



The Silhouette



November/December Edition

Teachers as Thanksgiving Foods

Madison Cohee and Ava Miles

For this edition of the Silhouette, we decided to use the recent Thanksgiving festivities to our advantage. Below is a list of the most popular Thanksgiving foods and what teachers we think just make sense to be paired with them. Without further ado, we present our "foods as teachers" list!

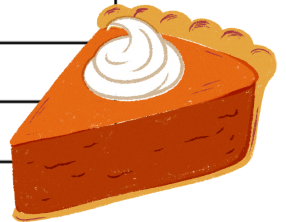
Might need some explaining:

Turkey	Mrs. Weaver	Main character moment 🦃 🍷
Stuffing	Mr. Makowski	Hard shoes to fill being stuffing, but Mr. Makowski never disappoints
Ham	Mr. Horick	Valid option for Thanksgiving dinner, ham reminds me of physical activity
Green Bean Casserole	Mr. Anstine	He's the math wing's glue, holds down the fort's sanity
Cranberry Sauce	Mrs. Siegel	Personally a huge fan, the color of cranberry sauce matches her personality (pretty)
Corn	Mr. Campopiano	The corn knobs are like instruments, a man of multi talents
Green Beans	Mrs. Neiderer	She lowkey carries, will always be there for you
Corn Bread	Mrs. Walde	Sweetest person ever, never fails you, am I right?
Yams	Mr. Zinn	This cool emoji should say enough 🍠



Self explanatory:

Mashed Potatoes	Mr. Griffis
Sweet Potatoes	Mrs. Griffis
Marshmallow on top of Sweet Potatoes	Mrs. Olewiler
Apple Pie	Mrs. Wingert
Pumpkin Pie	Mr. Ryan
Rolls	Dr. Brosius



Special Editions:

Whipped Cream	Dr. Britton	Belongs on and or with everything, is so sweet
Gravy	Mr. Edwards	A requirement for any actual good event, 100/10 (IS A MUST!!)
Butter	Mr. Connolly	He is everywhere, always helping out, adding extra flavor

Black Panther: Wakanda Forever's Impact

Layla Abdou-Saleye

Ryan Coogler accomplished the impossible. Not many directors have had to mourn the loss of a dear friend and coworker, let alone their main subject of one of Marvel's largest franchises. Chadwick Boseman passed away from colon cancer on August twenty-eighth of 2020. Chadwick had been battling cancer since 2016, unbeknownst to Marvel Studios. In every project, Disney pays tribute by ending the intro with Chadwick's iconic landing pose. For *Black Panther: Wakanda Forever*, the iconic Marvel intro was altered to honor Chadwick, with the entire moment filled with his important scenes and the absence of music for a complete moment of silence. Chadwick's role of T'Challa, the Black Panther, was and will remain one of the most influential roles in the realm of superheroes.

The *Black Panther* movie was the first Marvel movie to have a Black main hero. The movie was adored and appreciated among the community. With the loss of Chadwick Boseman, many fans believed this figure would be lost. However, other stars like Letitia Wright, Lupita Nyong'o, and Danai Gurira were able to come back to the project and continue the vision that Coogler and Chadwick had. Although it was difficult, missing their best friend and co-star, each actor from the first film was able to come back to create a new, revolutionary story.





The Worst Christmas Song

Bailey Bodvin

In the year 2000, a band called NewSong decided that they were going to write the worst song to ever exist, as a way to make people cry through the Christmas season. This song even inspired people to write a book and movie based on it in 2002. The song, in question, is called “Christmas Shoes,” and I cannot listen to it without giving myself a headache. If you haven’t heard it before, I’ll save you the time. “Christmas Shoes” is told from the perspective of a man who is in a department store on Christmas Eve, but he can’t find his Christmas spirit. He gets in line behind a young boy who can’t afford the shoes that he wants to buy. When the narrator tells the boy that he’ll buy the shoes, the boy tells him the story of why he needs them. His mother is dying and will probably not live past the night, and he wants her to “look beautiful, if mama meets Jesus tonight.”

Yeah, this is a heart wrenching tale of a young boy losing his mother, and just wanting to do one last nice thing for her before she passes. Except that the story is completely fictional, and I feel that there was never a point in writing this song.

My hatred for this song stems from the idea that there are “good tacky” Christmas songs, and “bad tacky” Christmas songs. “Grandma Got Run Over by a Reindeer” is an example of “good tacky.” It’s humorous, the tune is catchy, and it was never meant to be a good song, just fun. “Christmas Shoes” falls under “bad tacky,” where it’s meant to be cute and touching, but you just feel nauseous after listening.

Black Panther (cont.)

In *Black Panther: Wakanda Forever*, the indigenous community experiences a similar level of representation. Tenoch Huerta is an incredibly talented actor, and is inspiring people across the globe with his role as Namor. The new character, Namor, allows Marvel to, for the first time, dive into Mesoamerican, and specifically Mayan, culture. The new film shows the effects of Spain's colonization of the Mexico area, including the enslavement of the natives and the smallpox epidemic. The portrayal of these historically accurate events is extremely important in Western media, especially when a company as influential as Disney presents it. Mexicans are finally able to see a Marvel character that may look like them on the big screen.

