



NORTHERN LIGHT



VOLUME 57, NO. 2

GREAT NECK NORTH MIDDLE SCHOOL

WINTER 2022

Unity Day at NMS

By Noah Hourizadeh

The Student Community Organization is trying to follow up on Pacer.org's Unity Day, although the SCO's Unity Day has a twist. Instead of this new holiday being yearly on October 19, North Middle School is making it weekly.

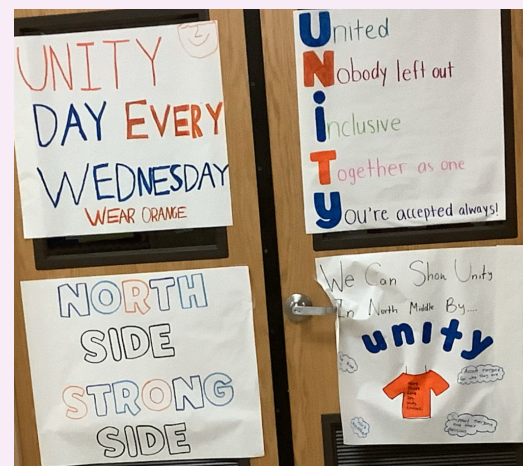
Unity Day is to come together in one giant **ORANGE** message of hope and support. If you are asking yourself, "Why orange?" There is a reasonable answer, as Unity Day is held during October. Orange is a color commonly identified with the month and the autumn season. October is a month full of orange leaves and beauty, all the orange things around us bring the environment to life as one.

This new holiday is all about UNITY. UNITY is all about being safe in school, online, and in the community. The goal of the day is to bring together youth, parents, educators, businesses, and community members across the nation to emphasize the message that bullying is not acceptable. The first Unity Day for Pacer.org was in 2011. They explained how everyone's involvement is important! For so long, those who were bullied felt that no one cared about them. They didn't even think about anyone including themselves and their families.

The Student Community Organization has lots of ways to recognize this day and these ideas are amazing! The Student Community Organization is making posters for Unity Day and they are trying to make it a big event in the school. They are making Unity Day every Wednesday which is like a weekly holiday for the school. They have even made SCO t-shirts. Every day there are more people hearing about it and soon it will be a day that no one will ever forget.

Unity Day has changed a lot from 2011. Previously, Unity Day was all about a call to action to wear orange and unite against bullying. Today, the call to action has evolved to wear and share (through social media) orange to unite for kindness, acceptance, and inclusion.

Credit to <https://www.pacer.org/bullying/nbpm/unity-day.asp> for some information.



Spelling Bee

By Elizabeth Sheydina

Our annual school wide spelling bee is back again! This time fully in-person! But before I tell you about our school wide spelling bee, let's go back to the beginning.

Right before winter break English classes throughout the school building devoted a period to hold a class wide spelling bee. The spelling bee worked like this: First, everyone stood up. The teacher asked one student a word. If that student got it wrong they had to sit down, but if they got it correct they remained standing. If the student messed up, the next student would try to spell the word correctly. This will continue until someone spells the word correctly. Students were able to get small hints from their teachers. Those included hearing the word again, asking for the definition, and hearing it being used in a sentence. Once there are only two students still standing and one of those two gets the word incorrect, they become runner up and the other student becomes the winner. The winner of that class spelling bee, becomes that class' representative in the school wide competition.

The school wide spelling bee occurred on January 11. There were 41 contestants at the start, but by the end there was only one! The competition lasted about an hour and the whole school was watching! Just imagine the pressure that the contestants felt! Here is a quote from one the contestants, Adrian Cheah in 7th grade, "The spelling bee was a nerve racking experience knowing that the whole school was watching me. I wanted to get off the stage so fast. So I told myself just to tackle the challenge one word at a time. And after I spelled a word correctly I felt a wave of relief come over me. My final word was Durge. I spelt it " d-u-r-g-d-e". When I heard the bell ring I was disappointed, but I was happy with where I placed since this was my first time participating in something like this. I enjoyed competing against my friends and it was overall an enjoyable experience." Unlike the class wide spelling bees every speller got their own word. Regardless of whether the last spellers spelled their word correctly.

The top three winners of the spelling bee were Lindsay Engelstein (first place), Ofer Adar(second place), and Dale Yang (third place). All of these students are in the eight grade. Just imagine being the one who wins out of 41 people!

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NMS CONCERTS ARE BACK!

Read all about the performances on page 3!

7th Grade Virtual Trip

By Abigail Bernstein

The 2021-2022 seventh graders have not had a field trip since fourth grade, or the beginning of fifth. Would the seventh grade DNA lab trip be the first in middle school so far? As it turns out, no, it wouldn't. Because of the current fall of Omicron cases, our principals did not want to chance it, and decided to make it virtual.

Instead, the seventh graders received kits which they worked on during periods 3,4,7 and 8, their team periods. Although, some teachers believed the virtual trip would not change much. "The only part we're getting rid of is the bus ride there, the bus ride back, and eating sandwiches off your lap on a cold bus," said Mr. Axelrod, Swiss 1 social studies teacher.

As Tuesday, January 25 rolled around, Swiss 1 started off the "Field Trip" period 3 and 4. For these periods, it was solving the mystery of "Was this random woman who appeared in Berlin after a suicide attempt the thought-to-be-dead-Russian-royalty-Anastasia?" And after that in periods 7 and 8, they separated the DNA from wheat germ, by soaking it in soap, water and ethanol, and putting it in a necklace. Unfortunately, most of the seventh graders agreed that it was not a great field trip, and would have definitely been better if it were in person. But there's always next year!

The Descendants: A Teaser

By Julia Reed

As you probably all know, this school is doing a play called *Descendants*. This play is about kids from evil parents and good parents meeting each other in a place called Auradon. This is where King Beast and Queen Belle live along with their son Prince Ben, soon to be king, and other kids who go to school at Auradon Prep. As his first kingly decree he wants to invite the 4 infamous villain kids (Mal, Jay, Evie, Carlos), to go to school at Auradon prep and not be their parents. Of course, this backfires on him in a way no one, except Audrey, his girlfriend, would expect. This play has a bunch of kids in it who are willing to work really hard studying their lines and choreography to make the show as best as it can be. In this show there are lots of friendly faces and laughs happening behind the scenes! Here are some of the villain kids traits:

Mal

- Leader of the pack
- Most evil out all of them except for her mother Maleficent
- Has a magic spell book passed down from her mother
- Will do anything to get what she wants

Jay

- The thief of the pack
- Steals anything valuable
- Always collects genie lamps for his father Jafar
- A strong boy who will face anything that comes his way

Evie

- The beauty pageant queen known as the fairest of them all
- Has a magic mirror passed down by her mother the Evil Queen
- Will flirt with any royalty related in search of her prince charming

Carlos

- Always hates any kind of dog because of his mother Cruella
- Fastest of the whole team
- Always misunderstood

Blazers Live

By Sarah Zheng

On November 23, 2021, the 2021-2022 Blazers Live broadcast at North Middle School began. This school-wide TV show includes the clubs for the day, weather reports (with weather raps on Day B), and the sports. But what happens behind the scenes?

In the main room, there are three tripods that can be moved around to make more room. There is a camera attached to the tripod and a monitor on top of the camera so that the floor manager can see. There's also a teleprompter in front of the camera so the person speaking knows what to say. The teleprompter doesn't block the camera because its actual screen is on the bottom and the words are reflected on the mirror so the person can read the script. The mirror is a mirror on one side and clear on the other, so the camera can film through it.

