

The Signal



The Official Newspaper of Fenton High School

Friday, November 1, 2019

Boys' Soccer Team Wins PepsiCo Tournament

By Jenny Aguilar

The boys' soccer team made great plays on September 29th, winning and becoming the champions of the 2019 PepsiCo Showdown for boys' soccer. With each new season comes a new set of trials and tribulations, but despite the challenges the team was able to pull a win, not only for them, but for all of Fenton.

The PepsiCo Showdown helps players get to know each other outside of their usually community and gives them exposure in front of college courses. Today, the PepsiCo Showdown is the largest high school soccer tournament. Senior Konrad Madej says, "The Pepsi Tournament has given me a once in a lifetime opportunity to compete at one of the highest levels in the nation and has just been a fantastic experience overall."



Photo courtesy of Victor Ruiz

For the Fenton team, this year has already been filled with new changes, including a change of conference and, like every year, new players filling in for last year's graduates. Coach Victor Ruiz explains how "New players have to adapt quickly [and develop] quick thinking." Madej knows the challenges the group has faced and the importance of older players stepping up: "Our team is different than other teams. Not all of our players have the opportunity to play club, so the ones who did stepped up to help out and it helped strengthen our bond on and off the field."

Leading up to the tournament, the team has been working hard to adjust and improve after each game, going all the way back to the second week of August. Practices consist of looking back to the previous game, win or lose, and using that experience to better themselves. This mindset of always looking for what more can be done has brought the team far, qualifying for last year's IHSA sectional, winning the PepsiCo tournament, and also just recently winning their regional semifinals game.

This attitude of striving for more still lives strongly in the team, even after such a monumental win. The team is preparing for the upcoming regional finals game. If the team is able to advance then their season could continue into the first week of November.

With these incredible successes, the team has still remained humble about their victories. Coach Ruiz explains how the team "keeps it lowkey. We let people see our accomplishments. It's self-rewarding when the school finds out about the kids' success." Success doesn't come from how loud you can share it, but rather how well you can show it. Winning the PepsiCo Showdown shined the spotlight on the effort and skill the boys' soccer team has always had.

Senior Ethan Rojas explains this unique moment, stating "My experience at the Pepsi Tournament was a fun experience because it was not my first time going to this tournament, but it was my first time winning it which is an amazing experience. I believe by this Fenton soccer team winning the Pepsi tournament leaves behind a great experience, and motivates the incoming students planning on joining the soccer program to be back-to-back champions."

Marching Band Finishes Season, Takes Third Place at Competition

By Olivia Markowski

Our very own Fenton Marching Band took home a 3rd place award at the Spartan Classic Marching Band Competition. This event took place on October 5th, 2019 at Romeoville High School. As the band has been working diligently since July's band camp to communicate the "Macabre" theme in their show, we can see that all of their time spent into their art has really paid off.

Band director, Garret George, put into perspective what our phenomenal band has to do in order for their show to run smoothly. Not only do these amazing individuals have to play their pieces memorized and learn choreography, they also have to be "in their 'playful' and

'macabre' character when they needed to."

After asking Iza Weglarz, a member of marching band, a few questions, these were some of her answers. First, we asked about her favorite part about being in the band and she answers with, "Honestly just the people, I wouldn't love marching band as much as I do if it weren't for the people, they bring so much energy and love, it's great." Without a doubt, it's evident that the group is very close and share a strong bond.

To this, she recommends joining and suggested, "Definitely would recommend marching band if you love music and you're up for the challenge, it's so much fun and you get to grow a lot musically."

It's clear that if you want

to improve your interpretation of music, marching band might be right for you. Lastly, she stated, "My favorite piece that we played

was definitely our halftime show, Macabre, it had so much energy and diversity and was a lot of fun to play too."



Photo by Jessica VanLeeuwen

New Culinary Club Cooks Up Confidence, Fun

By Erica Ayala

Would you like to get in the kitchen at Fenton? Students from all grades have the opportunity to get comfortable cooking in the kitchen this year.

The culinary club, sponsored by Mr. Josh Payton, is held every Wednesday after school and every Saturday.

At the start of the Culinary Club, Payton comments, "We had been awarded the 21st-century grant from the state. This allowed us to offer unique opportunities to engage students and work to build

relationships as well as student's investment in experiences outside of the classroom."

Not only is the club open to anyone and everyone, but it is also completely free of cost!

A regular in the kitchen, Kyla Branch '22 says "I started going to culinary regularly so that I could get a good basis of cooking and learn how to make good tasting meals, for low prices."

She isn't the only one hoping to increase their cooking skills, many other students who are there on Wednesday's agree with her.

