

THE SPRESS

2024-2025 SUPPLEMENT

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MINI-THON



On Friday, May 16, South Park students came together to raise money for childhood cancer during the annual Mini-THON. By the end of the night, it was revealed that South Park students surpassed last year's total with a whopping \$25,090.06. At Mini-THON, students and teachers participated in games, dancing, and so many more fun events.



MINI-THON



SENIOR RECOGNITION

Alexandra Stringe - South Park Education Foundation scholarship for community commitment
The Mathematics Department award

Elliott Giusti - South Park Education Foundation scholarship for quality of character

Tyler Wendt - South Park Education Foundation scholarship for excellence in the arts and humanities

Nathaniel Klocek - South Park Education Foundation scholarship for technology

Ella Clifford - South Park Education Association future teacher scholarship
The Art Department award

Callie Heynes - The English Department award

Cole Hammack - The Science Department award

Emily Mihelcic - The Physical Education award

Sean Swartzwelder - The Social Studies Department award

Cole Tylus - The Commitment to Education award

The re-awakening

Callie Heynes



Photo credits to The Patriot Ledger

Ginormous living dinosaurs with gleaming teeth and claws, furry woolly mammoths with sharp tusks, and ancient extinct Dodo birds. These are all creatures of the past, and millions to thousands of years ago, they roamed the earth. Or did they? Many students who are on social media or watch the news have heard that scientists have brought back to life a dire wolf. We have officially ‘de-extinct’ the dire wolf. But what does this new-not-so-new animal mean for science and humans in general? Should science stop at just one species?

The dire wolf once roamed and dominated the Americas as a predator over 10,000 years ago. They hunted and lived in areas extending from Venezuela to far northern Canada. The oldest on record remains date back to over 250,000 years ago, meaning that the dire wolf was alive and repopulating for thousands of years before it went extinct.

From far away, the dire wolf looks like any wolf pup. However, its pure size and power make it seem unnatural compared to modern animals. The skull reaches up to 12 inches in length, and its teeth are larger and sharper than today’s wolves. In terms of body size, the dire wolf has a shoulder height of over three feet high, roughly 38 inches, and a body length of 69 inches or close to six feet. These giant creatures didn’t just have claws and teeth for show, they hunted bison, horses, and even mammoths while hunting in groups. Eventually, these

creatures met their demise during the Quaternary megafaunal extinction event, a notable geographical event where climate change and loss of large prey species limited the dire wolf population.

Recently, the gene technology company Colossal Biosciences is on the rise in popularity and notability for their research and revolutionary science experiments. They have brought back and birthed three dire wolf pups in the last couple of months. Two males, named Romulus and Remus, after the Roman myth. The third pup was named Khaleesi after the “Game of Thrones” character, a part of the fantasy drama show and book series that features dire wolves.

The CEO of the company, Ben Lamm, said that the team used DNA from a 13,000 year-old tooth and a 72,000 year-old skull to analyze the full genome, or chromosomes and genes of the animal. Then the scientist used CRISPR technology to modify the cells from a living gray wolf. They then mashed and combined the ancient remains with the modern tissue samples, creating embryos that were transferred to a surrogate dog. CRISPR technology is short for clustered regularly interspaced short palindromic repeats, and in English that means it is a technology that scientists use to modify the DNA of living organisms and reorganize it selectively. Walking in the grocery store, you’ll see apples or other fruits and vegetables that claim to have been modified using CRISPR tech. Science is all around us, whether we realize it or not. But is this a good thing?

Firstly, scientific history proves that newly introduced species become invasive species. This is seen even in South Park, as the spotted lantern fly congregates in parks and wooded areas. Over the past couple of summers, the spotted lantern fly is not only an ugly critter that inconveniences walks in the park or picnics, but is considered invasive because it significantly damages plants, crops, and trees. It has no natural predator, so it can reproduce quickly, letting it continue to damage the environment. Now imagine if the bug was not just a bug but a woolly mammoth or dire wolf with no natural predator or environment to live in. So far, the scientists that have the dire wolves in their care have not seen

The re-awakening (con't)

Callie Heynes

the pups attempt to hunt any animals. Yet, the manager of the reserve they live on, Paige McNickle, claims, "If I were a deer I would stay away from their preserve". The 90s are so far removed from the modern day that students will remember the blockbuster film, Jurassic Park. Even though they've had been no missteps with the pups so far, animals aren't taught the saying, "don't bite the hand that feeds".