The most important reason to hate this song, though, is not the content within, but the fact that there is no reason for it to be a Christmas song. It could be for a birthday, or Thanksgiving, or Summer Solstice, or Flag Day, for all I care. It could be a random day in April where the narrator is just feeling a bit down and helping the young boy brightens his day. The song has absolutely nothing to do with Christmas, other than the fact that people are more emotional during the Christmas season, making more people buy the song.

I completely understand why so many people enjoy this song and cry to it, but I can confidently say that I will forever and always skip the song when it comes on.

The Chemistry of Cookies

Kaitlyn Frey

As we approach the holidays, cookie baking becomes increasingly popular. While the cookie baking process may seem simple, understanding the chemical processes behind cookie baking is key to producing the ideal cookie!

There are three main processes that occur when a cookie bakes. First, the dough flattens and spreads out as the butter melts. Next, the cookies rise as steam pushes through the dough and baking soda turns into carbon dioxide gas. These air bubbles contribute to the final cookie's light texture.

Finally, the cookies caramelize as the clear sugar crystals transform into a flavorful brown liquid. At this point, they also darken and develop toasty flavors as the sugars and proteins in the dough react during the Maillard reaction.

With this basic understanding of the cookie-baking process, you can alter different ingredients to create your ideal cookie.

For instance, you can add baking powder instead of baking soda for a fluffier cookie. Baking powder creates carbon dioxide gas when it's mixed in the dough and when it's baking in the oven, compared to baking soda which only produces gas in the oven.

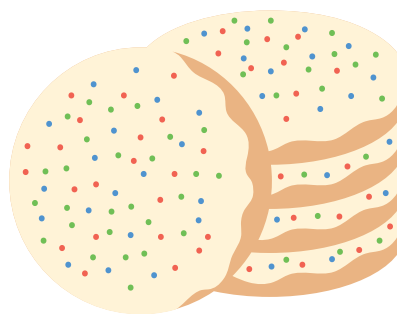
Likewise, the butter temperature plays a large role in the cookie's structure. Since

the cookies spread out when the butter melts, adding melted butter to the dough creates a softer dough that will cause the cookie to spread out flatter than a cookie with chilled butter that takes longer to melt and spread.

Butter temperature also affects the cookie's density. For a chewy cookie, try melted butter that creates more frequent and smaller air pockets. Alternatively, for a fluffier cookie, use chilled butter since it will create larger and fewer air pockets.

Finally, the type of sugar can lead to a more flavorful cookie. Darker sugars, such as brown sugar or molasses, will create richer, more complex favors in the Maillard reaction.

Now, go live like a chemist and create your own cookie recipe this holiday season!





A Real “Heroic” Season

Jennie Brady

With the completion of championships at Hersheypark Stadium on November 12, the 2022 marching band season ended. The marching band transformed into heroes of all kinds (real and fake) every football game and competition to bring their show, “Heroic,” to life. All 58 members persevered through adversity to bring home 4th place at championships

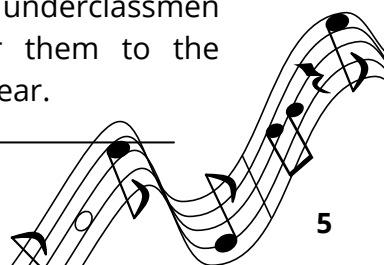
Right from the start of our season, we knew we were going to face potential setbacks. Our band director missed much of the most crucial part of our season, band camp, due to his liver transplant surgery. Our instructors and student leaders were forced to step up and carry more of the weight of the program than normal. Despite this less than desirable circumstance, the band got through our band camp checklist and was able to put half of our show on the field by the end of the week.

Due to Hurricane Ian and its effects, our competition on October 1 was canceled once we were already at practice. This left us with only one option—finish our show a week early and beg show hosts to let us into a competition the following week. The band finished the drill for the rest of the show...in the cold and rain. We were all soaked through our clothes by the end of the drill block.

Other little complications occurred: multiple bus breakdowns, opposing student sections yelling profanities, senior night happened two weeks early. Throughout the season, it felt like there

was one thing after another attempting to stall us. Despite this, the band pulled together to create an audience loved show and consistent score improvements, showing what it means to be heroic.

Being less than a point away from a second place trophy did feel disappointing and at first, I felt like I would’ve rather been 3 points away because then it wouldn’t have felt so within our reach. Unfortunately though, nothing can change the outcome, our outlooks have to change. While it’s disappointing, it cannot dictate if our season or show was successful. We placed 4th out of 9 bands; that alone is a really good place. Our guard and percussion both placed 2nd out of those 9 bands. After handing the 1st place band their awards, one man stepped to us and told us that our costumes were his favorite all season; clearly we made an impact on at least one person. After not placing in the top 3, Mr. Campopiano’s catchphrase “humble winners, gracious losers” became pertinent. Every band that placed above us worked hard and wanted that placement as well; somebody has to place 4th. Members of the 7th place band were cheering because “at least we didn’t get last.” How can we be upset with a 4th place? It becomes so easy to blame other band members, other bands, and the judges. In the end, though, there’s no point in blaming anyway because it will never change the placement. Instead, we have to graciously accept it and underclassmen have to use it to power them to the placement they want next year.



