The Emerald Press 🏹



April 17, 2025

Spring Break!!

Vol. VIII/Issue 28

## School News

### HCS Students Mourn the Loss of YouTube By Silas Campbell

This is an article interview with Mr. Rogers about why YouTube and other Google products/apps/services are blocked on the school computers for anyone under 18. I asked him these questions, and he had to say.

The first question I asked was, "Why is YouTube blocked?" He said, "YouTube is prohibited because New York State passed security rules to keep students safe. The name of the rule is Ed. Law 2D. Google announced that it would abide by a rule with its service apps like Google Slides and Google Docs, but it would not abide by the rule with the products people use, such as Google Maps, Google Search, and YouTube. As of right now, people under the age of 18 cannot use Google Play app service products on a school-monitored device.

The next thing I asked was, "Can you unblock YouTube?" He said, "I cannot enable YouTube because then I would disobey the law."

Then I asked him, "What specific features are blocked?" He said, "Google Arts and Culture, Blogger, Google Maps, News, Photos, Translate, and YouTube. These applications and services rely on personal advertisements to make money for Google. This figure is in the billions of dollars."

After that, I asked him, "When will we all have access to YouTube again?" Mr. Rogers

replied, "Only if YouTube agreed to build a version that followed New York state laws."

My final question to him was, "Are all YouTubers blocked?" Mr. Rogers declared, "Anybody over 18 can watch YouTube, because they're considered adults."

# School Spotlights

### Senior Spotlight! By: Rihana Dye

Happy Thursday! Going into break, Shun Xin Zheng is our senior spotlight this week! Shun's favorite things to do in his free time are playing music and drawing, and his hobby is skateboarding! His favorite high school memory was eating lunch



with his friends, and graphic design was his favorite class throughout his high school career! After high school, Shun is planning on attending college to study nursing!

His advice to first-year students is to "have fun!"

## Local News

### Weekly Weather Preview By Cheyanne Bennett

Next week is spring break!! It looks to be mostly cloudy throughout the week, but it will be warmer than it has been recently. Have a great break!!!

**Monday, April 21st, 2025:** Partly cloudy with a high of 63 degrees and a low of 47 degrees with winds at 10 to 15 mph.

**Tuesday, April 22nd, 2025:** Partly cloudy with a high of 61 degrees and a low of 44 degrees with winds at 10 to 15 mph.

Wednesday, April 23rd, 2025: Partly to mostly cloudy with a high of 62 degrees and a low of 46 degrees with winds at 5 to 10 mph.

**Thursday, April 24th, 2025:** Clouds with rain in the afternoon with a high of 63 degrees and a low of 47 degrees with winds at 5 to 10 mph.

**Friday, April 25th, 2025:** A few showers in the morning, leading to clouds in the afternoon, with a high of 58 degrees and a low of 41 degrees, with winds at 10 to 15 mph.

**Saturday, April 26th, 2025:** Mostly cloudy with a high of 59 degrees and a low



of 40 degrees with winds at 10 to 15 mph.

**Sunday, April 27th, 2025:** Cloudy with a high of 58 degrees and a low of 39 degrees with winds at 5 to 10 mph. I hope you all had a great week!!

Info credit: credit- credit- credit-The Weather Channel Photo credit-Accuweather Go Home Early Drill Thursday!! Dismissal is at 2:45!

US News

### Federal Funding to Harvard University Cut By Michael Hayden

This Monday, April 14, the Trump administration announced it would cut nearly \$2.3 billion in funding to Harvard after the university refused to agree to policy changes. Harvard had been promised \$2.2 billion in grants and a \$60 million multi-year contract by the federal government. However, last week, the university received a letter from one of the Trump administration's task forces outlining the changes they wanted made to the school's policies to "maintain Harvard's financial relationship with the federal government."

The task force that sent the letter was created with the sole purpose of combating anti-semitism on college campuses. A White House spokesperson said in a statement about the incident, "President Trump is working to Make Higher Education Great Again by ending unchecked anti-Semitism and ensuring federal taxpayer dollars do not fund Harvard's support of dangerous racial discrimination or racially motivated violence."