Not only that, but sophomore Evelyn Perez loves that "you don't have to go every single week."

All you have to do is show up and be willing to try your best. In addition to the meals being free, most of the time the recipes are healthy and easy to make.

The goal of culinary is to get students comfortable in the kitchen, trying to prepare them for a future where their mother doesn't cook all of their meals.

Branch elaborates, saying "It teaches you life skills that you will need when you're older in life." An enormous amount of dishes have been made in the culinary kitchens, including lasagna roll-ups, baked mac & cheese, stir fry, enchiladas, and much much more.



Photo by Erica Ayala

STUNT Presents...

Latin Flavor Mix!

Friday November 1st 7:00-10:00

Tickets: \$10 Purchase at Bookstore week of dance or at the door

Students, Coaches Get Ready for Speech Season

By Alexandria De Vito

Speech season has officially arrived! With many new faces comes many new prepping strategies for the team, such as setting smart goals for oneself so they leave knowing what they've accomplished or what they can improve on. Although auditions have already passed, students who are contemplating joining are heavily encouraged to come to some meetings and see what the team is all about. Since the world of speech is so broad, they can assure that there is something for almost anyone.

Varsity member and peer coach, Malien Tingpalpong, says that she's going to work on putting less pressure on herself this season, focusing on having fun with her words, speeches, and her family of speechies, after all, she says, "Speech is a marathon, not a sprint."

Head coach, Ms. Nicole Hendricks says that speech builds amazing skills for many years to come, just push through the jitters and it will end up helping immensely in the long run. For example, it helps students prepare for academic performances such as projects and spoken assignments, interviews for jobs or colleges, and even day-to-day speaking. But speech isn't all about students repeating words, it's about learning from oneself and peers.

Hendricks has also learned quite a few things from the students she's coached, a prime example being strong perseverance. After some harsh critiques, she loves to see students pick their heads back up and think positively even if it may be difficult for them.


Yarely Galeno, a varsity member with her freshman season of speech under her belt says that speech is a big loving family and anyone will fit in the second they join. It's clear to see from any participant that speech is one big family, you might enter not knowing anyone, but by the end of the season, you'll be leaving with many friends.

She also gives two pieces of advice: fake it 'till you make it, meaning that even if you don't feel confident at all, pretend as if you do and eventually you will; and also to practice how you will perform. If you don't take practices seriously and if you never give practices your all, your performance very well may reflect that.


Whether it's radio, prose, poetry, or oratory (and that's just to name a few!), speech is easily an exciting, tight-knit activity which anyone would enjoy.

What's one thing you like about fall?


By Jessica Pykosz



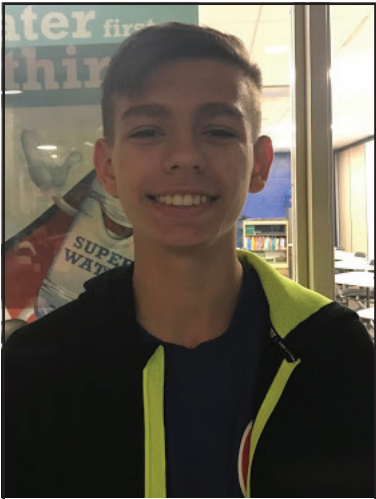
""When all of the leaves start to change colors"
- Brenna Ralston '23



"My favorite holidays are Thanksgiving and Halloween. I can spend time with friends and family"
- Mary Connor '22



"The rainy weather"
- Henry Marcussen '21



" Going to the football games and hanging out with friends"
-Brandon Luigui '20

HoCo Review: Keeping Old Traditions, Bringing in New Ones

By Lissette Hernandez

From the Bison Olympics to the Homecoming dance, all grade levels had the opportunity to be part of homecoming week. Monday started off with pajama day, Tuesday dress like a kid day, Wednesday color day, Thursday space day, and Friday ending off with orange and blue day.

Freshman Tera Pabico says, "My favorite part of homecoming week was the football game and spirit week."

Sophomore Carolina Rosas says, "I didn't like color day but I liked the different themes, color day wasn't as enjoyable as the other themes."

Senior Nathan Fonseca says, "Homecoming week was really fun, but I was unable to go to the homecoming dance. I think

the hoco assembly was enjoyable for all, this is my senior year but I feel like this is the year most people have participated in."

Something that was new this year was a bonfire that took place on Thursday where all grade levels could interact with each other while watching their classmates compete in the Bison Olympics alongside a warm fire. Friday ended off with the homecoming assembly, where the band and dance/cheer teams delivered uplifting performances for their peers that later set the tone for the upcoming football game against Elgin.