Secondly, the wolves might begin to feel constricted in their environments. They are now gated in a 2,000 acre preserve, which is a pinpoint of the map compared to the thousands of miles and continents that they traveled back in their day. Also, wolf packs can be as small as two members but are typically as large as 15 or more, which begs the question. Is Colossal going to produce more wolves to help out the three existing lonely ones? When is enough enough? Another point of concern is why the dire wolves died out in the first place. They were specialized hunters, meaning that they only hunted with one thing in mind, huge animals like the mammoth or bison. When those creatures died, so did the dire wolves. What animal are we to sacrifice to keep the new pups alive now, and what animal is even large enough to provide a filling meal? There are lots of questions that need to be answered. Some will be answered in time but some are more ethical.

Of course this is ground breaking technology, especially when it can be used to preserve endangered species. The technology and focus of this breakthrough may cause us to be more focused on bringing back the dead instead of focusing on the living. Instead of devoting time to finding solutions to the cause of biodiversity loss, such as climate change, or human involvement in the lives of wild animals, we are living in the past.

There is another concern that the dire wolves or any animal brought back are potentially going to be treated as trophies or as an exotic sight-seeing attraction. At the end of the day, Colossal Biosciences is still a privatized company. They no doubt have credit in the scientific community, not only in recent months with the dire wolf news, but for years they have hired world renowned genealogists.

However, there is no one to check them, no country or other company can limit their power. This also means that they have free rein to join any country that aligns with their views and funding expectations.

Just because man possesses the technology to de-extinct animals, do you believe we should?

North America's only marsupial

Autumn Kohnen

Are you supposed to pronounce the "o" in opossum? Fun fact: both pronunciations - pronouncing the "o" and a silent "o" - are acceptable. The term opossum derives from *opossum* from the Powhatan language, a Native American tribal language. *Opasom* translates to "white dog" due to the small dog-like body of the opossum. The first reported Virginia opossum was found in the late 1400s by European settlers. The opossum has been around for at least 70 million years. There are around 110 species of opossums, but the United States only has the Virginia opossum.

Did you know that a *Didelphis virginiana*, known as the Virginia opossum, cannot get rabies? It is a common misconception that opossums can get rabies. Even though people commonly see opossums eating dead animals or digging through the trash, the body temperature of the opossum is too low to carry rabies. As it gets warmer, the tick population becomes prevalent. Opossums also have the misconception that they eat ticks as part of their diet. Opossums do not eat ticks, but they do groom themselves, eating ticks in the process, lowering the population. Opossums can eat up to 5,000 ticks per season. Opossums have a varying omnivorous diet between different plants, like fruits and vegetables, animals, roadkill, insects, and garbage.

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North America's only marsupial (con't)

Autumn Kohnen



Photo credits to Pintrest

Can you imagine giving birth to 25 babies at once? Female opossums can have varying litter sizes, with as few as four babies to 25 babies. Typically, they have 1-3 litters per year. Mother opossums are often seen carrying their babies on their backs. Imagine carrying 25 babies on your back. Opossums are marsupials, meaning the babies are born the size of a navy bean, and the babies have to get to their mother's pouch, by themselves, to continue growing. On average, in the wild, opossums can live up to three years. In captivity, they can live four or more years.

Have you ever stumbled upon an opossum on the side of the road that appears to be dead? There is a chance it could have just been playing dead. 'Playing dead' is when an animal, specifically the opossum, falls over and acts like it is dead, due to a stressor like a predator. This can be seen by becoming stiff, drooling out of its mouth, and the breathing will become slow and shallow. Opossums can stay in this 'coma-like' state for up to six hours. Opossums play dead when they feel threatened by a predator or something that just scared them. After the apparent threat is gone, the opossum will start to slowly regain consciousness.

Opossums have a house cat-sized body, a long prehensile tail, and their hands have opposable thumbs called hallux. Opossums can hang from their tails for a short period of time. Opossums have 50 small teeth, which is more than most mammals.

