



The Talon

Gripping News



Volume VI

Issue I

Onteora High School

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Illustrations courtesy of Lily Stoudt

Fresh Faces at Onteora

By Abigail Elliott, Sophomore

I had the opportunity to sit down with our new high school teachers, Ms. VanEtten (social studies) and Ms. Dizon (music), and find out about them individually. I hope you're interested to learn a little more about them too!

Hi Ms. VanEtten! What were you like in high school?

I wasn't quite a teacher's pet, but I also definitely wasn't a rebel. I worked hard in school to maintain high honors and a place on the track and cross country team. Although now I would describe myself as talkative, in high school, I was one of the more quiet students, and I've definitely become more confident with time. I've always put pressure on myself to do well.

What was your favorite subject in school, and why do you or do you not teach that now?

English was my favorite subject in high school. I loved to read, which makes English an obvious favorite, but as I got older, I became more interested in world issues and government, helping me to realize my passion for history. However, I didn't always want to be a teacher. For a good portion of my life, I was seriously considering becoming a singer. Chorus was a very present part of my life.



Courtesy of Samantha Navarro

What is your favorite part and what is the most difficult part of teaching?

My favorite part of teaching so far has been getting to know the students for who they are and building relationships with them. I love hearing the new ideas and perspectives of students; this younger generation has a lot to offer. The most difficult part of teaching is having to move on from topics I can tell students are genuinely interested in and are trying to engage in.

What did you want to be as a kid?

As a kid I had always wanted to be a singer and even considered going to college for singing! This was a dream for me all the way through high school. I sang alto and sometimes soprano. I probably would have become a singer, but over covid something changed.

Do you like Onteora so far?

I like the feel of the smaller school because the lessons feel more individual. It helps that I was a student here and all the teachers and students have been so welcoming. In some ways, I feel like how the new students feel. I'm still trying to get used to everything, but so far it's been great, and I'm so excited for the future!



Hi Ms. Dizon! What were you like in high school?

The best way I could describe myself is as a huge band geek. I joined the marching band, jazz band, and was a pit musician for school plays. I did this all while maintaining high honors. I would describe myself as a "supporting character" in high school. I took many APs in high school, AP Calc. being the most difficult. "I'm a musician, I count to four."

What was your favorite subject in school, and why do you or do you not teach that now?

My favorite subjects in school were band and dance class! I had always been drawn to music, especially because lots of people in my family had played instruments. Although music was very present in my life, dance was also something very close to me. I never had private lessons, but it was something fun, and my school offered a class. When I went to college, I started a hip-hop dance group!



Courtesy of Samantha Navarro

What is your favorite part and what is the most difficult part of teaching?

My favorite part of teaching is getting to know the students but also getting to know myself more as a teacher. I've been trying to get more comfortable with my approach—I've been a teacher for ten years, and I'm still learning!

What did you want to be as a kid?

As a kid I wanted to be Britney Spears with a pink Jeep! I remember this specifically because in the first grade they had asked us to draw a picture and write about what we wanted to be. I had a huge obsession with Britney Spears at the time, so I drew myself as a little blonde girl with a microphone and a pink Jeep in the background.

Do you like Onteora so far?

It's hard to follow in the footsteps of somebody that was as present at the school as Mr. Murphy was, but I'm doing my best, and so far I think it's going well. I want to be in my own shoes, but Murph's shoes are still visible. I love being able to watch students grow up, from middle school all the way to 12th grade. Onteora has a welcoming feeling—a feeling you would only get at Onteora.



Letter From the President

Hello there!

Student Government is ready to work with and for you this year. We are excited to have community planting days for our outdoor classroom underway and hope to have furniture to accompany these plants in the spring.

Our main objectives for the time being include our Outside Initiative and our Mental Health/Fun Activities Initiative. We had interactive lunchtime activities to boost morale throughout October and are looking forward to creating similar events throughout the year. Additionally, we are working to receive therapy dog visits.

I believe that Student Government should be an outlet for all students to voice discontents and feel comfortable doing so. If something in the school is leaving you dissatisfied, or even if you just have a fun idea you would like to see executed, please reach out to Student Government. We are eager to hear from you!

Sincerely,
Sophia Odato
Student Body President



Courtesy of The Talon Staff

The Talon Staff



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Congratulations 2023 Homecoming Court!

Onteora had its Senior Homecoming on September 30th. There were a series of well played games by Onteora's various sports teams, and the results for Homecoming Royalty were announced based on a student vote. A special congratulations to Chloe Maloney and Griffin Alterio, as well as to the rest of the Homecoming Court!



Onteora's Homecoming Royalty, Chloe Maloney and Griffin Alterio.



Onteora's Homecoming Court



Onteora's high school principal, Mr. Edelman



Community Planting Day: Third Time's the Charm

By Nico Stackpole, Sophomore

After two cancellations due to a very rainy autumn, Community Planting Day occurred on October 13th and 14th in the west courtyard.

