The Badger Pause

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Are your parents overbearing, too care-free or just right? Find out on page 5!



Do you hate something? We probably do too! Check out **Things We Love to Hate** on page 6.

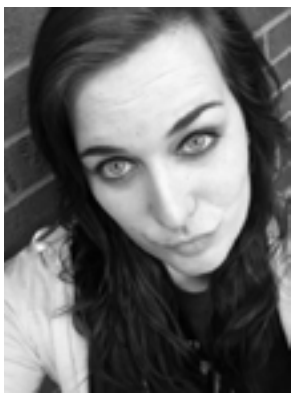
There's a store... for *that*? See page 6 for 6 interesting shops.

Has common courtesy become a thing of the past? Decide for yourself. Page 7.

Catch up on what's going down at B.E. Pages 2 & 3.



But first...let Amy take a selfie. #Page8



PROM. 'Nuff said.

by Amy Lasco, BP Editor & Christin Dornback, BP Assistant Editor

Hey there cats and kittens! You know what time it is. It's coming. You can feel it in the air, hear it in the sounds of single girls crying in the bathroom, and see it on Instagram as girls brag to all their followers (#promposal #isaidyes #toocute #prom2k14). That's right- it's prom season. Boys are sweating as they try to pop the big question, and girls are spreading rumors left and right, trying to pretend that Ryan Gosling isn't coming to our prom (ladies, back off, he already asked me). Between renting tuxes and making hair appointments, we barely have time to think about the little details. Like… does anyone even know what time prom starts? If you don't have someone like Ryan Gosling to take care of these small details for you, here's a rundown of this year's sock hop.

This year's prom will be on Friday, May 9th and will be held at LaMalfa Party Center, which is located at 5783 Heisley Rd. in Mentor. Dinner will be served at 6, but if you want a good seat you'd better get there at 5:30 when the doors open. By 6:45, I will be tearing up the dance floor and the food will be put away, so be ready. We will then be partying until 11 pm, so get a good night's sleep on Thursday. The theme will be Frozen in Time and if you have a problem with this, you had better just *Let it Go*… Tickets will be on sale April 22nd, so start searching now ladies ($55 for seniors, $65 for everyone else- #breakingmypiggybank). Also, note that all prom-goers must be in school BY THE TIME THE SECOND BELL RINGS IN THE MORNING. If you are late, you will have to stay the entire school day. Otherwise, all you dancin' machines can leave after third period (which ends at 10:13). ARE YOU READY TO RUMBLLLLLLLLE?? #letsgo #swagmaster #partyhard #dancing #livingwithmyladies

After Prom tickets are $5, and you must be in the gym by midnight, no exceptions. It goes from 11:30 pm until one-thirty in the morning, so make sure you get that afternoon nap in!

So buy those tickets, rent those limos, slip into your dancing shoes and *For the First Time in Forever,* get ready to dance the night away. □

The candidates were asked: **What are you looking forward to most about prom?**

Queen Candidates

Amy Lasco



"My dance moves are fiercer than Beyonce's. #WatchOut"

Peyton Neumore



"Being on Prom Court with some of my friends."

Caroline Milano



"I love my boytoy. #Cute #Couple #DancingWithTheBae"

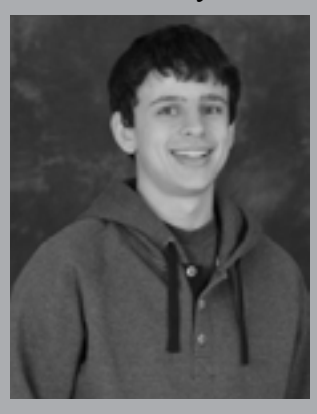
Mac Cossick



"The bread."

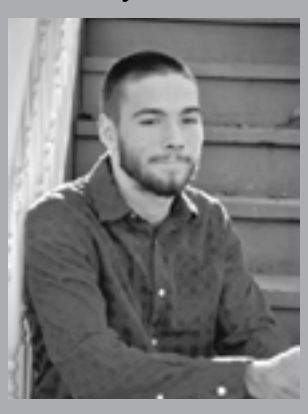
King Candidates

Ben Wiley



"Being graced by being on the same Prom Court as Amy Lasco."

Cody Charvat



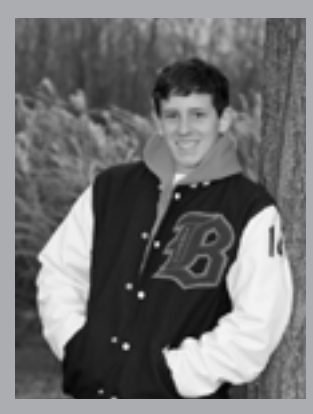
"Looking fresh and driving the Nova."

Brandon Vandermaas



"Dancing. I can't wait to break it down."

T.J. Malkus



"The food. I love food. Food is my life."

Prince & Princess Candidates

Luke Byler
"I heard the theme was Frozen in Time... snowflakes bring out the sparkle in my eyes."

Grace Noce
"Leaving school early."

Vince Noce
"After Prom."



Abbey McDermott
"Everyone will smell nice for once."

Ryan Zeitler
"I'm just excited for my first prom."

Alivia Alfredo
"I love getting my hair done."

COSI makes weather magical

by Adam Thompson and Gwen Losasso, BP Staff Writers

Let's be honest, some science may not be that interesting, but on April 10th at Berkshire Elementary, something pretty enthralling occurred. Lightning cracked, clouds rolled in, and the power of atmospheric pressure tested, all in the gym, all right in front of the gaping mouthed kindergarteners and wide eyed sixth graders. The wizard in command of the show, Tyler, was a COSI (Center of Science and Industry) "meteorologist-in-training". Tyler was a very well-spoken weatherman, and was such a good speaker, the kids forgot all about complex concepts, such as science, and sat absorbed by the "wizardry" in front of them.