During the show, a person in the back room chooses clips to play during the transitions. Another person has all the information for the day's show and displays it when needed, such as the person who is speaking during the show's name and the trivia question, the weather report, and the birthdays. Finally, there is a large screen that a person selects the virtual backgrounds from, and another large screen broadcasting what the audience is seeing.

One person writes the script, and during the rehearsal, people who are speaking look at the teleprompter and see what the scriptwriter typed onto the screen. If what the scriptwriter wrote was kind of confusing, the person speaking could straighten it out during the rehearsal instead of making a mistake during the show.

That's the behind-the-scenes for today!



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Winter Concert: Chorus

By Liel Kafaierad

The 2021 winter concert was a strange experience for many. Especially for the 7th grade, because it was their first concert at North Middle School.

The songs that were chosen this year for the seventh grade include: “When We’re Together”, “Shine Like Stars”, and “On With the Snow”. The song “When We’re Together” includes some of the songs from a Disney production called Olaf’s Frozen Adventure. It was a show about Olaf trying to find Elsa and Anna’s family tradition for the holidays. When all hope was almost lost Elsa and Anna showed him that he was their tradition. This production was a way to show that even in the darkest times light could still shine. Which leads me to the next song called “Shine Like Stars”. This song is about showing people who you are and what dreams you have. This song is sending a message that no matter how many times you are hitting rock bottom there is only one way to go and it is to the top. The final song we sang was called “On With the Snow”. It is a medley of “Sleigh Ride”, “Winter Wonderland” and “Let It Snow! Let It Snow! Let It Snow!”.

Some feedback that I have heard was mostly positive. But there were some critiques as well.

Let’s start with the positive feedback. Most people said that they liked the songs because they were fun and people could connect the songs from that time to what we have experienced in the past few years. People have said that the fact that we were able to perform was amazing since they have not performed since before COVID 19 began. One student, Elizabeth Sheydina had said, “The concert was nice even though it was in the gym. I liked the fact that there was a live audience. But we needed to project our voices more.”

Some critiques were that the performance volume was very low. Another one was that we could only bring a certain amount of guests. The last and most common one was that there should have been microphones throughout the “stage” area.

Although this concert was not the ideal one that people expected, we could only improve for the ones to come.

Winter Concert: Band

By Abigail Bernstein

December 16th was the first winter concert since 2019. It’s been a while. Last year was Mr. Trinkwald’s first time missing a concert in 25 years! So, as you can imagine, everyone was ecstatic to have a concert again. However, we do always have to think about what can go wrong. A majority of the people don’t show up? Probably won’t happen. No one does the solo? No, a lot of people are looking forward to playing those. The WiFi goes out? That would never happen. Unless it did. And it did.

A perfect start to a concert: the performers not being able to get their music. A WiFi upgrade that was supposed to be “Only 45 minutes” ended up lasting for over 3 hours. The teachers were scrambling to hand out sheet music to kids who didn’t have WiFi, and to kids that forgot their iPads. After that, however, the band concert went smoother than silk. We played 3 pieces. The first one was Sleigh Ride, written by Leeroy Anderson and arranged by Mike Story. It’s a classic jazzy song associated with Christmas. The second song was African Bell Carol, arranged by Robert W. Smith. Molded after Carol of the Bells, many people recognized this piece from the classic movie Home Alone. However, this is a different version, one that gave major importance to all of the percussionists, because of the two percussion solos, and the way the percussion helps the piece tell its story. The third and final piece was March of the Nutcracker. It’s a jazzy spin on the original March of the Toy Soldiers by Tchaikovsky. It also allowed solos for trombones, saxophones, clarinets, then all three together.

Parents and kids appreciated the little bit of normalcy.

Cold and Frozen Foods: Do They Increase the Possibility of COVID-19 Infection?

By Elaine Xing

Since its debut, Coronavirus-2019 has impacted many aspects of life, and among these aspects is food. While cold and chilled foods used to be enjoyed year-round; many are now fearing that the consumption of frozen edibles can lead to a higher risk of COVID-19 infection. As a result, many small businesses featuring frozen edibles are facing deprivation of customers.

While some may argue that food illnesses and diseases can be transferred easily through frozen food, researched reports denote that COVID-19 is not a foodborne disease, and is not active in the acidic environment of the stomach. For example, foodstandards.gov.au says, “COVID-19 is a respiratory disease spreading from person to person. It’s not a foodborne disease. There’s no evidence to suggest people will get infected by swallowing the virus in, or on, food or drink.”

Furthermore, consumer.healthday.com explains, “Prevention continues to underscore that there is no credible evidence of food or food packaging associated with or as a likely source of viral transmission of [SARS-CoV-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19)].”

Based on the past and recent reports regarding Coronavirus, it is implausible that COVID-19 will instantaneously transfer through food, and the current evidence suggests that the possibility is improbable.

Holiday Gift Trends

By Sydney Ng

While Christmas and Hanukkah have just passed, here are some gifts for five holidays that are coming up.

Valentines Day



Chocolates, teddy bears, and necklaces are Valentine’s Day classics!

Mother's Day



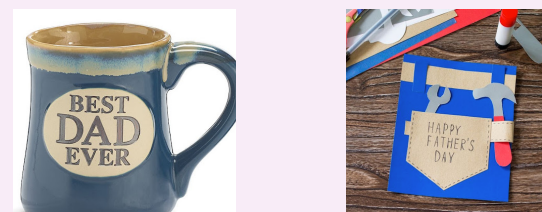
Although buying gifts for your mom is thoughtful, cards, and paintings made at home are always just as nice.

Easter



Chocolates, gift baskets, and sweets are common gifts during Easter!

Father's Day



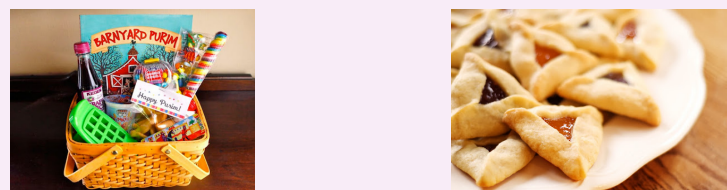
28% of dads love cards, and 28% want a family day!

Chinese New Year



Apples and oranges symbolize safety and fortune, while money in envelopes symbolize good luck!

Purim



Gift basket filled with goods assures love and food during the holiday. These cookies called Hamantaschen are not only delicious, but it symbolizes the Jewish victory over Haman!

Poetry Corner

Snow Day

By Abigail Bernstein

The snow fell gracefully and swiftly through the morning.
It saw the sun rise, while helping others avoid it.
It fell on lawns and cars,
It fell on trees and highways.
Today is a snow day.
Gather the sleds, the jackets and the ski pants.
The glistening snow has never looked beautiful
Inviting me to come and play
Today is a snow day.
Noses as red as roses
Coats thicker than snow itself.
The layer of snow, smoother than clay
Today is a snow day
The brisk cold wind
Brushing against your face
Watching the trees sway
Today is a snow day
And as the day is wrapping up
Yes it's sad to see it go,
Always remember that one day in January
When we all played in the snow.

