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THE BADGER PAUSE

THE TEACHING DEPARTMENTS OF BERKSHIRE COMPETE FOR DOMINANCE IN AN ALL OUT WAR

PG 5-6



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We're off to see the musical

Josiah Cheung, BP Staff Writer

Every now and then in the worlds of television and theater, a story emerges that is so timeless, so beloved and original that it becomes an instant classic. The Wizard of Oz was one of these stories, and even now, 80 years later, it is one of the world's most renowned classic stories beloved by adults and children alike. And now, once again, it's coming to the Berkshire stage.

On April 12th and 13th at 7:30pm, and April 14th at 2:00pm, the Berkshire Thespians will be putting on their own version of The Wizard of Oz, complete with singing and dancing, a gorgeous set, and an incredibly talented cast and crew.

This year marks the 80th anniversary of The Wizard of Oz, and so there seems no better time to celebrate this time-honored film, especially because of the immense talent present in the Berkshire cast.



The Wizard of Oz **, showing off the glamour of the Emerald City.**

Senior Esther Lasich characterizes the role of Dorothy Gale perfectly, with a bright personality and charming voice to boot.

But Esther isn't the only star in the spotlight. As Scarecrow, Freshman Eli Ray gives an energetic, lovable performance, capturing the movements and personality of a man made of straw, all with the voice to boot.

Meanwhile, freshman Lucas Stoddard, somewhat of a celebrity already, makes his debut on the Berkshire stage as the Cowardly Lion. And it is the opinion of this journalist that Lucas could not have been chosen for a better role. His unique blend of comedic timing and on-stage charisma make him the perfect actor for this scaredy cat.

However, the Wizard of Oz is not without its challenges.

As student director, Hannah Keough expresses that this production is "the most technically challenging thing we have ever tackled." From the complex sets and scene changes, to the elaborate costuming and choreography, she acknowledges that bringing The Wizard of Oz to life will be no walk down the yellow brick road.

In fact, Hannah shares the worry of many cast and crew alike that the show may fall flat, like Dorothy's house on the Wicked Witch of the East. From attendance issues to costs for special effects that even gave the movie production a run for its money, The Wizard of Oz will be one of the most difficult productions the Berkshire Thespians have pulled off in recent years.

Sophomore stage manager Dani Zilka listed a few of her own worries: "This is the first non-still set that we have done since Cinderella, so the crew is very inexperienced with transitioning from scene to scene. Also, this is a huge, tech-heavy show… The movie version had trouble with all the effects, and that's top-notch movie production. It's like, whoa, man. How are we gonna do it on our little stage?"

But despite this, Dani believes the show will be a hit: "Oh yeah, we can definitely do it! I have no doubt that our crew is capable."

One addition that has helped the production is the addition of Mrs. Koler and Ms. Hull as tech directors, as Dani says, "We lost PJ, who did literally all of our tech… it's great to have two new experienced tech directors who can show us how to do it."

And the additions of Mrs. Koler and Ms. Hull show in the set of The Wizard of Oz, which, despite being one of the most technically challenging sets the Thespians have tackled in recent years, is as grand and wonderful as the great Wizard himself.

As it stands, the Wizard of Oz is one of the Berkshire Thespians' greatest challenges,

But often, it's the greatest challenges that produce the best results. And the delightful mixture of personalities, voices, and setpieces make The Wizard of Oz one of Berkshire's most memorable Musicals. Come April 12th, Berkshire's The Wizard of Oz is prepared to blow your ruby slippers off.

Green, green, green!

by Shaelin DeLong, BP Staff Writer



Photo courtesy of google.com

St. Patrick's Day is packed with parades, good luck charms, and everything green and falls this year on Sunday, March 17th. This holiday is celebrated in many parts of the world, especially in Irish communities and organizations. People tend to wear an item that is green on this day, and go to parties featuring Irish food and drinks. It is the time when children can have sweets and adults can enjoy a "pint" of beer.

St. Patrick's Day started as a religious holiday, but over time it has become a celebration of Irish culture. St. Patrick is one of the patron saints of Ireland. He was born in Britain but was captured by Irish raiders and taken as a slave when he was a young adult. While in Ireland, St. Patrick became interested in Christianity. He became a missionary and started teaching others about the religion. It is said that he converted many of Ireland's people to Christians and now St. Patrick's Day is celebrated on the day that he supposedly died.

By the time of his death, on March 17, 461, he had established monasteries, churches, and schools. Luke Wadding, a Franciscan scholar born in 1588 in Waterford was influential in ensuring that the anniversary of St. Patrick's death became a feast day in the Catholic Church.