When I was a 6th grader in Bennett (pre-Covid), I was a part of the student government. I remember we had a meeting at the high school, and I was so excited to be able to brainstorm with the older students I looked up to. When we started talking about ideas for the school, there was one that stuck out to me: the outdoor classroom. I thought it was such an interesting idea, like nothing I had heard of before. It's been very compelling to watch it come to fruition and see it actually happen. I look forward to exploring this new addition to our school.

Mr. Connolly said the program is called Outside Initiative. Student government has been planning this for a few years now. The seedlings for the idea of an outdoor classroom were planted before we had a global pandemic. Returning after isolation, the idea seemed even more profound. Paradoxically, Covid set us back but also created a greater need for it. Victoria Gardens, located in Rosendale, provided information and resources.



Courtesy of Shelby Buryk



Courtesy of Shelby Buryk



Courtesy of Shelby Buryk



Courtesy of Shelby Buryk



Courtesy of Sophia Odat



Courtesy of Shelby Buryk

Comments From Those Involved:

- “After many setbacks, it’s so good to see it finally happening. I’m happy to be a part of it all!!”

- Abilene Adelman, Senior
- “I felt bad because I dropped soil on the grass next to some cardboard, so please forgive me, Mr. Connolly. I have sinned by dropping soil. Call me guilty if need be!”

- Maria Grinberg, Senior
- “Phew! Community planting day brought us together, student and facility, to nourish and create our relationship with nature.”

- Joni Huber, Senior
- “I think it’s wonderful and beautiful. I think it will make the school that much better for the kids. I’m in full support of it and happy to help.”

- Ms. McLaren, Superintendent

The EV Charging Industry Consolidates

By Caleb Frank, Senior

Electric vehicles (EVs) are one of the most publicized forms of sustainable technology. Though range and charging speeds have been steadily increasing, removing major barriers for owners, one weak link that has remained relatively constant is the public charging networks themselves. For many owners, lack of reliability when charging out of their home is the main reason they cannot make the switch to electric. However, recently, a major development was made in the EV charging space that is set to revolutionize the EV owner’s experience.

EV charging has long been divided among two different charging standards. Tesla has their own proprietary charging port, called NACS, while non-Tesla EV’s (Chevys, Hyundais, Fords, etc.) use a different standard called CCS 1. These two ports are not compatible and need an adapter to connect. However, the usage of an adapter is only available in one direction: Tesla owners can charge at CCS 1 stations with an adapter, but CCS 1 owners cannot use an adapter to charge at a Tesla charger. For years, this has been the state of public EV charging: Tesla owners have access to the Tesla Supercharger network as well as CCS 1 networks, such as Electrify America, but CCS 1 owners are only able to charge at CCS 1 networks.

Another important element is the differing reliability of the two kinds of charging networks.

Tesla’s Superchargers have been praised as incredibly reliable, with uptime rates as high as 99.9%, while CCS 1 networks have been reported to have uptime rates as low as 60%, meaning almost half of the chargers in that network were nonfunctional. Any non-Tesla EV owner knows the struggle of having to line up multiple charging stations along your

port—the NACS port weighs far less and is much smaller than the CCS 1 port making the NACS port easier to use from an ergonomics perspective as well as easier to integrate into the design of a car. Altogether, the NACS port as well the Tesla Supercharging network form a formidable disadvantage for non-Tesla EV makers.

However, in 2022, this landscape changed drastically when Tesla decided to open the port to all automakers, encouraging them to adopt it and switch away from CCS 1. This would give automakers the benefit of the superior port and customers the benefit of the better network. Tesla would benefit as well because it would receive the revenue from a much larger user base relying on their chargers.

The first major automaker to switch to the NACS port was Ford, maker of the Mustang Mach-E and F-150 Lightning electric models. General Motors, maker of the Chevy Bolt EV, followed

quickly, and soon a domino effect began with Mercedes, Nissan, BMW, Fisker, Hyundai, and more making the switch. Cars made by these automakers will not have the NACS port immediately; instead, they will be given an adapter that will allow them to use Tesla’s network for the first time, and then those EVs will be made with the NACS port itself starting in 2025.

trip for fear that one may be offline, physically broken, or just refusing to connect to your car for unknown reasons. This has posed a major advantage for Tesla in the eyes of prospective buyers—depending on how regularly you plan to charge away from home, having access to a highly reliable network in addition to the less reliable ones could be a necessity.

Furthermore, the NACS port is generally agreed to be better designed than the CCS 1



Courtesy of Creative Commons

Swiftonomics

By Lucia McDonagh, Sophomore



Courtesy of Creative Commons

Swiftonomics n. Taylor’s influence over the economics of the states and countries she visits during her Eras Tour.

Twelve-time Grammy award winner Taylor Swift has been on her Eras Tour—a throwback concert tour spanning 10 eras and 17 years of music—since March 17, 2023. She plans to continue it until November 23, 2024, ultimately reaching 20 countries before its conclusion.

Currently, she has finished the first leg of the two North America sections of the tour. She is estimated to gross 2.2 billion dollars in just the North American legs of the tour alone. In the United States, she is projected to bring in five billion dollars in customer spending.