A Winter Dream

By Elizabeth Sheydina

Snow is falling
Inch after inch
Snow falls down my back
An icy cold pinch

Snow pants and boots
waterproof gloves
Flurries glide through the sky
Like graceful white doves

The mystical blanket
Untouched and fresh
The beautiful pillow
Where no one has stepped

The fireplace's warmth
fills the air
As I sip my hot chocolate
Without having a care

The wind that whispers
Secret songs
Continues singing
All night long

Winter Poem

By Elizabeth Guan

Angles of snow being made with cold twists while
Bears are starting to hibernate
Cocoa mugs warm and comfy but
Dark chocolate ice cream is put away
Earmuffs needed everywhere
Fireplaces lit for warmth
Gloves and mittens pulled on tight
Hanukkah candles lit one by one
Icy snowballs soar through the air
January, February, the cold months ticking by
Kwanzaa traditions still on play
Loads of hat and scarves being put on and
Mounds of snow being shoveled
Never ending icicles hanging from rooftops
Ornaments hung with shining lights for accompanying
Parka coats are a lifesaver
Quilts of color pulled up to the brim
Reindeer decorations on window sills
Snowmen built with carrot noses
Three Kings Day celebrated
Unexpected snow storms blowing in
Visible breath seen in the air
Winter solstice rolling in
X-tra presents on Christmas Day
Yearning for snow days spread about
Zealous humans celebrating and appreciating the wonders of winter!

Let the dinosaurs roam!

- 1.The largest dinosaurs could hold about 6 gallon of liquid.
2. You can buy a dinosaur shaped taco holder.
3. There is a one and a half foot long dinosaur called the Micropachycephalosaurus.

Animal pals!

- 1.Add a Snakes are not able to slither on glass.
- 2.Chihuahuas are the world's smallest dog breed.
- 3.Cats can't taste sweets.

The world's heroes!

- 1.Fire trucks were originally painted red because that was the cheapest color.
- 2.The weight that an average firefighter carries on him is about 60 pounds.
- 3.Some police officers in Cairo, Egypt patrol the pyramids on camelback.



Submitted by Darren Chen

Resource: National Geographic



Dear Miss Know It All,

Over break, I went to sleep late almost every night and now I can't go to sleep. Now, I wake up late almost every morning and I'm always tired. What should I do?

Sincerely,
Gemma Y.

Dear Gemma,

You're not alone! Try going to sleep half an hour earlier every night. Also, try and get off of your phone about 30-60 minutes before you go to sleep. If there is something keeping you awake, such as homework, try and do it earlier in the day. Hope this helps!

Sincerely,
Miss Know It All

Dear Miss Know It All,

I have no idea what's happening in math. I'm in the advanced class, but I don't think I should be. I'm not understanding the material and I don't get good grades on tests and quizzes. I don't want to leave the class because I feel like I need to be in it in order to be smart. I need help, I can't take this anymore.

Sincerely,
Chris T.

Dear Chris,

You are still smart even if you're not in the class. Don't let the pressure of yourself and others prevent you from getting a good education. If you insist on staying in the class, ask your teacher and classmates for help. Go to extra help after school, during lunch, and in the morning. Always know that your teachers are here to help you!

Sincerely,
Miss Know It All

Dear Miss Know It All,

I feel like my friends don't like me. When I'm hanging out with them, they're always talking about events that happened on a group chat that I'm not a part of. I always see pictures and videos of them hanging out together on social media. When I ask them if we can hang out, they either don't respond or say they can't. They've been my friends since I was 3 years old and I just don't know what I did wrong. What should I do?

Sincerely,
Becky L.

Dear Becky,

First off, get new friends. It's probably not your fault. I'm saying probably because maybe you did something unspeakable to one of them, then it's probably your fault. I'm just going to guess that didn't happen. They're obviously not your friends. If you have other friends, start talking to them more, make plans with them, and make group chats with them. Make sure you're making/keeping friends that care about you and include you in things. Also, you should tell your "friends" how you feel. I've figured out that in life, it is best to confront the people you have something against. It can clear up the situation for both parties. I hope you sort this out!

Sincerely,
Miss Know It All

Book Review: *Highly Illogical Behavior*

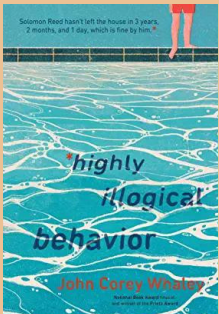
by John Corey Whaley

Reviewed by Noya Zarnighian

Solomon Reed hasn't left his house in over 3 years. Since having a panic attack in 8th grade with him ending up in a fountain outside of school, Sol developed agoraphobia, or the fear of going outside. He's completely fine with this, and spends his time doing his schoolwork at home, watching lots of Star Trek, and playing games with his parents who he's gotten very close with after years of not talking with anybody his age. Still, he feels like he's a burden on his parents for always being at home.

Lisa Praytor still remembers that kid that jumped in the fountain back in middle school. Even when everyone else forgot about him, she didn't. Lisa remembered him when she wanted to apply to one of the best psychology programs in the country. To get into this program, she has to write an essay on her experiences with mental health. Lisa knows exactly how she's going to get in: "fixing" Solomon Reed.

Highly Illogical Behavior by John Corey Whaley is available on Sora as an ebook on behalf of Great Neck Public Schools and Nassau Digital Doorways. Nassau Digital Doorways also has it as an audiobook. It can also be found at the Main branch of the Great Neck Public Library as a hardcover. A physical copy of the book has 249 pages. *Highly Illogical Behavior* is a coming-of-age young adult book that deals with an unexpected friendship between two unsuspecting teens.



Winter Recipe and Craft

Submitted by Eva Halimi

One recipe and craft that is super easy to make are marshmallow polar bears. They come out really nice and just float in your hot cocoa. You can make them whatever size you want and decorate them with whatever kinds of food you want. You can have stylish marshmallows that you can show off to your friends.

The ingredients are...

- 1.Jumbo marshmallows
- 2.Regular-sized marshmallows
- 3.Mini marshmallows
- 4.Junior Mints
- 5.Black nonpareils
- 6.1 ounce of bittersweet chocolate (make sure to chop them!)

The directions are...

- 1.Carefully cut the jumbo marshmallows using a knife or kitchen scissors vertically or up and down so that both sides are symmetrical. (If the sides are sticky, don't worry! They are supposed to be sticky so you can stick decorations on it.)
- 2.Cut your regular-sized marshmallows in half crosswise and stick them to each jumbo marshmallow piece.
- 3.Stick your Junior Mints on top of your smaller marshmallows for their noses.
- 4.Stick two of your black nonpareils above the nose on each one of your jumbo marshmallows to make their eyes.
- 5.Cut your mini marshmallows in half crosswise and stick two of them to each of your jumbo marshmallows to make the polar bear's ears. You may do this as many times as you'd like.
- 6.Get your hot cocoa and top them with your new and improved marshmallows-polar bear style!

Recipe from The Week Junior



The Great Kindness Challenge

By Sarah Zheng

The week of Monday, January 24, through Friday, January 28, was the week of the Great Kindness Challenge in NMS. On Monday, the theme was Dream of Kindness: wear your pajamas to school. On Tuesday the theme was Team Kindness: wear a team jersey or team attire. On Wednesday, the theme was Peace, Love, and Kindness: wear hippie-like clothes. On Thursday, it was World Kindness Day, and students wore clothing from their family's culture, and on Friday, students wore school spirit outfits. These themes were all planned by North Middle's Shared Decision Making Committee.