Many immigrants fled Ireland and went to Australia, Canada, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Consequently, Irish customs, including St. Patrick's Day, became popular in these countries. Boston held its first St. Patrick's Day parade in 1737, followed by New York City in 1762. Today, people of all cultures celebrate St. Patrick's Day.

Fun Facts about St. Patty's Day

1. St. Patrick's Day is a Irish national holiday. Banks, stores, and businesses close for the day.
2. Shamrocks are the national flower/emblem of Ireland.
3. The color commemorating St. Patrick's Day was originally blue.
4. Legend says that each leaf of a clover has a meaning: Hope, Faith, Love, Luck.
5. 1962 was the first time Chicago dyed their river green for St. Patrick's Day and continues to dye it every year.
6. There are 34.7 million U.S. residents with Irish ancestry. That is more than seven times the population of Ireland.
7. Corned beef and cabbage is a popular meal on St. Patrick's Day.
8. Legend says St. Patrick drove all the snakes out of ireland.
9. St. Patrick's Day was a dry holiday in Ireland until 1970.
10. Your odds of finding a four leaf clover is 1 in 10,000.

March Mammal Madness

by Jude Connors, BP Staff Writer

We've all heard of March Madness: the supreme college basketball tournament, where gamblers lose all of their money, where sport nerds spend countless hours slaving over The bracket, and where marriages are broken when you lose 5,000 dollars on a ball game. But, have you heard of March Mammal Madness? Well, it's the exact same thing as March Madness, but instead of basketball team names in the brackets, it's the names of mammals. So yeah, it is basically the tournament of the year.

Every year, zoos around the world plug in the names of mammals into brackets identical to those of March Madness. Whichever mammal has the most advantages moves on to the next round until one mammal is crowned victorious. 64 mammals are chosen and placed into divisions based on their characteristics. For example, the divisions in 2015 were Mighty Mini Mammals, Mythical Mammals, Critically Endangered Mammals, and Sexy Beasts. Mammals such as the dwarf mongoose and the Java mouse-deer were chosen for the Mighty Mini Mammals, while legendary beasts such as Ratatoskr (a giant squirrel) and the Yeti battled it out in the Mythical Mammals.

The actual battles are decided by using a combination of scientific research and the element of chance. For the element of chance, a 100-sided die is rolled to determine the percentage of the animal winning the fight. A narration is then provided, describing the battle, which can range from a serious battle to a humorous accident. Last year's winner was the pygmy hippo, a very small, very cute hippo that dominated the bracket after overthrowing the Amebelodon, an extinct elephant-like creature.

This year's divisions hold the titles of Jump Jump, Tag Team, WaterFalls, and CAT-e-Gory. Animals consist of sea turtles, tigers, moose, jackrabbits, an many more. So when you finally get bored of watching nothing but basketball games and losing money, try your hand, or should I say wallet--at March Mammal Madness where mammals suck… milk! (That's their actual slogan. Seriously).








Photo courtesy of Pinterest.com

(END) GAME OF THRONES





<< WARNING >> SPOLIER AHEAD

by Jacob Wichert, BP Staff Editor

Perhaps one of the most iconic television series of our time, Game of Thrones is coming to a dramatic, and long-awaited close this year, with its final season looming just around the corner. Over the years, the series has garnered a particularly devoted and passionate fanbase, probably to compliment the extraordinarily dense and detailed content of the show. This content is so dense, as a matter of fact, that catching up on all of the required content going into season 8 can be an intimidating and arduous task for the unacquainted, taking into consideration the immense cast of major characters from different houses, of which any could potentially seize the titular throne upon the series' close.

Allow me then, to ease your struggles, as I present to you a totally accurate summary of every major house going into the final season, and why (or why not) they may win the Game of Thrones.House Stark- Members of House Stark are well-renowned for their natural and unparalleled ability to be killed off in large quantities in the most sudden and unexpected ways possible. I mean seriously, these guys just can't stop dying! Aside from having the lifespan of an average fruit fly, the Starks are infamous for being sub-par company at parties, as they prefer to spend the majority of their time brooding in the snow and repeating their favorite line "The North Remembers".

House Lannister- Members of house Lannister are kind of like that one spoiled rich kid that you knew growing up; entitled, manipulative, has an insane superiority complex, the whole works. One of the key differences between that rich kid and the Lannisters however probably lies in the rich kid's significantly lower tendency to push little boys off of towers, blow up ships, blow up buildings, and try to execute their siblings. The Lannisters are also really really bad at raising kids, given that, you know, they're all dead. Fun fact! Did you know that ⅓ Lannister kids turn out to be psychopaths on a generational basis? The Lannisters for all of their faults however, aren't all bad (Except for Cersei. Cersei is all bad.) as from this house originates fan-favorite Tyrion Lannister, and the newly realigned Jaime Lannister, who are now brooding in the north with the Starks and their allies.