One of the first tricks demonstrated by Tyler, was a can crush. A fairly easy, and simple fun experiment. By heating a soda can with a little bit of water in it, then instantly cooling it by plunging it into a tub of cold water, the can is smashed by an unseen force. The gaping mouths of the kids said it all. A few crushed Coke cans later, he went behind a screen, wheeled out a giant oil barrel, and challenged a few kids to try crushing it with their bare hands. Try as they might, the children could not make a dent in the sturdy metal body. Tyler however, said that he could easily crush the large barrel: with the help of atmospheric pressure. Although, to many kid's disappointment, he could not do it in person due to something silly like safety concerns or open fire and what not. Instead, he showed a video of exactly how he could crush a barrel just like the one in front of the kids. Sure enough, the sides of the barrel in the video rushed inwards, although anticipating some doubt in the audience, Tyler rolled out a second barrel. Except this one was crushed! Gasps of surprise escaped and a few oohs echoed the room, while Tyler explained that he even had more in store for them.

The next bit of the show was about molecules and how they turned into clouds. Grabbing a few youths from the audience, Tyler explained how molecules condense together when it is cold and rush away from eachother when it is hot. The molecules he used to demonstrate were energetic children, and he explained that when it is cold, people get together for warmth and when warmth isn't needed, people spread out. Soon enough, Tyler had them running from back and forth with commands of "warm" or "cold". After that, he described the life of the common cloud. A small dust molecule, floating in the wind gathers moisture, until it becomes big enough to stick to other dust specks and form a large mass consisting of dust, but mostly moisture. Tyler's next bet seemed even more ludicrous than crushing the giant barrel. He bet that he could form a cloud right in gym. When asked if they doubted Tyler was capable of such sorcery, many hands rocketed into the air. Tyler smiled. Bringing out an insulated canister, he elaborated about what rested inside- super cold liquid nitrogen. Students watched as he poured clouds from the thermos into a clear, wide container of water. As the clouds sank into the container and touched the water, clouds issued forth, quickly over flowing the confines of the container. The cold fog began to roll across the floor while Tyler explained that he had indeed created a cloud (the fog) in the gym.

Of course, Tyler had saved the best for last. Comparing lightning to a static shock, he told the kids that all the dust molecules in clouds rubbing together create a massive static charge, released as lightning. Whipping a giant black blanket off a mysterious contraption, Tyler said he had one last trick to display. Getting the audience to whose like storm gusts, pat their thighs like rain, and clap like thunder, Tyler turned on the machine. A blue line flashed between two shiny pieces of metal, leaving a wisp of smoke behind. Again, and again Tyler activated the machine, showing off his magic.

Judging from the students reactions, COSI was a huge hit. The speaker was interesting, and even made the dull topic of weather exciting. After the presentation, students traveled around stations to experience more, hands on. But it also left them with a curiousness to explore more science. The students left with both a greater understanding of thunderstorms and weather, as well as with an enthusiasm that's sure to last for more than just the rest of the day. □







Clubs, societies, activities, oh my!

by Danielle Young, BP Editor

Find out what the many groups at Berkshire have been doing throughout the year and what they still have planned



Student council members decorate stockings at the Christmas toy drive.

Student Council
(Advisor- Mrs. Arnold)

The high school Student Council has been involved with many events so far this year, mainly homecoming set up, Burton Health Care visits, and a very successful toy drive. The members are not done yet, as they are finishing out the year with a school supply drive. Donation boxes for new or gently-used supplies can be found in classrooms or in the library.

National Honor Society
(Advisor- Ms. Prots)

Inductions are in late fall or early winter, and a selective process is used for admission. The main event for NHS is working at the Blooddrive in April, though Prots is always open for suggestions on other service opportunities.

Spanish Honor Society
(Advisor- Mrs. Rea)

SHS started the year with hosting a junior high dance for the seventh and eighth graders to enjoy. The SHS members spent a lot of the school year planning and preparing for the Spanish country carnival. Rea was impressed with how the group members really pulled together, and was also proud of how many people came to early meetings. The elementary teachers want to redo the carnival next year to have it during the school day, so each class could have a separate time slot. Plans for next year are yet to be determined because of new officers, but Rea is open to anything.

CARE Team (Advisor- Mrs. Kiczek)

The main focus of CARE Team is to help welcome new students to the school and to mentor seventh graders. Kiczek saw a lot of meaningful relationships formed this year, and enjoyed seeing so many teenagers with sincere compassion for others. The recent training for next year brought up some new ideas for fundraising and programming.



Photo courtesy of the Yearbook Staff

Care Team member Sam Cannella bonds with her littles during their lunch.

Actively Caring 4 People
(Advisor- Ms. Bagaglia)

The main focus of this group is to promote random acts of kindness and a positive attitude. This organization takes a proactive approach to prevent bullying. Members started the chain link composed of written observations of kind acts throughout the school. Members did a six week program to discuss certain ideals to middle schoolers. Those ideals were courage, gratitude, belongingness, and recognition.

Interact
(Advisor- Ms. Furst)

Interact members have been very busy this year with their many volunteer opportunities. The main events have been fall and spring clean up (helping elderly in the community with their yards), bell ringing with the Salvation Army, and the pancake breakfasts with the Rotary. They have collected items for Project Linus and Soles for Souls, blankets for children in the hospital and shoes for people in other countries, respectively. Interact still plan on doing a sixth grade move up dance to welcome the sixth graders. Next year, Furst hopes to do even more, and is open to suggestions on volunteer opportunities.

