

THE BLUESTREAK

Volume 42, Issue 4, February 2025



The Official News Publication of the Andover High School Student Body



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Cover by Emma Jittawait
Photos courtesy of Emma Jittawait
and Addi Wissman

Photo by Emile Rivero

Phlaming Phil

Don't Mess With My Boy

DON'T mess with my boy, Punxsutawney Phil. Yeah, you heard me. My boy, Phil? Don't mess with him. Put some respect on his very long name. Every year people love to attack Phil over his predictions for the next 6 weeks. So what if he has a 35% accuracy? You try being a 139-year-old groundhog named Punxsutawney. Phil is tired, okay? Every year he has to drink "The Secret Elixir of Life" during summer. Y'know, the ancient drink that has kept Phil looking so young for so long that is hidden away in a secret cask. Also, leaving his little combination-house-pizza-hut-taco-bell is already hard for him to do once a year, so imagine how hard it is for him to do it twice a year! You can imagine the pain I felt for my boy Phil on February 2nd. As Americans anxiously awaited across the nation for Phil to exit his home and predict the weather, I only felt pity. Because no matter what Phil predicts, you people can't seem to cut him some slack. Yet, unfazed by all his haters, Phil marched his way out of his hut, peaked his fat, rotund face out of his house and then...saw his shadow... and then cowarded back... But hey, winter is coming! And don't act like that upsets you. Doesn't this give you more time to lock in for your "winter arc?" If you dislike Phil's prediction, you should give him some empathy. It's his first time doing Groundhog Day as a dad. Phyllis, his wife, JUST gave birth to their pack of groundhog kids. So who can blame Phil for wanting to spend time with his kids inside his house? The next time you want to angrily yell at my boy Phil for his prediction, remember that he has a family. He has kids. How would you feel if someone yelled at your father for no other reason than him being terrified of his own shadow? In short, respect my boy Punxsutawney Phil.

And that's hot,

Sean Mansoor and Airryn Powell



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.....Letter From the Editor.....

Happy Valentines Day Andover!

Love is in the air and Bluestreaks are in the hands of AHS students. This issue is packed with current events including the recent inauguration, the Los Angeles fires, and Black History Month. The Bluestreak staff also featured LLS team Putting the Hurt on Cancer on pages 22-23, showing the impact our own peers have made.

If you are in the mood to celebrate Valentines Day, turn to pages 10-11 and the back page for fun games and quizzes. On pages 26 and 27 feature amazing podcasts to listen to and an overview of the Grammys.

P.S. The answers to the game on the back of the issue are to the right!

Addi Wissman

Spanagram: Connections:

- | | |
|------------|-----------------------------|
| • Orchid | ___ LOVE or LOVE ___ |
| • Caration | • puppy, true, story, |
| • Anemone | language |
| • Rose | Things that are red (read) |
| • Tulip | • The Bluestreak, rubies, |
| | strawberries, roses |
| | From Romeo and Juliet |
| | • nurse, poison, fued, ball |
| | Synonms for love |

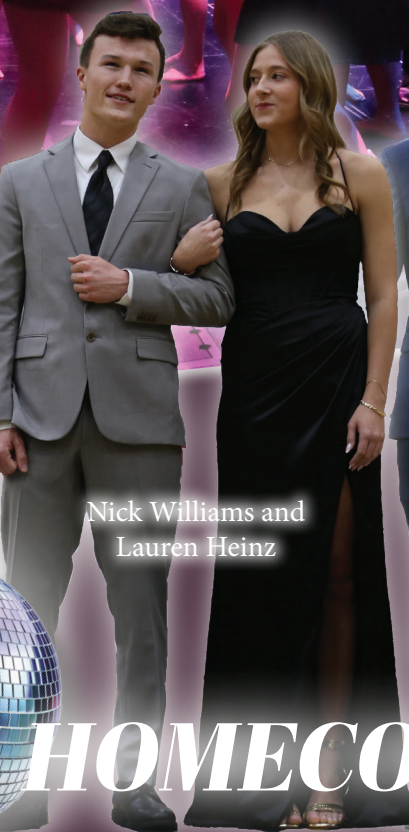
D I S C O



Photos by Emma
Jittawait and Sean
Mansoor



BALL



Nick Williams and
Lauren Heinz



Tate Hutchinsont and
Airryn Powell



Tanner Woolston and
Kenzy Macbeth



Josh Kim and
Gabby Walker

HOMEcoming COURT



LOS ANGELES FIRES

Within the past month, the state of California has been hit with multiple destructive wildfires, causing unimaginable damage to cities, neighborhoods, and once-outstanding nature. The Palisades Fire, the first widespread fire of the year, began its disastrous route on January 7, 2025 in the Pacific Palisades. The sky raining ash and illuminating a terrifying orange, people living within miles were strictly told to evacuate. According to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, the powerful burning grew to 23,448 acres and was 90% contained. Unfortunately, the fire swept through approximately 7,000

buildings and homes. The Eaton and Hughes Fire were quick to follow, causing more pain for those living in the Los Angeles and Castaic Lake area. Both of them added more than 10,000 acres each of destroyed land. Throughout all of the heartache, Californians found ways to support one another. Countless families and animals were welcomed into shelters all over California, saving countless lives. Firefighters and first responders are being thanked for their bravery in schools and online. Many donation collection sites began turning people away because they had hit their capacity. You can donate monetarily by visiting the California Fire Foundation or other reliable sites.