And finally on Saturday it was the long awaited homecoming dance where everyone dressed in their finest clothing for a memorable night.

Bison Bibliophiles Invites Readers To Upcoming Meeting

By Grace Marcussen

Fenton has a sea full of fantastic clubs, but one fish stands out among the rest. The Bison Bibliophiles is Fenton's book club sponsored by librarian Mrs. Elizabeth Wright.

The Bison Bibliophiles is a group of students who all share a love of reading. If you are thinking to yourself, "why should I join," the club's sponsor, Wright, has an answer for you.

"Talking about books is fun for all sorts of reasons. It lets you spend more time with your favorite characters and relive the best parts of the story. It also helps you understand better the mind of the authors, as well as your fellow readers. For example, sink your teeth into this quote from our next book: "Accident ruled every corner of the universe except the chambers of the human heart."

Ah, the age-old question of free will, fate, and random chance. This is the stuff of ancient Greek tragedies and Shakespearean dramas--universal questions that we can unpack together by thinking about the events of our own lives.

"Oh, and we have pretty great snacks."

Sophomore Shyann Mumford says, "You should join the Bison Bibliophiles because it is fun since you get to meet new people and discover new books."

The Bison Bibliophiles is currently reading *Snow Falling on Cedars* by David Guterson for their meeting on November 7th in the ARC. If you are interested in joining, you can email Mrs. Wright at wright@fenton10.org for more information and a copy of the book.

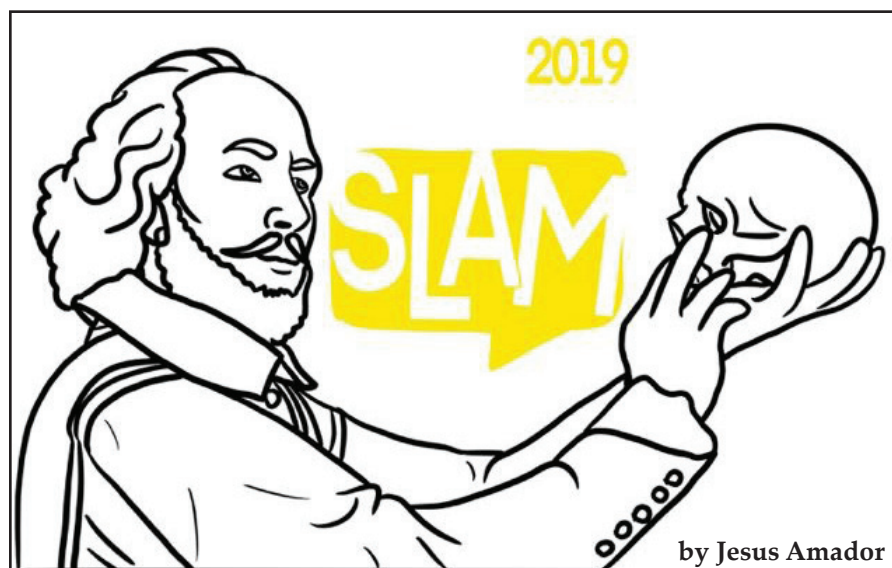
Chicago Shakespeare Slam Retells Classic Stories For Today

By Jenny Aguilar

One of the staples of being a high school student includes reading and analyzing Shakespeare's writing, from acting out scenes of the iconic play *Romeo and Juliet* to analyzing one of the 154 sonnets Bill ever wrote. To say the least, Shakespeare has a reputation for being that one guy who wrote a bunch of stuff that teenagers are now forced to read over and over again. Classrooms may focus on the history of all these writings, but they still hold a surprising strong connection to the world we are currently living in, just ask the members of the Chicago Shakespeare Slam.

Led by Dr. Mike Mitchell and consisting of seven cast members, Jesus Amador, Jordan Blanche, Nico Carillo, Lauren Kissane, Chiara Monacelli, Bartlomiej Sporna, and Nicole Thomasy, and a student director, Malien Tingpalpong, this group take Shakespeare's plays, written almost 500 years ago, and performs them through the lens of our current world, reimagining and rearranging the show while still maintaining Shakespeare's original writing.

Chicago Shakespeare Slam is a high school program designed for students to immerse themselves in Shakespeare, learning what Shakespeare really meant in his words and how to show that meaning through acting. Groups are to perform two Shakespeare scenes, one scene from any Shakespeare play of their choosing, Fenton chose *Julius*



Caesar, and the other from a show the whole community focuses on, this year's being *The Comedy of Errors*. Groups attend Saturday workshops with professional actors and directors to learn skills to better approach the writing and also get ready for their performance. 50 high schools in the Chicagoland area get together to perform their scenes at a Saturday regional bout, where the top scoring teams are entered into the final bout on December 9, 2019. Even with this competition aspects, participants don't see the event as a competition, but a chance to watch and appreciate Shakespeare and his work.

