

The Blarney Stone



March 2022 St. Patrick's Day Edition

THE LIFE OF ST. PATRICK



St. Patrick was born in Britain around 385 AD. He was a pagan until the age of 16. At 16 he was taken into slavery which is how he got to Ireland. He turned to Christianity during his time in slavery. He heard a voice in his sleep that told him to leave his master and find a ship. So, he did just that, he got on a ship and went back to Britain. He decided to join the monastery where he found his calling was to help convert the pagans to Christianity. He was appointed a bishop and returned to Ireland. He was arrested and managed to escape multiple times. He helped to establish churches, schools, and monasteries.

He had forgiven his former master and returned to his homestead where he was enslaved to pay his slave owner his ransom. However, when he got there, he saw his former master's homestead on fire. Many people associate St. Patrick with driving snakes out of Ireland however we can form the conclusion that snakes are a symbol of paganism. Happy St. Patrick's Day!

Written By: Lucy Mast

ST. PATRICK'S DAY CRAFT



Shamrock Collage

Materials:

- Cardstock
- Magazines/newspapers
- Scissors
- Glue
- Pen or Pencil

Step 1: Draw or print a shamrock and cut it out

Step 2: Go through magazines/newspapers and cut out anything green

Step 3: Organize these green shapes on the shamrock

Step 4: Glue them on; overlapping gives textured look

Step 5: Enjoy this cute decoration!



Written By: Sarah Hoehn

HISTORY OF ST. PATRICK'S DAY



Across the world on March 17th, people join in festivities to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. The story behind the man himself begins in Roman, Britain. Patrick was kidnapped at age 16 and made a slave in Ireland. He worked as a shepherd but eventually escaped back to his home country. The story behind the man himself begins in Roman, Britain.



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Winter Ball & Spotlights

Patrick was kidnapped at age 16 and made a slave in Ireland. He worked as a shepherd but eventually escaped back to his home country. During that time, Patrick became a priest and decided to return to Ireland to convert the Irish to Christianity. He is famous for using the shamrock to explain the Trinity. A common myth about St. Patrick is that he drove all of the snakes from Ireland. As snakes are symbolic of the devil, it demonstrates how he expanded Christianity and banished Satan. Patrick died on March 17th, year 461, yet was never formally canonized. It used to be that St. Patrick’s Day was a simple religious holiday used to revere the patron saint of Ireland. Now, it is a secular holiday primarily used to celebrate the Irish, made popular by Irish immigrants. Interestingly, the first St. Patrick’s Day parade was held in America. In 1848, several New York Irish Aid societies decided to unite their parades to form one official New York City St. Patrick’s Day Parade. Since then, the holiday has only grown and today the parade is the world’s oldest civilian parade and the largest in the United States.



Written By: Hailey Neill



Written By: Sarah Hoehn

WINTER BALL

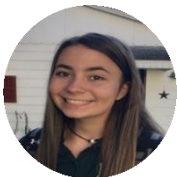
Winter ball was “framed” perfectly and was a night to remember. The theme was framed in time. The school was decorated with fairy lights and picture frames. There was an amazing picture area. Congratulations to Cole Czako, Shane Cook, Nick Andrews, Grant Naese, Jack Jeck, Zahid Medina, Colton Provost, Grant Fouts, Brogan Bilyard, Jose Courtes, and Will Provost for making it on winter ball Court. Congratulations to Will Provost for being crowned winter ball king. The Blarney stone would like to congratulate Grant Fouts for being best dressed. Thank you to everyone who came and to all the house heads for making winter ball a night to remember!

Written By: Lucy Mast

TEACHER SPOTLIGHT

This month’s teacher interview was with Mr. Gautschy, also known as Mr.G! Mr. G teaches a little bit of everything here at Bishop McNamara. Mr. G is our Honors English 10, Social Studies, Government, Sociology and U.S. history teacher. He was born in LaGrange, Illinois and attended Lyons Township High School. Mr. G was involved in many clubs and played tennis growing up. The most influential person in his life is his dad. Some fun facts about Mr. G are his favorite colors are purple and green.

His favorite book is “The Great Gatsby”. He does not have a favorite restaurant but his favorite foods to eat out at is pizza and Mexican. An interesting fact about Mr. G is he was a police officer for 10 years. He graduated from Western Illinois University and Northeastern University. He wanted to become a teacher because he thought he would enjoy talking about the subjects he teaches. This is what Mr. G has to say about his favorite teaching moment: “Kids sometimes make funny borderline inappropriate jokes. I correct them but I do find them amusing”. When Mr. G is not busy spending his time with schoolwork, in his free time he enjoys reading, traveling, and working on stuff around the house. Advice Mr. G would like to leave us with is “It is easier to get good grades, then it is to try and fix a bad grade.”



Written By: Leah Wilson

ATHLETE SPOTLIGHT



The athlete spotlight for this month is senior track runner Shelby Corbett. Shelby has been running track since grade 6, and has continued since. This year, she is a staple member of the varsity team, and she runs the 100- and 300-meter hurdles. Of the 6 years she has run track for Bishop McNamara, she has gone to state 4. Last year, she placed eleventh in state, and hopes this year to place on the podium.