LA FIRES BY THE NUMBERS
more than
40,000 acres
burned, **12,300**
structures
destroyed, and
evacuation
orders and
warnings have
been given out
to over
200,000
residents
U.S. Geological Survey
January 15, 2025

"Thanks to our partners in the legislature, we're providing over \$2.5 billion in immediate relief – expediting initial firestorm response and recovery efforts."

- Governor Gavin Newsom



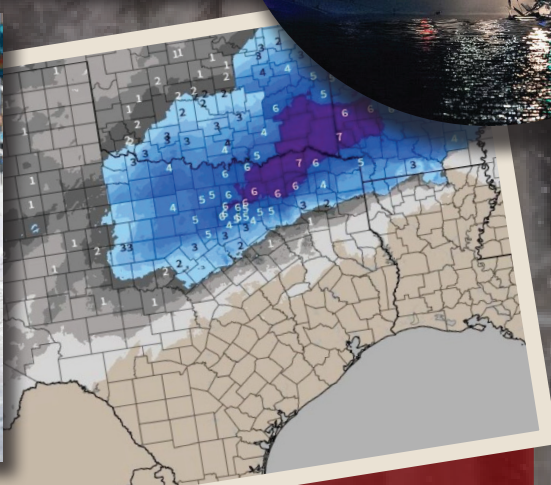


DC PLANE CRASH

After departing from Wichita on January 29 at approximately 5:00pm, Flight 5342 unexpectedly collided with an Army Black Hawk helicopter in Washington, D.C. resulting in mass devastation. This collision was the nation's first major commercial airline crash since 2009, according to ABC News. Due to the shock and heartbreak felt across the United States, the passengers' lives are being honored in various ways as family and friends heal from this unexpected loss.

/09/2025

▶ BACK/NEXT ▼ VOLUME



RECORD BREAKING SNOWSTORMS

After several cancelled school days, you may have noticed an extreme snowfall and freezing ice outside your own window, but did you know that these chilling storms would hit Southern states as well? Although it is hard to believe, US states that usually see high temperatures year round saw record breaking snowfall. In fact, according to ABC News, some cities saw the most flurries that have fallen within the last 130 years.

Florida measured 9.8 inches of snow in some areas, covering beaches with stretches of a white wonderland. Baton Rouge, Louisiana saw 7.6 and New Orleans discovered that the storm had brought in the most snow since 1895. An all-time high of 7.5 inches was delivered to the citizens of Mobile, Alabama and the same thing happened in Beaumont, Texas, with 5.2 inches. The peculiar ice and flakes, although a beautiful oddity, caused dangerous



Photos Courtesy of Wassim Cornet, Shutterstock, Sean O'Key, Bryon Manley, Matt Stiles, CNN, Ethan Swope, The Independent, David Swanson, Josh Edelson, The Palm Beach Post, Montinique Monroe, National Weather Service, Andrew Harnik, and Rueters, US Geological Survey

and hazardous roads, closed schools, and even restricted airlines.





FIRST 4 WEEKS IN THE WHITE HOUSE

1. President Donald Trump signed an unprecedented number of executive orders on his first day in office.

2. Within his first 100 hours, President Trump has brought many new investment opportunities to the U.S. Partnering with Softbank CEO Masayoshi Son, Oracle co-founder Larry Ellison and OpenAI CEO Sam Altman, Trump begins a venture for a new AI infrastructure project. Additionally, through the next four years, Saudi Arabia plans to invest \$600 billion in the United States.

3. The border has been secured and numerous arrests of illegal immigrants have been made with military assistance. CBP One was shut down and deportation flights began.

4. Additionally, an executive order was signed for workers to come to work in the office. This prevents people from working remotely.

5. Offshore drilling will open because of another executive order. Drilling will foster energy exploration offshore and in Alaska.

6. Trump has required that the government standardize using two genders on official documents like passports, Global Entry cards, and Visas.

7. Mount McKinley, formerly named for William McKinley, was renamed for the second time by Trump back to Mount McKinley after the Obama Administration changed to its native name of Denali.

8. Trump has ordered that flags are flown full-staff on Inauguration Day, contradicting Biden's order to fly flags half-staff in memory of Jimmy Carter.

Photo from The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Photo from U.S. Virtual Embassies to Comoros

Photo from WHHY PBS



One of the most prominent issues today, the TikTok ban has sparked controversy across the globe. Since the start of his presidency, President Donald Trump has been a key figure in the ban. On January 19, the Protecting Americans from Foreign Adversary Controlled Applications Act went into power, essentially making it unlawful to use TikTok in the US until Chinese control is split. The prohibitions of this act go into full effect 270 days after January 19. In the status quo, because of Chinese law, ByteDance, TikTok's Chinese operated parent company, can share its data including that of 170 million users in the US alone to assist the Chinese government. Sharing of data has been a concern of the US government for years, leading to numerous attempts to better the situation, including Trump's August 2020 executive order during his first presidential term. In the following two years during the Biden Administration, efforts by ByteDance to find an agreement failed to fully address the concerns of the US government. Synonymous with the ability of a president to grant an extension of the Act up to 90 days, Trump signed an executive order to give TikTok 75 more days to comply with the law or else the law banning TikTok would go into effect. ByteDance has countered by saying that suppressing expression, which is what the Act would do, is a violation of the First Amendment. Additionally opposers of the Act have proposed alternatives that ultimately would not be better than the Act itself or ensure total security. Because this case of possible First Amendment violation is one of national security, it has proven to be an entirely different situation. However, there is speculation that TikTok will become a joint venture between the United States and ByteDance.

THE TikTok BAN

What does it mean?