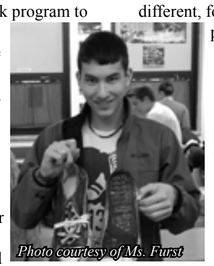


Photo courtesy of Ms. Furst

Interact member David Cheung puts his soul into Soles for Souls.

Thespians
(Advisors- Ms. Domhoff & Ms. Paul)

The main goal of the entire Theater department and the fine arts in general at Berkshire this year was to get more organized and build more of a foundation. Paul found that both groups in the play, "A Christmas Carol", and the musical, "No Frills Revue", were very different, for various reasons, as the play had a bigger cast. The goal of the advisors is to gain more support and be more vocal about productions. Domhoff was very proud of the thespians this year, and found their work very encouraging. Stage crew is also getting more freedom to organize, and fundraisers will be occurring to raise money for a new sound system.

Relay for Life
(Advisor-Ms. Green)

So far this year, after bake sales and dinners, the Berkshire Relay team has already raised around $2700. The Relay for Life 24-hour event at Cardinal High School is from May 17th to 18th. This event includes games and prizes, while constantly having members walking around the track. The theme this year is Superhero, and the motto is "You don't have to be super to be a hero". □

Have wheels, Musk travel

The amazing accomplishments of Elon Musk

by Carolyn Mayer, BP Assistant Editor



Photo courtesy of buisnessinsider.com

Electric cars and commercial space travel may seem like elements in a Sci-Fi film, but with the ingenuity of Elon Musk and many others, these fantasies may very soon become reality.

Elon Musk was born in Prestoria, South Africa in 1971. He was always a bright student, and by the time he was twelve, he had bought himself a computer and had sold a video game that he had designed himself. His father was an engineer, and he followed in his footsteps, but he felt restricted in South Africa. The young Musk decided to come to America because he believed that there were infinite possibilities in this great nation.

Musk earned a Bachelor's Degree in business from the University of Pennsylvania, and then went to Stanford University to study energy physics, but soon dropped out of the school to become a part of the all new Internet craze. Soon after, he founded his first of many businesses: Zip2 Corporation. Zip2 is a company that helps businesses design websites, among other things. Zip2's journey started out rough, however. So rough, in fact, that Elon and his brother were homeless; they slept in the office and showered at the YMCA. It was later bought out in 1999 for $307 million.

In the same year Zip2 was sold, Musk was already operating a new, highly successful company. In 1999, he founded X.com which was an online banking company. It was soon bought out by eBay for a billion dollars, and is now known as PayPal.

By the 21st century, Musk was already a successful entrepreneur, but he didn't stop creating new, innovative buisnesses. In 2002, he founded the Space Exploration Technologies Corporation, also known as SpaceX. Musk founded this company with the hopes that it would carry ordinary people into space for commercial trips. There are only four organizations to have successfully launched and returned a spacecraft: America, Russia, China, and SpaceX. He has made huge innovations in space technology, and is working on the first reusable space shuttle. SpaceX builds and launches space ships for a fraction of the cost that NASA would do it, and in 2008, they were given permission to carry unmanned cargo ships to the International Space Station. Soon, Musk is hoping to carry astronauts into space.

Musk's next company is his car company. Tesla Motors, founded in 2003, could be the first car company in ninety years to be a success. Tesla hopes to make affordable, mass-market electric cars. Currently, these eco-friendly cars are unaffordable to the general public, costing upwards of $100,000 to own. On the upside, as we've learned in Economics class, as the demand goes up, the price will go down. Another positive aspect to these cars is that they don't require any gas, and the charging stations will, Musk is hoping, be as prevalent as gas stations are now, and each charge-up will be free. There are two cars available through Tesla: the Model S, which is a sedan, and the Model X, which is an SUV. Both of these cars have superior ratings in safety and, obviously, emissions since they're powered by sunlight.

In addition to all of these companies, Musk has a new type of transportation in the works. The Hyperloop, as it's called, is similar to a train, but without tracks. It will be able to reach over 700 mph, and will connect large cities with each other to make long commutes shorter. There is some skepticism going around about how feasable this project really is, but if Musk wants it to happen, he'll probably find a way.

In addition to entrepreneur, a person could call Musk a humanitarian. He is at the head of Solar City, which combats global warming, and the Musk Foundation, which gives aide to those affected by disasters, such as Hurricane Katrina and the Gulf oil spill.

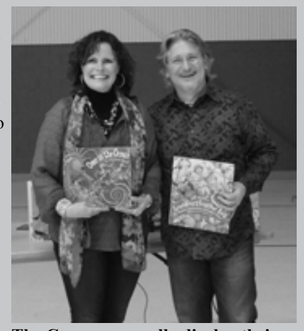
Because of his engineering advances and humanitarian works, Musk has been recognized in several magazines, including Forbes, Esquire, and Time, and he remains to be an inspiration to everybody who wants to live the very real "American Dream."

You may not be a computer wiz, but there is something out there that will make you an inspiration to others. When you figure that out, don't forget to be awesome. □

Creativity and the Canyons: The second annual Family Reading Night is a success at Burton Elementary

by Danielle Young, BP Editor & Christin Dornback, BP Assistant Editor

On Thursday April 3rd, Burton Elementary was visited by Jeanette and Christopher Canyon, a married author and illustrator duo from Columbus, who shared their personal experience and creative processes they go through for their work. They have been making appearances for about ten years to share their captivating and inspiring presentation hoping to inform and demystify others about the creative process. The program yielded lessons including ones like "all of us have stories to share" and "all of your stories can inspire."



The Canyons proudly display their literary works of art.