House Tyrell- is dead. No really they're all dead. In fact I'm not entirely sure why I'm even including them here. They were almost really important for a little while there, with one of them becoming queen for a short time, but the Lannisters just love blowing things up so much (namely Cersei,) that it was only a matter of time before they just happened to be accidentally caught in the crossfire. It's a shame really, because these guys were actually pretty cool, and unlike the majority of the show's other houses were probably pretty fun at parties.

House Targaryen- Although also mostly dead, House Targaryen probably won't be dying anytime soon, hosting two major characters with more plot armor than all others in the show combined. I mean seriously, one came back from the dead after receiving the Julius Caesar treatment from his own friends, while the other is literally immune to fire, and also owns two really big flying lizards; What's not to love? Additionally, the Targaryen'ssre pretty consistently benign in their actions, aside from the occasional misguided usage of dragons as a means to--well--burn people, but hey, nobody's perfect.

House Greyjoy- House Greyjoy is known for their boats, among other things, but mostly just their boats. They enjoy long walks on the beach, the sound of the ocean waves, and pillaging and plundering small towns along the coast with their massive armada of boats. Did I mention boats? Yeah these guys have a lot of them. They have so many boats in fact, that the Lannisters, (namely Cersei) have allied with them so that they can get in on the plundering and pillaging action too! If there's one thing to take away from this, it's that the Greyjoys are quite the people pleasers, assuming that they are rewarded with the ability to plunder and pillage more after the fact.

FOR A BONUS ROUND AND THE CLOSE OF THIS ARTICLE, SEE PAGE 4!

TALE OF THREE FANS

by Lenny Barcikoski, BP Staff Writer

You know that time of year when the snow starts to melt, the birds and bugs come back, trees start to bloom, and college basketball actually matters to sports fans? Well that time of year is almost here. College basketball has been a staple in the culture of people since it was established in 1896. The month of March has also been a favorite of many fans due to the big NCAA tournament being played in March. It was established in 1939 and, since then, it has been referred to as March Madness. The idea of it is simple. All 68 teams that participate in this tournament get matched up, and the winner of each game moves on. The goal is to make it past the final four.

There are many different types of fans, as there seems to be in all sports. The diehards, the Bandwagoners, and the normal fans. This wide range of people provides more interest and spark the fires in the teams, as competitive spirits roar through the stadiums and living rooms of fans. They cheer and yell and scream at the television or at the court as if the players will listen to them and only them. It is an exciting time for everyone, and it leaves everybody with a sense of joy and spirit.

The diehards are the fans that pay attention to college basketball the whole year and beven in the offseason. They are the people who know every player on the team by name and number and all the draft recruits and their rank. These people are the fire of the sport, and all the others are the lighter fluid and wood to keep the fire going. They are the reason for the sport's popularity. When asked about his opinion of this type of fan, Mason Mulacek stated "they can be a nuisance to the game, but they make you want your team to win the game more".

Photo couresty of azcentral.com



GCU fans surrond their mascot like they're summoning demons.

The next group of fans is the bandwagoners- The fans that everybody hates because they hop on the success train. This can be viewed by people who are fans of a team that are doing good or fans of a different team every year. They say "this year i like this team because they are good" or something along those lines. This is the most annoying group of fans and everyone can agree on that. When asked his opinion on this type of fan, Clark Jackson stated, "They aren't real fans," and "It speaks volume about their knowledge of the sport". More evidence to support the fact that these are hated fans.

The final group of fans is the people who are just fans. The people who don't throw their team out of proportion but are loyal and engaged, nonetheless. They watch the games and enjoy seeing their team succeed, but they don't make their team their entire life. The everyday person is basically what this group is. They hang out with friends and watch the game and occasionally go to the games with a group of friends. Nothing crazy, nothing out of the ordinary- just fans.

These are the people that make up the college fan base. They make the sport what it is. When interviewing people, it seemed that the most hated group of fans was the bandwagoners. Every quote from people about them was negative. The second most hated group of fans was the super fans. The overall reactions of people were slightly negative but saw them as good for the community of the sport. The least hated group of fans was the regular fans. There wasn't much to say about them other than the fact that they like their team and there is nothing wrong with that.