She has been credited in a report by the Federal Reserve for “fueling the national tourism industry,” and many state governments count on her for bringing in an estimated \$1300–1500 for each Swiftie going to the concert, increasing these local economies by hundreds of millions of dollars in just the couple of days she spends in each city. Many other artists bring local tourism but not by these standards.

Since Taylor Swift announced her international tour dates, leaders of excluded countries have begged her to bring her tour to their countries. For example, Iceland, Canada, Thailand, Chile, and more have all reached out eagerly because they have seen, and know, that her tour would bring in millions of dollars for their countries economy.

The NFL has even tapped into this. Ever since Taylor has been reportedly dating Travis Kelce, the Kansas City Chiefs tight end, the Chiefs merch sales have gone up by 400%, and their games have been completely sold out with Swifties attempting to catch a glance of her. The NFL Twitter bio has also been keeping us updated, stating what games Taylor has made appearances at.

It is impossible to deny Talyor's profound power to generate money and influence enconomies.

Encyclopedia of

By Charlie Smi

This summer, I stumbled across an image of a garden de
plants—the Alnwick Poison Garden in England. I've alway
history of arsenic, but this was where my love for the dead
artwork of the plants I've come to love over the past few m



Digitalis
(*Digitalis purpurea*)

Common Names:
Foxglove, fairy thimbles, dead man's bells, goblin gloves.

Main Toxins:
Cardiac glycosides: digoxin.

Toxicity:
Much like Lily of the Valley, water containing foxglove can also be poisonous.
It's also more potent when dried.

Symptoms of poisoning:
Vomiting, nausea, hallucinations, abdominal pain, and severe headache.

Poisoning can cause vision impairment, and the world may take on a yellow
tinge. Victims may also see "halos" around things. Depending on how much
ingested, one can experience tremors, convulsions, heart disturbances, and/
or a slow pulse. These symptoms can be easily confused for a heart attack,
making it a great weapon for murder. Symptoms can last 1–3 days and could
require a trip to the hospital.

DO NOT TOUCH IT. Toxins can be absorbed through contact, and that's not
good.

Fun Facts:
- Back in “ye olden days” it was commonly used in medicine
(along with most other poisonous plants, it seems). It was
mostly used to treat epilepsy and seizures, but the practice is
now obviously seen as inappropriate.



Opium Poppy
(*Papaver somniferum*)

Common Names;
Opium poppy, breadseed poppy.

Main Toxins;
The latex (white sap) from the plant is the source of the drugs opium,
morphine, and codeine, which are used as painkillers.

Toxicity:
The latex from the plant contains a highly toxic alkaloid. The latex is extracted
from the opium pods and dried to create opium. Opium is a highly addictive
drug mostly used as a painkiller, but it is sometimes smoked, eaten raw, or as
a pill. It is also manufactured into heroin.

Symptoms of Poisoning:
Contracted pupils, slow breathing, circulatory/respiratory depression, coma,
and eventually death. Most of the deaths caused by the drug aren't really
from the plant itself but from heroin and fentanyl. These drugs are synthetic
opioids, which are far more powerful than anything extracted from the plant.
In other words, the opioid epidemic has little to do with the poppy at all.

Fun Facts:
- Poppy seeds will show up on a drug test, so don't have an everything bagel
the morning before you get tested.
- Opioids induce sleep, so the name *Papaver somniferum* means sleep
inducing poppy, which comes from the latin word for sleep, “somnum.”
- Cultivation of the opium poppy is banned in some countries.



Poisonous Plants

th, Sophomore

dedicated to toxic, narcotic, and otherwise offensive
ys taken an odd interest in poisons ever since I learned the
ly misfits of nature began. These images are my personal
onths.



Lily of the Valley
(*Convallaria majalis*)

Common Names:
May bells, May lily, Mary's tears.

Main Toxins:
Cardiac glycosides: convallaria, convallarin, lokunjoside, etc.

Toxicity:
No matter how tempting, do not touch it. Contact with any part of the plant can cause a rash.

Symptoms of Poisoning:
Vomiting, nausea, headache, drooling, rash, heart attack, heart arrhythmia (irregular heartbeat), and death.

Though cardiac glycosides can help the heart if administered correctly, in this case, it will do just the opposite. That being said, murder using Lily of the Valley poisoning is unlikely because the plant has varying levels of toxicity depending on its growing environment. It also almost immediately induces vomiting, so the victim may expel the poison before it attacks the body. It also has a shorter half-life than most poisons, so the intensity of the poison fades quickly. Poisoning is also detectable through scientific methods.

Belladonna
(*Atropa belladonna*)

Common Names;
Belladonna, deadly nightshade, devil's cherries.

Main Toxin;
Active ingredient: atropine (alkaloid)
The potency of atropine is increased in combination with alcohol.

Toxicity:
It doesn't take much from this seemingly harmless plant to cause some sort of discomfort. In fact, the potency of its toxins is increased in combination with alcohol.