A Real “Heroic” Season (*cont.*)

The end of this season brings the class of 2023’s marching band career and Mr. C’s first four years to a close. Mr. C started here the same year we were freshman, making us his first class he has for all four years. Naturally, this creates a special bond between the 17 seniors, most of whom were in all four years, and Mr. C. I wanted to gain his thoughts on this milestone of his career. Unsurprisingly, he views this occasion as “bittersweet” because it’s “been great getting to know each of” us throughout the four tumultuous years we had as a group, but obviously quite sad to be losing his first 4 year senior class. As a group we dealt with our first season in 2019, then we couldn’t go anywhere in 2020, we were “rebuilding” the band in 2021, and all of Mr. C’s personal absences during 2022. All of this chaos definitely created a special bond between the seniors and him. For the seniors, this is the end of late night football games, early morning practices, and 12+ hour competition days. We made it through with the help of each other and all of our staff.

To Mr. C: thank you for always navigating us through undesirable circumstances and always handling it calmly and efficiently. Your positive attitude and support is something that I think many of us tend to overlook, but will one day recognize and appreciate it. Your ability to joke with us, but also lead us to victory is truly appreciated. I never once felt like you didn’t care about each and every one of us; you would’ve even fought a pack of high schoolers for us. You go above and beyond for our program...like coming to band camp the same day you get out of the hospital. If more people were even half of what you are, the world would be a better place. You truly are the embodiment of “heroic.” Thank you for the last 4 years, your impact in my life is unmeasurable.

My Ranking of the Starbucks Holiday Drinks

Brooklyn Green

As a Starbucks barista, who is making these holiday drinks very frequently nowadays, I have definitely established many of my own opinions in regards to them. And I believe I have some type of credibility and expertise when it comes to this subject because of my job. My list of rankings will be ordered from best to worst, these drinks will not be rated on a number scale because I cannot put accurate number values to anything.

1. Caramel Brulée Latte -

This one is my absolute favorite. I have always been a lover of caramel and this latte just does it for me. If a guest is asking for a holiday drink suggestion, this is always my go to.



2. Peppermint Mocha -

The peppermint mocha, from what I've observed, is most people's favorite holiday drink. The flavors of peppermint and chocolate are tastes that I think really embody the entire Christmas season.



3. Peppermint White Chocolate Mocha -

Almost the same as the regular peppermint mocha, but just a hint sweeter. Not much else to say other than that it is pretty decent.



4. Toasted White Mocha -

The toasted white mocha is not bad, but it's not really special either. I think it tastes like a slightly more burnt version of the white chocolate mocha. Honestly, why wait around for this when you can get just a white mocha year round?



5. Chestnut Praline Latte -

I'm not really a person who likes things with nutty flavors, and that is what exactly this drink is. Besides just the taste of the latte, the chestnut praline syrup itself smells like when you have let your cereal sit in the milk for too long. It's a pretty potent scent.



6. Irish Cream Cold Brew -

Meh. That's what I have to say about it. I mean if you are a fan of bitter coffee then this is for you, but obviously not for me.



7. Iced Sugar Cookie Almondmilk Latte -

YUCK. I was really excited to try this one and was severely disappointed. The syrup smells amazing and the taste is quite mediocre. I could have lived with the fact that the latte was meh tasting, but what really got me was the aftertaste. It is so bad. All I could taste after was burnt sugar cookie. I kept drinking the latte just so maybe I would like it even a little bit, unfortunately that did not happen.



The Curious Case of Seattle Grunge

Cora Diviney

Have any of you noticed an alarming trend between 90s grunge bands and untimely deaths? Because I have. It seems like almost all of the frontmen of major grunge bands of the time, like Nirvana and Alice in Chains, have met a premature death. Kurt Cobain, the lead singer from Nirvana, committed suicide even at the height of his career. Could these repeated self-inflicted deaths among the grunge scene just be a coincidence or do connections lie between them?

Nirvana, Alice in Chains, Pearl Jam, and Soundgarden were the most successful bands of the time and were collectively known as the “big four” of grunge. Today, only Pearl Jam’s frontman, Eddie Vedder, remains. The other three, Kurt Cobain, Layne Staley, and Chris Cornell, met unfortunate endings as they suffered from depression and substance abuse. In addition, Mother Love Bone’s Andrew Wood died from a drug overdose just a few years before Cobain took his own life in 1994. Stone Temple Pilot’s Scott Weiland suffered the same fate in 2015. Even more can be added to the list including Chester Bennington from Linkin Park, who died from suicide, and going even farther, some could even include Amy Winehouse, who died from alcohol poisoning later in the early 2000s.

It is a disturbingly long list. The more I think about it, the stranger it seems. How come so many of the genre’s most famous members not only died, but from a self-

inflicted death? What were their experiences like and did the raw and honest form of grunge affect them too deeply? A point I think is interesting to bring up is that each frontman of the “big four” bands that have died were born in grunge’s birthplace, the state of Washington. The only living frontman, Eddie Vedder, was from California. Although there is most likely no connection between the two, I find it interesting that it happened that way.