(END)GAME OF THRONES

Continued from page 4

Bonus round!

The Night's Watch- If none of the aforementioned houses satisfy your inner (or outer) edgy thirteen year old, boy do I have something for you. Introducing the Night's Watch; home to a slew of reformed thieves, murderers and other unsavory personalities, who now stand on a wall made of ice and well, watch. What for you might ask? Ice zombies of course you silly goose! In their spare time they enjoy brooding almost as much as the Starks, and honing their skills in the art of the blade. Still not enough edge? Well what if I were to tell you that they dress in all black? That's right, these guys have it all. Unfortunately as a trade off for their more than sufficient edge, the Night's Watch aren't exactly contenders for the throne at the series finale, as they have some rule against it or something, but at the very least we can root for their survival when the dust settles.

So there you have it, all of the most likely houses to take the throne come the series finale, plus the Night's Watch. Place your bets now--just as long as it's not the Tyrells, that'd be a bad investment-- because the final season of Game of Thrones airs on April 14.

A war of hypothetical villages that turns out to be really similar to Game of Thrones

by Samantha Pinzone, BP Staff Writer

Mr. Stamp Lickage has rebelled against the kingdom! Each village rebels, wanting ultimate victory and control of the kingdom. The first village we have, made up of five amazing women, includes Berkshire's English teachers: 7th and 8th grade ELA teacher Mrs. Turovsky, 8th grade ELA and English I teacher Mrs. Jaskiewicz, English II and creative writing teacher Mrs. Koler, English III teacher Mrs. Hunter, and English IV and AP teacher Mrs. Kleinhenz! This department holds the power of effortless unity, witchcraft and wizardry, and Marc Antony. However, in reality, they would probably destroy themselves.

Next is the math sector, made up of 7th grade math teacher Mrs. Johnston, 8th grade math teacher Mr. Guthrie, Algebra I teacher Ms. Protts, geometry teacher Mr. Hoover, Algebra II teacher Mrs. Ryks, and, last but not least, advanced math teacher Mr. Lester. The math department has some strong contenders, including the one and only Mr. Hoover, and they have the ability to use logic.However, they would form a weak alliance because they often butt heads.

In the science townlet we have the one and only seventh grade science teacher Mr. Fejedelem, eighth grade science teacher Mrs. Ritts, Biology teacher Mr. Keller, Chemistry teacher Mrs. Maske, and Physics teacher Mrs. Guthrie. The science department has MKK (Mr. Killer Keller for those of you youngins), explosive chemicals, catapults, and the one and only Carey Maske. Although these teachers have all of these pros, Mr. Keller is a pacifist, leading to their ultimate downfall.

Lastly, in the history outpost, we have 7th grade history teacher Mrs. Bartosic, 8th grade history teacher Ms. Bomback, American History teacher Mr. DeWeese, Economics and Government teacher Mr. Higgs, and World History teacher Mr. List. The history outpost has much knowledge on battle strategy, and each teacher included here is very competitive. They have the ability to unite, and they have athleticism on their side. Their only con, however, is hubris.

Each small town must come together as one to form a militia using their battle skills and strategies. In an interview, we were let in on the following information:

If you were in a competition with your fellow department teachers, whether it be paintball, dodgeball, or a mud run, do you think your team would be able to come out victorious?

Mrs. Johnston answered first and said, "The math department is composed of some elite athletes. I think we would have no problem taking down any other department in an athletic competition." Mr. Hoover also had something to say about this: "A competition? Have you met Ms. Protts? Her competitive fire alone would lead us to victory! #3.1415926milemudrun." We then received input from history teacher Ms. Bomback: "I think we have a great chance because we theoretically know more about battle strategy… But we definitely aren't what we used to be in the physical strength arena." The infamous Mr. Keller then said, "Without a doubt, the science department will be victorious."

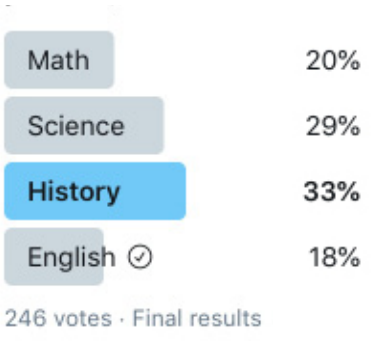
Teachers were then asked: **Out of the departments, which do you think has the most strength?**

"I believe we would easily dominate any department, but I would have to say that our biggest competition would be from the history department," explained Mrs. Johnston. On another note, Ms. Bomack says that she "would vote for social studies, but [her] confidence is not resolute." Mr. Keller, on the other hand, fears the English teachers!