Symptoms of Poisoning:
Delirium, dizziness, drowsiness, nausea, burning throat, pupil dilation, mania, blurred vision, fever, dry mouth. The most common symptom you'll experience is hallucinations, which led many people to take it recreationally. Needless to say, they weren't happy with the results. For a plant so dangerous, we've been able to make it into something useful in the medical field. It was often used as an anesthetic or to dilate pupils, and in a highly diluted form, it is used to treat asthma and arthritis.

Fun Facts:

- Belladonna was used as an effective yet deadly form of rouge back in the middle ages.
- It was (and possibly still is) used heavily in witchcraft.
- Belladonna translates to "beautiful woman" in Italian.



Fun Fact:

- Contrary to popular belief, Lily of the Valley isn't really a lily at all but is more closely related to asparagus.

Don't Underestimate Field Hockey!

By Sophia Somerstein, Sophomore

At Onteora, we have a plethora of fall sports: tennis, soccer, football, swim, volleyball, golf, cross country, and last but certainly not least, girls field hockey. The sport is widely played around the world but is severely underrated at our school. Why might this be? Could it be due to resentment from the soccer teams because we play on their field, despite the poor conditions of our own? Or could it be rooted in a lack of knowledge of the sport as a whole?

Unbeknownst to most people, field hockey requires a great deal of talent from its players. First, you must be in good physical shape and able to sprint back and forth on a 100-yard field for about an hour. But that is not enough since you must also be able to handle a field hockey stick, maneuvering it to control the ball. Finally,



Courtesy of Samantha Navarro

you have to take shots on goals, defend, and develop even more intricate skills.

Last season, our team made it to sections with a record of 9–5. It was a great season, with 11 seniors on our roster and 20 people in total. However, due to ongoing issues with our field, the field hockey team was pushed to practice and play games on the soccer field. Not only did this get cramped, it also created tension between the fall sports teams. As a result, many people have a distaste for field hockey, both the sport and the players in general. This is another reason as to why there is an underappreciation for our beloved field hockey program.

Last spring, a decision was made that the 2023 field hockey season would be the last at Onteora due to the school budget’s “lack of

numbers.” It is concerning that field hockey was the only sport threatened by this proposal. Luckily, the players and parents protested, and we were able to save our field hockey program for the foreseeable future. But the proposal was only a symptom of how disconnected we are from the school.

It is difficult to be mindful of field hockey considering it is not as widely known as soccer or football. For instance, there are no professional teams or clinics for kids. But with a large number of underclassmen, our team will only grow to be better and more skilled as time goes on. Our youth clinics have proven that there are many elementary school kids who are interested in the sport, giving us an overall good outlook for the future.



Courtesy of Samantha Navarro



Courtesy of Samantha Navarro

Football: Let's Get Into It

By David Troeger, Junior

First game of week four, and the Bears get their first win since Elon Musk bought what was then Twitter. The Niners and Eagles are the only undefeated teams, and the AFC is in a jumble, with every team still having a shot at the playoffs. So, let's get into it.

We start off with the Bengals. My preseason pick was for them to play San Francisco in the Superbowl. They're currently 1–3. Granted, they've started 0–2 every year since 2019 and have made either the Super Bowl or the AFC Championship game (semifinal) for the last two years.

We know they can come back, and we know they have the drive to win their first franchise Super Bowl. However, they are last in the AFC North, and the Ravens are dominating. Lamar Jackson is running as well as ever. Zay Flowers has been great out of the draft. And OBJ is already injured. Nick Chubb is out for the year, and the Browns defense can't take them to the playoffs alone. The Steelers are just okay.

To the East, The Bills are incredibly well rounded, and Josh Allen has begun to think before he throws the ball. The Dolphins probably have the best offense in

the league, with Tua, Tyreek, and rookie De’Von Achane playing out of their minds and the first 70 point offensive performance since the 1960s when Super Bowls didn’t yet exist (against the Broncos, of course). The Jets are either good or bad depending on how Zach Wilson feels that day and have a top-3 defense. The Patriots are struggling but would be a possible

Purdy is playing, and while his elbow injury is still nagging, the 49ers offense has played great along with their defense competing with Dallas for number one.

The Seahawks are looking good, but it'll be up to Drew Lock to continue the success with Geno Smith out. Josh Doubs is pushing the Cardinals far past their potential; however, it's still more



are legit, and he's looking like one of the top QBs in the league once again.

The Packers won a game they shouldn't have against New Orleans, and other than that, they've looked average. The Bears are garbage, and the Vikings exist. The Buccaneers have finally unlocked Baker Mayfield's potential, and he's finally playing like the #1 overall pick. The Saints are looking decent and could make a run for the division as well, and I could see both teams winning a wild card game. Both teams lost the D. J. Moore trade, and the Panthers are struggling, and while Bijan is playing great for the Falcons. If they want to win, they need to pass the ball.