Opossums can be pets in at least 25 states. In some states, you have to get a permit or permission from the Game Commission, but in other states it is just completely legal. People usually adopt opossums as wildlife rescuers to nurse them back to health or take care of opossums with special needs. Opossums can be put back into the wild, but often-times they will not be able to survive in the wild by themselves. Opossums are often posted on social media seen in cute outfits or eating small meals that their owner is also eating. Opossums have a bad reputation but they are cute and cuddly animals when given love. Maybe at some point, you may even consider adopting one of these cute friends?



Photo credits to Pintrest

Inventing a future

Rhi Lord

What is the future going to look like? And what must we do to get there? As the world rapidly drifts away from the status quo of the 20th century, many philosophers from the past and present pitch ideas of how we can embrace a new, strange future.

In 1845, German philosopher Karl Marx wrote: “The philosophers have only interpreted the world, in various ways; the point is to change it.” This sentiment presented in “Theses on Feuerbach” has echoed throughout modern philosophy, with thinkers now not only discussing what the world is, but also what it could be.

Marx’s influence doesn’t stop at that one quote, though. Marx’s work, along with his collaborations with Friedrich Engels, has become foundational for anti-capitalist movements, and especially the ideology of communism. Marxism was one of the first prominent philosophies in modern times to propose a future radically different from the present, based on the ideas of Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel, and inspired by the attitudes of the Enlightenment. Marxism envisioned a future where capitalism is overthrown by the “proletariat”, the working class, and communism is established in its place. In the many intricacies of his ideology, Marx offers an analysis of history suggesting that capitalism’s fate is sealed by the natural processes of history, and that this radical transformation is ultimately inevitable, as long as the proletariat is able to stand up for themselves.

Marxism now is the predominant ideology of far-left politics, with many interpretations and revisions of Marx and Engels’ original works competing to lead the struggle against capitalism, and bring communism to the world. Marx himself offered a few ideas of what communism would be throughout his writing career, from specific ideas of social structures, to the vague “real movement which abolishes the present state of things” (from “The German Ideology”). But, no matter what exactly communists believe the end goal to be, their dedication to invent a more fair future has been able to unite them a few times in history, with the Soviet Union and the People’s Republic of China being the two most successful countries claiming to follow Marxist principles.

However, while Marxism became the predominant ideology of the far-left, the dawn of the 20th century ushered in a right-wing ideology which also dedicated itself to the future. Filippo Tomaso Marinetti, an Italian poet, wrote the “Manifesto of Futurism” in 1909. Inspired by the rapid technological advancements of the industrialized world, Italian Futurism was an ideology and artistic movement that embraced speed, violence, passion, nationalism, the avant-garde, and of course, the future. In the very first point of the “Manifesto of Futurism”, Marinetti wrote, “We want to sing the love of danger, the habit of energy and rashness.” Although Futurism never became that large of a movement, many Futurists, including Marinetti, ended up joining and influencing the Italian Fascists. Marinetti ended up becoming a friend of Italian dictator Benito Mussolini. Futurism never ended up accomplishing anything that influential, but it could be said their love of war and violence was satisfied by the horrors of the Second World War.

Futurism effectively died in the chaos of WW2, and Marxism continued to be endlessly reworked and added onto during the rest of the 20th century. However, in the University of Warwick, the 1990s would bring a new future-oriented ideology into the realm of philosophy, fusing ideas from Marx, the Futurist movement, and even writers like H. P. Lovecraft. The Cybernetic Culture Research Unit (CCRU) was founded by academics Sadie Plant, Mark Fisher, Nick Land, and several others in the mid 1990s, lasting until the 2000s. Plant would leave the group early on, and informal leadership would fall into the hands of Land. Land cemented the CCRU for what it’s known for today: the enigmatic birthplace of a philosophy known as “Accelerationism”.

Accelerationism is a difficult ideology to summarize. Primarily, it is an analysis of capitalist economics that asserts its processes “accelerate” themselves and intensify. The CCRU in particular focused on many esoteric and radical concepts, from “hypersition” (fictions becoming realities) to the “Lemurian Time War” (which could have a whole article to itself). It pulled inspiration not

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Everyone loves 412

Savannah Booth



Photo credits to 412 Photos

Steel City is known for being many things, but it is most known for its culture, which is unlike any other place. Besides being our home, Pittsburgh is a huge hub for education and medicine, a beautiful place full of scenery, and a close-knit community that is identified by three digits, 412.

