



PINE-RICHLAND RAMPAGE

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 15TH, 2024 № 10

"DELIVERING HIGH SCHOOL NEWS...ONE PAGE AT A TIME."



Freshman Loren Prisuta Hits the Big Time with "HITS! THE MUSICAL"

MADDY HOMER STAFF WRITER



an action-packed musical roller coaster with brilliant costumes, sets, and of course, some of the most talented young performers in America. Over seven thousand people auditioned and the directors narrowed it down to one hundred performers for callbacks.

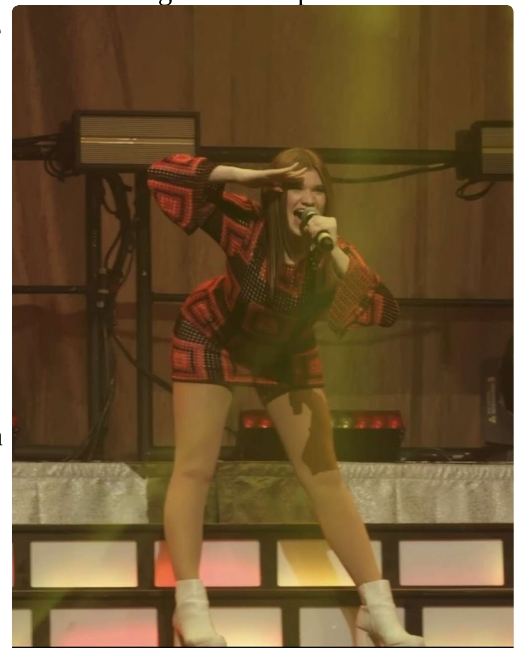
"The audition process was one of the most thrilling experiences of my entire life." - Loren

"It was filled with excitement, along with some nerves, as it was my first professional audition. We went through multiple rounds of auditions, the first one being right here in Pittsburgh. We were required to sing a pop song acapella (without music), that was one minute in length, and also perform a small, simple dance combo that they taught us. I ended up being called back for another session a half hour later. I sang another pop song of my choice, and a song that I chose from a list they provided. They filmed these callbacks and sent them directly to the director. The producer, Mr. Bob Gries, was in the room. He said he'd be in touch, and I left.

Freshman Loren Prisuta was in a national tour musical called "Hits! The Musical," a jukebox musical journey that takes the audience through the different genres and ages of music, from the 60's to present day. It's

"A few days later I received a personal phone call from him saying that **I had been selected to bypass the second round of callbacks** (which were submitted via video audition) and attend the final round of auditions in Tampa Bay, Florida. The final round was the most intense, yet exhilarating process I've ever gone through. We were put through a series of tests, such as an initial vocal performance, vocal pitch and range assessments, a sample rehearsal to see if we could pick up choreo and blocking easily, a monologue audition, and a session where we sang multiple songs from the show round-robin style. Near the end of the three to four day process, we were placed into groups and taught mini portions of the show, which we later put on at a local theater/stage. During my group's clip of the show, I sang the Four Non Blondes' song "What's up?" Little did I know that I would soon be performing that exact song for forty shows across the country."

In the cast there were 19 singers and ten dancers. Loren has been involved with her local theater group, Jeter Backyard Theater, since the age of 5. She has been dancing for the past nine years and has been training in classical vocals, along with theater/pop/rock, since the age of 8.



All Photos are of Loren Prisuta

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THURSDAY
FEB. 15

HIGH: 51
LOW: 39



FRIDAY
FEB. 16

HIGH: 45
LOW: 36



SATURDAY
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LOW: 28

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FEB. 18

HIGH: 36
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TUESDAY
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LOW: 31



WEDNESDAY
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LOW: 32



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"Days on tour were quite unpredictable actually! There was something new happening everyday."

- Loren

But, I would say the average show day looked somewhat like this: First, I would wake up at a decent hour, usually 7:00-7:30 am, and pack up my bags from the hotel room, and grab a quick breakfast. Then, I would help load my bags onto the bottom of the tour bus, and we would make our way to the next city/state. On the bus, I would usually take the

time to rest, catch up on sleep, get my school work done, or just socialize with other cast members. Once we got to the hotel, I would usually unload my bags and settle into the hotel room, maybe get a bit of schoolwork done. However, I would start to prepare for the show - put on my stage makeup, straighten my hair, warm up my voice - and then I would get on the bus with the rest of the cast and we'd travel over to the theater for the night for a 5:00pm calltime. When we got to the theater, we'd usually meet onstage as a cast to go over notes from the previous show, work out any staging issues we might have

(every stage is different), and run a sound check. A sound check is where we performed a number in the show in order to test to see if all of the microphone levels were good and even. After that, I would usually go back to my dressing room and get into my first costume... I had about 11 to 12 costume changes throughout the whole show. Speaking of which, after I was costumed, I would preset all of my quick-change costumes (you can guess what that means), and then prepare myself to get into show-mode. I would always run a few more warmups, and then say a quick prayer. By that time, it would be time for me to set up on stage for the opening number.

"The show always went by so fast, but I loved every second of it." -Loren

The show was usually over by 9:30, and we would put all of our costumes away, pack up, and head back to the hotel. I would usually hang out with some cast members, usually by a pool if they had one, and then it was off to bed, because tomorrow we would be getting up to travel to the next city." At times it took a lot of work to keep up with school work due to bad WiFi connection on the bus, and lack of time when off the bus. She managed to keep things together.

"I loved everything from rehearsals, to the cast-bonding during our free time, to the long bus rides traveling from city to city." - Loren



There were so many amazing aspects of the tour. However, my favorite part was actually getting to perform in so many different places with such talented individuals.

"I auditioned in the first place, to do what I love, and that's performing on stage." - Loren

Not to mention, the music in the show is absolutely fantastic." Loren and the cast were touring around the United States for about four months. There is a potential residency in Las Vegas for the cast and their show.

Prisuta said, "I was fortunate enough to open our 90's medley with 'Hero' by Mariah Carey. It was such a beautiful moment, and everytime I sang the song, I sang it for my grandfather back home,

my mom's dad. I called him Jedo."

There were ups and downs between some castmates, but in the end, everything would always be okay, and the show would always go on.

"I love my cast members dearly; they were my life for about six months."

Loren Prisuta is a very talented girl who had the opportunity of a lifetime to do what she loves most and make many new friends along the way.



All Photos are of Loren Prisuta



Singing Our Hearts Out PR Students Attend PMEA District Choir

BROOKE DEEGAN STAFF WRITER



PR Choir students who made PMEA, photo by Brooke Deegan

On Friday, January 26th, seven of PRHS's students had the privilege of participating in and performing as a part of the PMEA District Choir-- A chorus composed of some of the most talented and refined young musicians in the area. This opportunity was nothing short of a massive accomplishment, as only 20 out of the many who audition for each voice part can be a part of it. Seniors Owen Russel (bass 2), Chloe Chiang (soprano 2), and Lumi Foster (tenor 1); junior Mackenzie Mercuri (alto 1); and sophomores Katelyn Rickard (alto 1), Sophia Priore (alto 1), and I (soprano 1) were among those who achieved this extraordinary honor. It was a miraculous celebration of music and a festival of learning that lasted three days and took a great deal of arduous work but was ultimately one of the most rewarding and enchanting experiences that a young singer could be granted. The seven of us acquired so much more musical knowledge than we ever thought we could store in our minds and had such a wonderful time collaborating and performing with the incredible people who surrounded us.

Auditions for Districts took place a few months ago, back in the auburn of late November, at Bethel Park High School. Once we were presented with the thrilling news that we had made it, we almost immediately got to work. Over the next two months, we had to take the time to learn six full songs (three of which were in different languages) essentially on our own, along with the assistance of our amazing choir director, Mr. Rickard. This was a challenge, for we were preparing several of the most complex pieces of music that we had ever seen before in our lives, and we had no clue as to which excerpt of which one would be selected for our auditions for Regionals on Wednesday, January 24th. All of the preparation ultimately paid off on this day, though, because after auditions, all seven of us found out that we had gotten into Regionals as well.

After the auditions on that fateful Wednesday night, the District 1 Choir got to work on collaborating and preparing for the celebratory concert, which would take place that Friday at Canon McMillan High School. Thursday and Friday were extremely lengthy and enlightening days, filled with hours upon hours of vocal exercises, practicing music, and learning how to cooperate and perform with a group that we had essentially never met, let alone sung with, before in our lives.