Mitchell says, "I don't see it as a competition. It has more of a festival feel."

Cast member Jordan Blanche also agrees with this statement, explaining, "[Her] favorite part of

the Slam is how truly supportive everybody is of each other, they don't treat it as a competition so much as a place to share our love for the arts."

Fenton also shares a love for the arts and theater with its numerous acting opportunities for students, but Chicago Shakespeare Slam gives students an entirely new experience in acting. The team is given the chance to perform outside the regular community environment, work with professionals in the acting industry, and really focus on Shakespeare's writing through the lens of an actor. There are also some obstacles besides the obvious challenge of reading Shakespearean text.

The season is really short and with the fall play happening during the same time, rehearsal time is limited; Mitchell describes it as "a juggling act. We rehearse as much as

we can. A couple of hours here and there."

However, despite these hurdles the Fenton Shakespeare Slam team has managed to go to the final bout for the past three years, all their hard work paying off in the end.

In spite of Shakespeare's writing being half a millennium old, Shakespeare's writing still holds immense truth in the world we are living in.

One of the reasons why Mitchell loves the program is "You see high school students engaging with Shakespeare and making it relevant to today."

Last year, the Slam community focused on the play *Macbeth*. Students were able to take a show about mad Scottish king and instead tell a story about school shootings or the MeToo movement without changing Shakespeare's writing.

Student director Malien Tingpalpong says the reason she wanted to join the group is because "[She] loved the idea of it. It takes something seemingly archaic and transforms it into something brand new. It encourages the group to look past appearances by coming up with new ways to interpret the text."

Chicago Shakespeare Slam knows how brilliant and insightful William Shakespeare was, and how that intelligence is shown in his work.

This program revives William Shakespeare and his work to younger actors and, as Mitchell puts it, "reaffirms he is truly timeless."

Steppenwolf's *The Brothers Size* Explores Loyalty, Love, Race

By Malien Tingpalpong

Brotherhood. Family. Being black in America. Tarell Alvin McCraney's *The Brothers Size*, now being performed at Chicago's Steppenwolf Theater, portrays the relationship between two brothers. Their connection is tested, or rather, reignited as the younger Size brother, Oshoosi, is released from jail. Ogun Size, the oldest of the Size brothers, tries his best to rebuild their relationship and guide his brother in the right direction. Elegba was Oshoosi's closest confidant after being released. Their complex relationship is also tried when the reality of the outside world sets in. AP English 4 and Accelerated English 1 came back from the theater with mixed reactions.

Accelerated English 1 students were in awe of the show, despite the amount mature language and topics portrayed in the production. Freshman Olivia Beecroft explains her thoughts by saying, "The acting was perfect. I knew exactly what was going on. If they did not have that language, it would have been a kiddie show."

Most were in awe by the unconventional set design and thematic blocking. Beecroft elaborates on the set stating, "The stage was used

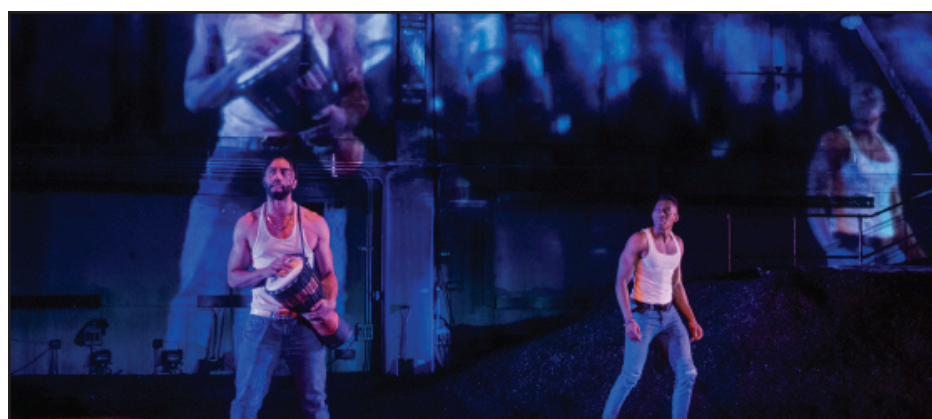


Photo courtesy of Steppenwolf Theater

for so many different locations. It was awesome." Jaws dropped as both the seniors and freshmen entered the intimate theater. The stage was stripped down to its bare bones. There were few props or no costume changes. No backdrop to depict the environment. It was just the actors. Right off the bat, it was just the actors and their voices. The show opened in a dramatic fog, all lights and eyes on the three men. The rest of the show portrayed the complex relationships they have with each other.