JIMMY CARTER'S LEGACY

After the tragic death of Jimmy Carter on December 29, the country has united to honor his memory. Former President Jimmy Carter was one of the most revered and respected presidents whose legacy reached far beyond his term. The Carter Center reports that while acting as the 39th President from 1977-1981, Jimmy Carter made significant advances in foreign policy with relations between the U.S. and China, as well as peace with Egypt and Israel. Additionally, his administration included a new Departments of Education and Energy along with environmental legislation that boosted the National Park System to protect wilderness areas. Outside of his presidential career, Carter was an avid author who published thirty-two books over decades. Rosalynn and Jimmy Carter also established the nonprofit Carter Center to address policy issues after Jimmy Carter became University Distinguished Professor at Emory University in 1982. Carter was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2002.

On Sunday, December 29, 2024, Jimmy Carter passed away in his home. NPR detailed events following his death. Carter was first transported to the Capitol from his house in Atlanta. The weekend following, Carter's casket was paid respect to by thousands of people at the Carter Center. On Tuesday afternoon, a ceremony was held at the Capitol that was attended by Congress members, Supreme Court members and members of Carter's family. Carter was then honored at the US Navy Memorial for his time as a lieutenant and again, many members of the public paid their respects. His funeral procession in Washington matched his inaugural route in 1977. Finally, his remains were returned to Georgia before finally resting at his home again.



Photo From WUOX91.9FM

VALENTINE'S DAY

The history of Valentine's Day is a mystery to all. The day is named after a Catholic Saint; however, there were at least three different St. Valentine's and they were all martyrs. As the story goes, St. Valentine was a Roman priest who was targeted during the prosecution of Christians in the year 270. Another version of St. Valentine was known as a bishop in Terni, Italy. Although he was removed from the General Roman Calendar due to lack of information on him, he's still recognized as a saint in the church. St. Valentine was known for being the patron of lovers as he married couples against the emperor's will. Now, Valentine's Day is celebrated around the world on February 14, St. Valentine's Feast Day. Friends and lovers alike celebrate by gifting chocolates to flowers to people that are important to them.

A INS

- Custom Valentine Cards
- Pipe cleaner flowers
- DIY gifts
- Decorating Valentine's Day cookies
- Heart-shaped pizzas
- Candy salads
- Vintage heart cakes
- Galentine's parties
- Custom playing card frames



A OUTS

- Asking someone to be your valentine in January
- "Claiming" a guy that doesn't like you
- Cringy Valentine's day captions
- Kiss hoodies
- Ditching your friends for your partner
- Putting your boyfriend's initial on your nails



WHO'S YOUR **CELEBRITY** VALENTINE?

PICK A MILKSHAKE.

A) OREO B) VANILLA C) COOKIE DOUGH D) STRAWBERRY SHAKE

PICK A TRAVEL DESTINATION.

A) ITALY B) PARIS, FRANCE C) BORA BORA D) CANADA

PICK YOUR IDEAL FIRST DATE.

A) ANIMAL SHELTER B) MOVIE THEATER C) SMALL CAFE D) PICNIC

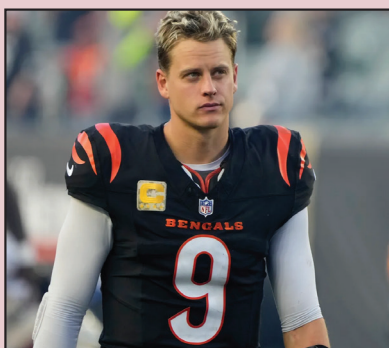
PICK A COLOR.

A) BLUE B) YELLOW C) PINK D) RED

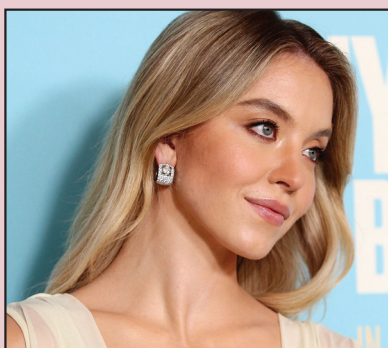
WHICH CELEBRITY ARE YOUR CLOSEST TO?

JOE BURROW SYDNEY SWEENEY DREW STARKEY

MEGAN FOX



ADBD



DCAC



CADA



BBCB

Taking It All

Averie Mountain's National Pageant Debut

Miss Kansas Teen, Averie Mountain, traveled to represent Kansas in the Miss America Teen Pageant over Christmas Break. Averie, a freshman at Andover High School, has been competing in pageantry since the age of four. Averie has been the recipient of many accolades having already received a full ride scholarship to the University of Alabama and 10,000 dollars in additional scholarships.

Many think all it takes to win a pageant is beauty, but that couldn't be farther from the truth. Averie shares, "Miss America is a scholarship program that focuses on leadership, talent, service, and intelligence. It's not just about wearing a crown; it's about making a difference." This art form isn't easy either, Averie mentioned that it requires a lot of sacrifice, but assured that it is worth it because of the experience, friendship, and lessons.

Additionally, Averie created a platform at the age of six, Just a Kid Like Me, that educates others about children with additional needs as well as the importance of unconditional love. When she was twelve, she launched the first camp which taught her peers about inclusion and the importance of advocating. "My camps go beyond fun--they break barriers, foster friendships,

and impact entire families," she commented. Averie has expanded the camps throughout the Midwest reaching as far as Kansas City and Oklahoma. "...I'm proving that age is no limit to leadership and creating a world where every child feels free to be just a kid like me."