The duo started their day presentation together, but ventured off individually, with Jeanette warmly talking about her unique creative process. Jeanette, like her husband, is an illustrative artist; however, her medium of choice is polymer clay. She explained to the grade schoolers that polymer clay, a moldable plastic, is similar to their childhood favorite creative outlet, Play-do. She revealed the interesting steps that she takes to create the final products, emphasizing "research is vital to the work I create." She showed pictures of her interesting research experiences, including a scuba dive exposition to a coral reef, and mentioned that she keeps her mind, her eyes and her ears always open for inspiration.

An inspired looking, adventure-bound, wetsuit clad photo of Christopher, who draws and paints his artwork with many different mediums, got the children laughing. He explained that "research can be a wonderful adventure," even if you don't always end up with what you expect. His part of the presentation had a similar message which explained the importance of the different stages of a creative process. These stages include multiple revisions of rough drafts, which require a diligence for accuracy, while remaining original, fun and creative. He detailed how music inspired him, especially John Denver, whose songs have been brought to life in picture book adaptations. The pair each shared details of their work and emphasized that, through their research, observations and illustrations, they find the importance of creativity and inspiration every day. They emphasized the idea that creativity is not about the final destination, it's about the journey along the way.

This appearance was made possible by the Burton PTO, who contacted the pair for the second annual Burton Elementary Family Reading Night, which started later that evening. The students, who have all been working on writing and illustrating their own books, were able to showcase their hard work to parents, family and community members. The PTO also provided each child with an autographed copy of one of the Canyon duo's books. The Canyons also presented a similar program that night, to parents and children alike. This presentation involved the audience through questions and sing-a-long songs which truly set a warm-hearted atmosphere. The Canyons thanked the parents and family members for their support for their children and their creative journey, and emphasized just how vital that is to the mind, the soul and the heart of the kids. They hope that their program instills a sense of empowerment and realization that everyone is creative and each can find different ways to share that.

Christopher added that "I think that a lot of times that we grow up thinking that, you know, to be an artist or to be a writer we have to be naturally talented or gifted right from the time you're born, and it's true that some people are, but it's also true that these are things that can be learned, and our creativity is something we're all born with… and if we connect in different ways, we can use that positively to share our own feelings, our ideas and our stories. So we hope that kids will realize there are a lot of ways they can share their stories. Whether it might be through writing, visuals, music or drama or whatever they might be."

With the ideas of the Canyons' messages fresh in the minds and their books hard in their hands, the community filed out of the gym that evening with some inspiration to find a little bit of creativity in a world where it is much needed. □



BE students show off their own books.

Destroying our phones one facepalm moment at a time

by Gwen Losasso, BP Staff Writer

Recently, the new game Flappy Bird led to many white-girl rage attacks and a lot of damaged phones. Although the frustrating game, which involves tapping the screen in order to power a fat little bird through cut pipes, is no longer sold on iTunes, there are many other ways that our precious phones get destroyed. Candy Crush-ing in the bathtub and over excessive use of hand sanitizer have proven to be detrimental to the well being of your phone.



D. Young

Another iPhone bites the dust...

About a year ago, I was driving to the store and my phone fell down between the car door and seat of the car. Of course, when I opened the door my phone fell and bounced under someone else's car. This car then proceeded to back out of their spot and run over my phone, all while I was sitting there watching in awe, both horror and wondering how it could be that I have such awful luck. I found the entire front screen of my phone shattered, Otterbox case and all.

Although the Otterbox company does cover many scenarios under their warranty, getting it run over is not on the list. So, one hundred dollars later, the front of my iPhone was replaced with a new camera and a screen that looked brand new. Nonetheless, I now make sure my phone is in the cup holder rather than in some other odd spot.

Although my phone mishap was a weird freak accident, people break their phones in order to receive their next upgrade. This usually includes dropping phones out of windows or into water. However, occasionally these situations happen accidentally.

On average, one in five people have, or will, drop their phone in the toilet. That is twenty percent of all phone users! Not to mention the phones that have been dropped in pet water bowls, pools, drinking glasses, or bathtubs. Amusingly, as if dropping your phone in water was not enough, some (really intelligent) people then proceed to put the phone in the microwave to dry it out. In fact, so many people have tried this that Apple now puts a warning in the iPhone instruction manual that straightforwardly says "do not place phone in microwave." It's amazing how dumb people can be.

Along with water and microwaves, toddlers also pose a threat to cellphones.

Unfortunately, many parents tend to use their cellphones as cheap babysitters. When this happens, not only does a one-year old learn what a selfie is and how to take one, they also put the phone in their mouth. Since drool and snot are not meant to go on or in any type of phone, this is obviously damaging. Enough saliva can easily get into the headphone jack or the charging port and cause problems. Not to mention all of the germs that the poor child is ingesting. Ew!

Most iPhone users will crack, soak, or manage to damage their phone some time within their first two years of ownership. Some of this is most likely due to complete carelessness, however a good portion is due to how fragile phones have become.

Just in the past six years iPhone users have spent over six million dollars on phone repairs alone. iPhones used to be metal, with just the screen being glass. Although the phones are now more thin and sleek, they are also now almost completely made of glass.

Whether this is a positive or negative improvement, I'm not sure. It does certainly make many people look like slobs with dirty and damaged iPhones. □

A Time Traveler's Toolkit

The four things that I would take back in time

by, Steve Sitko BP Staff Writer

We've all dreamed about time travel at one point or another – usually about going back in time. Being able to reverse your life even just a little bit to ace a test or come up with the witty remark that you thought of after the fact is definitely a cool ability. There's only one problem... These days, the idea of going just about anywhere without our iPhones or iAnythings is unfathomable. How could anyone in the past have survived without them? I know for a fact that if I were to travel back in time, I most likely wouldn't last long without being able to check one of my devices, or look something up (although I might survive longer than some; I've gotten used to the social disconnection that comes with my Bronze Age flip-phone).