Last but not least, each teacher was asked the following: **Who do you think is the most powerful teacher at Berkshire?**

With this question, we had a tie between two teachers, Mr. Hoover and Mr. Keller. Mrs. Johnston says that "if we are talking pure strength/athleticism I think I would have to give it to my fellow mathematician, Mr. Hoover." Agreeing with this statement is Mr. List, who simply said, "Hank Hoover." On Mr. Keller's side, we have Mr. Hoover, who said that he "believes that Mr. Keller is likely the most powerful teacher, but he is followed closely by Mr. Randle and Mr. DeWeese." We also have Ms. Bomback here on Mr. Keller's side, explaining that "Mr. Keller is a tough dude; if he wasn't the kindest person in the building, he might be scary."

From these answers, it has been determined that the math sector would win this battle, each member using their special skills to dominate over the opponents. In actuality, though, it has been decided by the student body that the history teachers would be victorious! As the day turns to dusk, the history teachers stumble to the castle. They take their flag and hoist it up the flagpole, watching it wave gracefully in the wind. Cheers from the history outpost can be heard from the castle. The team smiled at each other as they realized that they now ruled the kingdom.



Through Junior Katelyn Zeliznak's twiter poll, the students reveal who the real winner of the department war would be.



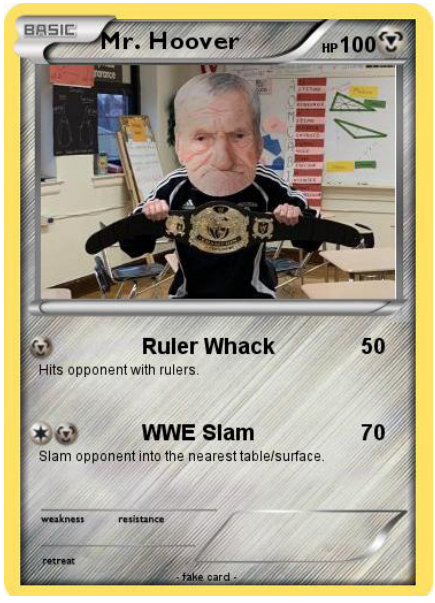
















Teachemon cards made by Dani Zilka, BP Staff Writer

Got muscle?

by Clark Jackson, BP Staff Writer

The Arnold Classic Sports Festival finished up at the beginning of this month. Named after Arnold Schwarzenegger himself, this 4-day event spanned from February 8th till March 3rd. Hosted right here in Ohio, at the Columbus Convention Center, this EXPO hosts hundreds of fitness and exercise businesses to market their products while customers walk around the EXPO center. The main attraction, however, are the events that occur at the Arnold.

The competitions hosted by the Arnold test all aspects of physical fitness. For instance, there are competitions for IFBB Pro League competitors who specialize in bodybuilding physique, strongman competitions, ninja warrior races, wheelchair events, and even arm wrestling competitions. This year Brandon "The Prodigy" Curry of Tennessee upset the defending champion, Will Bonac, for his first Arnold Classic USA Title for bodybuilding. Among other prizes and awards, he directly received a $130,000 check for placing



Brandon Curry on stage at the Arnold Classic, pulling off a front double bicep pose

first. Natalia Abraham Coelho won the women's physique competition, and also received awards for her victory.

Hafthor Julius Bjornsson won his second straight Arnold Strongman Classic title. Those of you who are viewers of the hit television series Game of Thrones may know him as "The Mountain", which suits him accordingly. Standing at 6'9" and weighing in at over 400 lbs, this Icelandic beast pulled off some amazing, jaw-dropping, and record setting lifts at the Arnold. For example, he pulled a 1,045 lb deadlift, which was a new Arnold Strongman Classic record. He also pressed the Austrian Oak, which weighs 430 lbs, over his head twice.



Hafthor Julius Bjornsson, aka "The Mountain," pulls an astonishing 1,046 lb deadlift.

The real star of the 2019 Arnold Classic was a young man by the name of Myles "Smiles" Taylor. Miles got his claim to fame when a YouTube video of him deadlifting 200 lbs went viral. This may seem a little unusual due to the not-so-large deadlift compared to the competitors at the Arnold. However, Miles suffers from Cerebral Palsy. This 200 lb deadlift was in reality a triumphant victory and accomplishment for Miles, and he received plenty of well deserved attention at this festival. Miles is truly taking the first step forward in taking the "dis" out of "disability".