To be ready for competition, Averie prepares for anything from interview questions, her talent, keeping up with current events, to staying physically and mentally strong. Along with this, Averie spends time refining her Just a Kid Like Me platform.

When asked what it was like to compete for Kansas Averie reflects, "It's a mix of excitement, nerves, and a lot of hard work, but it's so rewarding," she continues, "Representing Kansas on that stage is a huge honor, and it's a moment I'll never forget."

As for anyone else who shares similar dreams, Averie offers some advice: "Go for it! Prepare as much you can, be confident in yourself, and stay true to who you are. Pageantry isn't just about looking the part--it's about having a purpose, being kind and working hard. Find a platform or cause you're passionate about and use your voice to make an impact."

Later in life, Averie wants to pursue Miss America as an

adult, sharing that it has been a lifelong dream. But for now, Averie divides her time between competitive cheer, school, and pageant work — whether practicing or building her platform. Hopefully, someday we will see Averie on the Miss America stage!



ROMCOMS: *Worth the Watch*



Hi Trojans! It's Valentine's season — aka the best time to watch a good romcom. Romcoms are the best genre of movie and worth every bit of the hype. I've heard many complaints from people about how they're "all the same" or just plain "boring." While this may be true for some Hallmark movies, if you believe this about romcoms in general, you have been neglecting some of the best movies out there.

Firstly, romcoms are the perfect mix of exactly what you would like to see on a movie night. Of course, they have romance and comedy, but they can also include tear-jerking moments and suspense. This genre is very versatile — so don't rule it out just yet! In romcoms, there is nothing that pops out to scare you. There is no extreme violence or gory scenes. They are kept very lighthearted so the watcher can enjoy them with ease. You feel the excitement of the plot, the humor of hilarious actors, and the comfort of a happy ending without the grossness of horror movies or monotony of some action movies. Don't get me wrong, some action definitely spices up the plot, but nonstop brawls through out a movie can get boring quickly. After a certain amount of fight scenes, you begin to ask yourself, "what is the plot again?" In romcoms the scenes are funny, cute, maybe even simple, but rarely boring. Even though you know that the characters will inevitably end up together, that fact does not have to subtract from the plot. In contrast, it heightens the experience of watching it. You can sit safely on your couch and watch all the chaos ensue in the storyline while being assured that all will be perfect in the end. The suspense leading up to them finally realizing their fate makes the movies so enjoyable to watch. There is always a happy ending — in

both the movie and for your movie night.

So, where are you supposed to find these amazing movies? Look no further! Here are some recommendations for some of the best romcoms.

Firstly, *How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days*. This one is a classic; it has a very innovative plot and is downright hilarious. In this movie, a journalist is trying to write a column about how to lose a guy in 10 days. Little does she know the guy that she chooses is trying to win a bet that he can make her fall in love in 10 days. The girl, Andie Anderson, does the most hilarious things to try to get the guy to not like her, meanwhile the guy is kicking himself while trying to keep her for the bet. The scenes make you crack up every time you watch it. If you are a comedy lover, this one is definitely for you.

27 Dresses is another bomb romcom. It tells the story of a woman who has been a bridesmaid in an unusually large number of weddings. When her sister gets engaged, they have many conflicting opinions about the day — one being the man at the altar. *27 dresses* has a comical and charming plot that makes it a must-watch.

Endearing would be the word I would use to describe the romcom *While you Were Sleeping*. It's about a woman named Lucy, played by Sandra Bullock, who pretends to be the fiancé of a man in a coma. She winds up falling for an unsuspected character, and things are complicated when the man wakes up. In a whirlwind of events, Lucy has to realize what true love really is in her life. Also, this movie is set around Christmas time, so it is the perfect winter watch.

In conclusion, I encourage everyone to try at least one of these movies- who knows, it may be your new favorite!



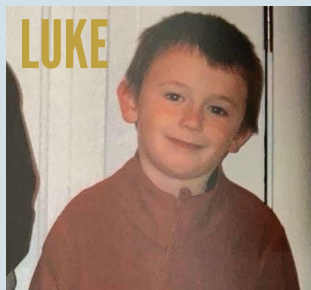
73, 01, 04

Photo by Addi Wissman, Sr.

[illegible]



SENIOR WRESTLING



LUKE

Luke Potter has been a committed wrestler for three and half years and plans to wrestle for MR Community College. Being about half way through the season Potter plans to continue his hard work and “sell at state.”

Throughout these years many memories were made, when asked his favorite memory Potter replied:

“Hitting a meat cable move in my state finals match and spending time with Coach Thrash.”



TATE

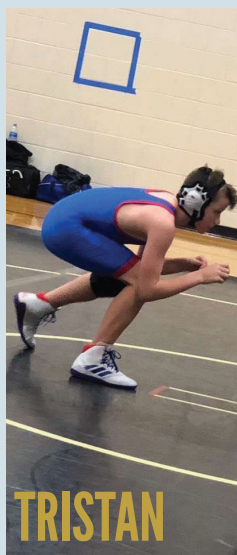
Tate Hutchinson has dedicated fourteen years of his life to wrestling. Although he has spent so much time wrestling he plans to end his career after highschool. Tate’s favorite part about his sport is the one-on-one aspect that it brings. No one can take credit or the blame except the wrestler himself.

When Tate was asked about one of his best wrestling memories he stated:

“It’s hard to pick a best memory from wrestling. Being with those guys for so long you have so many amazing and funny memories. If I had to pick one, I would say when we went to Brad Trimmell’s house and bleached our hair together.”

