

MUSTANG MONTHLY

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The History Of Black And Indigenous Women In Midwifery by Marlo Gabriele

Author's Note: Keep in mind, Midwifery is defined as "the profession or practice of assisting women in childbirth."

Until the late 19th century, the majority of births were attended by midwives, many of whom were Black, indigenous, or immigrant women. That status has drastically changed. Currently, black women represent less than 2% of the nation's reported 15,000 midwives. Furthermore, black women experience maternal mortality at a rate two to three times higher than that of white women.

In the early 20th century, Midwifery became a profession that required education from an accredited program. And since many midwives were slaves, they did not have an education; they were considered by others to be "illiterate", "dirty", etc. Because of their "uncleanliness", many black midwives were blamed for the death of an infant when several research studies showed that midwife-attended births accounted for fewer maternal deaths than those attended by general practitioners.



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The History Of Black And Indigenous Women In Midwifery by Marlo Gabriele

(continued from page 1)

“Even as government-funded research in the 1930s continued to document the better birth outcomes achieved by midwives compared to physicians, reformers continued to blame Black, indigenous, and immigrant midwives for the country’s abysmal mortality rates,” says Dominique Tobbell. “At the same time, though, some public health nurses recognized that professional midwives in Britain and Europe contributed to low maternal and infant mortality rates in those countries.” They try to work to establish nurse-midwifery as a new specialty in which nurses would be trained in nursing and midwifery, which brings us to more white midwives.

The 1930’s led to more evidence that there is a better birth outcome with midwives...still, there is a continuation of blame towards indigenous and black women. “Throughout the segregated South, however, Black midwives continued to provide essential care to Black families, especially in rural communities lacking access to physicians or public health nurses.” This only proves how important diversity in the workplace can be.

If we require education in midwifery, low income communities won’t be able to provide that education. And with our equality and equity issues, these low income communities have populations that consist of mostly Latina and black men and women. Although an education in midwifery can lead to some upsides, the overwhelming evidence just proves how much our education system as well as the workplace can be very sexist, classist, and racist.



Photos from City University of New York



Even as our economy and moral values progress, there are still pay gaps due to race and gender. And these only widen the socioeconomic divide. If we don’t work together to close this gap, this problem will only get worse. Ultimately, though, the increased regulation of traditional midwives by state health departments and the growing role of nurse-midwives in the mid-20th century contributed to the demise of traditional Black, indigenous, and immigrant midwives.

What's Happening To The Whales?

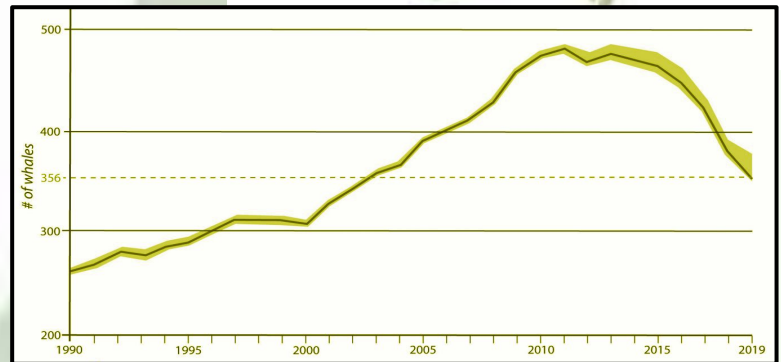
By Donnie Scacco

In 1971, whaling became outlawed. This would be the end of the whales' population issues, right? The answer is NO.

Over the course of 2 months in 2014, around 96 Pilot whales washed up in Fort Lauderdale, right off the shoreline of Everglades National Park. They can be found in groups of 20-90. That means a whole group or multiple groups of these dolphin-like mammals have died. The question is how? Or why?

A popular theory is that these whales somehow may have contracted an ailment similar to canine distemper causing dog deaths, called morbillivirus. The theory, however, after research on the whales was proven wrong. Cold fronts could also have disoriented the whales as well. While natural causes could be the case, it appears to be more than that. In addition, 2 sperm whales were found floating dead. Whether it was a natural cause in the whales' habitat, or because of people murdering these mammals, it seemed to be spiking around this time.