Imagine that modern science has made an amazing breakthrough, and time travel has become an option to anyone who wants to partake. However, there is one catch – everybody is fighting to travel back in time, and Time Travel Baggage Company Inc. has put a limit on the amount of items that you can bring with you. What four things would you bring with you on your trip back in time? My list would look something like this:



1) A Flashlight:

Everyone likes to get attention. Take a simple Maglite back to, say, Aztec times, and you've got potential for having an Aztec god named after you. Flip that flashlight on in the face of some unsuspecting natives and watch as the entire population cowers before your light-creating powers. Be careful that you don't try this back in the day of the Salem witch trials, though. The mysterious power of your flashlight might be interpreted as witchcraft, and earn you a one-way trip to the stake for a good burning.

2) A Book to Read:

I like to think of time travel as a flight to some distant country in the comfortable cabin of a private jet. Nobody has ever time-traveled before, so no one really knows how long that "flight" would take – might as well bring a book along to read on the way. When you arrive in the past, be wary if you brought a non-fiction book; be careful that you don't lose track of it. If a book containing many years-worth of technology and advancements falls into the hands of a historian or a scientist, it could drastically change the course of human history – you basically have a "crystal ball" that tells you every world event that is yet to come. On the other hand, if you brought a best-selling novel from your time you can advertise the book as your own work, scoring yourself a heap of money (and your future self too!).

3) A TI-84 Calculator

When it comes to math, high school students these days don't quite grasp how easy they have it. Need to figure out the roots of a quadratic equation? Simple – whip out the calculator and fire up your Quadratic Formula program. Even long division has become a two-step process, just plug in the numbers and hit enter. Why understand the concepts if you have a nifty little device to do it for you? Back in the day, though, university students had to be able to do all of their mathematics by hand. Taking a calculator back in time might seem useless, but think about a modern day student trying to survive through math classes in the colleges of the past. Graphing calculators didn't even exist back then – what's stopping you from becoming the next great mathematician of the era (or pretending to be)? If that idea doesn't appeal to you, at the very least you can find an actual mathematician and show him the powers of a calculator, and offer to trade it for all of his worldly possessions.

4) Something to Defend Yourself With – A Stun Gun?

Depending on what time period you travel back to, self-defense might be a priority. Not much would suit you better than a relatively harmless stun gun, capable of knocking someone to the ground with the push of a button. A stun gun won't hurt anyone to the point that you're going to have a posse chasing you across the wild west, but it will scare the daylights out of any witnesses, enough to give you some time to escape (but let's hope it doesn't come to that). □

Does Today's Youth Lack Creativity?

by Daniel Walsh, BP Staff Writer

The youth of today have been criticized of many things, among them is lacking creativity. Some will say that this generation lacks the creativity that previous generations had. Many people, as well as researchers, feel that many kids have trouble coming up with unique or inventive ideas, but it's hard for them to point out the root cause of why that may be. Some people blame technology, claiming that kids don't have to use their brains when they can get what they want at the touch of a button, which also leads to laziness. Others blame standardized testing, they believe that the way that these tests only have one right answer may cause kids not to use their creative side as they only focus on the right answer and not necessarily using problem solving to get it, thus one could have good grades but not necessarily be creative. According to an article on newsweek.com, Professor Kyung Hee Kim studied creativity tests done by kids over the course of about fifty years. She found that creativity scores were rising up until the early 1990s, at which time they began to lower and have been doing so consistently since then, however, it is noted that these tests may not measure creativity perfectly.

I don't think it's possible for creativity to necessarily be absent, or even lower than it was for kids in past generations. I think it's always there, it's just that kids have less of a chance to express it sometimes. I'd say that the cause is likely a combination of things. I agree that technology could reduce creativity through simplicity, and I also think that standardized tests prohibit any sort of creativity. There may be more factors beyond these two, but I don't think creativity is lower than it used to be, say twenty years ago. It seems like an easy fix though, kids just need time to simply be kids. They should get lots of opportunities to express themselves inside and outside of school. Getting away from all of the electronics is never a bad thing, and it might not hurt for schools to cut back a bit on testing. Maybe there's an alternative other than tests that they could employ from time to time that is better for kids' creativity. There is no question that creativity is a greatly important part of our lives, shaping our future careers and simply allowing us to express ourselves, so hopefully something can be done to help kids continue to be creative. □

Tyrannical, distant or somewhere in-between?

What's your parenting style? (From a teenager's point of view)

by Anna Carlson, BP Assistant Editor

Take the following quiz, adding the numbers beside each answer you choose. Then use the sum to find your parenting style described below!

How do you react when your child brings home an assignment he or she scored lowly on?
3) Dissapointed
2) Sympathetic
1) Indifferent

Have you ever completed a school assignment for your child?
3) Yes
2) Kind of
1) No

Do you know your child's daily schedule?
3) Yes, every detail
2) Yes, the gist of it
1) Nope

What do you say to your child before a sporting event or major test?
3) Do your best
2) Good luck
1) Nothing

Do you go through your child's personal belongings?
3) Always
2) Sometimes
1) Never

Do you scroll through your child's texts and social media postings?
3) Always
2) Sometimes
1) Never

Did you read to your child when they were little?
3) Yes, every night
2) Sometimes
1) Never

Do you have a strict curfew set? With no exceptions?
3) Yup
2) Exceptions are allowed
1) Curfew?