Thirteen Years of Tristan Ring’s life has been filled with wrestling. After many years of memories, some of his favorites include, junior year state tournament, and all of the team dinners after a long day of wrestling. Tristan is now committed to Friends University and plans to work hard for the rest of the season.

When asked his favorite part about his sport Tristan responded:
“Keeps me in shape and when I’m not wrestling I feel lazy.”

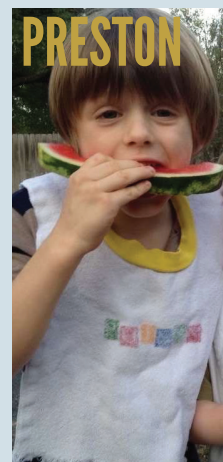


TRISTAN

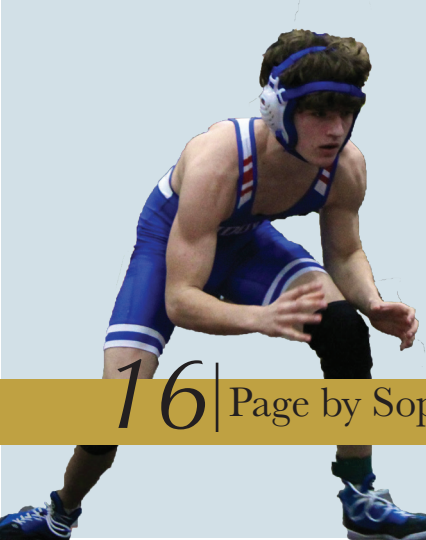
Preston Lee has spent six years of his life wrestling and doesn’t plan on doing it in college. Reflecting on his highschool career Preston’s favorite wrestling memory is going to team dinners after the meets.

When asked what his favorite thing about his sport is he replied

“The people.”



PRESTON



Logan

Logan Warkentine has devoted eleven years of his life to wrestling and doesn’t plan on continuing into college. Logan’s favorite wrestling memory was the 2024 state tournament.

When asked his plans for the remainder of the season Logan replied:

“To wrestle every match like it’s my last and enjoy every last moment.”



DEBATE

This year's debate topic is: The United States federal government should significantly strengthen its protection of domestic intellectual property rights in copyrights, patents, and/or trademarks. There are different tournaments that Andover's debate team competes at during the year. The three big ones are districts, state, and nationals.

We had two teams compete at the Sunflower District Debate National Qualifying Tournament which occurred on Friday, December 13th - Saturday, December 14th. One of the teams, consisting of Allison de la Garza and Preston Mallet, broke into the final round. They qualified for the National Speech and Debate Tournament and won the district tournament with a win-loss record of 14-1.

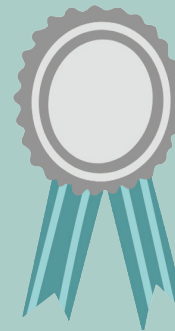
The state tournament was held at Garden City High School on Friday, January 17th - Saturday, January 18th. Here we had one team compete at the KSHSAA 5A 2 Speaker State Championship. This team consisted of Preston Mallett and Sean Mansoor. In the preliminary rounds they had a win-loss record of 5-1. They won both their Quarters and Semis round and ended up getting second place in finals. This is the farthest that Mr. Harris, AHS's debate coach, has had anyone go while he has coached debate.

The Andover High School debate team will attend the 100th National Speech and Debate Association Tournament in Des Moines, Iowa on June 15-20. Preston and Allison are the first team to qualify for this tournament as the district tournament. The district tournament for Congressional Debate, Lincoln-Douglas Debate, Public Forum Debate, and Individual Speaking Events has not happened yet.



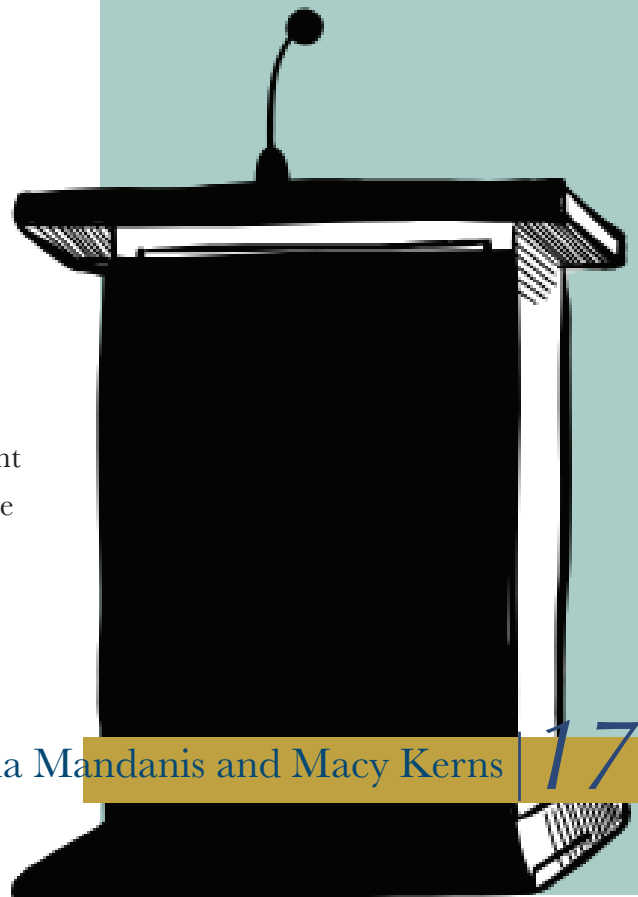
DISTRICT

Allison
De Garza,
Preston
Mallet



STATE

Sean
Mansoor,
Preston
Mallet



Cancel Culture



TROJAN BLUESTREAK

100 posts 1M followers 13 following

trojanbluestreak just posted

trojanbluestreak ...