Above is a graph that shows a sharp spike in whale deaths during this time. It definitely can be said that whale populations have not returned to normal and deaths have been occurring in completely different areas.



Aside from this, more deaths of whales recently have given researchers the question of: why isn't this ending?

The UME (Unusual mortality event) researchers have stated that in one event in 2021, 34 whales died. The main idea is that it's not just Pilot whales or a measly whale virus in Florida. It's the population of MANY species of whales at risk.

While it is still difficult to determine every cause, however, it is in the hands of humans to help whales, specifically those at risk such as the Blue whale with no more than 25,000 left in the world. While this may seem unimportant as if the numbers are high but in reality, whale populations are nothing compared to what they were because people often forget that.

If you ever hear anyone disagreeing with the desire to save whales, ask them this: Who was here more than 40 million years before the other? Whales, or Humans. They need us.

International Women's Month by Maura Witkowski

Since 1987, March has been designated as National Women's History Month, a time to pay tribute to all the generations of women who changed the face of society through courage and activism. The National Women's History Alliance designates a yearly theme for Women's History Month.

The 2022 theme is "Women Providing Healing, Promoting Hope." This theme is both a tribute to the ceaseless work of caregivers and frontline workers during this ongoing pandemic and also, a recognition of the thousands of ways that women of all cultures have provided both healing and hope throughout history.

When did this start?

The National Women's History Project, now known as the National Women's History Alliance, was founded in Sonoma County, California 40 years ago.

In the 1970s, although groups like the National Organization of Women (NOW) and ERAmerica were fighting to have the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) ratified as the 27th Amendment to the Constitution, the topic of women's history was unknown in the public consciousness and in school curriculum. "Women's History Week" celebration. It was a success, with school. To address this perceived lack, in 1978, the Education Task Force of the Sonoma County Commission on the Status of Women initiated the first-ever "Women's History programs, speakers, an essay contest, and finally a parade held in downtown Santa Rosa as the week's finale.

National Women's History Month 2022

Sonoma County, California now holds multiple events throughout the month. For example, games/activities, speeches from female activists, and more.

"This Women's History Month, as we reflect on the achievements of women and girls across the centuries and pay tribute to the pioneers who paved the way, let us recommit to the fight and help realize the deeply American vision of a more equal society where every person has a shot at pursuing the American dream...



This work is being led by the most diverse and gender-balanced Cabinet in American history, including the first woman — and woman of color — to serve as Vice President, Kamala Harris," Joe Biden states in a recent Presidential Action, where he officially names March 2022 as Women's National History Month.

Whether it's female leaders, women in sports, women in the arts, or women in science, the month of March recognizes all women.

Exploring New Orleans' Annual Mardi Gras Festival by Luke Bevilacqua

Mardi Gras, a Christian celebration period before Lent, came to a close in the beginning of this month, and with it came some historic celebrations, especially in New Orleans. Continue reading to learn more about Mardi Gras and how people celebrated it on the first of March.

What is Mardi Gras

What is Mardi Gras? Mardi Gras or Fat Tuesday is the day before Ash Wednesday, which for Christians is the last day before the period of Lent that lasts until Easter. For many Christians and even other people, they use this day to celebrate with parades and eat elaborate feasts, desserts, drinks and much more. People across the country attend various large and small celebrations that involve various celebrations.



Mardi Gras in New Orleans

Over the past several years, Mardi Gras celebrations have been historic, with colorful parades, feasts and much more; visiting New Orleans during Mardi Gras will exceed your expectations.

One of the biggest parades is the Krewe of Endymion parade. This parade includes 3,100 people and 37 floats, which travels through mid city, and then rolls down canal street for miles. This parade had an estimate of 40,000 people on the blocks that it went through.

With hundreds of people leaving comments about their stay, most of them were positive. From families to friends on vacation, all students, children, adults have fun in the colorful festive parades, food booths, and much more. On [traveladvisor.com](https://www.traveladvisor.com) there are many reviews that make Mardi Gras in New Orleans live up to its name.