The last of grunge lies in Eddie Vedder’s hands. At only 57 years old, he is the last major frontman of grunge to remain. How come Vedder was able to outlive the curse that others fell victim to? His lyrics contained the same depressing and honest tone to them so how come he made it out? Contrary to his peers, Vedder never fell victim to the brutal cycle of drugs. It seems like his drug-free lifestyle allowed him not to completely spin out of control and maintain a firm grip of himself, even during the highs of his band’s fame. Today, Eddie Vedder allows the music world of grunge to live on, even while so many alongside him could not do the same.



2022 Qatar World Cup

Betsy Figueroa

The FIFA World Cup is an international men's soccer tournament. The national teams from 32 countries compete against one another to win the title of World Cup Champions, a trophy, medals, and a cash prize. The first World Cup was held in Uruguay in 1930, where Uruguay became the champions. From there on, the World Cup has been held every four years. This tournament has become the most popular sporting event in the world.

There is a great deal of competition regarding the country that will host the World Cup. It is a great honor for the country and instills national pride in its citizens. To host the World Cup, there are various requirements. The country must have 12 stadiums with a minimum capacity of 40,000-80,000 people. Near each stadium, there must be an airport with a minimum capacity of 1,450 passengers every hour. A minimum of 72 hotels for the teams and the referees to stay in and 4 hotels per stadium for fans. Meeting the requirements becomes very expensive. Once countries determine if they can meet the criteria, those who can, place a bid. FIFA's Congress votes on which country will host the World Cup. In 2010, they chose Qatar to host the 2022 World Cup.

Qatar is a small country with only 4,471 square miles and 2.8 million people. They are also one of the wealthiest nations due to its possession of oil. There has been a great deal of controversy surrounding

Qatar hosting the World Cup, beginning with the suspected corruption that led Qatar to become the host. There have been investigations about FIFA and other organizations' officials receiving bribes from Qatar. While all officials were exonerated of the charges, some still believe money was exchanged behind closed doors. Due to the requirements they had to meet, Qatar had to build 12 stadiums and a lot of hotels. Qatar used migrant workers to build the infrastructure. There is nothing inherently wrong with that, but the conditions and the exploitation of the workers was the real issue. A 2021 investigation by the Guardian found that more than 6,500 migrant workers (from 5 South Asian countries) died in Qatar since 2010 from workplace accidents, car crashes, suicides, etc. The maltreatment of migrant workers has people around the globe upset and demanding justice. Qatar and FIFA say only 3 people have died from working on World Cup infrastructure, and 37 died from non-work related incidents. Qatar is a very conservative Muslim country where homosexuality is illegal. Though they have said that they will accept anyone coming for the World Cup, many members of the LGBTQ+ community are hesitant. They know that Qatar can be a dangerous place where they could be arrested or discriminated against for their sexuality. Due to all of the controversies with Qatar hosting the

2022 Qatar World Cup (cont.)

2022 World Cup, former FIFA President, TSepp Blatter, has publicly stated that Qatar hosting was a mistake.

If you plan on watching the World Cup, here are some things you should know. Two of the best and most popular players, Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo, have stated that this will be their final World Cup. Both of these players have had extraordinary careers winning many trophies, but the one trophy neither has won is the World Cup. Messi plays with Argentina, who is entering the World Cup with 36 unbeaten games and has previously won the World Cup twice. They also won the Copa America in 2021. Cristiano Ronaldo plays for Portugal,

which has never won a World Cup. Messi and Ronaldo dream of leading their teams to a World Cup victory. Other than Argentina and Portugal, there are two additional teams speculated to win, Brazil and France. Brazil has won the World Cup 5 times and has their star player Neymar Jr. Brazil always has a good team and puts up an intense fight against their opponents. Then, we have the reigning champions, France, who have won the World Cup twice. They have rising star Kylian Mbappe who scored 4 goals in the 2018 World Cup at the age of 19. It is clear that it will be a rigorous and intense fight to become the World Cup winners of 2022.



Emmet Otter: A Hidden Christmas Gem

Anna Farmer

As the holiday season begins and Christmas movies take over the TV, it becomes time to ponder what is the best Christmas movie. What is the perfect movie to watch on Christmas Eve while drinking hot chocolate to prepare you for the coming day? There are many contenders: *The Santa Clause*, *Home Alone*, *Elf*, *A Christmas Story*, etc., but the Christmas movie I believe beats them all is *Emmet Otter's Jug-Band Christmas*. I am sure most of you have never heard that title in your life and are sincerely questioning my judgment, but you have to watch it before you can criticize. *Emmet Otter's Jug-Band Christmas*, released in 1977, is an approximately forty-eight minute film directed by Jim Henson. It has been rated an astonishing 100% on Rotten Tomatoes (which is actually a good thing, despite what it is called). My family and I have watched this film every Christmas Eve for as long as

I can remember and I do not think there is another movie that truly captures the values of holidays like *Emmet Otter's Jug-Band Christmas*. It portrays the life of Emmet Otter, a poor otter, as Christmas approaches and he and his mom have no money to afford gifts for each other. In an effort to surprise each other, they both enter a talent show with a grand prize of \$50. Emmet forms a jug-band with a couple of his friends while his mom prepares a song to sing. They are both willing to give up so much in order to give each other presents for Christmas. But, are either of them able to defeat the notorious Riverbottom Gang to win the \$50? You will have to watch the film yourself to find out.