noticeable because of their platform on social media, we see the practice in cyber bullying, relationships, and people in a community. Canceling celebrities is a popular movement today. A few examples of canceling celebrities include Blake Lively, James Charles and Ellen Degeneres. Companies also get canceled like Aunt Jemima, which is now Pearl Milling Company, because there was a notion that the use of an African American woman as advertisement was discriminatory. Balenciaga made global headlines with its campaign featuring young children and adding sexual implications. These are prime examples of the public forcing celebrities or companies to take accountability for their actions, and possibly even prevent them from continuing their work.

Cancel Culture is continuing to rise and will continue to the more we look at our screens. As news breaks and society catches wind of new scandals, Cancel Culture could possibly worsen, or better if you believe in the practice that has made such an impact. Are we avoiding facts, or are we pushing away "corruption" ?



add a comment



What is Cancel Culture and What is its Impact on Society?

The spike in use of social media was followed with the rise of Cancel Culture. However, the question is, is the practice beneficial or like social media - causing many issues but still used? The contrasting sides of the issue are seen in two different ways: Cancel Culture is harsh and unfair punishment, or the act is a just way to keep people accountable. One argument asked by researchers is if Cancel Culture is pointed towards erasing history. In the last 20 years, anger in America has risen exponentially and agitation with each other overrides reason. The idea that canceling a celebrity for a lawsuit against them or their brand deal can be drawn back to the unrest Americans feel. Although there are many contrasting views of Cancel Culture, it is truly up to each individual to decide how they view Cancel Culture. The ironic thing is that people, even those who disagree with Cancel Culture, use the practice more often than they think.

Despite "Cancel Culture" being thought of as a new aspect of society, it has recently resurfaced and has taken a new form in the 21st century. Some think it is a monster rearing its ugly head again, while others think of it as the angel on societies' shoulders, keeping people accountable. In the 1980s, the slang term "cancel" meant to break up with someone or end a

relationship. As the term grew, society started applying it to the idea that we must "cancel" someone for a misdeed. TV shows and movies started to coin the term more in the late 20th century and early 21st century.

BLOCK



The Pew Research Center did multiple studies pinpointing the demographics of Cancel Culture. In a 2020 study, the Pew Center found that 44% of Americans had heard about Cancel Culture a fair amount. To further divide that group, they saw that Republicans tended to see the practice as unfair punishment, whereas Democrats thought it was a good way to keep people accountable for their actions. More conservative Republicans believed even more that Cancel Culture was society being rash and quick to judge. Alongside that, the older the bystander is, the less likely they are to know about Cancel Culture, and believe it is unfair to those accused. Women also knew more about Cancel Culture than men. One thing to keep in mind is that not only celebrities are affected by Cancel Culture. Despite them being more



BEAMING BASKETS

A detailed look into the seasons of OJ Elite, Breakfast Club Elite, and the '96 Bulls and their YMCA season's success

This year's YMCA high school boys basketball season kicked off with a banger. Highlighting one of the inaugural games, Breakfast Club Elite vs OJ Elite was a smashing success and great introduction to the fast-paced season. The two rivals, both teams consisting of junior boys, clashed to open the season on January 19th, and again in the regular season finale on February 10th. BCE had a dominant win in game one, and yet, OJE bested their rivals in the final game of the season in their

second matchup.

Going up a class are the '96 Bulls, who host a team full of seniors in an attempt to run it back for a championship one last time. Trey Kelly, or Coach K, leads them on the sideline, instilling grit and dedication in each and every player. Coach K stated, "I love this team

and the hard work they put in."

By far the most memorable moment from OJ Elite's season was their triple overtime thriller. Down double digits at halftime, Ben Reynolds and Griffin Baker led OJE to come back and force overtime. From then, the scoreboard remained still, both teams getting stop after stop on defense during the one minute periods. Eventually, during the third overtime, OJE had the ball with 23 seconds left. With the clock ticking down, they were saving time for one last shot. With 3 seconds left, Zack Pai sent a three pointer up. It rattled in, giving OJE their first win of the season after starting 0-3. Pai stated that when the ball left his hands, "I was feeling like the goat. I knew I was gonna bang it."



1.) Say 'cheese!' Moments after Zack Pai's walkoff three-pointer in triple overtime, OJ Elite poses after getting their first win of the season.

2.) To the rim! Gatlin Tilson drives for a layup in Breakfast Club Elite's comeback win week 2.

3.) Coach Trey Kelly watches as his team takes the dub! *Photos by Emile Rivero*



The UDA college nationals is an important event for both dance teams that compete and their fans. Watching this competition is especially exciting for viewers that love the art and sport of dance. UDA has even been deemed “the dance Superbowl”. Some dancers make an event out of it by organizing watch parties with their friends. The reason this specific competition is such a big deal for viewers is because the talent that is displayed in the team’s routines is extremely impressive. The teams are made up of the best dancers in the nation so the athleticism that is exhibited is top-notch. Jade Ressel, a competitive dancer and member of the AHS dance team, says, “UDA nationals is such a big deal for dancers to watch because it highlights the amount of work dancers put in at a competitive level. Dancers don’t get the credit they deserve for the hard work that the sport takes, so being able to watch these college athletes compete and be rewarded for the endless hours of practicing they do for these dances is a huge deal to see.”