Finally the East. The Cowboys are good. I'm not happy about it either. Dak is back (until he throws 10 interceptions), and Micah Parsons might be the best player in the league. The Eagles have slightly regressed but are still a top-5 team. Washington is average, and the Giants decided to pay a below average quarterback \$25,664,056. Something stupid will happen before February, so one of the teams I listed as awful will be good.

Courtesy of Lily Stoudt

contender in another division. The Jaguars are the only real team in the South, and the West still runs through Kansas City with the rest of the division playing the Chargers for a wild card game.

On to the NFC. In the preseason, I said that I thought the 49ers would win the Super Bowl even if Sam Darnold started at quarterback. Even better, Brock

likely than not that they'll be the ones selecting Caleb Williams with the first pick in this year's draft. Matthew Stafford is looking back to form on the Rams, and Puka Nacua was a diamond found in the 5th round. It's a good thing they're drafting well late because they haven't had a first round pick since 2016. That pick was Jared Goff. Speaking of Goff, the Lions



Suits: The Internal Drama of a Law Firm

By Harsimran Kaur, Sophomore

The long-running Netflix series *Suits* brings its viewers into the lives of busy, conceited, and cocky corporate lawyers in Manhattan. The show follows Harvey Specter, the most arrogant one of them all. He is labeled as the best “closer” in the city because of his incredible track record. He even becomes senior partner of Pearson Hardman, the firm he works for. On his hunt to find an associate to be the “new him,” he meets Mike Ross—a guy with a briefcase of weed and a photographic memory.

However, Mike never went to Harvard Law School. In fact, he does not have a college degree at all. The show centers around how they convince people that Mike is Harvard Law educated.

The series first aired on June 23, 2011 and ended on September 25, 2019, after a nine-season run. The show stars Gabriel Macht and

Patrick J. Adams as the main leads: Harvey Specter and Mike Ross.

I was absolutely hooked from the first episode. I think that was mainly because I find legal dramas interesting and fun, as well as the

many strong female characters. For example, Jessica Pearson is the managing partner of the firm, and she has everyone scrambling around for her. It is her empire, which I loved so much.

was the relationship that Donna Paulsons, Harvey Specter, and Mike Ross built. They all stuck their necks out for each other.

Something that really drew me to this show was how the main plotline contradicted everything a lawyer should stand for, including the law itself. They literally brought in a guy who did not have a law degree and made him a lawyer. Not only that, but they also made people believe that he went to one of the most prestigious law schools in the country: Harvard Law. It really adds an interesting twist that other legal dramas do not have.

It is hard for me to not give this series five stars because throughout the month it took me to binge this show, I grew emotionally attached to almost every single character. I recommend *Suits* to anyone who is looking for a series filled with deception, both sides of the law, and just a good laugh.



Courtesy of Creative Commons

fact that I want to major in law. Despite its limitations as a fictional show, it was fascinating to see the inner workings of a firm.

Even if you are not interested in legal drama, there are a lot of other aspects to it too. There are

“Found family” is a trope very dear to me because it shows how family does not just mean blood. The friendships the characters built with one another were so strong that they would definitely give the world for each other. My favorite

A Return to the Classics: A *Pride and Prejudice* Review

By Kylie Osterhoudt, Junior

SUMMARY

Pride and Prejudice is a classic romance novel written by Jane Austen in 1813. It follows the relationship between Elizabeth Bennet, the daughter of a country gentleman, and Fitzwilliam Darcy, a wealthy aristocratic landowner.

However, this isn't simply a pure and sweet love story. Instead, Elizabeth finds Darcy irritating due to his arrogance and pride. He believes that her prejudice towards him is due to misjudgments. This directly relates to one of the main messages: do not let your first impression dictate your approach to an individual.

The first time they met, Elizabeth described him as "tolerable, but not handsome enough to tempt me." However, by the end of the novel, the two get married and go live at Pemberley. Despite all the hardships they face—such as Elizabeth rejecting Darcy's first proposal—the couple's differences are ultimately bridged by love.

DISCUSSION OF SOCIETAL ISSUES

A woman's position within the household and social hierarchy are issues heavily touched on throughout this novel. In the story, marriage and wealth determine one's worth in society. In the 18th century, the phrase “Money cannot buy you happiness” was highly disagreed with because money indeed did buy people's happiness. Characters of high society, Lady Catherine and Mr. Collins proved this: Mr.

Collins jumped on any opportunity to be viewed as a powerful man of significance to Lady Catherine, and she allowed it to further enhance her own image.

Lady Catherine stood so proudly for the idea of social hierarchy that she continuously told Darcy that Elizabeth wasn't suitable for marriage. Furthermore, Lady Catherine also belittled Elizabeth by saying things such as, “You have no regard, then, for the honor and credit of my nephew!” and “Unfeeling, selfish girl! Do you not consider that a connection with you must disgrace him in the eyes of everybody?”

REVIEW

Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen was a monumental novel for its time—18th century England. Overall, I would recommend this novel. Its insights into human nature and the complexities of love and relationships are just as relevant today as they were when Austen first wrote them. This makes it far more than a historical love story; it's the voice of a feminist woman breaking out of societal confines!