For high schoolers, some of it was uncomfortable to witness on a vulnerable stage. Because there were few props on set, the actors were forced to play up their actions

with their acting. Their closeness Relationships were even portrayed with the set itself. The entirety of the set is covered with recycled car tires. The actors move on stage and shuffle through the pieces. Throughout the entire production, Ogun is fixing their driveway, but to no avail. The driveway is never fixed. Only pushed around and built up in different places. Ogun is building up a foundation no one in his world asked for, but he feels it is his duty to lay the groundwork for his younger brother. His younger brother sleeps on the highest vantage point of the set. This hill that he sleeps on was built by

Ogun just for his brother.

Oshoosi and Elegba's relationship is ambiguous but central to the plot. The audience sees the most intimate moments on stage. The show is one of unconventional scenes and relationships. It explores sexual fluidity without bringing it to the forefront of the issues. There are no statements of who is into who or what gender each character is into, but there are images of affection nonetheless.

Others felt the production was clearly in its early stages. A few slip-ups and mishaps were evident, and though the actors were passionate and committed to their roles, it was clear to see where they were less confident. The show promised to tie vibrant Yoruba culture with modern-day experiences, yet nothing but the introduction of the show demonstrated the culture. Director Monty Cole is critically acclaimed for directing Shakespeare's *Hamlet* at The Gift Theater and winning a Jeff-Award for an adaptation of *The Hairy Ape*. In this production, Cole sought to depict the characters as creators of their own narratives. His next project includes an adaptation of the book *Black Like Me* by John Howard Griffin.

Successful Fall Play Wraps Up



Photo courtesy of Mike Mitchell

By Erica Ayala

Dancing at Lughnasa, Fenton High School's fall production of 2019, was performed October 24th, 25th, and 26th. *Dancing at Lughnasa* is a very different play than what we saw last year with *She Kills Monsters*. The play centers around an Irish family of all sisters in a small village. The production is a celebration of Irish family culture and life. The play features Jordan Blanche as Kate, Evelyn Perez as Maggie, Nicole Thomasy as Christina, Joan Hitt as Rose, Karissa Lara as Agnes, Ien Tingpalpong as Michael, Adam Millard as Gerry, and Jesus Amador as Jack. This year, there were only 8 cast members in *Dancing at Lughnasa*. The directors decided to "cast a more focus sized cast... it [gives] us the advantage as to what we can do with a smaller focused cast," director Amanda Baker shared.

Because of the smaller sized cast, it is much easier to develop the storyline of each individual character. The premise of the play is that of a boy retelling his summer stay with his aunts in Ireland. One of the most difficult aspects of having a play set in Ireland is the accents that the characters have. In preparation for the upcoming production, the cast was "speaking together in Irish accents all day every day," Baker said, who taught them to practice their accents.

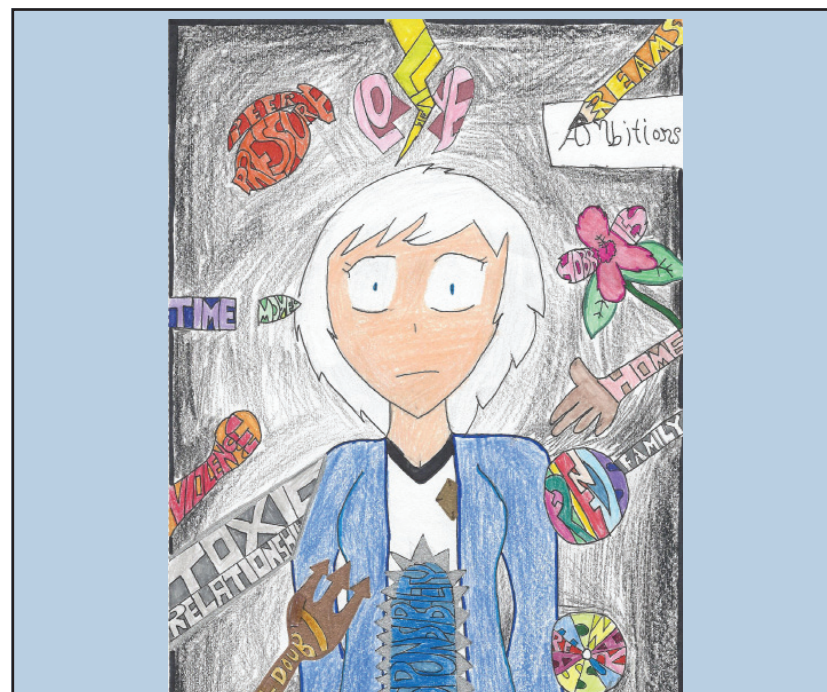
The cast faced an additional challenge of not being able to relate to the characters they were playing. The characters are much older and have a much higher level of maturity, so the cast had to put themselves into a different mindset for their performance. Sophomore Karissa Lara shares her experience, saying that "making it seem realistic and how an actual person would feel or act in that situation" is a great personal challenge she is facing. "I was excited to try something new and also excited to be in my first fall play production at Fenton!" Lara gushed.