Throughout the week, students were given blank Post-its and thank-you cards in homeroom. Students wrote appreciation messages on the cards for the bus drivers, cafeteria workers, crossing guards, etc. Students also wrote encouraging messages on the Post-its given to them. However, just because the Great Kindness Challenge is over doesn't mean you shouldn't be kind to others anymore!

Winter Donut Recipe

Submitted by Eva Halimi

Imagine taking a bite into a delicious donut and realizing you made it? How great is that? This super simple, only 8 steps, recipe gives you the secrets on how to make your ideal super-donut. Serves twelve hungry mouths and takes a total of 30 minutes to prepare and cook. And there may be some place for decoration or creativity...

There are almonds in this recipe!

The ingredients are...

- 2 cups of all- purpose flour
- ¾ of a cup of white sugar
- 2 teaspoons of baking powder
- ¼ teaspoon of ground nutmeg
- ¼ teaspoon of ground cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon of salt
- ¾ of a cup of milk
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 1 teaspoon of vanilla extract
- 1 teaspoon of shortening
- 1 cup of confectioners' sugar
- 2 tablespoons of hot water
- ½ teaspoon of almond extract

The directions are...

- 1.Preheat your oven to 325°F, which would be 165°C.
- 2.Very lightly and carefully, grease a donut pan where you are going to bake your donuts in.
- 3.Get a large bowl and mix flour, sugar, baking powder, nutmeg, cinnamon and salt. Then stir in milk, eggs, vanilla and shortening in the same bowl. Beat those two combos well until well blended.
- 4.Fill each donut cup in your donut pan about ¾ full.
- 5.Bake your donut dough for 8 to 10 minutes long in your oven. You'll know when they're ready because the donuts will spring back when touched.
- 6.Allow your donuts to cool slightly before removing the donuts from the pan.
- 7.To make your very own glaze, blend confectioners' sugar, hot water and almond extract together in a small bowl. Dip your donuts in the glaze when serving them.
- 8.Bite into your fluffy, delicious donut and enjoy!

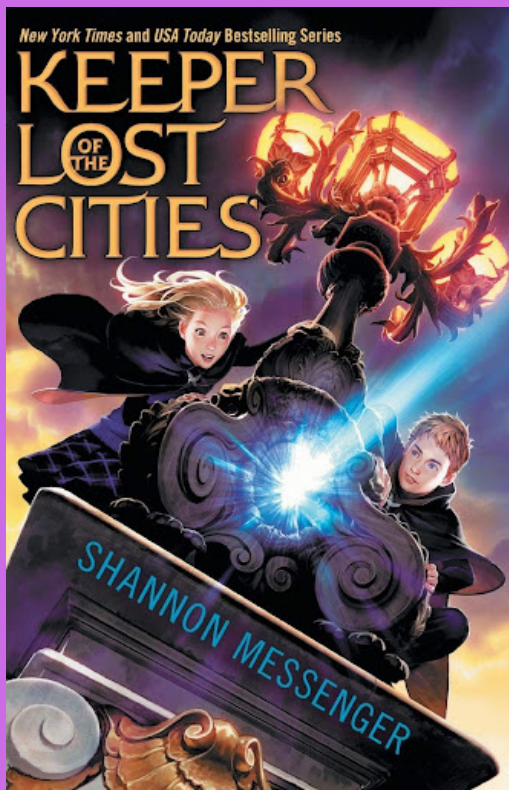
Recipe from AllRecipes



Book Review: Keeper of the Lost Cities by Shannon Messenger

Reviewed by Avital Shakiban

Have you ever had something you've learned proved wrong? Well that's what happened to Sophie Foster, except on a much larger scale. The book *Keeper of the Lost Cities* by Shannon Messenger is about a young girl named Sophie Foster and the adventure she went through trying to fit in. The book first starts when she takes a school field trip to a museum. Except something's off: she is a 12 year old senior in high school. She skipped 5 grades, and is getting straight A's in all her classes! During her trip to the museum she meets a boy with piercing teal eyes who shows her where she really comes from. These few events are what kick off the book's plot. I've read this book a few times, and I really enjoyed it. If you are into fantasy books or just fiction in general, I would 100% recommend you read this book. People who love Harry Potter or Percy Jackson would definitely love this book. Keeper of the Lost Cities is also the first of the series, and there are supposed to be more books coming, so if you enjoyed it you could read the rest. Would 10/10 recommend this book!



Trendy Accessories

By Skylar Bijari

Smiley accessories

If you are not aware, smiley faces are now on everything. Smiley faces are on bracelets, hats, sweatpants, shirts, slippers, nails, phone charms, necklaces, rings, phone cases, and some other things. If you are interested in the smiley style, you can browse the original smiley website (<https://smiley.com>). Even the most famous TikTok, Charli D'amelio, has been seen wearing smiley face products.

TikTok accessories

You will probably find something about every accessory on TikTok, but your For You page shows you the more popular and trendy accessories on the app. Some accessories that you might've seen on TikTok in 2021 could be anything: smiley faces but also claw clips, chunky ring, phone charms, clay beaded accessories (sometimes with pearls), Bucket hats, crystal rings, blue light glasses, waist chains, butterfly clips, ring lights, and hair tinsel. If you are looking for trendy accessories, try browsing TikTok.

Other accessories

Some other accessories that are not from TikTok and don't have smiley faces are chained necklaces, evil eye jewelry, mask chains, pearl beaded accessories, and Nike socks. These may still be mentioned on TikTok, but they are somewhat less popular than the other trendy TikTok accessories.

Trendy shops

If you want to purchase some trendy accessories you can purchase from Rear Wear Studio, original smiley, Urban Outfitters, Shein, any small business, Romwe, Amazon, Etsy, Pacsun, Brandy Melville, and Forever 21.



Weird Food Review

By Riley Cheng

Welcome back to Weird Food Review. If you forgot, Weird Food Review is a column telling the history of "weird" food as well as tasting them. If your forgot the ranking system here it is.

1. Just terrible
2. Dog water
3. Average
4. Thumbs up
5. A gift from the sky

This time I'm tasting MTN Dew gingerbread. Sorry for the drink again.

Overview: It sounds like how it sounds. It is MTN Dew which is made of artificial gingerbread flavoring. It was a limited release from November 1st to December 31st and it replaced MTN Dew Merry Mash-up (which was cranberry and pomegranate.) Gingerbread Snap'd is obviously a gingerbread soda. It was similar in both concept and style (in being inspired by the holiday spirit) to two previous holiday Dew flavors, Holiday Brew and Merry Mash-Up.

History: On 4th, 2020, on the Dew Drinker Discord, information first leaked by an anonymous individual showing upcoming plans for 2021 with many flavors and new brands alike. All of these leaks are as follows: Major Melon, alongside its Zero Sugar variant, Rise Energy, Baja Blast alongside two flavors, Baja Flash and Baja Punch, DEW-S-A, Riddler's Brew, Gingerbread Snap'd, and a re-release of Pepsi Blue. On October 8th, 2020, a leaked internal reel video surfaced, showing upcoming plans for the Mountain Dew brand for 2021. This video re-affirmed much of the previously leaked information for 2021. From this, the video shows new seasonal flavors, such as Baja Flash, Baja Punch, Riddler's Brew, Snap'd, and an addition of a permanent flavor, Major Melon. On various dates of 2021, there are some photographs of Snap'd on certain websites across the internet and from the posts of certain people that got ahold of sample bottles. They are obtaining it through PepsiCo employees and similar occurrences such as advertising for the flavor. In addition, it looked like the drink had been rebranded, slightly to the point of changing the name and color to appeal more widely. Officially, it was released in stores in the United States on November 1st, 2021 for a limited time, sold in 12-packs, and 20-ounce bottles, staying until December 31st, 2021.