Throughout these three musical days, we had the opportunity to meet and befriend an abundance of irrevocably talented and kind individuals with alongside. This was, most incredible Making music with passionate about it such sweet people is simply priceless.

"I really loved meeting new people at Districts! I made friends from Plum, Deer Lakes, Thomas Jefferson, and so many more schools. It was an awesome opportunity to sing with people who love to sing and are incredibly talented."

-Junior Mackenzie Mercuri

whom we worked by far, one of the aspects of PMEA-- those who truly are and are genuinely an experience that is

By the time the concert rolled around on Friday evening, we had practiced from 9-5 for two days straight, in addition to all of the at-home prep we did as well. Our singers were

CONTINUED...



Mackenzie Mercuri and friend
Elise (Deer Lakes)

surely tired, but we were ecstatic nonetheless, and could not wait until we could get on that stage to show everyone all that we had accomplished. After being graced with a delectable catered dinner consisting of rich spaghetti and tender fried chicken, it was finally time for the performance. We slipped our school-colored choir robes over top of our elegant dresses/suits, and navigated our way to the stage one final time.

The concert itself was electric. It was brimful with a sort of energy that was irreplaceable, and truly a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Everyone could see how evident it was that we put everything into those moments for that performance. We sang each intricate note in each gorgeous, meaningful song with the entirety of our hearts and our souls, and as we performed, at least, for me, it felt as if every care or worry I had in the world was evaporating into thin air along with the soft echoes of our choral voices. Being able to perform with such poised and gifted musicians was, as I have certainly stated multiple times already, one of the greatest chances I, or any of us at PR, have ever been granted. We learned, loved, and enhanced our music appreciation more than we could have ever imagined, and the days that we spent with the PMEA District Choir are time that we will all deeply cherish for the rest of our lives. Now, here we come, Regionals!

GODZILLA MINUS ONE MOVIE RECAP: *Spoilers Ahead*



Godzilla in Godzilla Minus One.

JOEY DELIE STAFF WRITER

Godzilla Minus One works well because you actually care about the human characters and not just because of the action-packed scenes. The character development throughout the movie was great and refreshing. The power of human connection was just beautiful and great.

The movie was about a kamikaze Japanese pilot named Kōichi Shikishima who landed his plane on Odo island. He says he's there for repairs but his plane is fine. The reason why he landed on Odo island was because he failed his suicide mission. He encounters Godzilla on the island and runs away and hides on his plane but feels guilt, trauma, and grief because he could not save those who were attacked by

Godzilla at the beginning of the film. He went back to his town in Tokyo and as soon as he came back people in his town shunned him for being a coward. He met this poor girl named Oriko Oishi who was taking care of this baby and let her stay with him. Shikishima has so much guilt that he keeps having dreams of Godzilla coming back and going after him and Tokyo.

Shikishima got a job where he was a minesweeper and had to sweep the mines in the ocean. They soon learn that Godzilla is returning to Japan, so Koichi is being enlisted as a gunman since the US is not aiding Japan due to the tensions with Russia. Godzilla comes back to Japan and starts destroying cities and ports. Shikishima and Oishi are in Tokyo when Godzilla starts attacking the city and when Godzilla has his nuclear pulse Oishi pushes Shikishima out of the way and saves his life. Thinking Oishi died after the nuclear pulse he feels so much anger and guilt that the next time he sees Godzilla he wants him killed.

The plan was to lure Godzilla to the bay near Tokyo where they would surround him with tanks and to pull him under 1500 meters below sea level. Hoping the pressure would crush him. The plan almost goes perfectly, with Shikishuma luring him to a bay near Tokyo and the tanks attacking him. They sink him under water and get him below 15000 meters but he does not get crushed and comes back up. Godzilla is injured but not dead, Shikishuma sees that he is charging up again with his nuclear pulse and decides to fly his plane, loaded with explosives. He flies it into Godzilla's mouth and destroys it. When Shikishuma comes back to Tokyo port he sees Oishi standing there with some radiation injuries on her neck. This movie was great because of the characters' arcs and the characters' connection throughout the story.



Feel Good Full House: Looking back on an oldie but a goodie

ELLA BARKLEY STAFF WRITER

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“¡Hola Tanneritos!” announced Kimmy Gibbler as she entered the Tanner family household once again unwelcomed. Hearing this line at least once an episode was pretty expected from the goofy, but down-to-earth neighbor of the Tanner family. The show follows a recently single dad Danny Tanner and how he navigates life with his three daughters, DJ, Stephanie, and Michelle, after the unexpected passing of his wife, Pamela. His brother-in-law, Jesse

Katsopolis, as well as his childhood best friend, Joey Gladstone, move in with him to help him raise his family.

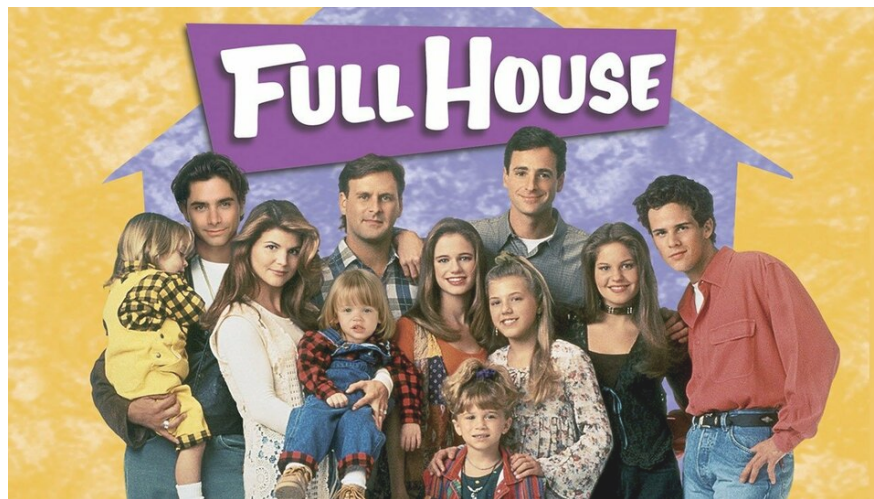
Throughout the entirety of the show's 8 seasons, viewers watch Tanner's hectic life. Danny, the clean freak of the family, lives out his dream of being the host of Wake Up San Francisco's morning talk show. Jesse's

passion for music shines through as he creates his band living up to his idol, Elvis Presley, as well as marrying Danny's co-host, Rebecca Donaldson, and having twin boys of their own later on in the show. Joey takes pride in helping

Danny's daughters and is trying to become a comedian as he is known as the goofy one in the house. DJ, the oldest daughter, learns to take lots of responsibility and be there for her younger sisters with the struggles of growing up without a mom. She navigates the struggles of high school, getting into college, and becoming the greatest role model for her sisters. Stephanie, the middle child, is your average younger sister trying to become just like her older sister while also annoying her extremely. She is very outgoing and learns the

“For me, I grew up on this show. It is such a heartwarming show that can be put on in the background while doing something or to just watch a good show. I've watched the entire show multiple times and I never get bored of it. That's when you know it's a good one.”

-Junior Nicolina Phillips



Full House TV Show Cover

hard way in difficult situations being a teen. Michelle, the baby of the family, has never experienced life with a mom and is used to having three guys to take care of her. She knows she is cute and always knows how to get her way with her crazy, big family.

Junior Nicolina Phillips loves the show and is glad that they made *Fuller*

House, a sequel to *Full House* in 2016.

Whether you've never heard of or watched *Full House* or it's one of your all-time favorite shows, take some time and rewatch it. This comfort show is surely worth seeing again.

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The RAMPAGE is published every month. Be sure to look for new issues online every two weeks and in print once a month!



Stranger Things 5: *The extensive wait has turned fans upside down*

MADDY HOMER STAFF WRITER

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Season five of *Stranger Things* was supposed to start filming in May of 2023 but was put on hold due to the Writers Guild of America (WGA) strike. From May 2nd to September 27th, 2023, the WGA, representing 11,500 screenwriters, went on strike over a labor dispute with the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers (AMPTP). The WGA and AMPTP had been negotiating over pay, streaming residuals, and other issues. A majority of the WGA's membership voted in April to authorize a strike if an agreement wasn't reached. The WGA demanded increased minimum compensation in all areas of media, increased residuals, appropriate TV series-writing compensation from pre- to post-production, increased contributions to pension and health plans, the strengthening of professional standards and overall protections for writers, and more.

It's official: Season 5 of *Stranger Things* will be its last. Back in February 2022, the Duffer Brothers announced the news themselves in an open letter shared with fans alongside season 4's official poster.