DECEMBER playlist

Songs that are perfect for
the early dark nights, snowy
days, and winter drives
Peaceful, Chorus, Simple sounding songs

PERFECT
BACKGROUND
FOR AN AFTER
SCHOOL NBP IN
DECEMBER

EVERYTHING HAS ITS PLACE

BIG BLACK CAR

FAST CAR

GRAVEYARD

IF I GO, I'M GOIN

THE WOMAN FOR ME

WONDER

MY HEART IS BURIED IN VENICE

NEW RECORDING 28-LIONS

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

THE RAIN

J'S LULLABY

NOTHING MORE THAN THAT

GOLDEN EMBERS

ME + ALL MY FRIENDS HAVE GOT THE BLUES

BERLIN

I'M GONNA BE (500 MILES)

BOOTS OF SPANISH LEATHER

HARD HEARTED STRANGER

STRAWBERRIES

FEELS LIKE

CEILINGS

BRANDO

ACOLYTE

GRAVE SONG

APPLE PIE

FOUND (FOREVER)

RE: STACKS

SMOKE SIGNALS

FOR ALL YOU GIVE

THE VIEW BETWEEN VILLAGES

THAT MOON SONG

NORTH

AS WE ARE NOW

RIGHT WHERE YOU LEFT ME

INGYDAR

I'D HAVE TO THINK ABOUT IT

SOFT, SLOW,
SIMPLE SONGS
ARE THE BACK-
BONE OF WINTER
(BONUS POINTS IF
IT WAS ORIGINALLY
POSTED ON TIKTOK)

MY MOST PLAYED
SONG THIS
YEAR!

PROOF THAT WINTER
FEEL SONGS DON'T
HAVE TO BE SAD

HEAR ME OUT...
THIS SONG
REMINDS ME OF
A SNOW STORM...

ONE OF MY
CURRENT FAVORITE
SONGS - PERFECT
FOR THE SAD,
REMINISCENT VIBES
OF DECEMBER!



SCAN FOR APPLE
MUSIC PLAYLIST!

YOUNG MISTER

GREGORY ALAN ISAKOV

TRACY CHAPMAN

TAYLOR SWIFT

GREGORY ALAN ISAKOV

RAYLAND BAXTER

HONEYWATER

RICKY MONTGOMERY

CHELSEA CUTLER

RON POPE + THE MAYRIES

THE SUITCASE JUNKET

DELANEY BAILEY

THE PAPER KITES

WATCHHOUSE

THEO KANDEL

COREY KILGANNON

SLEEPING AT LAST

THE LUMINEERS

WATCHHOUSE

CAMP

GRACIE ABRAMS

LIZZY MCALPINE

LUCY DAVIS

SLAUGHTER BEACH, DOG

THE LUMINEERS

LIZZY MCALPINE

CAMP

BON IVER

PHOEBE BRIDGERS

THE PAPER KITES

NOAH KAHAN

GREGORY ALAN ISAKOV

SLEEPING AT LAST

SAINT RAYMOND

TAYLOR SWIFT

ADRIANNE LENKER

LEITH ROSS

GREG IS
A WINTER
STAPLE

ONE OF MY
FAVORITE
UNDERATED
BANDS - MANY
OF THEIR SONGS
FIT THIS PLAYLIST

PERFECT
FOR PEACEFUL
NIGHT DRIVES
AND SNOW DAYS

GRACIE
IS PERFECT
FOR NAPS AND
SNOWY DRIVES

PERFECT FOR THE
EARLY NIGHTS;
THIS IS MY FAV
SONG OF HERE

IM AN AVID
SLEEPING AT
LAST FAN -
PERFECT MUSIC
FOR SLOW
DECEMBER DAYS



SCAN FOR SPOTIFY
PLAYLIST!

Fall Sports Overview

Curtis Smith

Football:

The New Oxford Colonials football team had an exhilarating season with impressive wins, records broken, playoffs, and a league-recognized award. One of the many impressive wins was their week 10 matchup against Eastern York. In a pivotal game, determining the playoff seeding, the Colonials put up 57 points (50 of which came in the first half). This statement win had the team finish at 8-2 in the regular season, placing them as the third seed in the AAAAAA playoffs earning a first round bye. Unfortunately, the team lost in the second round of the playoffs, but the 2022 team left an impact. Cornerback Idriz Ahmetovic finished the season with seven interceptions which led AAAAAA district three schools, as well as setting the New Oxford school record. Another accomplishment this team achieved was being crowned the YAIAA undisputed division champion (meaning it was not a shared award) for only the second time in school history. Not only did the Colonials play hard and competitively on the field, they also won the YAIAA Division 2 sportsmanship award. This team finished as one of the best in school history.

Girl's Tennis:

The New Oxford girls' tennis team finished the season as one of the best teams in the area. The team itself stood out with a 20-1 record, crowning them the league and district champions. Not only was this team well put together and well coached to be successful, they also had several individual talents that propelled them up the ranks.

The standout sophomore, Anya Rosenbach, was not only the YAIAA singles first place champion, she also placed second in the district competition and won the YAIAA doubles competition with junior teammate, Allison Horick. Horick also partnered with sophomore, Kaelyn Balko, to win the district doubles championship. Not only did these members find success at the county and district level, but many other members made these competitions, showing the strong team they had. Senior Naomi Doll stated about the season: "The team's success this year was definitely due to a mix of months of preseason training from players ranked 1-21 and, as cliché as it may sound, the team bond that we had. From my own personal experience, every single one of my teammates had my back no matter what place I was on the team and I'm so very grateful for that. They supported me through a very difficult time in my life and I couldn't have asked for a better support system."