Taste: It doesn't taste like gingerbread at all. At first it just tastes like regular MTN Dew but after the main taste comes in it begins to taste watery and it isn't as strong of a taste. It is also kind of sweet. It ain't that bad. Not something I would drink and not even the best MTN Dew but I could drink it once in a while. I'll say it's my 4th favorite MTN Dew under Thunder, regular, and Code Red. So yeah it's really good. ¾ stars just drink Code Red if you want really good MTN Dew. To be fair though all MTN Dew is good.

Conclusion: The article is over and I do not know what our next food is. Stay tuned for spring.

Trendy Foods

By Zoey Goldring-Nuriel

TikTok Trendy Snacks:

There are a lot of trendy foods on TikTok, some of them are fried foods like fried Oreos and some people even fry other stuff like shoes. Some more popular and trendy TikTok foods include hot chocolate bombs, blue Takis, red Takis, and Taki Pringles. We took a survey asking kids which ones they like the most, and one student said they enjoy all of these trendy snacks, except for the Taki Pringles. Another student from North Middle said that they aren't a fan of Takis, but they do like fried Oreos and other fried foods. These are just a few of the TikTok trendy snacks.

TikTok Trendy Meals:

Some TikTok trendy meals include the tortilla, a trend where you split up the tortilla in four sections and put different toppings and then fold it into a big sandwich. A lot of these trendy foods from TikTok are meals that you could eat. I asked students what they preferred and a lot of them said the tortillas trend. A lot of these foods are good and I've tried the baked oats with my friend and we really like them.

Trendy TikTok Drinks

Some trendy TikTok drinks include smoked candy drinks. You just need a few simple ingredients like soda candy, bottle pop powder, and ice. Another viral drink includes the jungle juice. All you need for this is one soda, Kool-Aid powder and candy. Another popular drink is the Charlie drink. It is Charlie Damilio's coffee that is sold at Dunkin' Donuts. Those three drinks are three of the most popular drinks on TikTok.

The Omniverse

By Gavin Zhao

Welcome to the Omniverse, a virtual world with no limits to creations. Right now look around you. What you see is well, the real world. Now let's think if you could recreate this world on your computer. Well this is the Omniverse, a world with physics (or not), a world with imagination and design, a world where you could live in. Well in this article I will explain what exactly NVIDIA has been developing for two years.

Now let's go back to April 12, 2021, when NVIDIA first launched the Omniverse. A design platform made for everything. From architecture to movie design, the Omniverse can be used for almost anything. The Omniverse is a multi-software like design platform which connects over 40 platforms. These include Blender, Unreal Engine, Adobe, Pixar, Dell, Acer, Lenovo, and much, much more. Now let's say you've created a masterpiece in Blender but now you want to import a model to another software. Well with the Omniverse you have a central hub of design. Everything you create in 3rd party softwares is automatically imported pixel by pixel into the Omniverse. In the Omniverse, physics is replicated right on the spot and lighting is changeable. Before Omniverse all physics, lighting, and the GUI itself had to be coded by the creator. Omniverse is the first software that has real world simulation created by the same people who created GEFORCE RTX/GTX or known as the best graphic cards of all time. GEFORCE models have made the top ten graphic cards on over 50 notable review videos/sites. Another function of the Omniverse is facial tracking. So basically a camera will record your face and voice while saving and producing a copy on the Omniverse. It's basically a deep fake but more natural. The software OMNIVERSE AUDIO2FACE uses deep learning AI technology to replicate your face as best as possible from a blank canvas. Misty the Animated Chatbot who was presented at the 2020 GTC is a live chatbot that answers your questions. Think of an Amazon Alexa but as a human.

So you've had an idea for what you want to make. Let's say it was a car driving type game. So what now? Well you have to create where the car will race at. So you can either import a model you've created from another software, or you may use assets or meshes. These can be found in the marketplace where others have created what you demand. These can range from tin cans to large airplanes. So now you have a racetrack. What now? Well you need a car to race. You can also create the car or you can get an asset model. To make your car move you add a script for movement controls. Then you would add other scripts to the general game. This could also include UI's or local specifications. Now you have a car racing game. And in about less than an hour you have created what took Nintendo years to develop. That's what is so magical about NVIDIA Omniverse. An open world, outsourced, developing platform.

So just because you can create a world in the Omniverse, how did NVIDIA do it all? Well first of all to create this realistic scene, you have to have four important components. These are part of Omniverse RTX Renderer. This software takes care of rendering, materials, lighting, and texture all at once. With the NVIDIA MDL, all third party software and library assets models can be as realistic as it gets. The Multi-GPU uses RTX Renderer to toggle rendering, materials, lighting, and texture.

Next you have to have physics. As mentioned before, physics is replicated in the Omniverse. This is powered by PhysX 5, PhysX Flow, and PhysX Blast. PhysX 5 is pointed at smooth graphics. This includes clothes, soft body simulation, particles, and fluid simulation. Though fluid simulation is mainly handled by PhysX Flow. PhysX 5 also handles the amount of GPU and CPU usage. This means on high end and low end GPU and CPU, the Omniverse will always look as good. PhysX 5 also takes care of character controllers, vehicle dynamics, joints, rigid body dynamics, molecular dynamics, FLIP, PBF, and custom geometry. PhysX 4 only takes care of half of those mentions. PhysX Flow includes fluid, smoke, and fire simulation. This is a 2.0 version of NVIDIA Turbulence and Flameworks. The Flow Library offers DX11 and DX12 Vulkan implementations. The software will run on any recent DX11 and DX12 GPU standards. The modeling system runs in a pixel cube grid and uses as little memory as possible. NVIDIA Flow 1.1 is available with Vulkan support and new features at GDC 2018. Finally PhysX Blast which is a software that is focused on destruction physics. The software is designed to just let the software take care of the destruction. Softwares are already really good at general destruction physics and NVIDIA has taken advantage of this. They have added simple commands and let the Omniverse do the rest. PhysX Blast is focused on performance, scalability, and flexibility. PhysX blast is really simple, handling blast range, destruction physics, and joints. More detailed textures will cause more models to fall causing more memory usage. Though it is an option to manually optimize how and what falls. The design platform is on a flat grid with a UI. Adding a Blast asset will be the main part defier. And that's how PhysX Blast works. More information on these softwares can be found on NVIDIA's developer blog.

Now what has NVIDIA benefited from making this Omniverse? At the release, NVDA stock climbed 30% showing investors a great value to the company. Proof of this can be seen as the volume jumped 16.6 million (Volume means the number of shares bought on that date from that company or stock). In just 14 days, all 16.6 million shares were sold. However, great software comes with a steep price. How much do you think the software would cost? Well, costs range from 1,000 all the way to 250,000 a year, earning NVIDIA a grand total of 40 million dollars. Though these prices might seem expensive compared to other design platforms, which will cost an upward of 500,000 dollars to use, it's actually pretty cheap. Right now the software is in open beta free of cost! But subscriptions have started and the NVIDIA Omniverse Enterprise now starts at 9,000 dollars a year. NVIDIA Omniverse Enterprise is a new software created by NVIDIA for businesses of any size. Instead of a private or solo software, Enterprise now creates a client to server style platform. Creators can have a shared platform to create worlds or animations.