The Arnold Classic Sports Festival allowed for hundreds



Miles "Smiles" Taylor wearing his signature clothing brand

of athletes and competitors to test their ultimate strength in any aspect of athleticism. From deadlifting half a ton, to flexing traps in front of judges, the Arnold has it all. If you ever feel like witnessing these beasts in person, buy some tickets for the "gun show" and head on down.



by Nick Misconin, BP Staff Writer

The month of March is an interesting time of the year. It acts as a dividing factor between the only two seasons in Ohio, winter and summer. "Spring" officially begins in the month, but spring is just a myth. Spring break is upon us for us schoolgoers, the last major break before until the end of the school year. But what you probably didn't know is that there is something that happens halfway through the month of March, something engraved in history and literature for centuries: The Ides of March.

If you've taken a sophomore level English course, the curriculum includes the reading of William Shakespeare's The Tragedy of Julius Caesar, a dramatized retelling of the backstabbing (or backstabbing) of Julius Caesar. This of course was a major point of Roman history, there is more however to the tale. So buckle up, strap in, and get ready for a little history lesson. This might take a bit, but you'll soon understand everything I want to address.

It all starts with a prominent figure not just in Rome, but in history as a whole. Julius Caesar was his name, a powerful general of the Roman legions way back in the times of the Roman Republic. Key word being "Republic," as the Roman Empire is not yet in existence. More or less, Caesar garners a hefty following of people that want him to rule over Rome. Those in power at the time, The Roman Senate, would not have anyone else rule over them. Caesar, who was also a senator, publicly announced that he wouldn't want to rule over his fellow Romans. Still, the Senate didn't believe him.

Enter Brutus, one of Caesar's closest allies and friends. Brutus, who also happened to be a senator, was approached by those who strongly opposed Caesar. Brutus, torn between his close friend and his reputation amongst the senate, chose to assist the other senators. Following shortly after Brutus's change of alliances, planned alongside the conspirators, as they would come to be known as, came an attempt on Caesar's life.

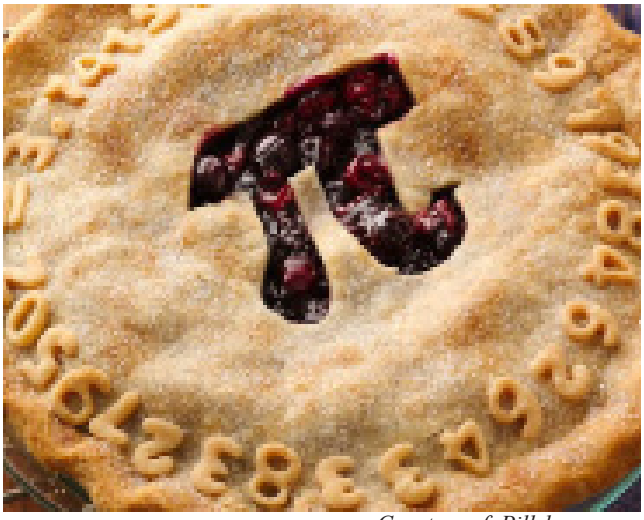
It all came to fruition once Caesar entered the senate hall, were he was met by the group of conspirators. The group of senators, plus Brutus, lunged at Caesar, stabbing him 23 times (according to the play version of this event), leaving him in a pool of blood. With Caesar's dying breath, he said "E tu, Brute?" Which translates to "And you, Brutus?" Caesar was actually warned of the assassination, by an oracle whose ushered the words "Beware the ides of March." However, he shrugged off the warning, due to the tragic flaw of hubris.

Alright, so after that whole debacle, the senators thought that the Republic would rejoice over a potential death and the extinguishing of the threat of tyranny. Oh boy were they wrong. The majority of the populous revered Caesar to such a degree that they were enraged. Soon enough, the senators had to flee Rome, as they feared the loss of their heads. After the chaos the Roman Republic fell, but was revived to be something far more powerful: The Roman Empire which officially rose, with Caesar's nephew and adopted son Octavius (later known as Augustus), who took the mantle of Emperor of Rome.

So what can we learn from this event in history? Well for one, maybe take into consideration what an oracle says when he tells you your life is at stake. Second, keep your guard up, even with your friends (sadly). And finally, don't be a prominent figure that the public loves, but the nobility despises. If you follow this advice, then you have absolutely no reason to beware the Ides of March.Regardless, stay safe out there!

Pi Day meets Save a Spider Day

by Jackson Hare, BP Staff Writer



Courtesy of Pillsbury.com

This wonderful Pi Day pie looks delicious and ready to be eaten, but will the spider get it first?