Joker Adaptation Promises New Take

By Jessica Pykosz & Ethan Diaz

This is unlike any other comic story you have heard of. We have all heard of Joker and what he does. We know his characterization through the many adaptations from Caesar Romero to Jared Leto. But do you really know his story and the pain he goes through? In the 2019 movie adaptation of the Joker, Joaquin Phoenix dives deep into the role, depicting the tortured, and suffering that led to the world's most iconic comic villain. The 2019 Joker movie goes deeper into his life than you can ever imagine like his mental illnesses and how people really treat him.

Some people think the whole movie is fantasized because of his delusional disorder but others would say it shows his point of view on how people treat him so badly because of his Pseudobulbar affect (uncontrollable laughter) and his post-traumatic stress disorder, but everyone just calls him and his mother either "insane" or "crazy." It shows a bit of both, fantasized and his point of view because of how many bad people there are but also how badly they treated him also shows how many of the things that "happened" he was just imagining in his head. Overall this movie goes into the background story of Joker and all of his mental illnesses.



by Ethan Diaz and Marin Kirsch

Frightening Horror Movie Cliches

By Morelia Aburto

Most of us love October because it's the one month where we can get free candy and get away with scaring little kids. The fall season promises sweaters and hot chocolate. The costumes and makeup are a pretty entertaining part of October too. But what's one of the best things about the spooky season? Watching all those horror movies at an appropriate time!

The jump scares and chills are something people love about horror movies. But even horror movie fanatics can agree on one thing. Scary movies can be quite dumb and funny. There are situations that just make us question if the writers really have a slight bit of common sense. Here are some of the dumbest decisions and tropes horror movies have.

Hiding Options: We can all agree running through the woods isn't the best "hiding spot." If the ghost or killer doesn't get you, something else probably and definitely will. Or hiding in a closet will totally keep away Jason or Annabelle. If anything, have fun trying to get out of the closet without giving yourself to the spirit.

Splitting Up: Most horror movies include a group of teenagers or people in general. Not one person is alone experiencing scary events. Well until they decide it's best to go their separate ways and cover more

ground. Like leaving one person unarmed and alone will increase the probability of surviving through the situation. Everything goes great until everyone in the group was easy to get to because they were alone. Ever heard the phrase "teamwork makes the dream work?" Clearly, the writers of these horror movies haven't.

Not leaving the situation: Have you ever seen the Conjuring or any horror movie with spirits? We can all agree that the best chance of survival would have been to leave the house after they noticed creepy things starting to happen. But instead, most of the families decide to stay. If you suddenly hear doors shutting without any air around, the best idea would be to sell your house and leave. Staying there just tells the creepy spirit to continue.

There are many tropes in horror movies. Most of them cause at least one character death in movies. Even with all the dumb decisions, we still decide to keep paying \$7 for a movie ticket to the new movie. All of these situations may lead the story to continue, however, it is mostly in these classical and predictable ways. Next time you go see a horror movie, I encourage you to watch out for these tropes. Watch out for all the ways in which the directors and actors made these classic mistakes. In most cases, these make the movie a more entertaining viewing experience.

Polish Club Celebrates Student Identity

By Anna Micor

Fenton is finding new ways to involve students' cultures at school. The Polish Club is one of the new clubs Mrs. Sader and other teachers have taken interest in leading. Mrs. Sader says, "The idea behind creating a Polish Club was to collaborate with students on ways how to show what it means to be Polish. I'm very proud and impressed with the initiative that our students have shown so far! I know that we are [off to] a great start." So far, students in this club have been brainstorming ideas for possible future vents like a trip to downtown for Christmas, and a cooking class for Polish staple dishes. Students say it's a great way to engage with their culture at school, meet new friends, and are glad that Fenton has this club.

Students are excited to be supported by a school that encourages embracing their own culture. Sophomore Olivia Baran, a member of the club says, "It's a good way to get involved with the school, and I'm glad that I can be a part of something that involves my culture. So far the meetings have been very enjoyable, and I can't wait for the upcoming trips we are planning!" Some students feel it appeals to making brand new connections with people they can already relate to. Sophomore Anna Sierantowicz feels "the Polish community is very inviting and [she] likes that she can make connections with other Polish students. [She] loves that they can talk about topics that relate to [them], and loves the inclusive group of people there." On Tuesday, the 29th, the club is participating in the Polish Independence Walk. The walk will be in Downtown Chicago starting at 11:00 AM.