Now we have talked about the Omniverse itself, but what do people think about it? Well, the news has quoted the Omniverse as a "Second Life". Scientists and game creators have all announced that they may be working to create the Omniverse and improve aspects such as world recreations. Positive feedback was received when it was announced that NVIDIA, Lockheed Martin, and State/Federal Forest Services would use Omniverse to stop wildfires. On April 10, 2021, Nvidia announced that Omniverse had brought millions of people into the Metaverse, a theory of a futuristic internet that gives a broader sense to a virtual universe that includes the entire augmented reality. Currently, there are around 60,000 people/groups using the Omniverse.

So there you have it! A new platform to grow, share, and create. I hope you enjoyed this quarter's article on the Omniverse! I hope you've enjoyed and learned something!

Nvidia
Stock Price December 2021: 314.35 - 294.11
Dow Jones Industrial Average
Stock Price December 2021: 34,022.04 - 36,338.30
Meta Platforms Inc
Stock Price December 2021: 277.40 - 304.34

References:

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Winter Poll

By Abigail Bernstein

This year for the winter newspaper, we had the idea to create a poll, and have everyone at NMS have the chance to vote on it. Students and teachers alike were given the opportunity to vote.

Here are the answers:

Do you like snow?

41.7% voted that they liked it, and 41.7% voted that they couldn't live without it.

How often do you wear a jacket?

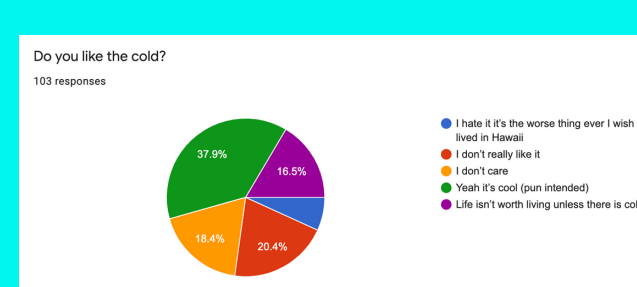
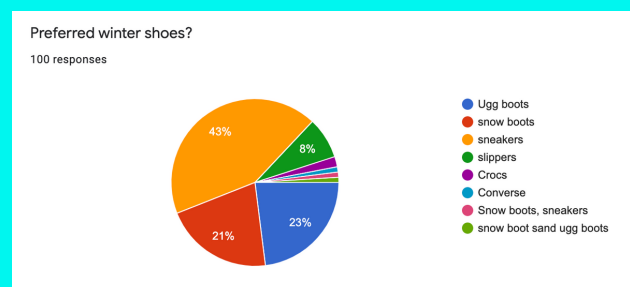
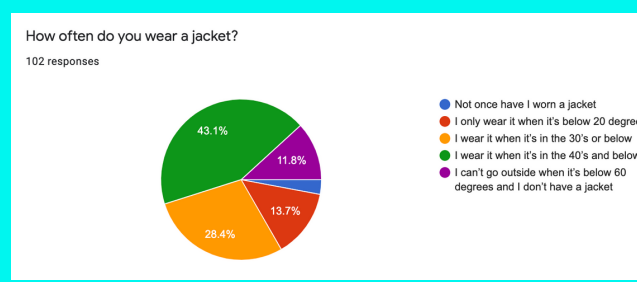
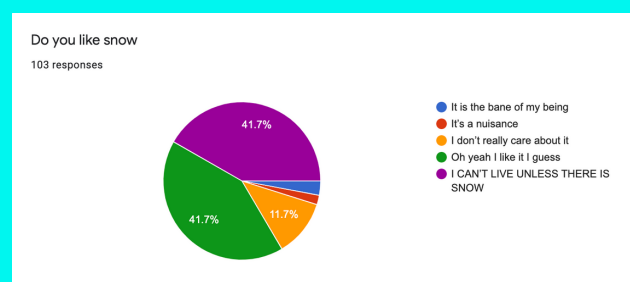
43.1% wear their jackets when it's in the 40's and below.

Preferred winter shoes?

43% said that they simply sported sneakers.

What did you do on the snow day?

More than 42.2% of people were outside, playing in the snow.



Winter Word Search

S K I I N G S N O W B O O T
S F I R E P L A C E I N G E O
L I E A R M U F F S C N Y T S
E W S B C O L T R A E S T A C
D I M L R O W S N O U G H E A
D N U I A U L O W P S H T O R
I T F Z E S A D E H A T A O F
N R B Z B A E R O W P L Y I I
G C O A T O T L Y D M W L C R
I T O R H A F R O T A S U I E
P O T D E C E M B E R I L C L
L A S N C R O V I N C L O L R
O A D H J K T C E S H O V E L
W J A N U A R Y O E S A H S T
M I T T E N S W E A T E R E L

BLIZZARD
BOOTS
COAT
COCOA
COLD
DECEMBER
EARMUFFS
FEBRUARY
FIREPLACE
FROSTY
HAT
ICE
ICICLES
JANUARY
MARCH
MITTENS
PLOW
SCARF
SHOVEL
SKIING
SLEDDING
SNOW
SWEATER
WINTER

CRAZYONKIDSLAYINGS.COM



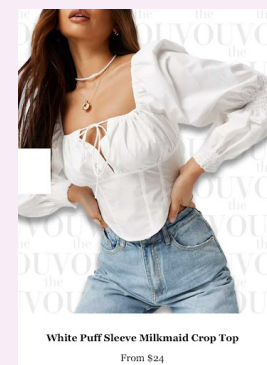
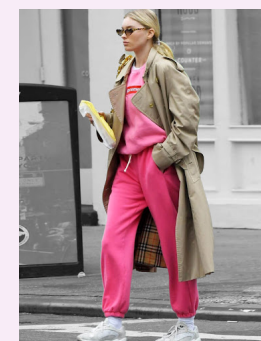
Trendy Clothes

By Emma Santiago Torres

As you may know there are thousands of different styles and aesthetics in the fashion world. The app TikTok has been responsible for bringing back “old” styles of clothing in a very unique way.

Oversized/ Baggy

A popular fashion trend is to wear baggy clothes. Things such as hoodies, straight legged pants, and jackets are a popular way of wearing baggy clothes. Puffed sleeves are also coming back thanks to the aesthetic cottage core. Oversized sweatpants are also very popular. Most of the baggy clothes have a certain feeling of comfort towards many people.



White Puff Sleeve Minkmaid Crop Top
From: S&P

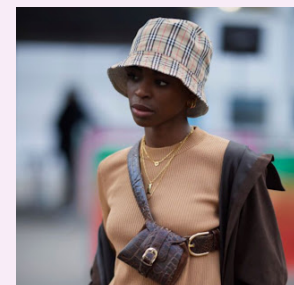
Platforms

Platforms is a specific style of shoes that has a chunky outsole. Many shoe brands have added platforms to their brand. Brands such as Nike, Filas, Converse, and Vans have (or are based on platforms. Platforms is another style that has been brought back from the past.