“Seven years ago, we planned out the complete story arc for *Stranger Things*,” the duo wrote in their letter. “At the time, we predicted the story would last four or five seasons. It was proven too large to tell in four, but we are now hurtling toward our finale. Season 4 will be the penultimate season; season 5 will be the last.” *Stranger Things 5* will likely follow the Hawkins gang's final adventure as they team up to crack their biggest mystery yet: how to defeat Vecna once and for all. The theory is that Vecna will take over Max's brain-dead body and that this will culminate in the final battle of the series being between Eleven and Vecna as Max, meaning that Eleven will have to kill her friend if she wants to defeat her enemy.

The cast photo to mark the beginning of *Stranger Things* season 5 filming confirmed that all of the major cast members are back. That means Millie Bobby Brown will be back as Eleven, Finn Wolfhard will reprise his role as Mike Wheeler, and Sadie Sink will be seen again as Max Mayfield. At this rate, it's looking like we won't see *Stranger Things* season 5 until 2025 or late 2024. Luckily, *Stranger Things* fans are no... strangers to waiting.

The New Mean Girls Movie: *A review on a classic turned bad*

IZZY BANJAK STAFF WRITER

I know this may be controversial, but I don't think the new *Mean Girls* was good at all. Going into the theater, I expected to be getting a new movie based off of the original. Almost like a follow up, their life continued. Instead, it was basically the same movie. Some of the lines were even the exact same as the original. I almost felt as though I was rewatching the original, but it got worse. I knew exactly what scene was coming up even though it was a brand new movie.

The movie was also a musical. They would break out into songs at any random moment. I know that's how a musical works, but I honestly don't think the whole musical aspect went with this movie. It felt like singing just interrupted the scenes. I felt as though



Angourie Rice(Cady Heron),
Renee Rapp(Regina
George),Jaquel Spivey
(Damian Hubbard),and Auli'i
Cravalho(Janis Sarjusan)

I was almost waiting for the song to end so I could get back to watching the movie. The songs were also very repetitive and they said the same lyrics over and over again, for instance the “I am Regina George” song.

I also don't like the new actors. I don't think they fit the roles. When I think of Cady and Regina I don't think of these girls. Their style was different and was different from the original actors. I know some people would think it's weird to bring the OGs back but I think that would be a better idea than having newer, unfitting, actors.

Overall, I would give the movie a solid 4 out of 10. I don't think it should have been a musical and I think it would've been better if they used the original actors but, at least they tried.



Good Omens Season 2 Review Addressing That Controversial Ending

MARIANNA ZAHORCHAK STAFF WRITER
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“Angels and demons: hereditary enemies,” they said. “Only motivated by their own respective sides.” Alas... *Good Omens* said otherwise.

In case you happen to be unfamiliar with the story’s plot, or need a little refresher, allow me to enlighten you. *Good Omens* takes place in modern-day 2019, the year of Armageddon. Hell has sent the Antichrist to bring about the War to

End All Wars, and things are about to get ugly. Master demon Anthony J. Crowley, who has roamed the earth since the dawn of time, finds himself as the unlucky deliverer of the little devil himself. (Well, not *deliverer* deliverer. He just... handed it over.) Though Crowley is indeed one of the Fallen, any viewer could quickly deduct that, deep down, Crowley’s a bit of a softie. Specifically, he’s a softie for Aziraphale.



Good Omens Show Cover

Aziraphale (pronounced “uh-zeer-uh-fail”), an angel otherwise known by his human alias, Mr. Fell, has also roamed Earth ever since his first day on Apple Garden Duty in the Garden of Eden. Naturally, Crowley was there too, slithering around and hissing sinful suggestions at Eve. This was the moment when Crowley and Aziraphale first met, and they’ve been friends, or at *least* allies, for the 6,000 years since.

Throughout the years, Crowley tempts Aziraphale into lending each other a hand here and there, because, in the words of Crowley himself, “our respective head offices don’t actually care how things get done, they just want to know they can cross it off the list.” Aziraphale feels highly wary about *technically* betraying Heaven, and he’s especially cautious when it comes to addressing Crowley as a friend. Despite patronizing Aziraphale’s stubbornness, a beautiful and prosperous friendship develops between him and Crowley over their many, *many* years of rescuing one

WARNING: The following review contains many spoilers for seasons one and two of Amazon Prime’s *Good Omens*, as well as the book of the same title. If there’s any chance you may have an interest in watching or reading this phenomenal piece of artwork, I recommend you do so before reading this article.

another from unfortunate circumstances. The friends ultimately determine that Armeggedon is stupid for two reasons; one, after all earthly matters come to an end, only Heaven and Hell will continue to exist. Regardless of which supernatural side wins the War, the earth will inevitably be destroyed. All life will die, and there will be no more coffee shops, no more earthly music, no more rare books for Mr. Fell to collect old black Bentleys for Crowley to drive, and ultimately, no more freedom. Freedom to do what exactly?

Well, freedom for reason two. Reason two is that if the world comes to an end, Crowley and Aziraphale won’t be able to be friends anymore, and they can’t let that happen. The plot of season one revolves around how they manage to stop it.

Season two presents itself as a little more, well... unhinged, if you will. I *do* remember the plot, I swear to it that I do, but all the little details are a blur of Crowley becoming a drunk-off-of-poison giant, the

members of Hell acting stupid, and Muriel and Gabriel/Jim also acting uneducated in the ways of Earth. Simply put, the plot of season two goes like this: Archangel Gabriel appears on Aziraphale’s doorstep with almost no memory

of anything, not even his own name or angelic status. The forces of Heaven and Hell are both fighting to take Gabriel as their own, but Aziraphale, much to Crowley’s contempt, decides to be a good angel by protecting Gabriel (or, as he is now known, Jim). At the end of season two, the show reveals that Gabriel and Beelzebub— Duke of Hell—are in love. Sound familiar? Paranormal, natural enemies of opposite forces working together for their ulterior motives? Huh.

Heaven and Hell decide to “banish” Gabriel and Beelzebub; aka allow them to run away to Alpha Centauri (a binary star system containing two stars that scientists once thought were one) together and never be seen again. A highly merciful punishment compared to



Angel Crowley (pre-Fallen) shielding Aziraphale from the first meteor shower.



Aziraphale shielding Crowley from the first rainstorm in the Garden of Eden.

CONTINUED...



the ending of season one, when they tried to burn Aziraphale in Hellish flames and drown Crowley in Holy Water simply for *fraternizing* with one another (that and getting in the way of The Great Plan, of course).

So Crowley, who has wanted to run away with Aziraphale for years, completely abandon their sides, and live happily apart from the rivalry of Heaven and Hell, is left wondering: "why can't that be Us?"

Maggie and Nina have a little chat with Crowley. Meanwhile, the *Metatron* (designated Voice of God) pulls Zira aside, takes him out for a coffee,

and offers him Gabriel's former position in Heaven. Aziraphale is flattered, but initially turns him down, using "Where would I get my coffee?" as an excuse. The Metatron knows Zira's true intentions, however, and tells Aziraphale that as an Archangel, he would have the authority to restore Crowley to Full Angelic Status and that Crowley could become his second second-in-command raphael is ecstatic and goes to tell Crowley the good news.

Crowley, on the other hand, has just had the Awakening of a lifetime. He's about to tell Zira his true feelings but is interrupted by Aziraphale happily sharing his announcement.

Anthony J. Crowley is not impressed. He's just had his dreams crushed, and he's rather ticked about it. He never wanted to go back to being an angel; Heaven treated him like garbage. He didn't want to remain a demon, either; Hell treated him like garbage. He just wanted to live with Aziraphale on Earth for all of eternity, and the time had come to make that clear. Crowley makes his confession, stating, "Well if Gabriel and Beelzebub can do it— go off together— then we can. Just the two of us. We don't need Heaven. We don't need Hell. They're TOXIC." At this point, it's somewhat unclear if Aziraphale recognizes this as a profession of love, but either way, he's pushing for Crowley to join him in Heaven. Crowley doesn't comply. "You idiot. We could've been... Us."

Boom. Kiss scene. Out of nowhere. Where did that come from?

Ending on a tragically dramatic note, the season concludes with Zira pushing Crowley off, and though Aziraphale is

conflicted and caught off guard by all of this, he leaves for Heaven with the Metatron as Crowley drives away to 'their song,' "A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square."

Again I ask, where *did* that kiss come from? And was it necessary? Fans are conflicted over the matter, and here's why.