Do you actually listen to your child's opinion?
3) They don't know enough to have an opinion
2) Of Course
1) We don't talk

Do you let your child speak to you without interruptions?
3) Nope, I always have advice for them
2) When approriate
1) We don't have conversations

Do you allow your child to date?
3) No way
2) Sure, if it's with a good guy/girl
1) Yup, they've always been allowed to

When your child has made a mistake, what do you do?
3) Reprimand them
2) Explain how to fix the situation and comfort them
1) Allow them to learn for themselves

Do you trust your child to make smart decisions?
3) No way
2) I should be there to guide them
1) Yes

Do you fill your child in with important happenings?
3) Only if it's good news
2) I tell them everything
1) Only if I remember

Do you keep all of your child's papers and mementos?
3) Everything
2) Only the ones that are meaningful
1) I don't keep anything

Do you praise your child?
3) Yes, my child is always doing well
2) Only when they've done something wonderful
1) Nah

How high are your expectations for your child?
3) Hello Harvard
2) That they always do their best
1) I don't have any

How much responsibility do you give to your child?
3) Not that much, they're just a kid
2) As much as they can handle
1) They are responsible for themselves

How often do you help your child?
3) I always offer advice
2) Only when they ask
1) I don't

Do you remind your child that they "owe" you?
3) Never
2) Only when they need reminding
1) All the time

Score of 20 - 33
AWOL

Take an interest when they talk to you. Offer advice when they ask for it. Be there to answer questions. Help them to reach for their goals and dreams. Show that you care.

You may be a parent who feels it is important for your child to be independent; able to think for his or herself and strong enough to face difficult situations. These characteristics are important in a young adult. They are after all, about to enter a world where they'll have to fend for themselves. But there's a difference between giving your child space and being uninvolved.

It may appear that your child is someone who is more mature and able to handle his or herself without any help. However, that might not be the case.

• Not providing enough protection can cause your child to be exposed to harmful things. Perhaps they're already acting like an independent adult when they're still just a kid. It's true they have to become responsible at some point, but they also need to have a childhood. Don't coddle your child but remember they do need some protection.

• Don't allow your child to make every decision for themselves, by themselves. Yes, they need to learn how to compare pros and cons but they don't have the life experiences you do; they don't have a well of knowledge from which to draw. Offer some guidance, discuss options with them and express your opinion, but don't force it upon them.

• Don't leave your child to face the world by themselves. They can't fight every battle alone; they're going to need an ally or two at some point. Help defend them when they need it but also help them realize when they're in the wrong.

• Don't check out from your child's day to day life. You don't need to know every detail but getting the general gist is beneficial to your relationship. True to that, sometimes they need someone to eat chocolate ice cream with when it's been an ugly Monday.

Although you may need to step your game up a notch, don't become a helicopter parent. Be attentive but not obsessive. Your child is an individual, but he or she may need some guidance. Because no matter what…your child needs you. Don't let us teenagers fool you. □

Score of 34 - 46
BALANCED

You're on the right track! Keep up the good work!

• Allow your child some space but don't drift so far out of reach that they can't get your attention when they need it. There will always come a time when they will admit that they need your guidance.

• Be interested in their life but not nosy. Ask questions that can be answered simply but be willing to engage in a more detailed conversation about experiences and events that happened throughout the course of their day if they want to share.

• Help them make informed decisions and allow them to stand up for themselves. Offer guidance to your child when they seem to be struggling but let them work their way to a solution.

You're doing a good job supplying your child with the guidance and support they need while still allowing them to become their own person. Don't listen if they call you a terrible parent every once in a while. Because no matter what… you're doing the best you can. Don't let us teenagers fool you. □



Photo courtesy of www.toptvstuff.com-

Score of 47 - 60
OVERBEARING

Don't do their homework for them. Don't know every detail about their lives. Don't pry. Don't hover. Don't force them down the roads you want them to travel.

You probably don't see yourself as over involved, just a parent who cares. Caring is good. It's important to talk with your children, to know about their lives; the problems they're facing or the successes they're celebrating. However, there's a line that you may have crossed.

You may be wondering how this is bad. Your child is probably getting good grades, participates in multiple activities, and is on his or her way to being accepted into that Ivy League school. But this flawless façade can be deceiving because underneath, he or she is crumbling.

• Overprotection can leave your child naïve about the outside, grown-up world. This can severely trip them up when they finally leave the nest and fly away to college. If they are only exposed to thoughts that you and a select few share with them, they can be prohibited from drawing conclusions from their own experiences. This can create a skewed view of the world and lack of knowledge of other opinions and arguments.

• Making decisions for your child may make them feel out of control of their own lives, contributing to low self-confidence and doubt in their own ability to succeed. This can hinder their decision making skills when they reach adulthood, especially in the workplace.

• When you handle all sources of confrontation, your child doesn't learn the skills needed to negotiate a compromise or how to relate to peers and superiors. This can drastically affect their relationships in the present as well as in the future.

• Hovering can lead your child to rebellion. Perhaps it seems unrealistic, but the more you pry, the harder your child may try to keep information private. And if nothing remains personal, they may turn to other secretive activities. These might not be what you want your child participating in; they could be dangerous and damaging not only to a reputation but also to your child's life.

You may need to give your child breathing room, rub some dirt into that scraped knee and allow them to learn from their bad decisions. But this doesn't mean that you should check out completely. Stay in tune with their life; stay interested and always, ALWAYS listen. Because no matter what…your child loves you. Don't let us teenagers fool you. □

They actually sell that?