We all know that Elizabeth rejects Darcy's first proposal and accepts his second after he paid for the wedding of Wickham and Lydia, Elizabeth's sister. She overcame her first impression of him and came to realize that he was, in fact, a good man, as his wealthy lineage didn't go to his head. I find this part so interesting because Austen herself accepted a marriage proposal once, only to turn around

and change her mind the following day, essentially deciding to remain single for her entire life. She didn't need someone else to secure her future; she would secure her own. Austen crafted powerful women, like Elizabeth, to make history.

Austen herself did not confine to societal norms either, as she became a flourishing writer despite living in a time period where women were not encouraged to write professionally or earn an income.



Courtesy of Creative Commons



Clawsnaps



As the days of November leave Onteora students chilled, spooked, and frightened, we asked you the following:

What's your favorite scary movie?



Abby Elliott: "I think... the original *Scream*."

Sara Metawee: "*Smile*. It's crazy scary, and I love the jumpscare. Also *The Shining*. It's a classic"



Milo Lieberman: "Definitely *The Human Centipede*... that's my favorite."

Ellie Wymann: "*The Ring*. It's not that scary, more of a thriller, but very creepy, especially with the blue filter. *The Shining*, too. Everyone loves that one."



Hazel Hanes: "Mine's *Scream 1*."

Alex Zapata: "Does *Us* count? The one with the scissors?"



Luc Millenson-Wilens: "*Scream*. The newest *Scream*."



Everett James: "I would say *Alvin and the Chipmunks*. It's horrifying."

Lily Spada: "The first *Halloween* movie."

Kai Caswell: "*Alien* and *Hereditary*. *Alien* was the first scary movie I've ever watched, and *Hereditary* was the first movie that actually scared me."

Maddie Mills: "*Get Out*, just because."

The Sweet Spot: Sugar Cookies

By Talula Kirschner, Sophomore

When I think of the holidays, the first thing that comes to mind is making cookies in the kitchen with my grandmother. We would make so many different kinds: gingerbread, snowballs, chocolate chip, snickerdoodle, gingersnap, peanut butter, you name it. But my favorite was always the simple, yet delightful, sugar cookie. They are perfect for this time of year but can still be enjoyed at any time and for any occasion. I altered the recipe to be a regular sized batch, but if you want to make more, just double it. The dough can be frozen for up to six months, so you can make them whenever!

First, cream together the butter with the sugar. Next, add the eggs and vanilla. Mix the flour, baking powder, and salt in a separate bowl. Add the dry mixture into the butter-sugar mixture. Cover the dough in plastic wrap. Chill in the fridge for three hours, or let it rest overnight.

After the dough is chilled, place it on a baking sheet with parchment, and bake at 350°F for six to eight minutes. They cook quickly, so make sure you watch them carefully. Once they're slightly golden on the bottom, take them out.

If you want to use cookie cutters, you'll have to roll the dough out. To do this, put flour on your surface, dough, and rolling pin. Roll the dough out flat and evenly so that it's about one-eighth inch thick. Then, cut however you like. Transfer to a baking sheet, and follow the baking instructions listed above.

The frosting used is called royal icing. What's special about it is that it hardens, so you can stack the cookies without getting icing all over the place. It's also extremely easy to make. Just mix the powdered sugar, cream of tartar, and egg white. If you accidentally make it too liquidy, just add some more sugar. Wait until the cookies are completely cool before icing them. If you're looking for a fun touch, add a couple drops of food coloring to the icing, decorate with sprinkles, or make colorful designs. Enjoy!

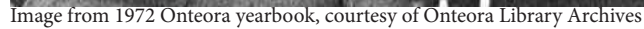


- Ingredients for the cookies:
- 1 cup softened butter
 - 1 cup white sugar
 - 1 tbsp vanilla extract
 - 2 eggs
 - 3 cups all-purpose flour
 - ½ tsp baking soda
 - 1 tsp salt
- For the icing:
- 1¾ cups of powdered sugar
 - ¼ tsp cream of tartar
 - 1 egg white

By Ruby Gahagan, Sophomore

By Ruby Gahagan, Sophomore

Let's all pull together and keep this privilege.