Early Signs –Why Do Fans “Ship It”?

To some, this kiss may have come as a complete surprise, but others have been anticipating this since— at the *latest*— episode three of season one. That's when I began to ship these two, at least. Many examples of the love between Crowley and Aziraphale are evident throughout the years, and even before the "official" confirmation

from season two, the show's producer (and co-author of the book), Neil Gaiman, confirmed that *Good Omens* truly is a love story at its core. Looking at it from the point of view of a fanbase, it's essentially a 6,000-year-long slow-burn opposites-attract enemies-to-friends-to-lovers trope. A fan theory that I am quite fond of states that Crowley first approached Eve in The Garden by saying, "Hey, would you mind doing me a favor by eating this apple? There's this cute angel over there, and I need a good conversation starter." To which Eve responds, "I gotcha bro." While this theory is solely a joke, Crowley's feelings for Aziraphale may truly have begun to develop this early on. You see, God had given Aziraphale a flaming sword to guard the gates of Eden with. However, Aziraphale,

always deciding for himself what he believed to be best, morally speaking, gave the sword away to protect Adam and Eve. When Crowley questions him about what happened to the sword, he has a moment of realization: Aziraphale is different. He didn't question The Almighty, he straight-up went against direct orders simply because he felt it was the right thing to do. Following their conversation, Aziraphale shields Crowley from the first rainstorm by using his wing, which was, in general, a sweet moment to witness.

Many smaller-scale moments, usually during flashbacks to Zira and Crowley's history together, show Crowley and Aziraphale's attraction towards each other during their "coincidental" meet-ups and interactions. However, I will admit, season one truly does focus more on the development of their friendship. *However*, one scene in particular is undeniably romantic (in my correct opinion).

Taking place during WWII, Nazi Germany, Aziraphale is working to take down a group of Nazis by tricking them into believing he is on their side. The plan seems to backfire at first, but then, as per usual,

CONTINUED...



"This image has so much metaphorical meaning, I swear-" -Marianna



MOVIES & TV SHOWS PAGE 9



Crowley swoops in at just the perfect moment to save the day. Please take note that this scene also takes place in a church—“consecrated ground.” It physically hurts Crowley to walk in such a place due to his demonic status; it’s like playing *The Floor is Lava* but minus the fun and giggles.

Crowley performs a “demonic miracle” by sending a bomb to destroy the building. This may sound terrible at first, but he’s only doing it to put an end to the Nazi group and save Aziraphale from getting shot. (Because apparently, even though they are supernatural, immortal(?) beings, they can die, or perhaps take serious injury. How this works is beyond me.) Needless to say, part of the miracle included saving himself and Aziraphale from any damage the bomb would have caused. Aziraphale expressed extreme gratitude for Crowley’s act of kindness. However, Aziraphale also showed devastation as he quickly realized that the extremely rare and valuable books he had pretended to give to the

Nazis must’ve been burned by the bombing. Crowley, knowing full well how meaningful books—especially rare ones—are to Aziraphale, saved them from the flames as well. After handing them back to Aziraphale, Crowley walks off-screen as Aziraphale stares after him, mesmerized.

Cue the romantic music.



No, really—romantic violin music begins to play in the background at this exact moment. Anyway, fans highly regard this example as the exact instant when Aziraphale realizes his feelings for Crowley, in addition to showcasing how deeply Crowley cares for Aziraphale and his interests. In season 2, we see further what happens after this interaction, beginning with the car ride home. Aziraphale says to Crowley, awfully bashfully, “You know, that was a very nice thing you did for me... well, there must be something I can do in return for you?” At first, Crowley doesn’t accept the offer, as he doesn’t want acknowledgment for his good deed, since he is a demon, after all. (He’s not “nice.” He does his best to make that excruciatingly clear. And fails. Quite often.) Nonetheless, Aziraphale finds a way to return the favor, and it involves performing at a magic show. Aziraphale decides he wants to do the most amazing, show-stopping act possible; despite barely having the ability to perform the simplest of tricks, he is not going to let Crowley down. The act, in question, was confusing and deeply dangerous – 12 people died while trying to carry it out.

It was a *Bullet Catch*, ie, an act where someone who you trust with all your heart shoots a bullet at you, and you have to try to catch it between your teeth. Aziraphale claims, giddily, that he has just the trusted man for the job: Crowley. Aziraphale assumes that, again, being a demon, Crowley must have shot a gun before: it’s in his nature. Well, he hadn’t. But that’s okay, for the two of them are going to use their miracles to make sure the act is a success. One problem: a “miracle blocker” has currently been placed upon the two of them by someone in Hell. Crowley and Aziraphale both recognize this and are the show must go on. Somehow, and I am still wondering how (I need to rewatch season two because there’s so much I’m confused about), Aziraphale and Crowley pull off the act. Zira is happier than a child who has just heard the ice cream truck for the first time as he leaps into the air, jumping for joy. The two “friends” –if you can call them that at this point– drink wine by candlelight as a celebration of their accomplishment. Aziraphale, who is not typically one to be open about his feelings, especially regarding his secret liking of

Crowley as a person, admits to Crowley, “I knew you’d come through for me. You always do.” Crowley responds with, “You said ‘trust me.’” To which Zira replies, in a heartfelt manner, “And you did.”

This episode is the first time that we know that Aziraphale calls Crowley his friend. It also illustrates that although Aziraphale at times refuses to own up to it, he honestly does have a deep appreciation and love for Crowley, whether that be as friends or more.

I could provide countless other examples to further execute my point, but for the sake of priority, I will not address them today. Hopefully, from the cases I have described, you can at least begin to understand why many fans do ship Aziraphale and Crowley and fully believe that they were always meant to be in love. Now, for the big question.

Was it the Right Time?

Here’s where my opinion may become a teeny bit more controversial. Do I ship Aziraphale and Crowley? Yes. I do. I was so happy to see their love finally become canon in the show. I wanted that kiss to happen. But not like this.

Good Omens season two did a spectacular job of building the love between Crowley and Aziraphale over the years. As I said formerly, it was far more evident in season two than in season one. However, when it came to Zira and Crowley recognizing and acknowledging these feelings for each other throughout the season, the show missed the mark tremendously. Going back to the start of this article, I mentioned that Maggie, and Nina, had talked

CONTINUED...



with Crowley. This little sit-down consisted of them explaining that Crowley and Aziraphale never actually say what they're thinking. The show never mentioned a time when Crowley thought about the way he felt. It was obvious that he felt it, but he, himself, never sat down to think about what those feelings meant.

I feel that a sequence of small epiphanies presented over their 6,000 years of flashbacks would've conveyed this idea so much better. Not to mention, that kiss was so forced. I can completely understand why, since Zira was caught off guard and somehow hadn't yet thought about his feelings either, but seeing as that is the case, I don't think that kiss was the way to go. It just added an unnecessary level of awkwardness on top of the immense amount of sadness I already felt in my *soul*.

It was not the right timing.



Conrad

Team Conrad vs. Team Jeremiah: *Which brother will steal Belly's heart?*

MADDY HOMER STAFF WRITER

The Summer I Turned Pretty is one of the most popular shows on Prime Video in 2023. The show is about a girl, Belly, who has been best friends with Conrad and Jeremiah since they were very young because they are family friends. This past summer she realized that she was in love with both of them, and they were both in love with her. Everyone has their opinion. People have been arguing over the topic: Are you Team Jeremiah or Team Conrad? Who deserves Belly? Recent polls lead me to believe that there are more people on Team Conrad than on Team Jeremiah. According to a poll released on Google on August 20, 2023, Conrad had a 75.2 percent rate and Jeremiah at 24.8 percent. 319 voters took this poll, 240 said Conrad, and 79 voted Jeremiah. We need to think about the pros and cons of each brother before deciding what team we are on.