A list of six existing weird shops and the items they sell.

by Megan McCartney, BP Staff Writer

www.ShinyShack.com

Whether you are in the market for a Pirate Toast Stamper, a Giant Inflatable Beehive (yes, I am talking about the obnoxious hairstyle from the Sixties!), or a Backwards Watch (a watch that tells time…backwards) this is the website for you! This English internet store has many popular knick-knacks on sale at all times of the day, even if you are looking at a backwards watch! Interestingly enough, many of these items can be used in everyday life (assuming that you like pirates in your toast… because if you didn't, then that would just be awkward). What else could you ask for in a website! So next time you are going through an online shopping binge and have 10-20 euros lying around, check out this wonderful internet shop!

www.JapanTrendShop.com

Have you ever tried to plug something into an outlet and thought, "this outlet is so boring! I know what it needs… a nose!" At this Japanese website, you can buy a nose attachment for your outlets for only $35!
When was the last time that you were woken up at 3 a.m. because your dog saw a rabbit and decided that he needed to tell the whole neighborhood? Well with the Oppo Dog Muzzle Quack, this will no longer be a problem. This duck bill shaped muzzle is the perfect shape for your dog's snout. The Oppo Dog Muzzle comes in 4 sizes (S, M, L, XL) and 3 extravagant colors (orange, ruby, and blue). So next time you want to take your dog out for a walk but want to save yourself the embarrassment of a loud barking dog, strap a blue duck bill onto its snout!

Deyrolle

Have you ever been in a foreign country and was disappointed that they didn't have a taxidermy shop for you to take your freshly hunted game? Well don't be disappointed any longer! In 1831, a taxidermy shop was opened up in Paris, France and is very popular in that large city known for romance. Also, at Deyrolle, you can admire and even purchase other stuffed game that others have killed so you can proudly display it on a plaque over the fireplace. You can also visit their website at www.deyrolle.com (but make sure you can read French before visiting the website, or you will become very confused).

Witch's Market

In one of the highest capitals in the world, La Paz, Bolivia, South America, you can visit a market where witches, medicine men, folk doctors, fortune tellers and sorcerers work and sell items. Here you can buy weird things like llama fetuses, toad talismans, owl feathers, and stone amulets. So after you get your bachelor's degree in sorcery, plan a trip to Bolivia to get some necessary tools to succeed in your new profession.

Gypsy Brides Market

When was the last time that you wanted to marry someone, but you couldn't find any decent Gypsy women in the area? Well look no more! Every year, many Roma teenager girls parade around the streets with their parents in Bolivia. At this parade, many men come and look for a beautiful woman and buy her for several thousand Levs or Euros. These women will typically be wearing large amounts of makeup and wearing their most expensive jewelry to these events, hoping that a very rich man will sweep her away so that they can live happily ever after. This event is held on the first Sunday after the orthodox Easter Feast… so guys, you better pack up and go to Bolivia before you miss your chance at a beautiful Gypsy woman!

The Old Umbrella Shop

This shop in Australia sells old fashioned second hand toys, books, and other knick-knacks. Now, obviously, this store does specialize in umbrellas, many of which have many creepy styles that only middle-aged women would enjoy. This odd shop in Southern Tasmania sells many different shapes, sizes, and colors, each one being more bright and obnoxious than the last. There are so many umbrellas that you could go there every day and purchase a different umbrella to match that day's outfit. Next time you can't find an umbrella around the house, how about planning a nice trip to Tasmania, Australia! ☐

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The Badger Pause would like to thank YOU, the readers, for your continuous support for this student publication. The writers and editors put a lot of time into the issues each month, so the staff would to thank you and say that we truly appreciate your feedback.

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Things we love to hate

by Katie Uterhark, BP Staff Writer

There are typical things people hate, like work and school, but which we have to love so we can go somewhere in life. If we don't get through the hate part of the school/work relationship, we won't get to the part that we love; the education and money. Most people hate the thought of school and being overwhelmed by it, but you know that in the long run, after all your hard work, it will pay off and you'll love that part.

Working out is a perfect example of things we love to hate. Nobody really likes working out, unless you're the super dedicated and fit type. But most people just work out to improve their game or get that perfect bod. Once you've reached your goal, you're glad you did it, and love the fact that you went through with it. Junior Alexis Johnson, who is a part of the Berkshire Badgers track and field team, says she hates to run but once she does it she knows it will make her a better athlete.

Everyone's so dependent on technology now, especially with cell phones. With phones being so popular now, practically everyone has one. There is a constant love/hate relationship between a person and their phone. Everybody loves having the advantage to call someone or have the internet when they're not at home, but there are also several downfalls to phones that people hate. Some examples are not having cell phone service, constant low batteries, or how fragile the phone is. When these things happen you most likely hate


Photo courtesy of tusime.com

your phone for not working. But when your phone is cooperating with you and meeting your needs you love it. After all the complaints about phones, everyone still seems to have a phone and get over the reasons why they hate them.

Another thing people love to hate is pets. Everyone loves the company and cuteness of an animal. But when you have to take on the responsibilities of that pet, like taking them for walks or having to clean up any mess they make, you realize you hate them. Hopefully you know what you will have to take on when you decide to get a new pet, and the good usually weighs out the bad, even if they ruin your favorite shoes. ☐

Common courtesy- not so common?

It may be time to show some more r-e-s-p-e-c-t

by Danielle Young, BP Editor

When's the last time you held the door open for someone? The last time you took the initiative to ask someone how he or she is doing? The last time you smiled to someone in the hallway for no particular reason? Or even the last time you received such an act from someone else? If you are having trouble remembering an example of an act of kindness, perhaps it is because these once simple actions of respect are disappearing from today's society. It is not to say that no one is respectful anymore, but it is as if "common courtesy" is some action requiring too much effort to be used all the time.


The surprise on Megan Arnold's face is priceless, as she does not expect fellow student Karah Toth to bother to open the door for her, a once common gesture.

There are many different forms of courtesy and respect that seem to be getting lost in this world of technology and constant motion. On the verbal side, there are certain things you just should not say out loud, and it is as if, more and more often, people say such extremely rude and absurd things. Things that I would not even have the nerve to think, never the less say to someone's face. Some of the things I hear and read on social media make me cringe, and I am often appalled that these disrespectful remarks are not scorned more. Just because you think it, doesn't mean you need to say it aloud or post it for everyone to see. If you can't say something nice, then don't say anything at all. There are also those subtle verbal rude insults that get under your skin but you can't say anything without looking like you are overreacting. Or those people who seem like they are being polite but you know they have that certain tone that tells you that they mean the opposite of what they are saying.