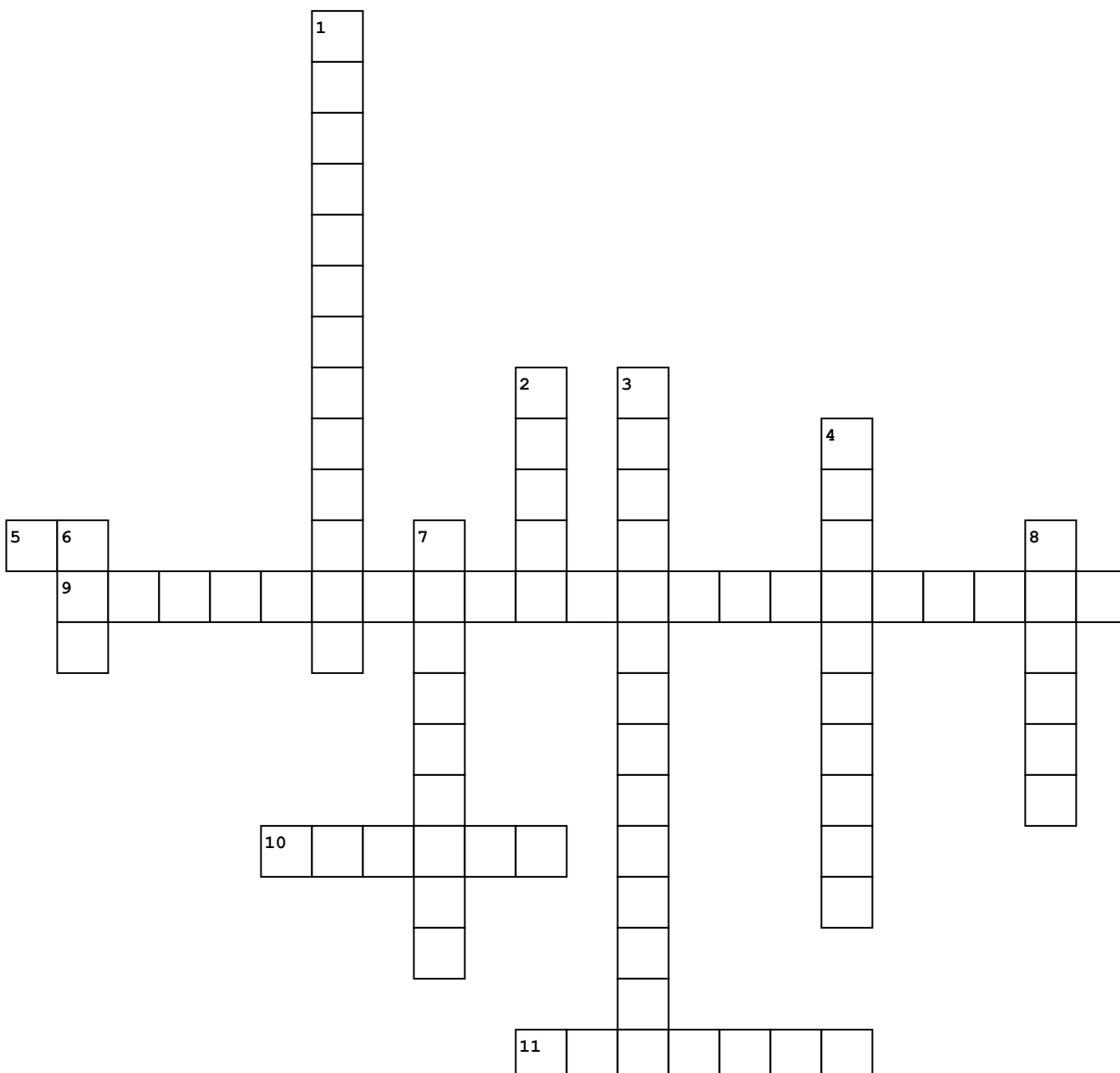


The requirement of permission forced many students to hide their smoking and resort to smoking in the bathrooms, which, according to the article, led to crowding, uncleanliness, and vandalism. "The smoking lounge we had downstairs probably would have worked if the students did one thing they were told - and that was to keep it clean. Of course, there were a couple of students who worked very hard to keep it clean but that wasn't enough because the more they worked the dirtier it got." Many articles were written arguing for better smoking facilities, reviewing new proposals for the board, and even encouraging students to follow the rules in order to gain further freedom.

Scan of *The Bull* articles on smoking from 1972 and 1974, courtesy of Ontario Library Archives

By Samantha Navarro, Sophomore





1. Camp Crystal Lake has never been the same since this slasher arrived
2. If you suddenly start seeing smiles everywhere, it might not be a good sign
3. A grotesque experiment links captives from mouth to... elsewhere
4. All work and no play make Jack a dull boy in his haunted hotel
6. Would you like to play a game? Twisted traps and moral tests
7. John Carpenter's masked menace stalks babysitters on October 31st
8. A chilling visit to the girlfriend's parents house takes a turn