Exploring New Orleans' Annual Mardi Gras Festival

by Luke Bevilacqua (*continued from page 5*)



Some include “An unbelievable experience”, “being in the center of the show, smelling the BBQs, watching the dances, the costumes, the smile on everyone, catching the necklaces, dancing in the French Quarter.. So many great moments.” “The parades were wonderful. And the crowds were terrific.”

Bourbon street

A street full of life and parties every night bourbon is the place to be, especially during Mardi Gras. Located in the heart of the french quarter of New Orleans bourbon street is a wild ride. Filled with neon lights, colorful parades, and much more, Bourbon street is not for the faint hearted.

According to neworleans.com, “For many New Orleans visitors, Bourbon Street embodies the life of a party town. The street is lit by neon lights, throbbing with music and decorated by beads and balconies.” Since the late 1960s, Bourbon Street has been the center of attention from many tourists interested in the night of their lives.

Mr Buckley's experience at Mardi Gras

At first just going for a family vacation turned into a great experience for Mr. Buckley and his family on the streets of New Orleans during Mardi Gras ten years ago. Mr. Buckley's Favorite experiences from mardi gras were the street parades that and his family were able to experience. He described them, and the whole thing as “Fun and energetic.” Lastly, one of his favorite parts of his and his family's stay was definitely “The music”, that went along with the outdoor parades and celebrations. He states “Lot of street musicians, horns, and it's super festive.”

It doesn't matter if you are Christian and celebrating Fat Tuesday and Mardi Gras, if you are going to Mardi Gras to have fun, according to Mr. Buckley and countless others, you will have the time of your life.

Sails and Sails: Embracing the Challenges of High School By Daniela Ardino

Yes, it's me. I'm back. But this month I'm doing something a little different. I interviewed Mr. Gaipa about his well-known Music Past. In this article, you will find pictures and some well-rounded information about him. I hope you enjoy getting to know the 2004 version of Mr. Gaipa.

A New Beginning

Being a high schooler wasn't and still isn't the easiest thing. But Mr. Gaipa and his friends found a way around that. The way they executed this was by forming a band during their Junior and Senior years of High school. Their band was called Sails and Sails. It contained 4 musicians: Chris, Brandon, Jeremy & Mr. Gaipa. As the 4 of them played together, they became best friends. "We started the band knowing that we were all good musicians and that we wanted to do something really special together," says Mr. Gaipa. Mr. Gaipa played bass but he also knew how to play the guitar and drums. He did not sing (often)!

Back in 2004 being in a band was a BIG DEAL. Mr. Gaipa explains that they took being in a band as seriously as some people took Varsity sports. As a band, they set a goal to play at local venues, make friends with local bands & possibly make an album, and go on tour. The band was successful for a couple of years but when it was time for graduation everyone was so focused on their grades, they grew apart. Now 18 years later, they are talking about getting the band back together, now that they have a little more free time on their hands.

Concerts & Venues

The best way to describe the Genre of the music the band created would be Indie Rock but they crossed over into other genres. For example, emo, screamo, pop-punk, and even progressive rock. "We wrote good songs and developed our sound along the way. Bands that we thought we sounded like were "Say Anything, The Receiving End of Sirens, and The Wonder Years," says Mr. Gaipa.

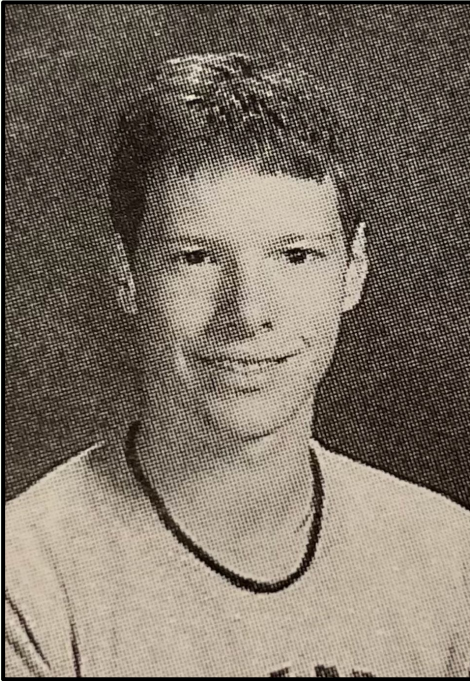
Sails and Sails played all around Connecticut. They played in Danbury at the Empress Ballroom/Heirloom Arts Center and In Hartford at the Webster. The band also played at smaller venues, halls, and even church basements! The band participated in the "Battle of the Bands" at Pomperaug High school during their Senior year. The band ended up winning second place only losing by a fraction of a point. "We had so much fun playing local shows with local bands. Back in the mid-2000s, there was such a strong local music scene, not just at our school but across CT. I don't know if that still exists, but it was really cool to be part of, and I honestly miss it," Mr. Gaipa concludes.