There are also the physical acts of kindness and courtesy that are not as common as they should be. Some examples are holding the door open, smiling at someone, helping someone pick something up. Sometimes, we, myself included, get so caught up in what is happening for ourselves that we forget that the world does not, in fact, revolve around us. So, just try to do the little things: smile to someone in the hallway, hold the door open, ask someone how he or she is doing and genuinely listen to their response. Like they say, it takes less muscles to smile than to frown (even though this is scientifically inaccurate). Humans are born with the ability to smile, so make the most of it. Think about how good you feel when someone takes the time to be kind for you. So go, forth, be kind, be courteous, and always, always, stay classy. ☐


The very classy gesture of pulling out someone's chair for them.

#!@$%#@

What the fumblesticks are we talking about?

by Anna Carlson, BP Assistant Editor

Just let it all out. That dropped wrench that bruised your toes deserves it. So does the almost glowing handle of that fry pan you attempted to grab with your bare hand. Because it HURTS. And swearing doesn't make it all better, but it sure helps.

Don't believe me?

Well then. Scientists are now saying that unleashing your explosive vocabulary of curse words might actually increase your tolerance for pain. MythBusters conducted an episode about it; having people sit with their right arm submerged in freezing icy water. They tested how long someone could stand the cold without swearing and how long they were able to once they were allowed to cuss a blue streak. In accordance with the conclusions of scientists, the MythBusters found that once people were able to interject a dirty word here and there (or with every breath) they were able to better tolerate the frigid water. On a slightly more professional note, Richard Stephens, a psychologist at the Keele University in England stated that "I would advise people, if they hurt themselves, to swear." (Well, I mean, if you say so…)

But what words should you use?

Ah, the list goes on and on. It ranges from words that were developed way back when in the time of Shakespeare to the ones that are still cropping up today. As our culture evolves, so too does our swearing. Originally, curse words were connected with witchcraft and evil wishing. It's right there in the name, "curse"word. This was precisely why such a social taboo was created in relation to these choice phrases.

Some of the juiciest can't be written out within this article because, well… they're foul. But I'll bet you can figure out which ones I'm referring to. It'll be kind of like a puzzle.

Bloody bugger. Yes, I am the one non-Brit in the entire world to use these words. And I'm proud of it! They are indeed considered expletives, actually "bloody" is the "Australian adjective" because it's used so often on that continent, yet no one here is going to wash my mouth out with soap for using them. So it's the culture that determines the severity of the taboo placed upon the word or phrase.

Then you've got the words like s***, H-E-double hockey sticks, and a$$ that are used so often that it's not a huge jaw-dropping deal when one slips out, unless you're around kindergarteners or your parents or a group of senior citizens. Then it might become a big deal. But anyways, the s-word pretty much means "purging", "diarrhea", and "separating from the body". Lovely. H-E-double hockey sticks is exactly what it means. The worst place imaginable. And a$$ is an idiot, a fool or a donkey. Although it has taken on the meaning of one's posterior.

> "As our culture evolves, so too does our swearing"

Now let's move up the ladder some, to words like b****. The perfect phrase for cat fights even though the actual term means "female dog". Actually, interesting fact here, this name was far more offensive to any English woman than being called a whore. It's dirty, mean, and a hit below the belt but there are still others out there that are considered far worse.

The F-bomb. The mother of all curse words. The expletive-to-end-all-expletives. You might have to use bleach to clean out your mouth if your mother catches you dropping this one willy-nilly. If you haven't dared to look and see if it is actually in Webster's dictionary, I'll give you gist of what it means. It originates from a mix of the Norse word fukka and the Swedish word focka, both of which mean "to copulate" and so that nice meaning is transferred to the English version. A word whose meaning is so strong that some of the languages of the world have adopted it, slightly changing it here and there, so that their people may have a chance to experience that freeing feeling of letting it fly when life just takes a brutal U-turn for the worse.

However. Be forewarned. Choose your swear words with great care because their power lies in their shock value. The more you use them, the less powerful they become (and the less affect they have on your pain tolerance, which is what they're good for). So, don't go dropping the hefty ones when your pencil point breaks or your toast gets burned. Reserve those for the big stuff. Like dislocating your knee. While doing an uncontested layup. Five minutes into the warm-up. And such. ☐



Photo courtesy of businessinsider.com
Well that escalated quickly.

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Amy Takes a Selfie

Now that the song #Selfie has come out, this new fascination with taking pictures of oursleves and posting them to social media has officially taken over the nation. I decided to embark upon a selfie mission, to see what was so fun about taking and posing pictures of one's own self. The results are below, and yes, this is what many of you do you look like. #what #ICan'tBelieveIDidThis #ThisIsActuallyTooMuch

The Couple Selfie



Me and the boyfriend are so cute #love #happy

The Party Hard Selfie



OMG, I went way too hard last night #party #toocool #GodThisIsSoEmbarassing

The Faked Selfie



Bae caught me sleeping! #We'reTooCute

The Random Inspirational Quote That Has Nothing To Do With The Picture Selfie



"Ignorance is the night of the mind, but a night without a moon and star" Confucius #I'mSoDeep

The Mirror Selfie



School had me like #selfie #school #WhyAmIHere

The Goofy Selfie



Guys, look how freakin' fun we are #bffs #silly #ThatFaceTho

The Ultimate Selfie



These are the best of times #seniors #fun #memories

Typical White Girl Selfie



We are just like, totes adorbs #babes #love #LivingWithMyLadies

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