The changes to school policy that the task force proposed included eliminating the school's diversity, equity, and inclusion programs and instead moving toward solely merit-based hiring and admissions processes. It also mandated that

the university ban masks at campus protests and instate potential punishments for faculty and staff engaged in activism. Harvard refused to comply with these mandates, calling them an attempt at "government regulation" of the university; its president, Alan Garber, said, "No government – regardless of which party is in power – should dictate what private universities can teach, whom they can admit and hire, and which areas of study and inquiry they can pursue."

Harvard is not the only university that the Trump administration has made these demands to – Columbia and Princeton have already agreed to make the proposed policy changes. Still, they are the first to refuse to comply. Harvard has the support of Yale and several other colleges, as well as former President Barack Obama, who in a recent statement said: "Harvard has set an



example for other higher-ed institutions – rejecting an unlawful and ham-handed attempt to stifle academic freedom, while taking concrete steps to make sure all students at

Harvard can benefit from an environment of intellectual inquiry, rigorous debate and mutual respect."

Image: Protests in support of Harvard by Nicholas Pfosi via Reuters

### Things You May Have Missed This Week (COACHELLA EDITION) By Dorothy Disha

Some weeks are wild, and others are wilder. From viral festival moments to unexpected political moves and sports history in the making, here's what YOU may have missed this week.

• Weekend 1 of Coachella brought the heat, literally. Temperatures hit triple digits but didn't stop Lady Gaga from performing on the stage, showing a movie-like story with songs.

- Megan Thee Stallion shocked the desert crowd by bringing out Queen Latifah for a surprise performance of "U.N.I.T.Y.," Which was a significant moment for hip-hop and women in music.
- Bernie Sanders hit the Coachella stage to introduce indie singer Clairo. Yes, that happened. He then used his time to discuss the country's fate, warning the



younger generation to vote and protest against potential unfair movements.

- Elon Musk quietly released another update to X (formerly Twitter), now offering "AI co-tweeting" for verified users, letting bots help write your posts.
- Zendaya and Tom Holland sparked engagement rumors after being spotted wearing matching rings at a Lakers game. There has been no confirmation yet, but the internet is spiraling.
- And in a wild celebrity-business crossover, Rihanna just filed a trademark for "Fenty Kids." Baby-sized Savage X Fenty might be coming soon.

Sources: TMZ, USA Today, Variety Photo Credits: The New York Times

## **Global** News

#### 60 Minutes Interview With Zelensky By Maren Ettrich

On Sunday, April 13, a 13-minute interview was shown on 60 Minutes. The interview was between Volodymyr Zelensky and Scott Pelley. Scott Pelley has been with 60 Minutes for 21 years. He has done many interviews with many important people, but this was by far one of the saddest he has done. Zelensky is the president of Ukraine, who has been at war with Russia for 3 years. However, the conflict between the two countries started 8 years before that. In this article, I will discuss what was in this interview that made it so sad and what message Zelensky has for Donald Trump.

What makes this one of the saddest interviews is that when Russia released a bomb, it hit near a school. When this bomb hit the school,

it killed many children. Zelensky invited 60 Minutes to come see what has happened to the country. It



was filled with dust and broken buildings. Many people have left their homes behind to try to find a better life in their country.

During the interview, Zelensky had many things to say to Donald Trump, but also Trump's team. One thing he wants is for Donald Trump and his team to come and see the country like 60 Minutes did. He believes that if they see this they can better understand what life looks like in Ukraine. Then Zelensky will be open to a deal to end this war.

Source: CBS Photo Credit: CNN

#### Dominican Nightclub Collapse By: Pyper McEwan

There was a recent Nightclub Collapse, and this collapse caused more than 200 people to die when the roof collapsed on top of them. This tragedy started as a celebratory event, and then shortly after, turned into a devastating disaster. Before the roof collapsed, the disco ball started to

swing back and forth, and then it suddenly collapsed. This was a very scary moment for lots of people, lots of



families losing their loved ones. This tragic incident took the lives of two former Major League Baseball players; this collapse sent shockwaves throughout the country.