Bucket hats

The bucket hat has been around since the 1900s. Bucket hats Original material was made from wool felt or tweed cloth. These hats were traditionally worn by Irish farmers and fishermen as protection from the rain, because the lanolin from the unwashed (raw) wool made these hats naturally waterproof. In the 1980s, bucket hats were incorporated into street style. Bucket hats made their comeback in 2020.



Pink

The color pink has always been around. Pink started being a popular clothing color in the 1920s. Pink was originally a masculine color. Men wore pink very often with suits and jackets. In the 1940s pink became a feminine color. Now pink is both feminine and masculine. Women now wear bubblegum pink suits with paper bag pants, this way of wearing pink is a tribute to how it was worn in the 1920s.



Exotic Animals

By Daniel Goldberg

There is a great variety of creatures on our planet, some large, some small, some with incredible abilities. All these creatures should be showcased on this list, but we don't have that much time together. So I have come up with an article about three spectacular animals that I think are very special.

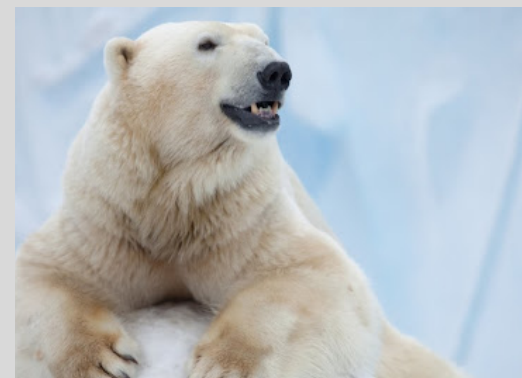
What you see here is an arctic fox. Yes, both pictures are the same animal. The arctic fox is incredible because of how different they look in different seasons. In the summer, the arctic fox has a brownish coat while in the winter, it has a snowy white coat. This dramatic change is because the environment it lives in also goes through a dramatic change every year. In the winter the ground is completely covered in snow for three months, while in the summer it is covered in bushes and other vegetation.



The next animal is the penguin. Despite the common misconception, most penguin species live in the temperate zone, on continents such as Africa, South America, and Australia. Only a few species live in such southern places such as Antarctica. But the species that do live there have some incredible adaptations. Penguins there live in enormous flocks of thousands, and all work together to keep each other safe. During the winter, temperatures drop to -95 degrees Fahrenheit(-70 degrees Celsius). To survive such temperatures, penguins need to huddle together as close as they can so that their body heat can keep them warm. Many layers of feathers and fat also keep the penguins warm. Metabolism rates slow down significantly, and the penguins get into a semi hibernating state. This state is only broken when the penguins are either threatened or they need to find food.



The last animal in this article is the polar bear. The polar bear is the largest carnivorous mammal on earth. It is able to reach a whopping weight of 1,200 pounds and can hold its breath for 20 minutes. It hunts seals by waiting for them at breathing holes and is actually classified as a marine mammal, due to the fact that most, if not all of its life is spent on sea ice. It has a bite force of 1,200 psi and is 11 feet tall standing on its hind legs. It's also the only carnivorous bear species in the world.



There are many different types of animals on this planet. They all are unique and should all be treated with the same respect. Such wonders of our planet are becoming rarer and rarer, and so now is the time to save them.

Extra Fact: The word "Arctic" means "land of bears," named because of all the polar bears found there. The word "Antarctic" means "land of no bears," because when Antarctica was discovered the environment looked similar but there were no polar bears.

Super Bowl

By Noah Hourizadeh



Section 1: 2/2/22

It's a time when no one really knows who is going to win. Nobody knows for sure, many people have their own thoughts and they all have reasons. Some people think that the Los Angeles Rams are going to win because of their star receiver Cooper Kupp and their amazing defense including cornerback Jalen Ramsey, defensive tackle Aaron Donald, and outside linebacker Von Miller. Others think that the Cincinnati Bengals are going to win because of their big 3, Joe Mixon, Joe Burrow, and Ja'Marr Chase. Although the Los Angeles Rams have a much better defense, the Bengals big 3 really stands out to people. Joe Burrow and Ja'Marr Chase have a special connection because they went to LSU together.

Section 2: 2/13/22

The room is filled with people huddling all together around the television. Some people are excited and some people scared because of their situation but that could all change in one second which might just happen. One play, nothing happens, then the next play nothing happens, but then, "Boom!" First there was a touchdown to Odell Beckham Jr. with him dancing with a moonwalk, then another, "Boom!" Touchdown to Tee Higgins with the crowd going wild and people in their homes not knowing what will happen next. Watchers of the Super Bowl are jumping up and down hoping their team will win. Food is flying across the room with the floor shaking. The feel of the room wasn't just like a normal day; it felt like the world was moving and shaking with screams across the streets. With Aaron Donald on the field thinking about his decision to retire and if he will be able to end his career in a Super Bowl win. He wants to show absolutely no mercy and is fully determined to get that Super Bowl win. He wants people to realize that he is the best defender in the league and will be for the next couple of years.

Section 3: 2/14/22

This is the time when everyone is either shocked and sad or shocked and happy. It is the time when everyone is talking about the exciting day that happened earlier. There are two different types of people when they watch the game. There is the person that just watches the commercials and halftime show, and there is the person that is locked in to the game. One thing that impacted the game in a harsh way for the Bengals was that their offensive linemen weren't able to protect Joe Burrow in any way. The Los Angeles Rams' defensive linemen got past the Bengals offensive linemen in a second; especially Aaron Donald. Speaking of Aaron Donald, he said that he might retire if they win the Super Bowl which they did. This would be a relief for other quarterbacks in the NFL. Although, this would be a huge upset for the Rams organization and defense. However, this would also give young players a bigger role on the team such as Leonard Floyd. Outside linebacker Von Miller is getting old too and is also looking for a place to stop his career and after a Super Bowl might just be the best place to do so. Bengals' quarterback Joe Burrow is looking like the future with nicknames such as, "Joe Brrrrr" and "Joe Shiesty".

Section 4: 2/15/22

It has been two days since the Super Bowl and people don't care as much as they did yesterday about their team's loss or win. However, often players are sad and they should be when they lose but Ja'marr Chase should not be very sad. He went from a player who kept on dropping the ball in preseason to a player who will probably be remembered forever. He already looks like an all time receiver in his rookie season and people will probably hope that the talent he has right now will stay with him. He was drafted 5th overall and is playing like he was drafted first; some people say that he is one of the best wide receivers to be drafted in a couple of years in the first round.

Major League Baseball Goes into a Lockout

By: Liana Kase

It's official, MLB and the MLBPA (Major League Baseball Players Association) did not agree on a new CBA (Collective Bargaining Agreement), meaning that as of midnight on December second, MLB went into lockout.

Most people think that the MLB, or Major League Baseball, is the sports league as a whole, which it is, but it is also a group of lawyers, the commissioner, Rob Manfred, and the MLB owners, who will vote on the agreement, plus voted on having a lockout unanimously. The MLB, since the owners are involved, usually support the owners' side of an argument. Because of this, a lot of players have been cheated out of money because of cheap owners. MLB doesn't really want anything to change, which is why we have our conflict.