Field Hockey:

The New Oxford field hockey teams finished the season with an impressive record of eight wins, five losses, and three ties. The Lady Colonials made the playoffs and were up against the number three ranked team, the Susquehannock Warriors, who went undefeated in the regular season. A true underdog story was fulfilled as the Colonials defeated the Warriors 1-0. Unfortunately, the team's season was over after losing the next two playoff games. Senior Ally Mathis stated:

Fall Sports Overview (cont.)

"This season was by far one of the best and most exciting ones our team has ever experienced. We went from losing several games in a row to going on a six game winning streak, beating some of the toughest teams in our league. By the end of the season, we focused on our strengths and became one of the strongest teams to go through this program, and this team will definitely keep seeing success in the years to follow."

Girls Soccer:

The New Oxford girls soccer team finished the season with a 6-10 record. This number does not show, however, the close games they had against rival teams such as Southwest, Dallastown, Spring Grove, and Red Lion, all of which were within two goals. From starting the girls soccer program about three or four years ago, a lot of growth and improvement can be seen as they had trouble winning a few games in the first couple years. The team also won the YAIAA sportsmanship award, representing the respect and maturity shown to their opponents. Senior Alaina Myers stated, "Overall not the ideal season, but there was a lot of growth and that's what was most important to our program for the future."

Boys Soccer:

The New Oxford boys soccer team finished the regular season right at .500 with a 9-9 record. This record earned them a spot in the county playoffs, but they had to fight for it. The last game of the season, against Susquehannock, was a win or go home situation for both sides, creating an

energy-filled matchup. With all on the line, the game went into overtime where Jose Zavala scored the game winner to send them to the playoffs. Although their playoff berth was short-lived, this team had a memorable season.

Girls Volleyball:

The New Oxford girls volleyball team finished a challenging season with a record of 5-13. This team struggled with adversity as they had moved up to division one and had to learn a new coaching style after losing their late, amazing coach, Coach Armacost. However, this did not get in the way of their team dynamics, as they were a tightly knit team. Senior Megan Adams stated, "We did not have the outcome we all wanted, but we all loved playing with each other throughout every win or loss. For me personally, it wasn't the best season but I still enjoyed the time spent with the team on and off the court." Also, senior Avery Gates stated, "Our team could have done a whole lot better than our stats reflect, but I look forward to coming back next year and seeing how our juniors do. I had a lot of fun during my last season. No, it didn't end the way I had liked it to but it was definitely an experience that I am glad I had with the people I was with."

Golf:

The New Oxford golf team finished the season with an average place of 5th out of 7 Division I schools. Six of its players, Trent Uhler, Joey Fuhrman, Rylee Haugh, Ella Billman, Elizabeth Moores, and Katie Lavalley made it to the YAIAA county championship after qualifying as being in the top 21 golfers in York-Adams. Along

Fall Sports Overview (*cont.*)

with county-qualifying skill, the New Oxford golf team also proved the underlying lesson behind all sports. Through the representation of fairness, generosity, and respect, the team won the YAIAA sportsmanship award. Senior golfer, Joey Fuhrman, stated, "Overall the season went very well for the team, improving from the last few years. I was a part of the team all four years and it was cool to see all of us develop as golfers and get better and better each year."

Cross Country:

The New Oxford cross country team had a successful season filled with new personal records and personal goals met. One of their runners, Neal Price, made it to the YAIAA championship meet and placed 18th. This team stayed super connected throughout the entire season. Senior runner Chloe Trawinski stated: "My senior cross country season was one of the best and favorite of my career. The whole team felt like a family and we were so connected and bonded so much unlike any year before. It was a perfect end to my 6 years of cross country. I enjoyed every race and especially this year. There were so many different personalities and skill levels, but no matter what, we were all doing the same races and workouts. I wouldn't trade it for anything. And I am so happy I got the coaches I did, especially Coach Karkuff, she was one of the best motivators and coaches a runner could ever have. I'm thankful for such a great 6 years, but I'm ready to be done. It was a good run (lol)."

The Not So Red Wave

Kendall DeShong

With the United States general elections wrapping up around two weeks ago, the results of this November eighth election did not turn out how most predicted it would. The Republican party believed that there was going to be a red wave giving the majority party to Republicans in both the House of Representatives and the Senate. A red wave is when a large number of Republicans win in the elections making them the majority in both houses. It was very quickly discovered that this was not going to happen, but later elections could cause Republicans to take the majority party later on. Specifically in Pennsylvania, voters were able to vote for a new senator and a new governor. As a blue wave struck Pennsylvania, citizens saw the Democratic candidates pull through for a win. The two major candidates running for Pennsylvania senator were John Fetterman, the Democratic candidate, and Mehmet Oz, the Republican candidate. Taking the current position from Pat Toomey is the Democratic candidate, John Fetterman. Secondly, the election was also to choose a new governor to replace Governor Tom Wolf. Running for governor, the two major candidates were Democratic candidate, Josh Shapiro, and the Republican candidate, Douglas Mastriano. With an extremely close race, the Democratic candidate, Josh Shapiro, won the spot of Pennsylvania governor. Overall, the general election was extremely successful for the Democratic party and did not turn out the way most Republicans expected it to.