Food has managed to become a major part of Pittsburgh as the city is filled with so many cultures, and people who love to try new things. The Pittsburgh salad is one food that is known all over for being so unique. This salad originated from the city's blue-collar and hearty food roots, which stemmed from one worker wanting a sandwich that began the crazy foods to develop. A classic salad in most places is made a staple by adding French fries on top to create this unique food. Following the fry idea, Primanti Bros has become a staple restaurant in the city that developed from truckers who needed food to eat with just one hand, who adopted this fry idea, but on top of a sandwich to add a salty fried touch along with coleslaw. A favorite ice cream place, Page's, has been ranked 16th in the country and is known for its sweets and the yummy jim-mies they put on top. Sprinkles are what they are referred to mostly, but this foreign term was adopted long ago by Pittsburghers and has stuck. The city is filled with so many people, but for people who cannot afford big fancy wedding cakes, "cookie tables" have been made from loved ones to make your wedding day not only a promise to your significant other, but to always fill your sweet cravings too.

Sunny-side-up eggs are known all over for being a traditional breakfast food, but the term "dippy egg" is what made the food even more appealing to the city. The runny yolk on the inside is perfect for dipping other foods into it to give it more flavor, which is now a pivotal food in all breakfast spots. A beloved brand, Heinz, tops off all foods for its flavor, which has been created right in the heart of the city. Pittsburghers mostly prefer this select brand for their ketchup, which is able to be spotted by its difference from other brands and how it does not taste right. All these foods are so different compared to other places, but are worth a try when trying to understand this popular city.

Yinzer Culture is a huge part of the city that confuses yet intrigues people every time they come to this place. The most controversial part of the culture that has been made up is the "Pittsburgh Parking Chair," which helps save you a parking spot in the chaotic city parking. While being helpful to oneself, it's greatly annoying to the person who wants to move the chair to claim it as their parking spot. Adding to the city's spark, sports are a major aspect of every city, but specifically, to our football team, the Steelers.

To make football culture even more significant here, every big Steelers fan has a terrible towel that is a symbol of their team spirit and pride for the team and city. To emphasize how far-reaching its recognition is, the terrible towel could even be seen waving at the Vatican when the Pope was selected. Adding a historical element to the city, "The Pittsburgh toilet" or "Pittsburgh potty" can be found in earlier homes, which is essentially just a toilet in the basement of a home by itself, which was typically used before WWII for workers when they got home from work. The skyline is a major part of the city that adds such depth to a town. The Duquesne incline is a transportation site that takes you from the South Side to Mount Washington to view the city from the overlook that views where the three rivers meet at the point. The sites from the city are so grand, but you can't miss the number of bridges that we have here, which make Pittsburgh the "city of bridges".

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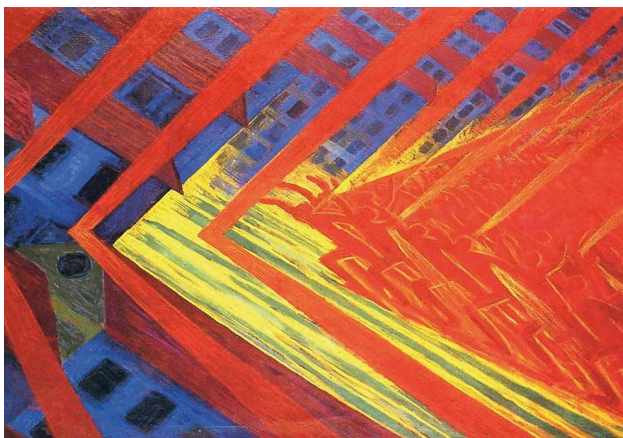
Inventing a future (con't)

Rhi Lord

just from philosophers like Gilles Deleuze and Jean Baudrillard, but had many artistic inspirations like cyberpunk, cosmic horror, and rave music.

Since the CCRU's dissolution in the 2000s, Accelerationist philosophy split into a multitude of different factions. Primarily, there are the Right Accelerationists and the Left Accelerationists. The former follows closely to Nick Land's original ideas, believing that the future is an age of hyper-capitalism. The latter is pioneered by thinkers such as Nick Srnicek, and continues the tradition of Marxian anti-capitalism, believing that the only way to dismantle capitalism is to speed through it. There are more factions than that, though, including: Unconditional Accelerationism, with the likes of writer Mattie Colquhoun; Gender Accelerationism, with the likes of internet blogger Nyx Land; Effective Accelerationism, with the likes of entrepreneur Guillaume Verdon; and countless other reworks and re-interpretations of the philosophy.