COLLEGE NATIONAL CH



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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

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THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY



E DANCE CHAMPIONSHIPS

In the UDA nationals, there are 4 main genres of dance: Jazz, Pom, Hip-hop, and Game Day. In these categories, the dancers are judged on proper technical execution, control, musical interpretation, team uniformity, creativity, visual effectiveness, staging, school spirit and athleticism. Each school is competing against other schools in their division (D1A, D1, and open) and in their genre of dance. In Division 1A jazz, Ohio State University placed first. 2nd place was the University of Minnesota, and 2nd runner up was the University of Michigan. In Division 1A Pom, the University of Minnesota took first place, with Ohio State University taking 2nd, and University of Tennessee taking 3rd. In the hip hop category, the University of Nevada Las Vegas placed first, San Diego State University placed 2nd, and University of Central Florida placed 3rd. For the game day category, University of Nevada-Las Vegas again took first place.



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BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Every February, people around the world celebrate Black History Month: a month of paying tribute to the generations of African Americans who have fought with adversity and for power. Beginning in 1926, people celebrated Negro History Week during the second week of February each year; however, President Gerald Ford decided to change that. He stated, "Seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of Black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history." Therefore, in 1976, February was appointed as Black History Month and since then, every US president has also designated February as a month of celebration and honor. Each year there is a different theme to honor the accomplishments of African Americans. The 2025 theme is "African Americans and Labor," which highlights the numerous and intense ways that the hard work of African Americans has helped shape our country's history.



BARACK OBAMA
First African American President of the United States



ROSA PARKS

Rosa Louise McCauley Parks was a famous American activist in the civil rights movement. She is commonly known for her crucial and brave role in the Montgomery bus boycott. The Montgomery bus boycott introduced the struggle for equality when Parks refused to give up her seat on a city bus in Montgomery, Alabama to a white man. Because of her refusal, she was arrested and spent a couple of hours in jail. Shortly after that, the Montgomery Bus Boycott was launched by over 17,000 black citizens.

Lunar New Year

Lunar New Year, a well-known celebration in Asian culture, celebrates the beginning of a new year according to the Lunar calendar. This celebration focuses on removing bad luck and bringing in all that is good. A different animal recognizes each year through a twelve-year cycle, this year is the Year of the Snake.

Symbolizing intelligence, mystery and renewal, the snake represents a time of transformation, wisdom, and personal growth. In 2025, the Wood Snake will bring new opportunities for growth and change.

Lion Dance Presented by the Asian Cultrual Club



Photos by Emile Rivero



Putting the HURT on Cancer has a team of twenty-six committed friends and family members who are partnering with them on this journey. Their team has a goal of raising \$50,000, but as individuals, team members have the goal of raising \$1,500, which will get them a seat at the Grand Finale celebration to wrap up the campaign held on March 8.

ADDIE DORAH, 12

Why did you join Maverick & Avery in their campaign?

I joined Mav and Avery in the campaign because, over the past year, I have watched their strength through their dad's diagnosis. It has been so inspiring to watch not only their strength but their entire family and the people surrounding them coming together to make the best out of an awful situation.

What has been significant to you during the campaign?

Watching how so many people come together to fight for one result.



TYLER OSBURN, 10

Why did you join Maverick & Avery in their campaign?

I joined their campaign to support them in their fundraising efforts to support those struggling with blood cancer.

What have you enjoyed about the campaign?

Watching people come together to help support a great cause. We have a great crowd of supporters!



EVERY HURT, 10

Why did you do it?

I did this because I wanted to help other people who went through the same thing as we did. Some people don't have the same support as we did, so we want to bring awareness and support. We want to help put an end to blood cancers.

How did you feel when Avery Vogt nominated you?

After being asked I did not really know much about LLS so I was a little nervous but I am so grateful that I decided to be a part of it.

What impact do you hope to make?

I hope that people become more aware of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, and hope I can expand people's knowledge of





PUTTING THE HURT

On Cancer

Maverick and Avery Hurt, an AHS brother and sister duo, have teamed up to create a Leukemia & Lymphoma Society 2025 Student Visionaries of the Year campaign called “Putting the HURT on Cancer.” Student Visionaries is a seven-week long campaign, from January 16, 2025 to March 8, 2025, with teams all across Wichita and surrounding areas, dedicated to raising funds to help fight blood cancers. All money raised by their team goes towards LLS, the largest nonprofit dedicated to creating a world without blood cancers.

On January 26, 2024, Jeremy Hurt, Maverick and Avery’s dad, was diagnosed with non-Hodgkins lymphoma. Their family was scared and nervous about the future. Seeing their dad go through the difficult treatment was not easy. Luckily, they had a village around them that was supporting and praying for their family. After months of chemotherapy and immunotherapy treatments, their dad finally got to ring the bell and announce that he was in remission. The Hurtses’ team is particularly passionate about Patient Support, in honor of their dad. Patient Support stood out to them the most because of the unending support they received from their friends and family after their dad was diagnosed. Although they received great support, they realized that not everyone does, so they wanted to highlight that.