March 14th, as most know, is Pi day, also known as an excuse to eat tons of pie. It's the one day that math teachers will see a student actually appreciating mathematics. Although it's not exactly the reason teachers hope its for, students will still have some sort of positive attitude towards math. Tara Ryks, Algebra teacher at Berkshire High School, describes her favorite memory of Pi Day: "I remember Lizzy Dingman creating a cartoon about Pi day… and Will Steigerwald writing and singing a song along with his guitar."

This day is celebrated by students everywhere as an excuse to escape school work with the alternative being a pie feast. As to how the mathematical constant is related to the food pie is unknown to me, but why complain when you could be nose deep in your favorite pie.

Imagine it's March 14th and you're sitting down eating some nice apple pie and to your left you see a horrific sight. It's a furry, brown, eight-legged spider about the size of a quarter. Your skin crawls in horror. What if it touches your pie! So you do what most would do. You've got a flip flop in your hand and you take aim. You're about to rain down justice upon this spider, but wait! You just found out that March 14th is also Save a Spider Day. To kill this spider would be the equivalent of eating cake on Pi day: It's traitorous. You must be tremendously conflicted. There's no way you would kill this innocent, little spider, but that's your pie at stake. Don't worry, there's a solution: Trap the spider in a glass and release it outside. Or you could ask politely for it to leave- but I'm not sure how effective that would be.

"3.14159265... will never end, while the population of spiders will."

W h a t ' s the point of saving spiders, anyway? you may ask. Well, I think we can all agree, spiders are not the only pesky bugs. Spiders actually eat some of those annoying bugs, such as mosquitos. So without spiders there would be more blood suckers flying around, and I'm sure you've been bitten more by a mosquito than a spider. Also there actually is a species of spiders that is vegetarian, so they have no incentive to bite you, but unknowingly you could end up killing a completely innocent spider. If you still have no sympathy for spiders, don't worry. Ryks, who previously expressed enthusiasm towards Pi Day, says she "would rename [Save a Spider Day] to 'Step On a Spider and Squish it Day.'"



Courtesy of Reddit.com

You wouldn't squish this little guy, would you? Only a monster would kill a spider as cute as this.

This March 14th, focus less about the amounts of pie you are going to have, and think more about the importance of spiders, and the power you have to keep them alive. Think about how many spiders you have killed in your lifetime and consider this: If everyone in the world has killed around the same amount of spiders as you, that all adds up to a very large number of (potentially innocent) spider corpses. This also means that if everyone was to save one spider on March 14th, then we will have accumulatively saved seven billion spiders in one day. You must remember that 3.14159265… will never end, while the population of spiders will. You can always celebrate Pi day, but once spiders are gone, there's no more spiders to save, therefore no more Save a Spider Day. So, when you see a furry, or maybe not furry, arachnid creeping toward your pie, carefully consider what you have just read before you decide to squish the innocent little guy, laughing maniacally like an evil villain, or to give him a small morsel of your dessert and leave him happily on his way.

A tribute to Luke Perry

by Ben Pelletier, BP Staff Writer

Luke Perry was a father, husband, and actor to everyone who loved him. Sadly, on February 27, 2019 Luke was rushed to the hospital after he had suffered a stroke in his home in Los Angeles. Luke battled hard for his life for five days, but he passed away on March 4, 2019. Representatives of Luke said "He was surrounded by his wife, ex-wife and children when he died." Luke Perry was an amazing actor who left his mark on the world and he certainly won't be forgotten.

Luke Perry was born on October 11, 1966 in Mansfield Ohio. He attended high school at Fredericktown High School and was a part of the 1984 graduating class. Soon after high school Perry fell into the acting scene quickly.

Luke Perry moved from Ohio to New York after graduation to star in small roles in Television shows such as Loving and Another World. However, his big break came in 1990 with the show 90210. The show ran for 10 years in which Luke played the character McKay, a high school loner who eventually befriended the other characters of the show. Luke was very grateful for all of the exposure that playing McKay brought him, being quoted saying, "If not for 90210, the rest of [my career] may or may not have happened."

"Dearest Luke, I will forever bask in the loving memories we've shared over the last thirty years."

Ian Ziering



photo courtesy of gr8erdays.com

Pictured above is young Luke Perry from the time of his stardom on 90210.

Working for over 10 years on 90210 Luke made many friends on-set who were deeply saddened by the news of Luke's untimely death. Former co-star Ian Ziering tweeted the following on March 4, 2019 in response to the event: "Dearest Luke, I will forever bask in the loving memories we've shared over the last thirty years."