Written By: Ava Brosseau

HOME OF THE FIGHTIN' IRISH



March 2022 Sports & Band

MLB LOCKOUT



MLB has been on lockout since December 2 of 2021. The MLB owners have locked out the Players Association (MLBPA) from all facilities; therefore, they cannot work out or get paid during this time. The MLBPA includes all players on the 40-man roster of all 30 MLB teams (every single player in the MLB and some players in the minor leagues that have been put on the 40-man roster). The lockout is due to the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA). The CBA is the financial structure of the MLB and lasts for five years. One major topic of the negotiations is the competitive balance tax, which is a tax based on how much money teams make above the threshold. The more money a team makes over that threshold, the more the team is taxed. Other points of discussion include revenue sharing, an expanded postseason field (which has been concluded to 12 teams in the playoffs), minimum salaries, and a draft lottery. The minimum salaries allow players in the MLB to be signed for at least the minimum contract.

The MLB itself gave the owners and MLBPA a deadline of February 28th to figure everything out, which was later moved back to March 1st. If they could not come up with an agreement by this deadline, the league would start canceling regular season games.

Unfortunately, they did not come to an agreement, causing the season to start seven days later on April 7th. Fans just want to watch baseball and we can't do that with MLB in a lockout. But now, after 3 months, the lockout has been concluded. On Thursday, March 10, the MLBPA and owners came to an agreement and will begin Spring Training on March 17th. The regular season will begin on April 7th. It is great news that this lockout only sent the regular season back 7 days because the last lockout in 1994 lasted 232 days, canceling many more games.

The MLB has new rules set for this year and some that come into play as of next year. One of the biggest new rules is a universal designated hitter (DH). Before this year, the American League were the only teams that could have a DH, which is having a batter hit for the pitcher instead of letting the pitcher hit. Another rule that goes for this year is a 12 team playoff. The minimum salary for a player went from \$570,500 to \$700,000 this year. In the 2023 season pitch clocks will be in use (to speed the game up), defensive shifts will be banned, larger bases will be used for safety, and an automatic ball/strike zone will be in use. These rules have been talked about in the past but never put into place until now. These rules will change the way baseball is played in good or bad ways, but that is up to the people to decide.



Written By: Mason McCue

SOLO AND ENSEMBLE



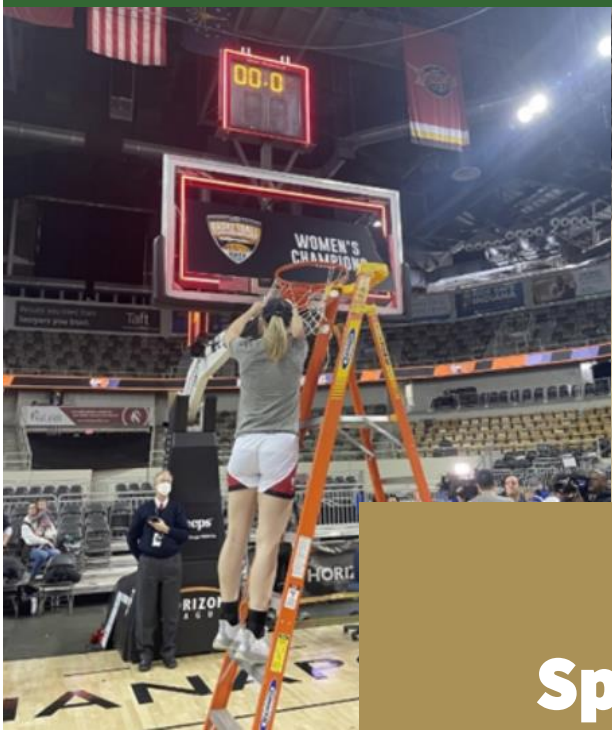
On March 5th some of our band members participated in the IHSA Solo and Ensemble. We had 3 soloists. We had Clare Steffes who played "Minuet", she got a superior rating. Next we have Noelle Yartz who played "Entr'acte from Carmen", she also got a superior rating. Our last solo was Alex Orozco who played "Scherzo in C Minor", he got an Excellent rating. Next we have our trio groups. The first group we have is Jon Blanchette, Christian Kolkovich, and Justen Egli who played "Little March" and got a Superior rating. Our second and last trio is Clare Steffes, Sydney Burnett, and Ethan Jackson who played "March" and they got a Superior rating.



Written By: Sydney Burnett

HORIZON LEAGUE TOURNAMENT RECAP

For the first time in school history, the IUPUI Jaguars are finally going dancing in the NCAA Women's Tournament. This season, they were Co-Regular Season Champions



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Sports, Excursions, & World Events

with Youngstown State and won the Horizon League Tournament to win the automatic bid to the big dance. This bid comes after they won the Tournament in 2020, however the NCAA tournament was cancelled due to Coronavirus.