Mr. Gaipa at one of his band's rehearsals in Brandon's basement around 2004 or 2005

Sails and Sails: Embracing the Challenges of High School

By Daniela Ardino (*continued from page 7*)



Above: Mr. Gaipa's Yearbook Photo–Sophomore Year
Below: The band goes to Virginia Beach!



“Step outside of your comfort zone.”

Something every child always needs and loves to have is their parent's support. This was especially important for Mr. Gaipa in High school. Mr. Gaipa's parents were supportive but didn't give Mr. Gaipa their full support for the band. They enjoyed and loved that he played music but (there's always a but) they didn't love it when the band practiced in the basement. “It was loud! My parents always wanted me to find a stable career, but they let me use their car to drive to shows, helped pay for some of our travel expenses and my equipment. I couldn't have done it without them!” says Mr. Gaipa.

The last and final question I asked Mr. Gaipa was, “Is there any inspiration/advice you want to share about life, especially to our 8th graders who will be going off to high school next year?” Mr. Gaipa responded with... “Step outside of your comfort zone. Even though something might make you uncomfortable, give it a shot. Take advantage of every opportunity life throws at you.”

As I conclude my article about Mr. Gaipa, I start to realize how his piece of advice really connected to his own life. Mr. Gaipa felt like he had no purpose during his first 2 years of high school. He realized that he needed to leave his mark and he did by forming this band. He stepped outside his comfort zone and personally, I think that's a great example to be led by. We are extremely lucky to have such a great example like Mr. Gaipa himself at Memorial Middle School.

People in Black History That Made an Impact

By Olivia Williams

The month of February is designated as Black History Month. It is a month to celebrate the many accomplishments and impacts made by our African American brothers and sisters. Since not many people know about black accomplishments aside from Harriet Tubman (who helped slaves escape from their masters through the underground railroad to freedom), Martin Luther King (civil rights activist), and Maya Angelou (poet), I shall introduce you to a couple of the not-so-familiar contributors to our history.

Guion Bluford

Born on November 22, 1942, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, U.S., and died on February 1, 2003. He was the eldest of three sons and was raised by Lolita Bluford and Guion Bluford, Sr. Bluford went to school and graduated from Overbrook Senior High School in 1960 and went on to graduate from Pennsylvania State University in 1964, with his B.S. degree in aerospace engineering. He also graduated from the U.S. Air Force ROTC program and received his commission as an Air Force second lieutenant.

Bluford graduated from the Air Force Institute of Technology with his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in aerospace engineering in 1974 and 1978. After getting his Air force pilot wings he was assigned to the 557th tactical Fighter Squadron at Cam Bush Bay, Vietnam, as an F4c pilot, he flew 144 combat missions in Southeast Asia.



Guion Bluford, middle

From 1967 to 1972, he was also a T38 instructor pilot at Sheppard Air Force Base in Texas where he trained future U.S. Air Force and West German fighter pilots. After graduating from the Air Force Institute of Technology in 1974, Bluford was assigned to the U.S. Air Force Flight Dynamics Laboratory as Deputy for Advanced Concepts in the Aeromechanics Division and then as Branch Chief of the Aerodynamics and Airframe Branch. He was called upon to be selected for an astronaut program made by NASA and became an official astronaut one year later in 1983, becoming the first African American to fly in space and the first to receive the U.S. Air Force Command Pilot Astronaut Wings.

People in Black History That Made an Impact

By Olivia Williams (*continued from page 9*)



Picture of Mary Ann Shadd Cary

He had a number of firsts in his lifetime, and if anything he shows us that just because it has not been attempted does not mean it is unreachable in your lifetime. Be the one to accept the challenge.