While Conrad has good hair and buys her a meaningful infinity necklace, he also ignores Belly at times and even once calls her a brat. Conrad does have better chemistry with Belly, he taught her to dance as a kid. Conrad is good at surfing, sailing, and volleyball so he is incredible at staying active. He stepped up to help his mom when he found out she was sick again. Conrad also saved Belly at the Deb ball and remembered every step of the dances which meant a great deal to her. He is good at flirting when he wants to be, but he often gets into fights. Conrad only wanted Belly whenever she was taken, which is just not cool. He also pretends he didn't almost kiss her. To make matters worse he does kiss her after he finds out his *brother* is into her. While Conrad is going through a rough time it



Jeremiah

matters worse he does kiss her after he finds out his *brother* is into her. While Conrad is going through a rough time it doesn't mean he can be rude to Belly or other people. Conrad is a nice guy and once he and Belly started dating he did treat her well for a good amount of time. Jeremiah on the other hand has always been sweet to Belly, he always invites her to hang out and is always excited to see her. Jeremiah has the energy of a golden retriever. He is sociable, outgoing and goofy. Jeremiah has a slew of adorable nicknames for Belly like Belly Button, Bells, and My Future Wife. He also helped her practice for her driving test. Jere escorted Belly to the Deb ball which was incredibly kind of him since that is not something he would normally be into. He is immensely good at flirting with Belly, but she is not the only girl he flirts with. Whenever Belly started dating Cam he was rude to him, which made him realize he liked Belly. So he and Conrad both wanted Belly when she was taken. Again, not cool. Jeremiah can be jealous and immature at times which can get out of control, he shoots off a firework to block Conrad and Belly from kissing which is extremely selfish. Jere ditched Belly at the Deb ball after finding out his Mom was sick again and started a huge fight with Conrad in the middle of the ball completely ruining the experience for Belly. Jeremiah is a sweet guy and he would treat Belly extremely well.

Who do you think would be a better fit for Belly? Jeremiah because he is sweeter? Or Conrad because he has better chemistry with her? While both boys would treat Belly with kindness and loyalty, they both were selfish and jealous while she was already in a relationship. Are you on Team Conrad or Team Jeremiah?



The Outer Banks-Paradise On Netflix

Season 4 Coming Soon

“The Outer Banks, paradise on Earth.” On April 15, 2020, Netflix released a series called “Outer Banks,” following the story of 5 working-class teens called “The Pogues” on the hunt for the Royal Merchant Treasure while facing many challenges as their adventure continues. Last year on February 23, 2023, the third season of the Netflix show Outer Banks was released and it went above and beyond viewers’ expectations. From the new character “Cleo” being introduced, new character relationships, intense plot, and cliffhanger, it left fans wanting even more. The first two seasons were so popular on Netflix that season 4 was announced before season 3 even came out. Not only does the show have the most beloved characters on Netflix, but it has an interesting plot and many twists and turns that keep everyone on the edge of their seats.

On November 20, 2023, season 4 resumed filming after being paused during summer due to the writer's strike.

So, what’s in store for season 4? Well, season 3 ended with an 18-month time jump, so all six Pogues (JJ, John B, Kiara, Sarah, Pope, and Cleo) will be a year and a half older in season 4. Season 3 ended with a man talking to the group and introducing Blackbeard's treasure, so a whole new treasure hunt and storyline should appear in the new season. According to Wrightsville Beach recreation program supervisor Katie Ryan (in an interview with Wilmington StarNews), we now know that one scene will involve “two people jumping from the pier.” After the death of Sarah Cameron’s dad, Ward Cameron, the main “villain” has been removed so a new character may fill his spot. It can also be expected that we will see more of the Pogues and their bonding activities.

ELLA DAVIS STAFF WRITER

There are so many theories about season 4. Will JJ’s dad return? Will we hear more of Cleo’s backstory? Will they find Blackbeard’s treasure? I guess we have to wait and find out!

“Outer Banks is one of those shows where you can’t stop watching and you have to see what happens next. The cliff hangers and plot twists are crazy and you never see them coming. Honestly, I don’t know what to expect for season 4, but I know it will be ten times more suspenseful and amazing!”

-Freshman Katelyn Bowling

“It has a very thrilling plot and is the essence of summer. All of the episodes are full of adventure.”

- Freshman Annabelle Burk

Hopefully, the show will be ready by mid-late summer, but it is also possible that it will be pushed back to November due to the writer's strike. In the next few months, we should be expecting trailers and teasers for the new season.

As soon as I watched the show, I immediately fell in love with it. All of the characters are so loveable in their way. I also personally love how the show balances the fun and the suspense! It shows the Pogues having fun surfing and participating in carefree activities, while also fighting for their treasure



Outer Banks Season 4 poster

and doing anything it takes to get there. The romance between certain characters is perfect and I am still rooting for certain relationships in season 4! Overall, the show is amazing and I cannot wait to see what direction they decide to take with the new season.

"Bring it on home John B!!"

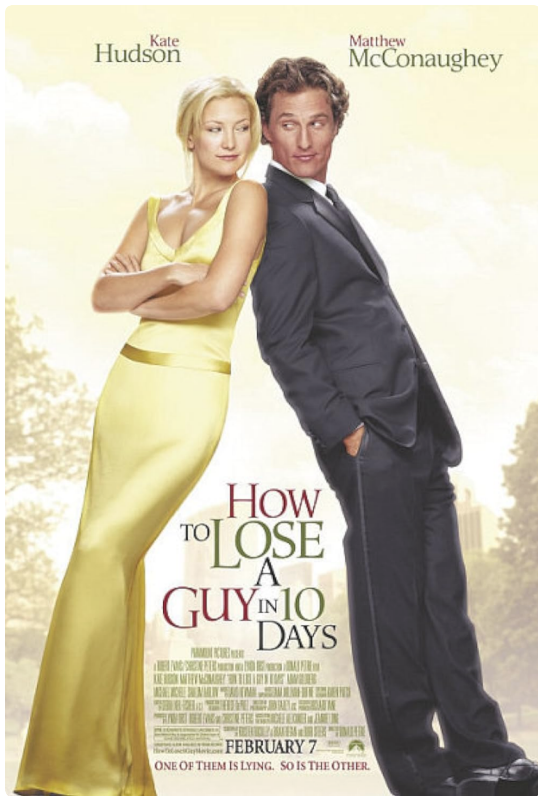
PENNY WARS COMPETITION: The 2024 Penny Wars continue to raise money for Blood Cancer. This is a reminder to continue to donate today through March 20th. 1 penny is equal to 1 point, while silver coins can be used to sabotage other Homerooms. The three homerooms that raise the most points will get breakfast during an upcoming activity period.



Navigating the Romance Maze

A Journey through Rom-Coms of the 2000s to Now

ANARELLA PENA STAFF WRITER



In the bustling world of romantic comedies, where love and laughter intertwine, I took a cinematic journey, comparing beloved classics from the 2000s to recent releases that aimed to capture our hearts. From *Clueless* to *Anyone but You*, each film paints a unique picture of romance on the silver screen.

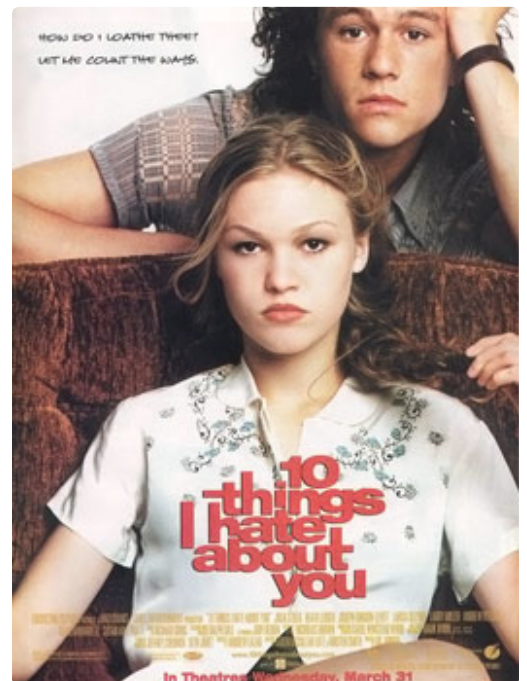
The 2000s gifted us with iconic rom-coms that remain etched in our hearts. *Clueless* brought us the endearing Cher Horowitz, whose journey through high school intricacies was both charming and relatable. This movie was a reset for everyone fashion-wise. The outfits were and still are iconic, but beyond that, *Clueless* manages to make its aggressively mid-1990s setting resonate decades later. The movie gave us a new preview for its time, a popular girl who wasn't mean. The release of this movie gave us many icons, such as Paul Rudd who now plays Ant-Man in the Marvel universe, and Brittany Murphy who starred in movies such as *Uptown Girls* and *Girl Interrupted*.