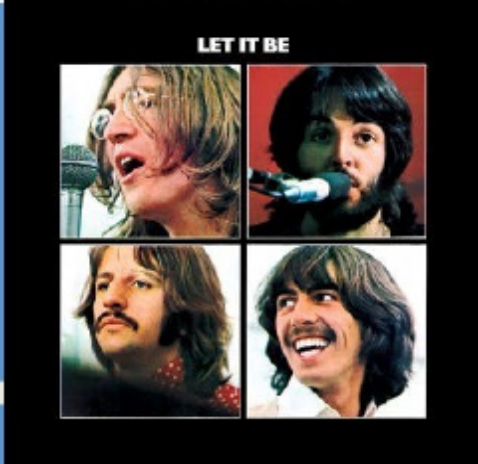




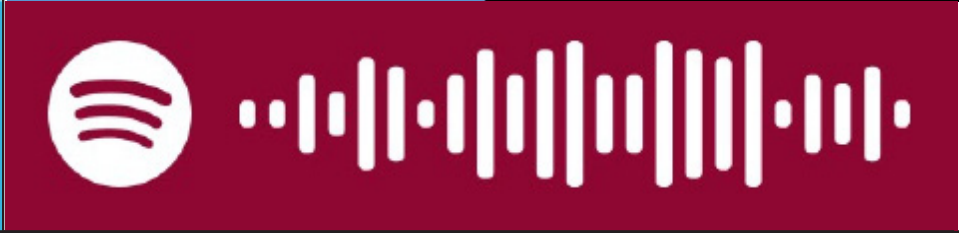
Playlists

By Ada Helm, Senior

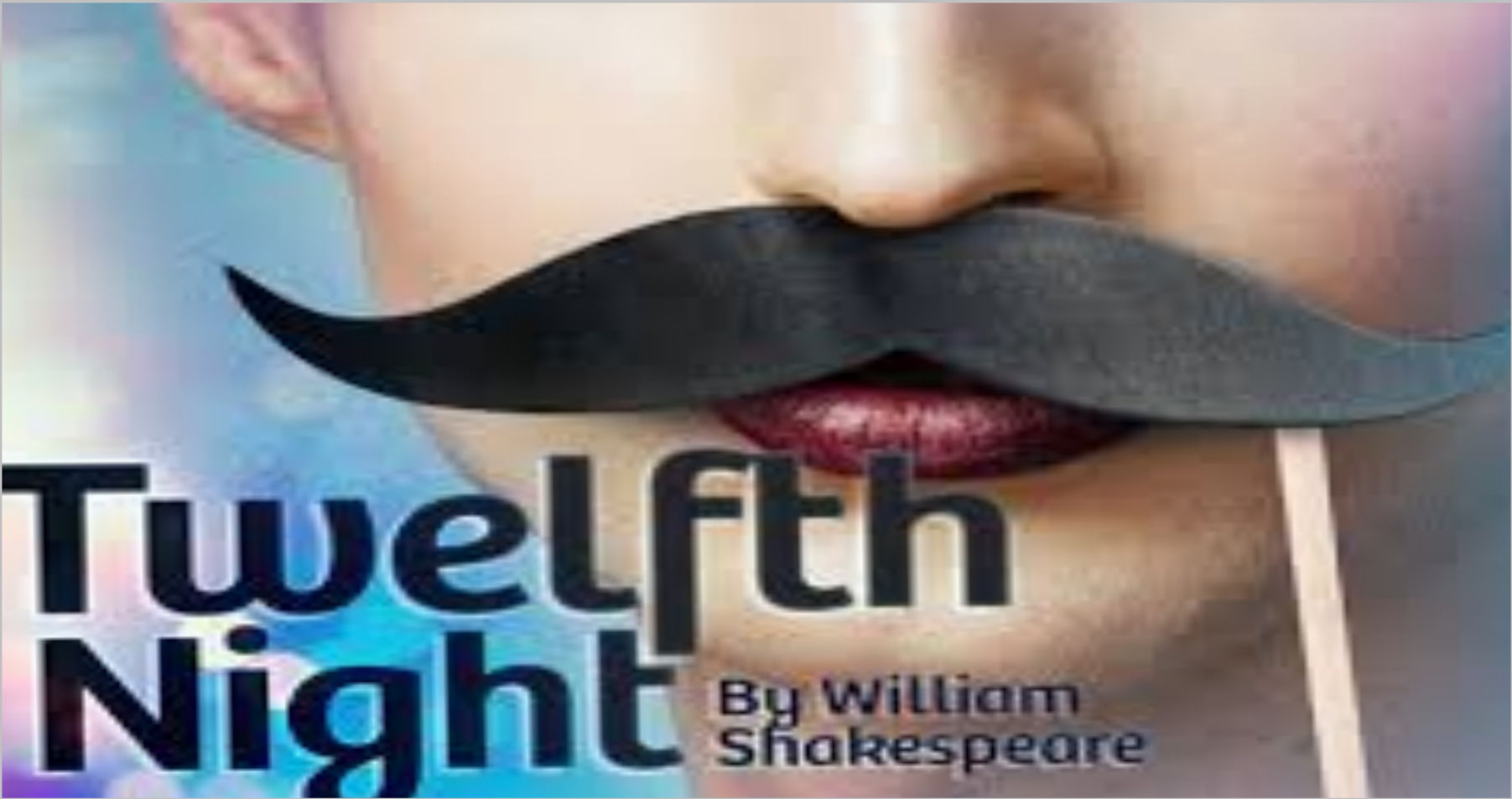
By Shelby Buryk, Sophomore







ONTEORA SHAKESPEARE 2023



FRIDAY, DEC 1 @ 7:00PM
SATURDAY, DEC 2 @ 4:00PM
Onteora Auditorium
No Reservations - Donations welcome