Mary Ann Shadd Cary

Born on October 9, 1823, and died on June 5, 1893, of stomach cancer. Mary Ann Shadd Cary was an anti-slave activist, a journalist, a publisher, a lawyer, and also a school teacher. How she helped defeat slavery is she and a family contributed to this thing called freedom seekers (people who helped slaves escape) even though Congress passed the law of the fugitive slave act making it harder for slaves who escaped and planned to escape.

After that law made it harder for people to help slaves escape, Mary Ann Shadd moved to Canada to join other slaves who escaped got married, had kids, and opened a school for both black and white students to learn. She also published an article called The Provincial Freeman,

which was an antislavery article. Soon after in 1860, her husband passed away before the Civil War. Soon after she moved back to recruit soldiers for the Union Army. After the war, she enrolled in the first class of Howard University Law School located in Washington, DC. She attended evening classes at Howard and taught local children during the day. This is another person who had a big impact, especially on women's rights and the treatment of black people.

In the end, there are many people in Black history that made an impact on the way we live our lives today. There were many people I missed and even though I showcased only two, I would like it if you did your own research on black historical figures. But if you don't have the time, here are some to get you going on this amazing journey of knowledge and history:

- Nona Hendryx(an American vocalist, record producer, songwriter, musician, author, and actress)
- Lena Horne (an American dancer, actress, singer, and civil rights activist)
- Ella Fitzgerald (an American jazz singer)
- Ralph McDaniels (music video director, DJ, and VJ. He co-created and co-hosts the music video program Video Music Box with Lionel C. Martin)
- Bootsy Collins (American musician, singer, and songwriter)
- Henrietta Lacks (African-American woman whose cancer cells are the source of the HeLa cell line, the first immortalized human cell line and one of the most important cell lines in medical research.)
- Paul Robeson (American bass-baritone concert artist, stage and film actor, athlete, and activist who became famous both for his cultural accomplishments and for his political stances.)

A History of Valentine's Day by Ramin Qurbani

Today, Valentine's Day is celebrated every February 14th, and the day is about celebrating your significant other and your loved ones. There is a long and interesting history behind the seemingly simple holiday of love. Valentine's Day used to be celebrated for a month, a month of romance. It has traces of Christianity and part of Ancient Roman traditions. The Catholic Church recognizes 3 saints that helped make Valentine's Day.

One legend says that Valentine was a priest that served the church during the third century of Rome, when Emperor Claudius II was the leader of Rome. The Emperor said that single soldiers with no significant others or wives made for better soldiers for Rome; so he outlawed marriage for young men.

Valentine, a priest at the time, thought that this law was unfair, so he kept marrying young men in secret. One day, the Emperor found this out, and ordered Valentine to be executed, but others insisted that Saint Valentine of Terni (a bishop) also married young men. Both were executed by the Emperor outside of Rome's walls.



Another legend behind Valentine's Day is that the holiday was made because it might be an offshoot of a festival called Lupercalia. Lupercalia was similar to Valentine's Day today. It started as far as 6th century B.C., according to a Roman legend, there were once two boys named Romulus and Remus, twin nephews and the founders of Rome, who were in a basket floating down the Tiber river to drown. This was because their mother broke their vow of celibacy.

Their parents' servant took pity on them and put them in a basket, as to increase their chances of survival. The god of the river, Tiberinus, carried the currents' stream down to a wild fig tree where Lupercal, a she-wolf, took care of them at their den, at the bottom of Palatine Hill; where Rome was founded. The twins were adopted by a shepherd and his wife, but they killed both of them after they learned about their parents. Lupercalia took place to honor Lupercal and please the Roman god of fertility, Lupercus.



A History of Valentine's Day by Ramin Qurbani (continued from page 11)

Although, it was mostly said that Valentine's Day was made in an attempt to "Christianize" Lupercalia, though, it ultimately failed, as it survived the initial surge of Christianity, but it was outlawed until the end of the 5th century, at the end of the 5th century, Pope Gelasius declared that the 14th of February was going to be Valentine's Day; though it was not until much later that Valentine's Day was associated with love. During the Middle Ages / Dark Ages, it was commonly believed in England and France that February 14th was also the start of the bird's mating season, which made it associated with love.