Holiday Traditions

Jennie Brady

December is a special month for most because of the joyful feeling in the air due to the holidays. Combine this with family traditions and there's an extra special feeling during December. Many of these traditions make the holiday season what they are, despite many being minor traditions.

For example, on Christmas Day, my family usually spends the afternoon watching movies and eating the snacks we got earlier.

Junior Brianna Lupian-Lua doesn't celebrate any of the holidays associated with December, but her family tends to spend more time together throughout the month, sometimes even visiting Mexico.

Senior Payton Diggins informed me that, every year, her family likes to watch *The Birds* and *The Twilight Zone* together.

I asked seniors Maya Richwine, Sydney Christner, and Cameron Herring for any holiday traditions they have. All three of them mentioned annual Christmas pajamas and opening a gift on Christmas Eve. Cam said his dad gets everyone a special gift to open on Christmas Eve and his family always does a gingerbread house competition. Sydney said that her parents

still make her and her older sister wait at the top of the steps and take photos with their dog before being allowed to open gifts on Christmas morning. Maya had to think for a little to choose which traditions to tell me. She lit up when telling me about her family's tradition to watch *The Polar Express* every year and pause the movie right before the hot chocolate scene to make their own hot chocolate. Every year, her family also decorates cookies at her grandma's house.

Senior Stella Gladson indulged me in her family's tradition of eating Chinese food on Christmas which she states is "a very Jewish thing."

Mr. Makowski's family has a plethora of traditions throughout Christmas Eve. First, they go to Christmas Eve church service and afterwards head to his parents' house for dinner. Then, his family drives around to look at Christmas lights. Once they get home, his kids put out all the treats for Santa and his reindeer. They end the night with his oldest daughter reading *The Night Before Christmas*.



Termites in Your Smile: A Real-Life Grinch's Story

Stella Gladson

I'll be the first to say it: I'm a Grinch. Most "Merry Christmases" are met with a cheerfully annoyed "Happy Holidays:" every gift display in Target combated with a rousing discussion on consumer capitalism.

It's not as if I lack the rationale. My family is Jewish, and we spend every holiday season well aware of how we stand out. We don't have our holidays off, no one tells me "Shabbat Shalom," and those who do have words on my religion and customs tend to be negative. There are days when I would love to explain to my classmates and teachers why I might not want to hear "O Holy Night" for the hundredth time, and that sometimes I would prefer to throw their garlands and trees off of a very high cliff. Kidding!

Ryan Szpiech's article "The Anti-Jewish Tropes in *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*" presents a unique take, to be sure. After all, it's a classic tale of repentance and compassion... right? Some historians, however, identify a "hermeneutical Jew" in medieval Christian theology, a blind and worldly legalist who refuses to acknowledge the existence of a higher power that brings "compassion, salvation, and joy." Sound familiar? Our green friend, isolated from joyful Who society and convinced of his neighbors' seemingly senseless materialism, reflects Christian fears of a stingy and crooked Jewish figure (as seen in everything from Shakespeare's *The Merchant of Venice* to the character of Meyer Wolfshiem in *The Great Gatsby*).

Even him stealing the stockings and Christmas tree could be seen as a version of the myth that Jewish people stole holy Christian objects.

This was probably unintentional. While some modern critics might cringe at Theodore Seuss Geisel's treatment of Japanese and Japanese American people in some of his early works, he was known as a staunch supporter of Jewish people and despised the Nazi Party. However, as Szpiech argues, anti-Semitic views have worked their way into texts throughout the Western canon, and Geisel's lighthearted Christmas tale is no exception.

What to do? "Cancel" a beloved Christmas classic? Leave it to rot in the snow next to "Baby, It's Cold Outside"? I argue for a more nuanced approach. Read the book, watch the movie, but consider (especially when reading with young children) why the Grinch might feel the way he feels, and why people in real life might object to your more non-secular traditions. However, for all my complaining, I do enjoy the season. As long as it's taken in moderation.

And, for the record, I don't have garlic in my soul. Just latkes.



My 48 Book Library: What I Love and What I Don't

Cassidy McNew

As I type this article in my bedroom, sick at home, I can't help but take occasional glances at the array of books that I possess. There is no set genre, it is just a random collection filled with different authors, genres, themes, and more. Out of all the books that I have, only one is left unfinished: *The Handmaid's Tale* by Margaret Atwood. The line of books that I hold ranges from Shakespearian plays to memoirs of a broken childhood. That being said, I have never really sat down and discussed my favorites, least favorites, and what I would recommend for those looking for a new read. From my top 3 to bottom 3 reads, here is the final consensus:

What I Love:

1. *Where the Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens

If you are a fan of a murder mystery that simultaneously follows a romance storyline, this is the book for you. Based on prejudice and isolation, the readers follow Kya (a.k.a. "Marsh Girl") as she slowly joins society alongside two boys. Even though she wants to be normal and accepted, maybe staying in the marsh would've been the better option of the two. I will just leave it up to you to try and find out why that is.