The Players Association has three major divisions, the Players Union, the Players Choice Group Licensing Program, and the Major League Baseball Players' Trust, which is their charity. Since they are made up of former and current players, the MLBPA sides with the players. The players want the MLB to ban service time manipulation, implement a universal designated hitter, increase the salary cap, and implement a salary floor. Service time manipulation is the act of not calling up your top prospects to keep them under team control for longer, this tactic not only prevents major league ready prospects from being called up, but it also prevents them from getting better payment. The Players Association also wants to implement a salary floor because it'll keep teams a little more competitive, plus force smaller market teams to spend at least a little money, rather than spending no money at all.

MLB owners, specifically owners of small market teams, don't want the players to have their way. Why? It forces them to spend more money. Banning service time manipulation will force them to call up their top prospects, who they would owe money to. Raising the salary cap will give them more of a reason to go out for top free agents, something that small market owners don't want to do. Lastly, if they implement a salary floor, owners will be mandated to have a payroll of a certain amount, and if they don't, they will have to spend some money.

This is why we have the problem we have, MLB is not willing to compromise, and they don't like the compromises the Players Association is willing to make. Thus, the reason why MLB owners unanimously voted to enter a lockout. When will the end be? Nobody knows, and no end is in sight since the sides have had very few meetings, which leads to very little progress.

What does this mean? The lockout means that everything stops; No more signings are made, and no more trades are made. The only moves that are allowed to happen are minor league signings, international signings, and hiring new staff members. Major MLB news pages such as MLB social media pages, ESPN, and Fox are also not allowed to promote current players. This could possibly delay the release of MLB The Show 22 if problems aren't resolved, since the reveal of the cover could go under the category of promoting a player. If the players aren't allowed to go to their team's facilities, and are not allowed to have contact with one another. This rule has led to a lot of controversy since many family members are in the MLB. For instance, New York Yankee reliever Zack Britton has a brother who works in the Baltimore Orioles organization. Due to lockout rules, Britton is technically not allowed to be in contact with his brother. However, this isn't the only controversy that has happened due to the lockout.

Due to the inability of promoting players, many rosters on major websites have replaced photos of current players to a guest icon. This has become a meme in the baseball world, since many baseball players, and fans, have changed their profile photos on social media to the guest icon that has replaced players' faces on rosters. If MLB The Show is released on time, the joke is that "Joe Random" will be the cover boy, instead of Los Angeles Angels's two way star, plus reigning MVP Shohei Ohtani, or Vlad Guerrero Jr., the runner up. One of the two will most likely be the cover boy— Oh wait! I'm promoting players! I guess I should stop.

Additionally, after the MLB officially went into lockout, Rob Manfred released a letter to the baseball world, which pretty much blamed the Players Association for everything. The letter stated "This defensive lockout was necessary because the Players Association's vision for Major League Baseball would threaten the ability of most teams to be competitive. It's simply not a viable option." Clearly, from what is stated earlier in this article, MLB is clearly the one in the wrong here. Meanwhile, they're throwing the MLBPA under the bus, when everyone already knows the truth about who is really threatening the ability of most teams to be competitive. Throwing the MLBPA under the bus like that is not a viable option.

Lastly, the most recent controversy caused by MLB was firing respected reporter Ken Rosenthal from MLB Network. Rosenthal, who had expressed his opinion on Manfred, was fired for expressing his opinion on him, which was obviously full of negative things about Manfred. However, Rosenthal will still be able to report news, and will still work for Fox Sports. In response, the baseball world erupted in anger. Rosenthal was one of the better reporters in baseball, and he got punished for sharing an opinion that is shared amongst the majority of people involved in baseball. If you want to bring the Bill of Rights into the situation, Manfred technically took away Rosenthal's right to Freedom of Speech. I wonder what he'll do to punish the fans.

As of now, every aspect of Major League Baseball is a mess, and it is all their fault. If they don't come to an agreement soon, the MLB season will be put in jeopardy.



MLB Commissioner Rob Manfred

Mets Go Black Friday Shopping, and Then Some

By: Liana Kase

At first, it seemed that the Mets were not going to live up to expectations for this offseason, after letting LHP Aaron Loup and RHP Noah Syndergaard go to the Los Angeles Angels. Syndergaard's departure from the Mets wasn't that bad and was slightly controversial, since he had battled Tommy John surgery along with being injury prone in general, plus told the press that leaving New York would be a "Tough pill to swallow". However, after Loup's contract with the Angels was announced, many Mets fans started pushing new general manager Billy Eppler and owner Steve Cohen to start signing people besides minor leaguers. It might have taken longer than expected, but Mets fans' got what they requested, and in a big way too.

With the MLB CBA (Collective Bargaining Agreement) set to expire December first, many big players were expected to go fast, and Met fans did not want to wait until the last minute. On November twenty-sixth, which was Black Friday, the Mets signed three players in the span of a few hours. First 3B/2B Eduardo Escobar (He signed a two year, \$20 million contract, with a club option for 2024), which was followed by OF/1B Mark Canha (Who signed a two year, \$26.5 million contract, with a club option for 2024), and lastly, one of the bigger names on the free agent market, OF Starling Marte (Who signed a four year contract worth \$78 million).

Escobar, who made his first all-star game in 2021, batted .253 with a 109 OPS+ (The league average for OPS+ is 100). Canha, who has always been a power hitter that gets on base a lot, tends to hit for a lower batting average but has a higher on base percentage. Canha batted .231 with a .358 OBP and a 111 OPS+. Lastly, Marte is a five tool player who has won two gold gloves and has attended one all star game. Last year, Marte batted .310 with a 132 OPS+. However, the only concern with these players are their ages. All three players are in their early to mid thirties.

However, the Mets were not done yet, since they were in need of pitching, especially after Syndergaard's departure, and the chance that free agent RHP Marcus Stroman was not coming back (He ended up signing with the Chicago Cubs, after he had a social media meltdown complaining about the Mets "not wanting" to sign him), the Mets needed to bolster their starting rotation. Which they did, by signing future hall of fame pitcher Max Scherzer to a three year, \$130 million contract, the annual salary of \$43.3 million for 2022 the most for any pitcher ever.

The thirty-seven year old is now set to be a Met until his age forty season, which is the only issue. As with the other players the Mets signed, Scherzer is an older player, making it harder to give him a long term contract. However, with Scherzer showing no signs of slowing, it was a risk many teams would be willing to take. "Mad Max" will be joining a hopefully healthy Jacob deGrom at the top of the rotation, their five combined Cy Young awards and twelve combined career all star games (deGrom was chosen to be a National League all-star in 2021, but chose not to go) only adding to the fact that this one-two punch at the top of the rotation could be one of the best of all time, if not the best. Of course, what has earned Scherzer these awards has been his performance. In 2021, Scherzer boasted a 2.46 ERA and a 166 ERA+, which is well above the league average of 100. This performance not only earned him his eighth all-star game, but was also good enough for third place in the Cy Young award voting.

The Mets are the clear winners of the 2021 to 2022 offseason so far, and it seems that once the lockout is over, the Mets will continue to make many more moves. They have had their eyes on Kris Bryant, he would complete their infield and be a backup outfielder, but also a possible designated hitter if it comes to the National League next year. Other names the Mets were looking at prior to the lockout was left hander Yusei Kikuchi, and right-handed reliever Jeury's Familia, who was on the Mets last year. No one knows when the lockout will end, and whenever it does, expect the Mets to make more moves. Even with the amount of signings they have made, there is still plenty more to be done.