How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days showcased the hilarious yet heartwarming battle of wits between Kate Hudson and Matthew McConaughey, making it a staple in RomCom history. This may seem like your typical “fake dating from a bet” movie, but something about it puts it above all the rest. It’s a cliché turned creative — a bet on both sides. It’s also heavy with character development, and it stresses the power of falling in love not only with another person but with yourself. This may seem like your typical “fake dating from a bet” movie, but something about it puts it above all the rest. It’s a cliché turned creative bet on *both* sides. It’s also heavy

with character development, and it stresses the power of falling in love not only with another person but with yourself

10 Things I Hate About You blended Shakespearean charm with teenage angst, creating a delightful concoction that resonates even now. The music is awesome, every song fits the moment, and the two love stories are interesting to watch. It is witty, moving, and endlessly watchable. It inspired a whole generation of young women that it's okay to be a girly girl like Bianca, or a Kat girl. The movie shows a healthy relationship in both storylines, something that is not as common now in the most recent “RomComs”

13 Going on 30 added a touch of magic, taking us on a whimsical journey through love and self-discovery. In this rom-com, you follow a suddenly 30-year-old Jenna, who is just as clueless about her adult life as the audience is. It’s hilarious watching her young mind try to navigate her developed body, athlete boyfriend, and catty coworkers. She learns some disturbing things about her older self, realizing along the way that she made mistakes back when they were kids. Even Matt is no



CONTINUED...



longer in her life. When the two reconnect, Jenna begins to realize where she made her biggest, most devastating mistake. This movie has the perfect 2000s formula, with perfect character development and magical outfits that became a classic on Halloween.

Opinions about recent rom-coms have been divided for years. Some say there are a few hidden treasures that have the potential to compete against more old ones, however, there's still one that has been as good as the ones before.

Rom-coms from the 2000s boast a timeless quality, weaving narratives that transcend generations. Their quirky characters, memorable soundtracks, and genuine storytelling create an enduring appeal. In contrast, recent releases, though entertaining, often rely on formulaic plots and lack the same depth. The chemistry between actors like Kate Hudson and Matthew McConaughey or Julia Stiles and Heath Ledger contributed to the authenticity of 2000s rom-coms, a magic that seems elusive in today's films. The recent rom-coms, while enjoyable, struggle to escape the shadows of their predecessors.

The rom-com landscape has evolved. While recent releases offer a modern take on love and relationships, the 2000s classics remain unmatched in their ability to evoke nostalgia, laughter, and a genuine connection with the audience. Perhaps there's an enduring magic in the simplicity of those bygone romances that continues to captivate hearts, making the 2000s rom-coms an everlasting love affair.

PR LOCAL:

SPRING MUSICAL:

Mark your calendars!

This year's spring musical Mamma Mia! will have shows at 7:30 pm on March 15th, 16th, and 22nd. There will be a show at 2:00 pm and 7:30 pm on Saturday, March 23rd, with a free Senior Citizen show at 4:00 pm on Thursday, March 14th. Ticket details will be available closer to show dates.

The Rampage is a student-created publication of Pine-Richland High School, 700 Warrendale Road, Gibsonia, PA 15044. The newsroom is room 221.

The RAMPAGE is available online every Thursday under the high school Resources Tab. It is written by students, for students, and will make every attempt to report all school-related news. We welcome freelance submissions, suggestions, comments, and story ideas from students and staff. Since this is a student-publication, we realize we make mistakes: we encourage readers to report mistakes to the staff writers; you may win a prize if you locate any/all mistakes.

Teacher: Mrs. Harshman



The Loveable Grouch, Larry David

An Ode to My Favorite Comedian

BROOKE DEEGAN STAFF WRITER

Ever since I was a little girl, I have absolutely adored the art of comedy, especially in the form of various sitcoms and movies. I was almost obsessively watching Parks and Recreation by the time I was in 4th grade, and to say that my eyes were tethered to the glowing screen of my television every time a Will Ferrell movie came on would simply be an understatement. I truly loved comedies that much. I truly still

do love comedies that much. And when I was younger, the comedian that I had idolized the most would change constantly, from Tina Fey to Seth Rogan to Amy Poehler. But now (and honestly for the past few years of my life as well) I can say with utmost certainty that, in my extremely valid and respectable opinion, the most incredible comedian is undoubtedly Larry David. Seeing as he is far less

appreciated than he deserves to be, I wanted to write this little article to convey my admiration for him and his works, because they are genuinely one of my favorite aspects of life.

Seinfeld is a show that I have treasured for years, and though David is not actually in it as an actor (with the exception of a minor cameo or two), he wrote it alongside Jerry Seinfeld, who is another one of my most-loved comedians. Instead of having a part in this remarkable sitcom, Larry essentially funneled his personality into the vessel of the character of George Costanza, which is beyond hilarious. George is as neurotic, judgemental, and simultaneously over-confident and insecure as the man who so brilliantly wrote him into existence. Plenty of George's storylines were even derived from Larry David's true life

experiences as well, something that I personally love the most about the writing of the show.

David's sense of humor has always intrigued me, for it is primarily observational. While I do enjoy shows that make attempt to shock the audience into roars of laughter, rather than sincerely funny in an everyday manner. Larry is hilarious in a way that is quite relatable, as he and his characters are often met with rational inconveniences and common

annoyances that they irrationally (on occasion, sometimes it is completely warranted) react to.

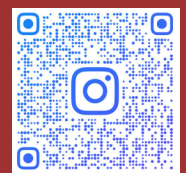
Curb Your Enthusiasm is solely Larry David's show, and it is my all-time favorite. It follows Larry as himself essentially going through his daily life as a wealthy comedian (one could even say it's "a show about nothing" if you get that

Larry David

reference), and the little conflicts are the funniest things in the world to me. I have watched this show a million times and it is simply timeless in my eyes... It just never gets old. And, by the way, if David's life is anything like it is in *Curb* (which I assume that it is), he is living my dream. He spends about 90% of his time on that show going out to lunch or coffee with people, and there is nothing in the world I'd rather do when I'm that age. It sounds fantastic. Maybe I'll even open up a "spite store" someday, too.

Larry David is one of the most brilliantly hysterical comedians whose works I have ever happened upon, and he and his jokes have been bringing me insurmountable joy since I was little. He truly is pretty good. Pretty, pretty, pretty good. And I hope that if you haven't already had the life-altering opportunity to see one of his fine works, this has inspired you to drop everything and binge one or all of them right now.

We made an Instagram! Scan the QR code or follow us @pinerichlandrampage .





Spain Photos

ELISE DUCKWORTH STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



**FEBRUARY 21-MARCH 13 COUNSELORS MEET W/STUDENTS TO
CONFIRM SCHEDULING CHOICES**



Spain Photos

ELISE DUCKWORTH STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



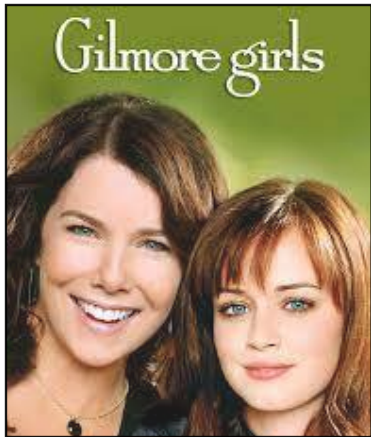


Running Reviews

Tune in for four students' favorite comfort movies

FRANCESCA GUZZY STAFF WRITER

We all have some type of comfort show or movie that we watch to make us feel at home. If it ranges from a sweet romance to a crazy action movie, comfort movies hold a special place in the heart. Listen to these four favorite comfort movies from these PR students.



Sophomore Addilyn Nichols:

Addilyn's favorite comfort show is *Gilmore Girls*. She finds the show comforting because of the winter vibes and how it makes her feel happy. The small-town vibes are one of her favorite aspects of the show. Rory Gilmore is her

favorite character because of her sweetness and her strong relationship with her mom. Addilyn roots for their love interest Logan, mainly because of the scene where they jump off the tower with umbrellas and yell "Omnia Paratus." Addilyn found this scene as she said, "So cute."



Sophomore Maria Ribeiro:

Maria's comfort film is *Isle of Dogs*. The film's plot and aesthetic are beautiful and are the reason why Maria loves the movie so much. All the dogs in the film are Maria's favorites because they are all great, she loves how all of them have different Personalities, as they

complement each other greatly. Her favorite scene is when the main character, the boss, states, "I'm a dog, I bite." Maria said, "I love this quote because there's lots of meaning behind it and I can relate."



Sophomore Raeden Cicconi:

Rae's favorite comfort movie is *Princess Mononoke*. The aesthetic of the film and the beautiful story presented in the show is what pulls Rae in. Mrs. Mononoke has a close place in Raeden's heart, due to her being a strong woman and fighting for what right and what she believes in. The best episode, to Raeden, is when the forest spirit walks over the forest, and Raeden says, "The scene is gorgeous and captivating."