Cartoon by Jesus Amador

Destiny Arrives: A Book For All Audiences

By Jady Golz

In the past few years, Marvel has been pumping out new movies like wildfire. Suddenly, fans had movies on top of movies to go and see. Best of all, they were all part of the same universe. With each new movie came new fans and Marvel's fanbase began to grow and in 2018, the big climax was released to the public; *Avengers: Infinity War*.

Whether you're a Marvel fan, DC fan, or an I-don't-like-movies type of person, we can all agree that the hype for *Infinity War* was strong and growing. Advertisements were being tossed around like snow during a blizzard. Some flocked to the advertisements trying to gather every bit of information they could get, and some ignored them. Why those few chose to ignore them, a very plausible answer could be the fact that they preferred books over movies.

This book was published on the 2nd of April, 2019, around 1 year after *Avengers: Infinity War* hit cinemas. You can also find them on Amazon, Apple Books, at Barnes and Noble, or even Target. Prices range from about \$16 to \$6 depending on format and discounts.

Liza Palmer was born in California and has written 9 bestsellers including *Conversations*

with the *Fat Girl* and *Nowhere but Home*. Along with the thrill of *Infinity War* wrapped up in its pages, pictures are depicting monumental scenes throughout the book by Steve Kurth. Kurth has worked with Marvel Comics beforehand and did an amazing job preserving *Infinity War*'s movie scenes on paper.

This book followed the same plotline and dialogue as the movie. Except for an occasional word switch in place of swear words, everything was the same. For those who don't know what's going on, Thanos, the bad guy, wants to slice Earth's population in half so we don't run out of resources. If you haven't caught the drift yet, he wants to annihilate half of the humans on Earth. He could do this was a snap of his fingers using the 6 Infinity Stones. They're super powerful objects who contain unexplained power. The Avengers, who have grown a lot in size, have to stop him so that half of the world doesn't die. Typical superhero movie? No, not really. If you want spoilers, go look online, not here.

Just like the movie, this book is not a typical action book either. The pages count backward from 144 to 0 with a few pages at the end. Page 0 is when the climax is stated in 4 simple words. Also, there is 1 page number

per 2 pages.

Now, most people prefer the book rendering over the movie adaptation. This holds for most books, but not this one. Since this book was an adaptation from a screen, most of the action taking place can only be written in words. On top of that, *Avengers: Infinity War* is an action movie, which means that most of the movie is filled with fighting and visuals instead of talking and dialogue. This can make it hard for the reader to envision the scene in their head if they have not already seen the movie: but there is something that makes up for it.

Though we lost some external insight, we gain internal insight into the characters themselves. The greatest example of this is Tony Stark. On the outside, he's a trickster, cunning, sly, playboy type-person, but he does have his soft spots. Marvel does a great job of making sure this can be seen without a monologue, but it's so much more prominent in the book. In the book, we can see Tony's soft side so much more often than in the movie. We can see how much he loves and cherishes Pepper and how much the generally cares for Peter even though he commonly makes mistakes. And it's not just Tony, we see this in so many other characters. We get so much more insight into



how they feel and interact with each other in the book than we do in the movies.

This book genuinely surprised me in many different ways. There is a book for one of my favorite movies out there which shone in ways never seen any book shine before. It was amazing getting to see the pictures and getting to witness the deeper parts of an already deep character set and arch. So, if you're a book reader or a moviegoer, this book is for you.

Girls Volleyball Dive Into Season

By Olivia Baran

Fenton High School's has a very successful girls volleyball program. Both the varsity volleyball team, coached by Kelly Torres, and the junior varsity team, coached by Ginger Simons, have shown extreme talent on the court this year and it definitely shows.

"Our team started off the season super strong, with a 9-0 record", says Noha Zaggoti, one of the many athletes on the varsity team.

These achievements are proven a result of the hard work put in by each athlete, however would not be a reality without the mentorship of an amazing coach.

Kelly Torres states that she, "[loves] being able to figure out the right combination of players and strategies to compete at a high level. Volleyball has always been [her] passion, so [she] feels privileged to be able to coach at the highest level high school can offer."

Torres has high expectations for her athletes and has adopted very successful coaching tactics that allow for her girls to rise to the top. In addition to this, Torres also creates

very well-rounded athletes that are constantly rooting for each other on and off of the court. "

We never let one of our teammates get down on themselves, and we are always striving to bring out the energy in one another," proclaims Hailey Miller.