By the middle of the 18th century, during Valentine's Day, lovers started exchanging gifts to express their love to each other. These gifts might be small tokens or handwritten letters, but by the 1900s, the printing technology got better, so printing Valentine's Day cards became more commonplace. Many Americans started exchanging Valentine's Day cards, and the first to mass produce these cards was Esther A. Howland. She became known as the "Mother of the Valentine" for making these common cards more popular and familiar in stores near Valentine's Day; today, around 145 million Valentine's Day cards are sent each year, which is the second largest card sending holiday.

During Valentine's Day, there is a peculiar tradition of sending letters to Verona, Italy addressed to 'Juliet'. Juliet is one of the main characters in Shakespeare's play called 'Romeo and Juliet', set in Verona, Italy, where there are two lovers named Romeo and Juliet. The ending of the play is sort of dark, where Juliet fakes her own death, and Romeo, believing that Juliet is actually dead, takes his own life, where Juliet wakes up, and takes her own life too because of that. Back to the topic, when the letter reaches Verona, they are answered by a team of volunteer writers from the 'Cara Guilietta' ('Dear Juliet' in Italian) prize to the winning letter author.



Another fact about Valentine's Day is that the baby on most Valentine's Day related items, Cupid, was actually a Greek god. He was known to the ancient Greek society as Eros, the minor god of love, he was the son of Aphrodite, the major goddess of love. He uses his bow and two arrows, one to give love, and the other to inflict hate; he uses these arrows to play with his targets' emotions. Cupid, in the form of an adult during the ancient Greek period; however, during the ancient Roman period, he became a child in appearance.

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Remembering Ruth Bader Ginsburg by Lily Scozzafava

27 years. That was how long Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg served on the High Court. As the second woman to be appointed as a Supreme Court Justice, Ruth lived a purposeful life for causes that she believed in.

Born in 1933 in Brooklyn, New York, she grew up with a love for education, which was instilled early in her childhood by her mom. She was a very intelligent student but was diagnosed with cancer the day before her high school graduation. However, the disease didn't stop her success in the academic world, as she went on to study at Cornell University. After graduating from Cornell, she started a family and her husband was drafted. Upon her husband's return, she resumed her education at Harvard University.

Ginsburg faced lots of personal struggles while studying law, with her husband being diagnosed with testicular cancer in 1956, and having to be on top of her studies and family, she faced a lot of troubles. One of which was the gender-discrimination in college as being one of the nine women in a 500 student class. Despite this, she persevered and graduated from Harvard and her husband recovered from cancer. Eventually she moved back to New York City and accepted a position at a law firm.

Though Ginsburg had huge academic success, that didn't shield her from the gender-discrimination that women faced in the workplace in the 60s.



Ginsburg found it difficult to find work but in 1963 she accepted a professor position at Columbia University and was the first woman professor. She worked there until President Jimmy Carter appointed her to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia in 1980. She worked there for 13 years until 1993 when Bill Clinton nominated her for the Supreme Court of the United States.

Throughout her career she was a strong advocate for women's rights. Ginsburg attacked specific areas of discrimination and violations of women's rights one at a time. Until 2018, Ginsburg didn't miss a day of oral arguments, even when undergoing chemotherapy, after surgery, or after her husband died. Ginsburg passed away on September 18th, 2020 due to pancreatic cancer after 27 long years of serving on the Supreme Court

Is 90's Fashion Repeating Itself? by Riddhima Chaurasia

If you ever wore mom jeans in front of a 50-year-old adult, the response you would get would be “I used to wear those when I was your age!” We all know, 90's fashion is practically timeless. We have seen it coming back to style from the early 2000's up until now, whether it's the baggy jeans or oversized tees.

According to the DSN English report on fashion trends, trends repeat every 20-30 years because of “generational changes as well as designers taking inspiration from styles their parents wore.” After seeing what parents wear we try to incorporate that into our own pop culture. While it takes around 20 years for a fashion style to fade and become popular again, fashion does in fact repeat itself.