In his book "Capitalist Realism", Mark Fisher argues that, nowadays, most people have trouble imagining a future beyond the current systems of today. Fisher, being an ardent anti-capitalist, saw capitalism as an all-consuming entity that answered the question of "is there an alternative?" with an emphatic, authoritative "no." But as we've seen with Filippo Marinetti and Nick Land, not all visions of the future fall in line with left-wing thinking. Fisher passed away in 2017,



Luigi Russolo, "The Revolt", from the Futurist movement, photo courtesy of Wikipedia

succumbing to mental illness and taking his own life, and never seeing what the future has in store for us. But his work and countless other works, whether Marxist, Futurist, or Accelerationist, continue to inspire people to be brave and invent a future.

Is Kanye West still relevant?

Addi Yochum

Can we separate the music from the artist? Kanye has many popular releases from the 2010s, and a few hits from his more recent releases "VULTURES" 1 and 2, featuring Ty Dolla Sign, Playboi Carti, and even his daughter, North West. However, some think that after the popularity he regained from the "VULTURES" albums that he might have fallen off, and is just finding ways to stay the talk of the music industry. Maybe he is the talk, but it sure isn't in a good way.

It started in 2022, but just progressed to rock bottom. In 2022, Kanye lost most of his sponsorships and partnerships due to his very public anti-semitic and racist views. He would post tweets making remarks about Jewish people, basically saying they'll never reach his level, and claiming that they're coming after him, I wonder why. He would just do controversial things to, like I said, stay the talk of the music industry. At a 2022 Paris fashion show, he wore a black shirt with the phrase "White Lives Matter" on the back, whereas Candace Owens, a far-right political author, wore the same shirt in white. It's so obvious that this was done just to get a negative reaction out of people, seeing as it was a sensitive time since the U.S was still protesting against police for the murder of George Floyd at the time.

Back in March of this year Kanye released merch, but not just any merch. It was a white shirt titled "HH-01," which is a euphemism for "Heil Hitler" that included a swastika on it. This shocked people, but what did you expect? He's always been known for being a controversial person, however this was a whole new level. A few people bought it before it was taken down. \

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Everyone loves 412 (con't)

Savannah Booth

Pittsburgh has the most bridges out of any other city in the U.S, currently being at 446.

People are a recurring aspect of the city that makes the city so special. Mac Miller is one of Pittsburgh's most popular musical talents who expressed his love for his Pittsburgh roots and referenced this in his music and interviews, all the way up until he died, making him so influential in the city. Being kind and accepting others is a general concept in all places, but Pittsburgh was highly influenced by these ideas by Fred Rogers. Mister Rogers grew up in Pittsburgh and was a host of "Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood," which continuously spread the love of one another, and is a major reason why Pittsburgh is so welcoming. Many people continuously grow famous, but have started in Pittsburgh, which is how Mark Cuban began. Most people know him as the owner of the Dallas Mavericks and also a prominent role in the show "Shark Tank" which helps small businesses grow and become successful. Making a blast to the past, James Irwin was an astronaut on the Apollo 15 mission where he became the eighth person to ever walk on the moon, which is such a remarkable achievement, but also a huge milestone for Pittsburgh. Andy Warhol is a huge name in the Pittsburgh area for his contributions to the Pop Art Movement, which then led to a museum being dedicated to his works and livelihood. Golf courses, especially in South Park make up a large portion of the city and Arnold Palmer was notorious for being found at one since he was a professional golfer who won over 90 tournaments and even grew popular with his signature drink being lemonade and iced tea mixed together. So many people in the Burgh have contributed to society in either small or big ways, but it is undeniable that Pittsburgh is a place where people are making history.

Pittsburghese: the language that makes Pittsburgh stand apart. The city has a unique dialect from factors like historical migration patterns, regional influences, and linguistic evolution. With regular words like "You all", "Downtown", "Creek", "Cupboard", Pittsburgh has changed words known to most like "yinz", "Dahntown", "Crik", and "Cubber". The list goes on continuously, and always sparks a conversation when brought up.