With such positive energy from each teammate and with such a good coach, it's no wonder Fenton's varsity volleyball team can maintain such a spectacular winning streak.

Torres says, "The atmosphere has turned into a culture of winning, versus the old Fenton mentality of lovable losers. Our athletes are just as talented, dedicated, and committed as any other school, so why can't we be the top in our conference and have success in our programs?"

Junior varsity seems to showcase improvement this year as well. Ximena Banuelos, a junior varsity volleyball athlete states, "We've progressed a lot from last year."

This is nothing but good news. Let's all cheer on our amazing girl's volleyball teams as they continue to spread positivity and success.



Photo by Jessica Pykosz

Counselors Bike Across Illinois



Photo courtesy of Sarah McDougal

By Michelle Agyemang

On June 16th, the multi-day event Bike O' Fun started off strong! Bike O' Fun is a bicycle tour that allows counselors to bike across Illinois in order for them to look at multiple college campuses. The event was created by two of our Fenton counselors, Sarah McDougal and Paul Welsh, who started off their tour in Bloomington-Normal, Illinois.

The counselors visited Illinois State University, Illinois Wesleyan University, Lincoln College, University of Illinois, and Illinois College.

McDougal says, "When counselors visit college campuses, they get to see the campus and network with college admissions staff and other people on campus so that we, as counselors, can get to know which colleges are good fits for which of our students." They invite counselors from all over Illinois, this trip two counselors from out-of-state joined them as well. When asked why they created the event Welsh said, "I love my job. Part of my job is to learn about colleges for the students and about different opportunities. I love riding my bike I can combine two things that I enjoy."

McDougal said, "It combines our love of cycling with our professional interest of college counseling." After the success of the Bike O' Fun last summer. The counselors plan to host Bike O' Fun event every two years. Bike O' Fun is usually a three day overnight trip.

However, In 2021, they're going to switch things up. The counselors plan to have the event be a one day trip instead of an overnight trip. They have hope that people will learn that it's not as bad as it sounds and hopefully more counselors from all over the state will join. The IACAC and host institutions supported the counselors with costs so there was no fee to join. Their overall experience of biking across Illinois was very positive.

"I had a great time, I can bike all day long. The people in the town [that we] met were very appreciative because we would stop to buy things. The motorists were very respectful and it was a very safe ride." said Mr. Welsh.

Next year the counselors plan on visiting, North Central College in Naperville, Elmhurst College in Elmhurst, and Dominican University in River Forest. With the approximately 115 miles the counselors biked last year who knows what they can do in 2021.

Class of 2021 Collecting Used Shoes in Fundraiser

By Malien Tingpalpong

Class Council representatives from the class of 2021 will be hosting a gently worn/used shoe collection drive in partnership with Funds2Orgs. The funds earned will be going towards Prom in May of 2020. Class council will be collecting shoes up until December 1st. Collection boxes will be placed in classrooms throughout the school where students and staff are able to donate.

Funds2Orgs aids organizations in managing creative fundraisers. All the shoes will be given back to Funds2Orgs where they will then be redistributed to their centers in developing countries. These centers then help people in impoverished countries start their own businesses.

Places in Haiti, Colombia, Tanzania, and India are home to the micro-enterprises of small business owners. The organization has a

curriculum in starting a business so owners are able to sell the shoes productively and hopefully make a profit. The profits earned by selling the shoes go back to the business owner. Many business owners use the proceeds to earn a living and provide for their families.

Class Of 2021 President Kylie Peterson describes the fundraiser as something that impacts more than just the Fenton community, but helps people in need. These people will then be able to worry about basic necessities like taking care of their children and even having a home.

Funds2Orgs is dedicated to repurposing items that are often wasted. According to a report by the Environmental Protection Agency, 84% of unwanted clothing goes to landfills.

Thanks to the fast fashion industry, clothing is made of materials that are quick and easy to produce,

but awful for the environment. It would take hundreds of years for synthetic fibers, nylons, and plastics to biodegrade. Donating unwanted and used shoes avoids the build-up of materials in landfills that end up in oceans. If more clothing is thrifted, upcycled, and donated, the fast fashion industry is threatened. Recently, upcycling old clothing and going to thrift stores has been a trend, as the world becomes more environmentally conscious.

The funds raised from the donations will go towards events hosted by the 2021 Class Council. This year, the junior class is planning, budgeting, and organizing junior and senior prom.

Because the funds are going towards Prom in May of 2020, Peterson is ensuring that people can "expect a fun time with their friends at prom" and that they are "doing their best to provide the best experience."



Photo by Malien Tingpalpong