Most of the people who were in the collapse died instantly on the scene, because of the ceiling falling on their heads and backs. There were people trapped under the ceiling pieces and other debris, the firefighters searched for hours, and are still uncertain if they found everyone that could've survived. They are sending out money and anything else that can help the families of the people who passed away and the people who were very injured.

#### Info: CNN Photo Cred: CNN **Entertainment**

### Easter Preview By Gavin Rutledge

Easter is coming up this Sunday, and spring break is approaching. I decided to ask others what they would be doing for spring break and Easter. Lots of people either go to visit

family, relax, travel, etc. This can give you an idea of what to do if you are out of ideas.

Spring break is some people's favorite break; it's long, the weather is starting to get good, and the year starts to wrap up. Leading up to spring break



can be very slow because it's near the end of the year, and everybody is ready for a break. After spring break, classes go by quicker before you know it, we have May Jam, Regents exams, etc.

**Brayden Pretre** - "Spending time with family and doing basketball stuff."

**Carlo Amann-Burns** - "Going to the Outer Banks."

**Mr. Steinkamp** - "Going to see my grandchildren in Rochester."

Hero - "Going with Carlo to Outer Banks."

## Sports

### Varsity Girls Softball By Eve McCorkle

This week, the varsity girls' softball team has been doing great, stepping it up during practices and, overall, just working extremely hard. The girls recently traveled to Waterville on April 14th, 2025. They started strong, scoring



one run in the first inning to take the lead. They scored another six runs in the second inning and did not allow Waterville to score in the first, second, or third innings. As the girls entered the third inning, they were hitting impressively, scoring four

more runs to increase their lead further.

By the fourth inning, the score was 13 to

2, but the girls refused to give up. At this point, they neither let up nor showed any mercy; instead, they continued their excellent work to keep increasing their score. By the end of the game, the final score was 20 to 2. The girls



worked very hard and secured another win. Great job, girls! Next, the girls travel to Poland to play at 4:30. Good luck, girls, and bring home another win!

Source: High School Sports/Syracuse.com Photo Creds: Hamilton Athletics and Brian Miller (Instagram)

### Varsity Boys Baseball wins over Madison By Gavin Snyder

Last Monday, the boys won their first baseball game with a super tight score. After the first inning, the score was 1-1 with Cooper scoring the first run. It then took four more innings for Cooper to score the second run of the



game. The boys went on to finish them out winning, 2-1. Throughout the entire game, there were great plays made by all players, with Colin having two hits and two RBIs, Caleb having 10 strikeouts, and Luke adding 4.

Photo Credit: Emily Freeth

#### HCS vs ODY Golf By Ezra Stahlberg

On Tuesday, the HCS golf team went to the Otsego Golf Club to play Owen D. Young in their first match. The team performed very well, winning 159-175, continuing their winning



streak to 21. Over the last year, our HCS golf team has changed

substantially, graduating three of our top 6 players in the lineup and six

seniors from last year. And despite this loss, the HCS golf team filled in with their best score in the previous few years. The team had an impressive top two scores with both the one and two Bryce Wright and Dylan George man shooting one over par coming in with 36s respectively, Ezra Stahlberg and Gavin Hames finished with a 39 and a 48 respectively and the 5 and 6 rallying with a 49 from Nolan Dunely and 58 from Gavin Syder.

#### How did the first round of the season go?

**Dylan George:** "It was great, we all played very well, the highlight might have been watching one of the ODY kids throw their club off the teebox mid-shot."

**Gavin Hames:** "The conditions were terrible. It was rainy and cold, and the club kept slipping out of my hands. Plus, my first drive went right into the woods when everyone watched."

**Gavin Snyder:** "Terrible. The course was soaked, and I couldn't make two good shots in a row. I wanted to quit after five minutes because of the rain."

#### How did you play?

**Dylan George:** "I played very well. I shot a 36 or one over par. My putting was pretty bad, but my wedges and long irons were dialed in."

**Gavin Hames:** "I played a respectable round. It wasn't my best, but it was okay. My partner was chill, and we shaved left and right strokes, which was fine."