Sophomore Isaac Kraus:

Isaac's Comfort show is *Victorious*. He has loved the silly show since he was a Kid, and he still finds it

hilarious and entertaining. Jade is Isaac's favorite character because of her cool style and her comically mean comments. His all-time favorite episode was "Tori and Jade's Playdate." He said, "I like the episode because it's funny and I like the song 'Take a Hint.'"

KEY CLUB: ATTENTION STUDENTS, THE KEY CLUB IS WORKING WITH A LOCAL ORGANIZATION TO COLLECT DONATIONS OF MUG CAKES. THE CAKES WILL BE USED TO FILL BIRTHDAY BAGS FOR UNDERPRIVILEGED STUDENTS IN BUTLER COUNTY. PLEASE BRING DONATIONS TO ROOM 11 OR THE HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY BY FEBRUARY 20 TH .



My Comfort Movies: *Stories that make me feel at ease*

LILY REMBECKI STAFF WRITER

I think everyone has a comfort movie. It doesn't have to be their favorite movie; comfort movies don't change. No matter how good a new movie is, you'll always come back to your comfort one. I have 3 comfort movies and they been my comfort movies ever since I first watched them.

My absolute favorite of all time is "Mamma Mia." This movie has been mentioned quite a few times in the last few weeks because of the upcoming musical that will be held at our school but I can't help but mention it. "Mamma Mia" is such a comforting story for me because it's mostly about female friendship and mother-daughter relationships, while still allowing the characters to be in love and build romantic connections with each other. Movies like that are really



Scene from Hamilton, photo from Guardian

refreshing because most movies don't allow female friendship and romantic relationships to interact. The movie has overall more of a fun and light vibe, where the only cry worthy scenes are "slipping through my

fingers" and Sophie's wedding.

My second comfort "movie" is just like "Mamma Mia"-- more of a musical than a movie, but that still counts in my eyes. Many of

you have probably heard of it: "Hamilton." I don't even know why I love this musical so much but I can feel myself slipping into a "Hamilton phase" every October and it only ends every January, just to quietly linger until the whole process is repeated again. "Hamilton" has all these fun characters, addicting songs, and entertaining gossip, which is why I love it so much.

The last one is something not many people know, which also came out recently. Everyone who has never watched a K-drama because they're "cringe" and "too quirky" is really missing out on something. I'm begging you guys, watch "20th century girl" at least once in your life.



Scene from 20th Century Girl, photo from Netflix's official site

I don't want to spoil anything, but it's devastating. I thought it would be a light-hearted, cute, and fun little story but it managed to rip my heart out in the last few minutes and I am yet to get over it.

All of these movies are 100% worth watching at least once in your life, so whenever you're scrolling through Netflix or Disney+ and don't know what to watch, consider these options, because you definitely won't regret it.

ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION: IT IS THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN, SCHEDULING. NOT SURE WHICH ELECTIVES TO TAKE FOR NEXT YEAR? LOOK NO FURTHER.

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The Amazing Ewan McGregor

Read Why I Love my favorite actor

ANASTASIA PUNOSEVAC DESIGN EDITOR

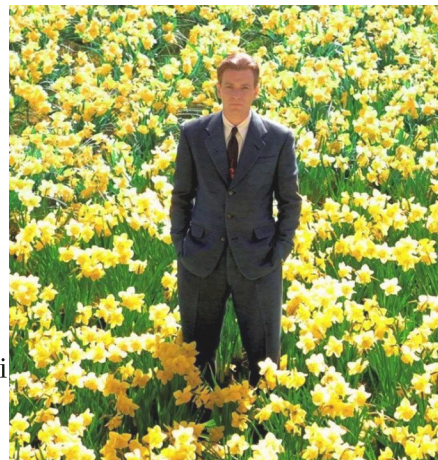


In my free time, I love watching movies. I love watching shows too; however, I often don't

finish them (too much commitment). I've probably watched hundreds of movies, seen hundreds of actors, and had hundreds of differing opinions. I've liked a lot of different actors, but one sticks out as my favorite. That, of course, would be Ewan McGregor.

Ewan McGregor is a Scottish actor who has starred in a multitude of different movies. That's why I like him. He has such variety as an actor. From storing in *Trainspotting* to *Christopher Robin*, from *Birds of Prey* to *Robots*. He's pretty much been in every big motion picture. You probably know of him from Star Wars, as he played Obi Wan Kenobi in the prequels, but I want to talk about some of his lesser known movies.

Starting with *Down With Love*. Now, this isn't a super unpopular movie, but I still feel that not enough many people talk about it. *Down With Love* stars, not only Ewan McGregor, but Renée Zellweger (Bridet Jones from *Bridget Jones's Diary*). Their chemistry is so great and they're so cute together. The movie is a romcom, but not in the traditional sense. It takes place in the 50s/60s (sort of) and kind of mocks older romance movies. There's a lot of dramatic irony in it, and it will 100% keep you entertained the entire time.

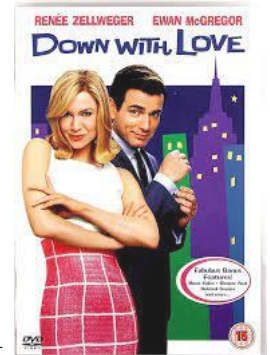


The next underrated Ewan McGregor movie (in my opinion) is *Miss Potter*. It follows the story of Beatrix Potter (also played by Renée Zellweger conveniently), the author of *Peter Rabbit*.

It goes through her life and her struggles to balance her desire and aspirations as well as her parents' opinions on what she should do with her life. Ewan McGregor plays Norman Warne, the editor that originally rejected publishing *Peter Rabbit*, but then later reconsidered. I highly recommend it, but I'm biased as I'm big on historical dramas.

Lastly, I'm going to recommend *Big Fish*. Now, I know this movie is already supper popular, but it deserves all the praise it can get. It's a Tim Burton film, so it's a little funky (in a good way) but it's so frilly, fun, exciting, somewhat strange, and beautiful as well. The scenes are so nicely put together and the story is just so great. It follows a guy on his quest to be with the love of his life (kind of cliché, I know) but the journey is so interesting and fun to watch.

I hope this article inspired you to look into Ewan McGregor a bit more. You've probably seen him multiple times on the big screen already, but maybe you didn't know exactly who you were looking at. His movies are vast and brilliant, I'm sure you'll find something you like.



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Oppenheimer: 2024 Awarded Best Motion Picture - Drama

TRISTAN FARRAR STAFF WRITER

The film "Oppenheimer" dives into the complex life of J. Robert Oppenheimer, a brilliant physicist and key figure in developing the atomic bomb during World War II. The movie explores Oppenheimer's scientific contributions, personal struggles, and the moral implications of his work.

The narrative unfolds at the start of the Manhattan Project, a secret research initiative to build the atomic bomb. Oppenheimer's intellect and leadership are present throughout the film as he orchestrates a team of scientists to unlock the secrets of nuclear fission. The film highlights the tension between scientific pursuits and ethical considerations, raising questions about the responsibility of scientists in times of war.

Oppenheimer's personal life is also scrutinized, revealing that he is doomed by inner conflicts. His journey from academic success to a central role in the creation of a destructive weapon is portrayed with nuance, capturing the moral problems he faced. The film sheds light on the emotional toll that his decisions took

on his relationships, providing a humanizing perspective on a complex historical figure.

Furthermore, "Oppenheimer" prompts reflection on the broader implications of scientific advancements. The

destructive power of the atomic bomb forces viewers to grapple with the ethical dilemmas inherent in technological progress. The film is a cautionary story about the potential consequences of unchecked scientific pursuit and the importance of considering the ethical implications of groundbreaking discoveries.

Ultimately, "Oppenheimer" offers a thought-provoking exploration of the life and legacy of a scientific genius. It makes viewers ponder scientists' ethical responsibilities, their work's impact on humanity, and the delicate balance between scientific progress and moral considerations. The film serves as a reminder of the complex intersection between science and morality.



Oppenheimer movie cover

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Anticipated movies of 2024: *New films to be released*

CALLE HENNE STAFF WRITER



Bob Marley: One Love

Release date: February 14
Bob Marley: One Love is about the life of reggae singer Bob Marley. The movie will cover his life from his rise to fame, and his death. The movie will star Kingsley Ben-Adir, Lashana Lynch, James Norton, and Tosin Cole.



