and before (for Japan anyway); the slavery and Jim Crow laws of the American Southern states; Apartheid in South Africa, and various religions that put it there.

The definition of racism is prejudice, discrimination, or antagonism directed against someone of a different race, ethnicity, or nationality based on the belief that one's own race is superior or better than other races. Now this definition seems clear from the conquering of multiple people from one powerful nation, as well as the negative interactions of one racial community against another to the horrible mocking of someone based on their race and the unfair treatments of different people.

However, it seems to have changed dramatically coming into the 21st Century. Now it seems like the definition of it is very vague as plenty of people, regardless of which race you come from, claim to be victims of racism without any proof of it and just saying to only get attention.

The definition of Reverse Racism however is preju-

dice, discrimination, or antagonism on the basis of race directed against a member of a dominant or privileged racial group. It's also considerably known as anti-white racism due to the concept being associated with conservative social movements and the belief that social and economic gains by black people in the U.S and elsewhere cause disadvantages for white people, according to sources on the internet. But reverse racism is still technically racism simply because you have prejudice and antagonism for a certain race or races and also favoring one race over another.

The thing is, I don't care if you are white, black, Hispanic, Asian, Latino, Indian, a man, a woman, gay, bisexual, lesbian, transgender, a Jew, a Muslim, a Christian, a Hindu, an Atheist, or whatever; you are still a human being and that's all that matters. So why bother calling a white straight male a racist, sexist, homophobic, greedy Capitalist and Fascist pig or some other buzzword like that or just any other non-white, non-male, nonstraight, and non-American person an offensive slur, you would get a lot of angry reactions on both sides, so why even bother doing that?

As Martin Luther King Jr. said, we "will not be judged by the color of (our) skin but by the content of (our) character." All this means is that we should treat everyone with respect, compassion, and kindness, not by what they look like. In conclusion, there is no need for hate against any race, because the only race we have on this planet is...the human race.



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By Josiah Altland



Richard Henry Pratt, the man who's credited for uttering the word "Racism."



A meme about Reverse Racism.



Asian-Americans trying to get into a good college be like..

Another meme about Reverse Racism, explaining that Reverse Racism is still Racism.

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MSA Girls B-Ball: Down but Never Out!

This year's 2020 varsity girls basketball team was small but mighty. There were six players that consisted of Luisa Gorgoll, Emily Suarez, Nadia Allen-Krincek, and captains Madison Taylor, Camille Michael, and Tatum Gordon.

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They were also led by the fantastic Coach Phil Hanson, who stated "The 2020 Varsity Girls Basketball Team was a True Gift from God and working with them was the highlight of my day." The girls had a 0-12 record and came 4th in the division, but stayed positive each practice and continued to work hard and improve their skills. L SPRINGS DEMY

Madison Taylor said "we worked well together as a team and we tried our best.

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This year had three representatives at the All-Star Game, seniors Camille Michael and Tatum Gordon; there was also junior Madison Taylor. At the game, Madison won a skills competition and Tatum was part of the winning team. We are proud of you girls for representing MSA.

Coach would like to give special thanks to the MSA administration, faculty, Coach Taniah Jones, parents and the students for their endless support.

By Avery Terpstra

The Lady Mustangs always play a tight game. From left: Tatum Gordon, Maddie Taylor, Coach Phil Hanson and Camille Michael. **Photo Courtesy of Camille Michael**

By Avery Terpstra



The Boys Team contemplates their next play. From left: Ryan Rafuse, Michael Slifer, Zach Burns, Ethan Maeroff, and Taylor Mallady.

Photo Courtesy of Camille Michael & Yearbook

"The 2020 Varsity Boys Game and won a skills combasketball team was a True petition. Good job Ryan! Gift from God, and I en- The team ended with a 2-10 joyed working them," Hanson. The 2020 boys' Although it wasn't the outbasketball team consisted of come they were hoping for, Zack Burns, Michael Slif- they fought hard and stayed er, Ben Parker, Scott Ow- motivated throughout the en, Jacob Beck, Jaden Sel- entire season. la, Maclean Tadlock, Jeremiah Jones, and Ethan Maeroff. They were led by Captains Taylor Mallady and Ryan Rafuse.

MSA Boys B-Ball Hits the Shots

senior year, Ryan Rafuse support. was selected to the All-Star

with record, coming 5^{th} in the disaid Coach Phil vision for the regular season.

Coach Phil wanted to give a special thanks to special thanks to the MSA administration, faculty, Coach Taniah Jones, parents and After an impressive the students for their endless

Spring 2020

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MSA Swimmers Test the Waters

This past season we had approximately 25 swimmers on the team ranging from middle school to high school grades. Once again, Head Coach Josh Hersko, and Assistant Coach Michael Griffith led the team to a great season. We had three team captains this season: Mason Ogryzek, Daniel Garguilo, and Jack Buckley. It was a tremendous season from start to finish. We had a lot of new faces as well as quite a few returning veterans. The season culminated with a second place finish at the AAC Championship Meet. Coach Josh says, "we said goodbye to a trio of outstanding graduating seniors (Mason Ogryzek, Daniel Garguilo, and

Jack Buckley) who have each represented the Mustangs for many years. Their great leadership will be missed, but we know their memories will forever be a part of the great MSA swimming tradition!" 15

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The Mustangs continued their impressive showings this year as well, getting second place at the AAC Championship, and a top ten finish at the GISA State Championship Meet.

Coaches Josh & MG were very proud of the team this year. Coach Josh's advice always? "Always give your best, and remember to leave it ALL in the pool!"