The Jags won the regular season title with a record of 21-6. However, 2 of those losses were forced forfeits early in the season due to Horizon League Coronavirus protocols. The league later reversed their position deeming future games "no contest." However, they would not change the status of games already played. The Jags were able to battle it out with a two game disadvantage. One of their legitimate losses came to No. 11 Michigan in their season opener, which was brought into overtime. Although they lost to Michigan, they got revenge over another ranked opponent, No. 15 Iowa, where they pulled off the upset. The jaguars more challenging non-conference schedule gave them more confidence going into both conference play and the conference tournament.

The Jags' roster also plays a major role in their success. Center Mace Williams is the 4 time Horizon League Player of the Year, making her only the 4th woman in Division 1 history to do so. The Jags also have Rachel McLimore, who was named to the All Horizon League Second Team and All Defensive team. Rachel Kent was named to the All-Horizon League Third Team as well.

Bishop McNamara Alum Ali Berg also plays for the Jags.

The Jags have earned a 13th seed in the tournament and will face Oklahoma on their home court in Norman, OK. It will start at 9:00 PM CST on ESPN U.



Written By: Sarah Berg

JOHANNES, NIK, AND EAMON'S EXTRAVAGANT EXCURSIONS



On March third Johannes, Nik, and I went on a trip to Kiawah Island in South Carolina. We left during school and went to the airport and hopped on the plane on a direct flight to Charleston. After we landed, we took a 45-minute drive to the hotel where we were staying. It was a very nice hotel on the beach and the

three of us got our own room, while Johannes' parents got their own as well. We got in late so we set everything up and went to bed. The whole reason we were here was because it was a golfing trip. So, we were there for 3 days and golfed one course each day. On the first day we played a course called Turtle Point and it was at that time, the best course I have ever played. While it was fun, we had to always keep an eye out for alligators because there were at least 3 on each hole. That was the same with the other two courses we played after that as well. Very beautiful courses with a lot of alligators. The last course, however, was my personal favorite because it bordered the ocean. This course was called 'The Ocean Course' and held a professional tournament there in 2021. This course was easily the best I have ever played, and we had caddies as well. Caddies are people who carry your bag and help you with your game. During our trip, we also went to some very nice restaurants and tried some interesting foods that I have never tried before. Overall, this was one of the best experiences of my life and I think I can speak for all three of us when I say, we had an extravagant excursion.

Written By: Eamon O'Brian

RUSSIAN INVASION OF UKRAINE

As tensions arise between Ukraine and Russia, more and more countries are getting involved by the day. Russia used to own Ukraine until August of 1991 when Ukraine left Russia to form its own country. Recently, Putin decided that he wanted to retake

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Extras

Ukraine due to the plentiful oil and his visions of rebuilding the Soviet Union. On February 24th of 2022, Russia started invading Ukraine. Russia claims they are only going for military assets, but they have started bombing residential districts causing the United Nations and other countries to get involved. Surrounding countries have been welcoming the refugees from Ukraine, offering them shelter and supplies. Russia is now centering their attacks on the capital, and the UN declared that a 48-hour ceasefire will be put in place to give civilians the ability to flee from the ongoing battles. Russia has been invading the capital for nearly a week now and Ukraine is starting to struggle. The president of Ukraine has spoken out that he will remain in Ukraine, even if it costs his life. The invasions have no real end in sight and could go on for a long while.

Written By: Riley Piazza

WORD SEARCH & SUDOKU

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- clover
- Ireland
- luck
- shamrock
- gold
- Irish
- march
- green
- leprechaun
- rainbow

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BIRTHDAYS



- ☘ **March 2nd** - Alicia Wood
- ☘ **March 3rd** - Abner Garcia Jr
- ☘ **March 6th** - Mallory Kelly, Mayis Medina, Teagan McCue
- ☘ **March 7th** - Brayden Baker
- ☘ **March 8th** - McKenna Salzman
- ☘ **March 10th** - Evita Martinez
- ☘ **March 12th** - Lucy Mast, Analeah Ramirez
- ☘ **March 15th** - Monserrat Olguin, Emily Gonia, Angie Martinez
- ☘ **March 17th** - Savana Smith, Suttyn Hop
- ☘ **March 18th** - Marlis Zacarias, Isaiah Payton
- ☘ **March 19th** - Berenice Rivera
- ☘ **March 20th** - Lillee Nugent
- ☘ **March 21st** - Camille Kuntz, Ava Pinski
- ☘ **March 22nd** - Kendall Lade, Ethan Glidewell, Erika Flores
- ☘ **March 23rd** - Skyler Hendricks
- ☘ **March 25th** - Micah Hardesty
- ☘ **March 27th** - Grant Fouts
- ☘ **March 28th** - Krista Surprenant, Bridget Bertrand
- ☘ **March 29th** - Carter Heinrich, Addison Langelett
- ☘ **March 30th** - Kevin Cash

CREDITS



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