Even Ohio Democratic Senator Sherrod Brown responded, stating that he was, "Very saddened by [the] loss, Luke Perry was not only a talented actor—but a warm, kind person who made his home state proud."

Most recently, Luke Perry was starring on the hit CW show Riverdale. Luke portrayed the father of the character Archie, played by by KJ Apa. The cast of Riverdale all paid their tribute to Luke Perry, such as Lili Reinhart who tweeted, "I'm finding it hard to grasp that he will no longer be around to give long hugs and share his wisdom and kindness with all of us."

Luke Perry's death was untimely and unfortunate. His friends, family, and fans will always deeply miss him for the friendship and talent that he brought to the set of any show that he was involved with. Luke Perry may be gone, but he certainly won't be forgotten for his amazing work that deeply touched so many people.

Reminders from The Badger Pause

The Badger Pause is not just about the BP Staff. If you'd like to see your work in Berkshire's newspaper, be it a short story, small nonfiction piece or work of art, email your work, with your first and last name to 19keoughh@berkshireschools.org.

Next issue is the Senior Issue, the final paper for the 2018-2019 school year. Seniors, be ready to tell our staff about your experiences at Berkshire and your future plans.

There are more real heroes than I thought

by Hannah Keough, BP Staff Editor

Originally when planning this piece, I intended for it to be rather cynical. My plan was to interview multiple subjects around Berkshire High School, asking them what superpower they wish to have and why. My slant was that our desires for powers come from a selfish place, not a heroic place. I was going to discuss that simply having an inhuman ability does not make one a superhero--because that status does not depend on what you can do, but who you would save: yourself, or the world.

What superpower would you like to have? And why? Most importantly, who do you want to save?

Then I actually went out to interview. I first asked the teacher of many sciences, Mrs. Guthrie, who wishes she were telepathic, so she could silently stop mayhem before it starts. Upon seeing mischief in a student's eye, she wants to tell them not to do what they are about to do, essentially scold without causing a scene.

As a cynic, I'd assume one could only want telepathy to control other people, even if it's under the facade of wanting to understand. And while there is an element of authority in Mrs. Guthrie's wish, it comes from her place as a teacher and a mother--not a dictator. She wishes to manage the chaos, not manipulate the masses. This is the first case in which I was proven wrong.



Mrs. Guthrie senses the coming mayhem and throws a foam rock (a manifestation of her would-be telepathic abilities) at senior Bobby Czekaj in an attempts to stop it.

Next, I approached Mrs. Ryks, who is loved by her math and yearbook students and her beautiful family at home. Her answer set me even further off my tracks, because it is motivated by deep and sincere care for other human beings, something I am beginning to see as less rare. Her one superpower wish is to be able to grant one individual super safety and/or super health, meaning this one person would be protected from any and all harm--and this person could not be oneself. Naturally, as a mother, this makes sense, so I was beginning to believe that the world did not need more superheros to save humanity--just more mothers. My belief in humanity continued to rise.

Satisfied with my answers from the maternal community, I next sought out geometry teacher, Mr. Hoover. Taking only a moment to summon his response, Mr. Hoover said he wanted the ability to project a person's greatness onto him or her, to make them see themselves how others see them, because he hates seeing people with tremendous potential who limit themselves because of a lack of confidence. Simply, he wishes for people to believe in themselves, but his avoidance of the cliche is what really drove his point home, for me at least. So, once again, my initial assumption for the course of this article was intensely altered.

If I really wanted to, I could spin each of these responses to connect to a selfish want. Mrs. Guthrie wants to prevent mayhem because her life is made more difficult when she has to make a scene to undo what's been done.



Mrs. Ryks holds up objects from her children who inspire her one superpower wish.

Mrs. Ryks would be heartbroken if harm were to come to her children, so she wishes to protect them. Mr. Hoover wants students to believe in themselves, perhaps, so they'll work harder in his class.

And even if I philosophically believe that all men and women are selfish, I cannot confidently and respectfully say that what each of these three teachers wishes for is a reflection of narcissism--because it's not. Because I was wrong.

Not only was this experience refreshing for its eye-opening truth about the nature of humankind, but also in the ways of article-writing--as in, you cannot predict what someone will say, so you cannot base your entire article on what has not yet been stated.

Now, I could close this article with something about there being a hero in all of us, something about kindness prevailing and how we should not lose our faith in the world. I could--but I won't because theme of this article is defying expectation, and there is no way I could be so painfully cliche. Instead, I choose to ask you: What superpower would you like to have? And why? Most importantly, who do you want to save?