MSA Wrestling Takes it to the Mat at State

By Zach Hale

MSA Wrestling this year was led by two coaches: John Hanrahan and Thomas Berg. The 10 wrestlers who represented Mill Springs this year: Nicholas Clifton, Alexander Hill, Yash Kubde, Luke McCoin, Ishwar Naik, Mason Ogryzek, Zachary Porter, Ethan Stroup, Daniel Tarrant, and Matthew White.

MSA swimmers at AAC taking their mark.

Photo Courtesy of Josh Hersko

By Daniel Garguilo

The wrestlers had a great season this year. They held their wrestling extravaganza in January. They took on several different wrestling programs from other schools and all of our wrestlers fought with spirit, including the parent volunteers, Mr. McCoin and Mr. Tarrant. Zach Porter, Daniel Tarrant, and Mason Ogryzek all performed greatly, and the outstanding wrestling award was a tie between Luke

McCoin and Ethan Stroup.

The team won their seventh consecutive GISA Regional Championship which qualified nine of their wrestlers to be in the state tournament. Daniel Tarrant and Nick Clifton both won medals and were a great inspiration to there team. It has been an great season, and we should be proud of our Mustang wrestlers.

On this season's team, Coach John shared, "It was a great pleasure to work with this young group of Mustang wrestlers this year. I am proud of each and every one of our athletes and can assure you their work ethic, dedication and perseverance will carry over into all aspects of life as they continue to become young men."



From left, back row: Coach John Hanrahan, Ethan Stroup, Daniel Tarrant, Matthew White, Nick Clifton, Assistant Coach Thomas Berg, and Zachary Porter. Front row: Smith Hill, Luke McCoin, and Ishwar Naik.



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The Question of Covid-19: Impact and Fallout

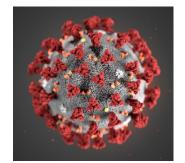
By Matt Campbell

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Protesters in Sacramento, CA Courtesy of ABC News



Courtesy of Washington Post



The elderly are considered a vulnerable group for Covid-19.

Courtesy of Wred.com

During the Coronavirus Pandemic, we are living a new life. We are in lockdown and we must stay home or at least socially distance unless we are deemed as essential workers.

Schools, shops, restaurants, and entertainment have all been forced to shut down. Our way of life has been drastically altered and a question a lot of people have is when will America reopen.

Recently, there have been a number of the protests across country to reopen America. Many health experts have warned that these protests are a hotbed in spreading the novel coronavirus and that these may cause another wave of the virus to hit Americans.

Some have also said that it is just too soon reopen the country. In many European countries, they have a rule where they will start to slowly open the country after 14 days of no new cases, but they will open very slowly.

There are two schools of thought when it comes to reopening the economy, should keep it we closed and make sure we are a corona-free nation or we should just open the economy and the weak and old should stay home? Many health experts have warned that this is a bad idea because of what happened in Sweden.

Sweden had the herd immunity theory and cases continue to rise and many health experts have said that this is not the right approach.

There are no easy answers to this unprecedented situation.

Spring 2020

Milk.



The Dystopia of Freedom in China

China is one of the world's most powerful nations and has taken advantage of its power. For decades, this nation has been operating under a system that it deems appropriate to suppress or impris-

By Matthew Cohen on, whether it be foreigners or citizens. Laws and other governmental powers have prevented the public eye from seeing the conditions and extent of Chinese prisons. Thousands of people have been sentenced by a legal system that does not value most rights, from a citizen with an undesirable heritage to Noble Prize winners.

Basic freedoms, such as freedom of press and freedom of religion, have been suppressed in all of the Chinese territories. Legal powers have been put in place to limit the personal freedoms of Chinese citizens which has caused unrest and controversy over the years. Ex-



amples of citizen restrictions include the ban of independent trade unions and an absence of an individual's rights in an arrest. Any attempts pushing for rights in China have been met with governmental violence and imprisonment. Furthermore, news of

anti-governmental protests have consistently been blocked by China.

All news within the borders of the country are overseen by the propaganda department. The newspa-



Police patrolling a public area

pers, the televinetworks, sion and the Internet are systematically monitored and filtered. While countries many have similar maintenance of their media, most fail to reach the extent and severity of China. For example, most public online websites are either blocked or restricted, and citizens are urged to use Chinese counterparts. Most Chinese citizens' searches are tracked by the government. If the citizen violates any rule, such as using a foreign website or attempting to search controver-

sial news. the government can pinpoint their home and workplace for



sult of the strict and immense reach of their online resources, China has the largest number of imprisonments of cybercrime.

This past year, China prohibited American reporters from news coverage by canceling the journal-

ists' legal Chipresence. nese This action prevents American reporters to further investigate China and forces them to leave the country. More than а dozen reporters



Online use is constantly monitored

from the New York are affected, all Times, the Wall Street Journal, and the Washington Post. The cancellation was part of a political battle between the United States and China. Trade between the two nations have been severely affected, and there is an atmosphere of political rivalry. China's recent restrictions on American journalism was specifically in response to the United States passing a law that limited the number of Chinese journalists. While an eye for an eye is the common reaction throughout history, there is no time like now when rationality and cooperation is needed to save the future.

The Saga of Star Hero

By Adrianna Wright





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Mustangs, Issues, Lifestyle, & Knowledge

Co-Editor-in-Chief Avery Terpstra *Co-Editor-in-Chief* Daniel Garguilo *Mustangs Editor* Matthew Cohen *Mustangs Editor* Adrianna Wright *Issues Editor* Zach Hale *Lifestyle Editor* Josiah Altland *News Editor* Matt Campbell *Advisor* Shilpee Kathuria

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