In this case we find that 90's clothing is one of a kind and suits almost everyone. The clothing style is also easily accessible to many of us at affordable prices, which makes it easier to wear and style. Seeing social media influencers like Hailey Bieber, Bella Hadid, and Hailey Baldwin show up in flared jeans, claw clips, and crop tops, we notice the comfort level of this style and quickly catch on to it. Once trending again we find ourselves all wearing these clothes on a daily basis, since they could be worn at home or at school or work.



Hailey Bieber in a cropped top, baggy jeans, chunky shoes and a claw clip. Photo

Nevertheless, 90's fashion is clashing with latest music styles and vintage aesthetics, which these days people feel the urge to buy. When you think about how many genres 90's fashion matches, and how it creates an even larger audience, it is easy to see the excitement.

Not only do we wear 90's clothes without knowing it, but the haircuts are coming back as well. Mullets have become extremely popular amongst a far range of ages and we still see dark roots showing (on blonde locks) to the ultra-thin eyebrows that we thought were gone for good.

Jurassic Park Dominion, An Honest Look by Thomas Harris

So, at first look, the new Jurassic Park movie looks exciting, and the only thing that I can say is just wow, the trailer says it all, original characters, newer characters—and new dinosaurs—and an exciting conclusion to a great series. Now, when I first watched the trailer, I thought that it would just be another movie that would be a cash grab, but honestly, it looks like a movie that I would watch. It has a good balance of action scenes and dialogue scenes so that the plot moves forward fast enough.

Jurassic Park Dominion is one of those movies where you KNOW just from the trailer how good it's going to be (or how bad). With the new movie coming out on June 10th we know that this movie will (probably) be the last Jurassic Park movie.

Come on, can you think of any other Jurassic Park movies coming up in the near future? I mean, just look—it doesn't look like a generic sequel or anything like that. It looks like a genuinely good movie. I'm pretty confident in saying that that it's going to be one to remember. It has everything you want: action, a good storyline, the tension between the characters.

And that's my honest opinion, it may just be that I like Jurassic Park movies, but this one looks pretty good.



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St. Patrick's Word Search!

By: Camila Reyes

Words to Look For...

Leprechaun Clover Irish Gold Jig Rainbow Green Lucky Harp



New Beginning

By: Camila Reyes and Amaris Fontanez



MMS Teacher's Sports Inspirations by Sophia Dickens

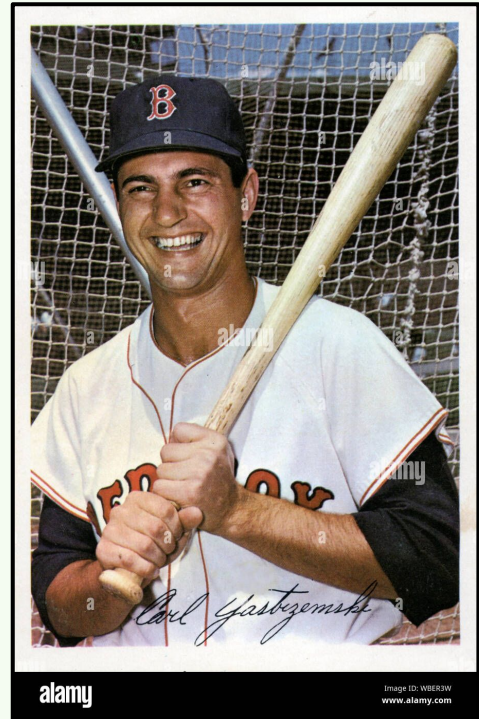
For this issue, I interviewed teachers from different grades about who inspired them when they were a kid or even who still inspires them now.

Ms. Alegi - ELA teacher for Grades 7 and 8

Inspiration: Jennie Finch

Ms. Alegi stated that her inspiration was Jennie Finch. Jennie Finch is a pitcher for the USA Softball team. Why was Jenny so inspiring to Ms. Alegi? She explained that she wanted to get into pitching when she was in 7th grade and admired how easy she made her pitches look throughout Jenny's season.

Why does Ms. Alegi like Jennie Finch so much? She stated that there were not many women playing softball to watch on television, so she decided to do some research on women softball players. Anytime Ms. Alegi was around she wanted to make sure that she was caught up with Jennie Finch's games throughout the season.