2. *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald

Even though reading this was required for my 11-3 English class, I could not have loved it more. While it took a few weeks after the writing assignment was due for me to truly understand the piece at hand and its symbolism, it's better late than never. With Fitzgerald's individualization (and semi-stereotyping) of his characters, the reader is never lost when it comes to how he refers to each character. If you read the book and still find yourself slightly confused, I recommend watching the 2012 movie starring Leonardo DiCaprio and Tobey Maguire. Even though I am one to be critical when it comes to the classic book to movie transformation, I

recommend the movie version to try and patch up some holes or questions that may still be lingering post-read.

3. *Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott

With classics, it is so hard for me to select just one that I would call my favorite. I actually got into reading this book because of the Broadway musical of the same name, famously starring Sutton Foster as the outspoken Jo March. With romance and life goals constantly butting heads in this book, I always found myself to be on the edge of my seat just wanting to read more. Similar to *The Great Gatsby*, this book also has accurate or semi-accurate movie adaptations. The first being from 1994, starring Winona Ryder as Jo March. 25 years later, another movie adaptation emerged with more screen-famous names: Florence Pugh as Amy March, Timothee Chalamet as Laurie, Emma Watson as Meg March, and Saoirse Ronan as Jo March. Movies aside, the book is one of the most iconic pieces of literature ever composed. Each chapter pulls the emotional strings of the reader in more ways than one. It's very hard to not spoil everything that happens, so I will leave it up to the discretion of future readers to try and find out what all goes down.

My 48 Book Library (cont.)

What I Don't Love:

1. *Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare

I feel like this play is average at best. Yes, I understand that it is one of Shakespeare's most famous plays, but it never stuck out to me in any way. The old time English aside, I just found that it was an overall headache to read and constantly found myself rereading the same lines and acts 10 times over to just get a basic understanding of what was going on.

2. *Four* by Veronica Roth

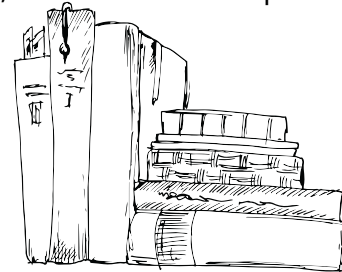
Don't get me wrong, the Divergent series is great, but this book was just not necessary. The public had 3 amazing books to tell the lives and series of events with Tris and Four, but did we really need a fourth book that just solely exists? I read this book in 5th grade for a book report, and I regret it to this day. Compared to the action packed three books before it, this one just falls short in terms of excitement and memorability.

3. *A Teenager's Journey* by Richard B. Pelzer

I remember starting this book at the end of my junior year and only finished it this past September. Nothing is wrong with it in terms of storytelling, but I was totally unprepared for the contents in between the covers. Do not get me wrong, it is beautifully written, but the contents of child abuse, drugs, and other dark topics make it incredibly difficult to read. It is a memoir and a very dark one to put it lightly. It is definitely a dark and hard read, not because of the contents, but because

of the fact that I had to take some time away from reading it based on the detailed stories Pelzer tells. Now, I understand that I cannot be picky because it is a story about someone's life full of trauma and the words a story about a childhood of abuse sat on the cover clear as day, but no amount of mental preparation could have ever prepared me for what I was about to learn. Although it is one that I "dislike," it is one that I tend to go to if I need any bit of inspiration to keep pushing. Thankfully, the end of the book tends to be more inspirational rather than depressing, but the overarching dark themes stay with the reader constantly.

When creating these lists, I honestly struggled. Sure, I did enjoy the time I spent reading these books, but some of them did not do what others did. In many cases, I had to compare books that were in no way related to one another. The reasons for composing the list in the order in which I did came down to one overarching reason: content. What made the book so boring or exciting to read? Did I find myself falling asleep because of how slow the plot was moving? Was the author's word choice not fitting the plot or central idea of the book itself? These were all the questions that I asked myself as I stared at the sea of black, red, blue, and white book spines above my head.



Christmas Music Recommendations to Upgrade Your Playlist

Jennie Brady

Obviously, the best part of the Christmas season is hearing "Last Christmas," "Santa Baby," and "All I Want For Christmas Is You" on every radio station and in every store throughout all of November and December. While these songs are staples during the holiday season and are must plays, there's many other Christmas songs that are just as good, if not better. In case you want some variety, so you don't rip your head off after hearing the same songs hundreds of time, here's just a few of my favorite underrated Christmas songs to update your playlist this season:

- "All I Need Is Love" - CeeLo Green (ft. The Muppets)
- "Snoopy's Christmas" - The Royal Guardsmen (this is the best one on this list, so you all better listen to at least this one)
- "You're a Mean One, Mr Grinch" - Tyler, The Creator
- "Believe" - Josh Groban (despite being in one of the most famous Christmas movies, The Polar Express, this song is underrated; Josh Groban is the best holiday soundtrack)
- "That's Christmas To Me" - Pentatonix
- "Do They Know It's Christmas" - Band Aid 30
- "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" (while not an unknown song, I think it's under-appreciated; plus, Phoebe Bridgers has an incredible cover)
- "Dominick the Donkey" - Lou Monte (definitely random, but a fun song nonetheless)



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