Dune: Part Two

Release date: March 1,
Dune: Part Two will be the sequel to the film *Dune*. The film will follow the second half of the sci-fi novel that the first film was based on. The film will star Timothee Chalamet, Zendaya, Florence Pugh, Austen Butler, and more.



Challengers

Release date: April 26,
Challenger is a film that involves a love triangle between a tennis star-turned-coach, her husband and former champion, and his former best friend, who is also her ex-boyfriend. The film stars Zendaya, Josh O'Connor, and Mike Faist.



Madame Web

Release date: February 14,
Madame Web is a part of Sony's *Spider-Man* Franchise (but without Spider-Man). *Madame Web* is a side character from the spider-verse, but Peter Parker will not be in the film, so she is her main character. The movie will star Dakota Johnson, Sydney Sweeney, Emma Roberts and more.



Arthur the King

Release date: March 22,
Arthur the King is a film based on the true story of a man and a stray dog that go on an adventurous race - a 435-mile race through the Dominican Republic. The movie will star Mark Wahlberg and Simu Liu.



Inside Out 2

Release date: June 14,
Inside Out 2 is the sequel to the Pixar film *Inside Out*. This sequel will follow the main character, Riley, as she goes through college and experiences new emotions.

CONTINUED...



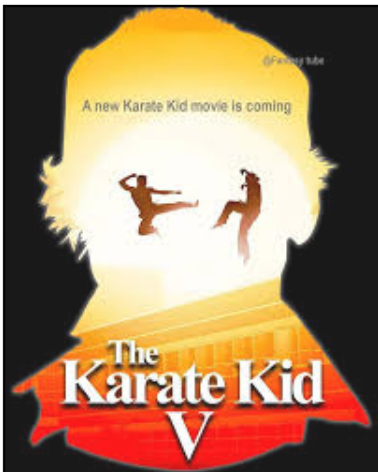
Despicable Me 4

Release date: July 3
Despicable Me 4 will return to the main plot of the original *Despicable Me* as opposed to the spin-off *Minions*. The film will star Steve Carell once again as Gru.



Deadpool 3

Release date: July 26
Deadpool 3 will see both the iconically humorous Deadpool as well as Wolverine. Deadpool will be played by Ryan Reynolds and Wolverine will be played by Hugh Jackman.



The Karate Kid V

Release date: December 13
Not many details have been released about *The Karate Kid*, but it will still be connected to the '80s martial arts franchise. The cast is unknown.



Mufasa: The Lion King

Release date: December 20
Mufasa: The Lion King will be a live-action-looking film that follows the backstory of Simba's father before the original movie *The Lion King*. The voice of Mufasa will be played by Aaron Pierre and the voice of Scar will be played by Kelvin Harrison Jr..

CHECK OUT "THE RAMINATOR"
THE RAMINATOR IS PINE-RICHLAND MIDDLE SCHOOL'S
NEWSPAPER
GO TO THE MIDDLE SCHOOL'S WEBSITE TO READ.



Star Player By: Izzy Banjak, Andie Bowser, Sophia Gierl, and Siena Ward

After ten minutes of waiting, they heard a loud knock at the front door.

“I’ll get it!” Rory yelled as she ran down the hall

Rory walked over to the front door and opened it. Opening the door, she noticed an unusual look painted across Hudson’s face. She did not bother asking about it right then and there, because she knew he had a rather troubled life.

Hudson Moore attends Cedarville High School as a senior. Other than being a student-athlete with perfect grades, Hudson has no flaws. Hudson seems perfect, or so everyone thinks. Rather strict, Hudson continues to try to impress his parents. Hudson’s life has been rather troubled growing up. His parents both work super complicated jobs in which they have to travel often. This mostly leaves Hudson all by himself most of the time. He goes to the gym after school to stay in shape for his school activities and sports. Hudson stands tall and has blonde hair and dazzling green eyes. He plays on the varsity lacrosse and football teams and lives practicing his sports. Because of his charming personality and good looks, he happens to be extremely well-known at school and has lots of friends. His main friend group consists of Ivy, Tony, and Rory. Whenever he wants to escape his home life, he listens to music. He always ends up being in charge of the music in the car and he has a playlist for every occasion.

A couple of minutes after Hudson arrived, Ivy showed up and jumped through the front door with a large pepperoni pizza. She was always prepared and planned everything ahead of time. Ivy liked to keep everything in order all the time. She carried a pocket-sized, leather notebook in her back pocket that she used to write all sorts of information down so she would not forget. Ivy Sinclair cheers at Cedarville High School. She has long, light brown hair and ocean-blue eyes. Her hair appears pin-straight and she stands of average height. Ivy always makes someone laugh when they’re upset. She’s the planner of the group and always knows what’s going on. Ivy always has a super cute outfit on even if she just has plans to study at the library. She loves to read and learn new facts and thinks smart. Solving problems has always come easy to her, she always finds a solution. Ivy has a slight New York accent since she was born there and spent her whole childhood there. She moved to Cedarville, Missouri at six years old. The group has been friends ever since that seating chart back in 1st grade.

Ivy threw the pizza on the coffee table in the middle of the living room and started pacing in circles. She began ranting about the schedule she had planned for the whole group until Hudson stood up.

“My parents will not let me go!” Hudson interrupted.

Everyone sat in silence for a minute.

“What do you mean? Why? What exactly did they say?” Rory questioned.

“They said I have to stay to keep up my track record in my clubs. Lacrosse starts the day after you all want to leave, and football training starts a few days later. They said I would fall super far behind if I missed even one day. I asked multiple times, but they will not let me.” Hudson let out a big sigh.

It seemed like Hudson knew for a long time but just did not want to tell anyone. He likes to keep his emotions to himself and never lets the group know what goes on in his home life.

“Well, I guess that’s the end of it,” Tony states while sighing.

“Tony, we’re not just giving up, we can work around this. There’s always a solution, we all just have to think about it.” Announces Ivy.

“What if we sneak you out?” Tony said. Everyone began shaking their heads no, except for Ivy.

“That could work,” Ivy said.

“Hudson you never let your parents down, pleasing them occurs like first nature to you. You’re 18 years old, you don’t have to ask them for approval on everything anymore. You’re an adult, not their perfect little boy anymore. Hudson, you grew up.” Rory argues.

Everyone looks at Hudson as if he’s supposed to scream yes without a thought. Hudson has never gone over his parents’ permission on anything, ever. That’s why his grades and attendance records nearly break the system. He’s the star player in both sports he plays. The room grows quiet as everyone waits for Hudson to say something.

Haven't read the first chapter?
Get caught up by reading last
week's issue (#9) at
<https://www.pinerichland.org/Page/5624>

See You Next Week for Chapter
Three!

-The following scholarships, contests and workshops are now available, stop in the guidance office or check on Naviance under Colleges tab, scholarship list:

Portersville Christian School, Portersville, PA. hosting Western PA Christian College Fair: Date- Monday, February 26, 2024, from 6pm-8pm

National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) Pittsburgh \$1,000 scholarship to seniors:
Deadline- **February 29, 2024**

Bob Williams Memorial Rotary Scholarship: Deadline- **February 29, 2024**

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices: Trade School and College Scholarship program:
Deadline- **March 1, 2024**

National Italian American Sports Hall of Fame Scholarship: Deadline- **March 1, 2024**

The First Commonwealth Bank Scholarship program: Deadline- **March 1, 2024**

Horatio Alger National Scholarship Program: Deadline- **March 15, 2024**

UCB offering 33 one-time scholarships: Deadline- **March 15, 2024**

Malcolm M. Prine Western Pennsylvania Football Officials Association Scholarship:
Deadline- **March 15, 2024**

The Western Pennsylvania Trial Lawyers Association annual essay contest. Essays due
to Mrs. Whalen by: **March 22, 2024.**

17th Annual Create-A-Greeting Card \$10,000 contest: Deadline- **March 24, 2024**

EQT Energize Your Education Scholarship: Deadline- **March 31, 2024**

Pennsylvania School Public Relations Association educational scholarship: Deadline-
March 31, 2024

The Epilepsy Foundation of Western Pennsylvania scholarships: Deadline- **April 1, 2024**

Audubon Society of Western PA's Beulah Frey Environmental Scholarship: Deadline-
April 12, 2024

Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation 2023 Landmarks Scholarship Award:

Deadline- **April 16, 2024**

Pittsburgh Metropolitan Area Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Foundation Scholarship:

Deadline- **April 30, 2024**

The U.S. Merchant Marine Academy virtual admissions Q&A sessions for the U.S.

Merchant Marine Academy: Check student e-mail