STRETCH GOAL

76K

RED ROBIN – FEB 20

WE RIDE – FEB 22

ZUMBA – MARCH 1

CHICKEN N PICKLE – MARCH 4

BINGO NIGHT – MARCH 6

LOOK OUT FOR MORE EVENTS AT

INSTAGRAM AND FACEBOOK:

@PUTTINGTHEHURTONCANCER

Photos courtesy of Avery Hurt

BROOKE & CONNOR

make a podcast



Brooke [Averick] and Connor [Wood] *Make A Podcast*, otherwise known as B&CMAP, is a comedy podcast that breaks down pop culture news with jokes and witty humor. Brooke and Connor give hot-takes as they discuss life, their interesting encounters and their favorite celebrities. The two are known for their chemistry and banter, making this podcast easy to jump in to and enjoy.



Brittany Broski, a hilarious TikTok sensation, created *The Broski Report* to discuss living authentically and loving things loudly. She covers her obsessions, everyday topics and attractive males, but wants listeners to know that it is okay to express themselves. Broski is called “Fearless Leader” by her loyal listeners, and she has an increasingly popular YouTube channel where celebrities “compete” for membership in her “kingdom.”



While the previous podcasts have shown the power of entertainment, Joe Rogan takes the power of podcasts to a new level. In October of last year, during the height of election season, President Trump joined Rogan for a three hour, one-on-one interview. The offer was also extended to candidate Kamala Harris but was declined. With Rogan’s audience made up primarily of young men, Trump has endorsed him as being a powerhouse for his victory.

POPULAR PODCASTS

They're Everywhere and Anywhere!



In the past decade, American culture has witnessed the rise of podcasts. Forbes found that 67% of Americans listen to some type of podcast, doubling the percentage from a decade prior. Let us help you find one that you will enjoy listening to anywhere!

Dubbed “Football’s funniest family duo,” Jason and Travis Kelce launched their podcast *New Heights* in 2022. The Kelce brothers commentate over sports action, family life and pressing questions. Both brothers--NFL stars--faced off in Superbowl LVII with Travis leading the Chiefs to victory in the “Kelce Bowl.” Kylie Kelce, Jason’s wife, has also taken to podcasts as she debuted her show “*Not Gonna Lie*” last year.

Victoria Garrick Browne created *Real Pod* after playing D1 volleyball with mental illness. Her goal: to help athletes know that they are not alone by talking about topics left out of mainstream media. She touches listeners’ hearts whether she is discussing athlete mental health awareness, breaking stereotypes surrounding body-image or welcoming guests to share their own story.





GLAM BOT or FLOP



hayley kalili



kai cenat

the recording academy's **GRAMMY** 67th annual **AWARDS**

The Grammys, airing February 2, sparked mass controversy online. Of the Big Four categories, Kendrick Lamar took home both Song and Record of the Year for "Not Like Us." Beyoncé walked away with her first Album of the Year win for Cowboy Carter, and Best New Artist was awarded to Chappell Roan.



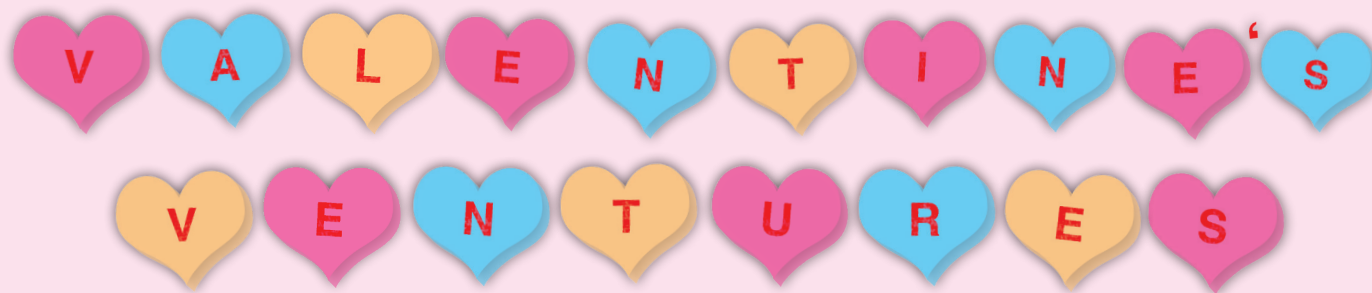
ALBUM of the YEAR

Album of the Year is known to be the most infamous award. The bloodbath consisted of Cowboy Carter, Short n' Sweet, The Tortured Poets Department, The Rise and Fall of a Midwest Princess, Brat, Hit Me Hard and Soft, New Blue Sun, and Djesse Vol. 4. Last year was arguably one of the best years of music this generation has seen, making it almost impossible to choose a winner when so many artists released their best work. Beyoncé's victory has upset many viewers as they hoped to see their favorite singers win.

US Weekly, Billboard, Harper's Bizarre, Threads, NBC News, People Magazine, Rolling Stone, Chappell Roan, Pitchfork, Official Charts.com, Last FM, Essence Magazine



winner:
cowboy carter
- beyoncé



Circle 5 words hidden within the 8x6 letter grid. Each solution word is related to the Valentine's Day theme.

Theme: **BOUQUET FOR MY VALENTINE**

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| R | H | I | A | T | O | N | V |
| O | C | D | N | I | T | N | A |
| S | R | C | R | I | R | E | L |
| N | E | E | A | N | E | O | E |
| O | W | O | L | F | S | S | T |
| M | E | N | A | P | I | L | U |

CONNECTIONS

Make 4 groups of 4!

| | | | |
|--------------|----------|------------|----------------|
| ROSES | ZERO | STORY | POISON |
| STRAWBERRIES | LANGUAGE | DEAR | PUPPY |
| FEUD | ENJOY | BALL | THE BLUESTREAK |
| RUBIES | TRUE | CONNECTION | NURSE |