**Gavin Snyder:** "Awful, I was hitting the ball way right and couldn't chip or putt at all."

#### What was your favorite moment?

**Dylan George:** "Watching Gavin Snyder and a kid in his group finally learn their names after nine holes into the round,

after calling each other the wrong name."

**Gavin Hames:** "Probably when I got the par on the final hole, that was pretty huge for the round and helped me break 50 for the first time in a match."



**Gavin Snyder:** "I don't think I had one. It was probably just being able to get out of the rain and go to eat after the match." *Photo credit OtsegoGolfClub.com* 

#### WNBA Draft By Rhiannon Murray

This past Monday night, the WNBA draft was held in New York City. This draft is very quick-paced as Paige Bueckers and the UConn Huskies won the National Championship last weekend. The draft was highly anticipated as many college stars were entering. However, a few

players who many people thought would enter the draft did not this year, in hopes of playing another (better) year in college. Another reason many players do not want to enter the draft is



because of NIL (Name, Image Likeness). This makes college players way more money than any rookie or veteran contract in the WNBA.

The first person drafted was none other than Paige Bueckers from the University of Connecticut. Paige was drafted by the Dallas Wings. The second overall pick was Dominique Malonga to the Seattle Storm from France. The Washington Mystics drafted both Sonia Citron from Notre Dame and Kiki Iriafen from USC. Other notable players who were drafted were Georgia Amoore from Kentucky to the Mystics and Lucy Olsen from the University of Iowa. The draft was streamed by millions, topping many other drafts in other sports.

The season begins on May 2, so it's not too far away at all! *Image credits: ESPN.com* 

### The Masters Recap By Dylan George

This past weekend, the biggest golf grnament of the

tournament of the year, The Masters, took place in Augusta, Ga. This year's tournament was filled with excitement and nerves, featuring the best golfers in the world.



On Thursday, the course conditions were very tough, leading to some of the best golfers, like Rory McIlroy and Max Homa, recording double bogeys, which is rare for golfers of this high caliber. The biggest news of Thursday's round was Nick Dunlap breaking the highest single-round score in a decade, where he shot a 90, +18. This record was held by Ben Crenshaw, who shot a 91, +19, in 2015. After Thursday's round, Justin Rose was at the top of the leaderboard after shooting seven under 65.

Stars like Rory McIlroy, Bryson DeChambeau, and Justin Rose highlighted Friday

and Saturday's rounds, which put them at the top of the leaderboard going into Sunday's final round. Rory shot a pair of 66s on Friday and Saturday to sit at -12 through the tournament's first three days. He hopes to win his first career Masters.

Sunday's round was filled with high excitement as Rory McIlroy looked like he was finally winning his first Masters. However, dramatically, Rory needed a par on the 18th, and the final hole would win. He had a seven-foot putt to do so, and he missed, causing a playoff between him and Justin Rose. Rory then played a perfect hole, beating Rose in the playoff, earning his first career Masters. With this Master's win, Rory McIlroy achieved his grand slam, winning all four majors in a golfer's career. Rory McIlroy is only one of six golfers of all time to achieve this remarkable feat; others include Tiger Woods and Jack Nicklaus.

This exciting finish topped off a thrilling tournament and officially started the PGA season, with the first major wrapped up. The next major tournament will be the PGA Championship at Quail Hollow, Charlotte, North Carolina. *Photo Credit: AP News* 

### The Emerald Press

The materials published in this paper are the efforts of the Emerald Press staff and are not intended to represent the opinions or values of any school official or the Hamilton Central School Board of Education. All materials published in the Emerald Press are protected by the copyright laws of the United States.

Note: Each writer is responsible for editing their own articles.

#### Featured Writers

Cheyanne Bennett Silas Campbell Dorothy Disha Rihana Dye Maren Etterich Dylan George James Hanmer Pyper McEwan Dominick Mensche Rhiannon Murray Gavin Rutledge Gavin Snyder

#### Editors

Michael Hayden Eve McCorkle Ezra Stahlberg

**Student Photographers** The staff

#### Faculty Sponsor

Ms. Donna Moren