Mr. Buckley - Social Studies teacher for Grades 7 and 8

Inspiration: Carl Yastrzemski

Mr. Buckley stated that his inspiration was Carl Yastrzemski because he was the captain of Mr. Buckley's favorite team, the Red Sox. Also, Carl Yastrzemski had the same first name as Mr. Buckley.

When Mr. Buckley was 10 he used to listen to the Red Sox on the radio at night so his parents would always tell him to go to bed and his common response was "Mom, Carl Yastrzemski is coming up next inning." So Mr. Buckley would always try to buy 15 extra minutes before he had to go to bed.

Who are some of the inspiring athletes in your life? Are there any other teachers and their sports interests you want to know more about? Leave a comment on our Google Classroom page and let us know!

An Inside Look at MMS Softball by Megan Widlar

In the past year's, the softball team has been one of the most successful teams here at MMS. With softball and baseball season right around the corner, we wanted to get the inside look from one of Memorial's own, Corinne Sartor. Corinne is a pitcher and has been playing softball for 7 years. Last season she was one of the key components to the team's success. We wanted to know some of her favorite memories, what she is looking forward to and what she believes her biggest struggles will be for the upcoming season.

With the 2020 softball season being shut down due to Covid, Corinne has only played one season for MMS. But in that time she has for sure made so many memorable memories. Her favorite pastime from last season was the bus rides. "It was a great time for our team to have fun, grow closer and get pumped up for our games." Another one of Corinne's favorite memories is playing the baseball team during a scrimmage.

I was also curious about what she is looking forward to for the upcoming season. "I am looking forward to playing with my friends that I have been playing with ever since I was little, and players I would otherwise not get the chance to be with." Along with her teammates, she is also very excited to learn and play under the coaching of Mr. Buckley, who heads the team. But overall Corinne is hoping for a season where she will grow as a person and athlete!

Finally I asked her, "What do you believe will be your biggest struggle for this season?" Her overall answer was her time management. Corrine, along with softball, participates in many other in-school and out of school activities. She is nervous about becoming overwhelmed and stressed from doing too many things. "Time management is important because I need to keep a balance with my activities, and my school work and getting good grades."

After hearing from Corrine and learning about her as a softball player, we can see more about what goes on on Memorial's softball team. Wishing Corrine good luck in tryouts, and her upcoming town season as well!



Memorial's Softball Team from the 2021 Season

The Beijing Winter Olympics By Allie McNerney and Anabelle Greenwood

The 2022 Winter Olympics have come to an end. This year, the Winter Olympics were held in Beijing, China. They occur only once every 4 years, so we were very excited to get to watch and predict these competitions. Even though I personally was very excited to watch, the general public didn't feel the same way. The 2022 Olympics viewership was down 61% from the last Olympics.

Possibly the biggest news of these games was the last run of Shaun White's career. The snowboarding prodigy finished 4th in the men's halfpipe. After years of triumph, it was bittersweet to see Shaun go.

Besides Shaun White retiring, the Olympics were pretty standard. We were curious about how MMS students felt about the Winter Olympics, so we asked for some opinions on the topic. Ultimately, the MMS fan favorite olympic sport was snowboarding. Students said that snowboarding is fun to watch "because the competitors do cool tricks" and "it was amazing when they would land the unthinkable tricks."

MMS students didn't enjoy figure skating as much. Students said that figure skating is "very boring to watch."

Some students wished they could snowboard because "it is very fast-paced and needs a lot of skill to do." and "it is very cool."

They also said they think basketball should be added to the Winter Olympics. This is a popular opinion considering that normally, basketball is a winter sport! Yet, for years it has been in The Summer Olympics. Could this be preventing people from watching olympic basketball?

MMS students think that the luge should be eliminated from the Winter Olympics. What is luge you ask? It is a type of bobsled. This confusing physics-heavy sport is one that MMS students gave the thumbs down.

To no surprise, students said Shaun White is their favorite athlete in the Olympics this year. Shaun has been an inspiration to young snowboarders for years. Be sure to check out his final run of the games!



Shaun White after one of his final runs (ESPN)



*The US Team Skating won Silver
(The Washington Post)*



*Luge was not one of MMS' favorite sports this year...
(NPR)*

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