Grocery store carts can be heard as being called a "buggy", a vacuum or a broom is considered a "sweeper", a hair tie is called a "gum-band", and soda is considered "pop". Besides individual words, terms have been normalized like "redd up," meaning to clean or tidy.

Pittsburgh is so special and unique by the way it blends so many cultures. Steel City has turned into a hub of innovation and culture. Pittsburgh offers such a distinct charm that sets it apart from all other places.

Is Kanye West still relevant? (con't)

Addi Yochum

Kanye's wife, Bianca Censori, had to put up with him for about two years. In February at the Grammys, Bianca and Kanye showed up together. Bianca shocked everyone when she wore a black fluffy coat, but when she took it off, she revealed a completely sheer dress. This was very controversial as people started to jump to conclusions that Kanye made her wear this, and was purposely trying to exploit her. People also noticed how she looked before she dated Kanye: happy and creative, and then during their relationship: glum and boring.

We're always quick to cancel people and their careers for the smallest infractions, but Kanye West's career is still thriving somehow?



Kanye west and Bianca Censori at The Grammys together. Photo courtesy of Expresso

The Oxford outlook

Lillian Oxford

As high school is coming to a close, and my new chapter is beginning, I am reminded of the journey I have taken to bring me to where I am now. The places I lived, people I met, and lessons I learned all shaped who I am today. Throughout the past 9 years, life's changes have helped me grow in more ways than one.

It all started with my family moving away from Pittsburgh and to a town called Elizabethtown, Kentucky in the summer of 2017. My dad had gotten a job as an assistant pastor for a church down there where he and my mother would also be able to teach at their private school. In Kentucky, I remember fond memories of my childhood while growing up on 13 acres of land with hardly any neighbors and being a part of a church where my dad would teach and I would help out in the nursery. Moments like exploring the woods in the backyard, jumping on the trampoline, or learning to drive the ATV. I enjoyed the times where I would share my testimony in front of a group of people and watching over five kids at a time. These memories are ones I will keep with me for as long as I can remember and are ones that shaped main parts of my childhood and faith. Of course, I was only in middle school when I lived in Elizabethtown, but life brought its own challenges while trying to adapt to a new school and moving away from my relatives in Pittsburgh. In August of 2017, I started at a new school with all new people for the first time. In the beginning, it was difficult to navigate through predetermined friend groups of students who have known each other since kindergarten, but soon I found my place. Then in January of 2018, my sister and I were in a bad car accident that nearly took my sister's life. My family had just bought our first owned home in Kentucky and wanted to go out to eat to celebrate. My sister and I wanted to ride with our family friend and that was when we were rear ended at a red light

and were pushed 40 feet up a hill. That accident brought my family even closer and strengthened our trust in God as He kept us all safe by the end. Once Covid-19 hit, I was in 7th grade and had

In Tennessee, we had some family nearby where we could get involved with their church and spend more time together for lunches and dinners. The first year we lived in Tennessee, my siblings and I were all online and had to see each other 24/7. Most would say they'd go insane, but I was able to keep and even build a stronger friendship with my three siblings. Growing up, my parents were always hesitant about public schools and the influence it brought, but after my first year of online schooling, I convinced my parents to let me attend public school. Again, I was the new kid, starting over with new people and a new environment all by myself for my first year of high school. It was an experience that truly made me who I am today, having to learn to be adaptable and kind no matter what. I met new friends, lost friends, and had to make the best of it. It helped that I had my family to always support me and encourage me through the struggles of freshman year. A positive adjustment of moving to Tennessee was being closer to my one cousin. She and I are about four months apart and are best friends. Throughout my time there, we were able to become closer and spend more time laughing and exploring together, along with my sister. Those memories alone have guided me to how I make friends now. Growing up and moving around made it hard to keep friends, but that year in public school, I met my best friend, a girl I still keep in touch with to this day. We haven't seen each other in almost four years, but we constantly chat over the phone, share our school experiences, and talk about when we'll visit. Moving away again this time was the hardest challenge of all. I had it in my mind that we were going to stay in Tennessee, where our family was and where we had planted roots. In the summer of 2022, that all changed.

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The Oxford outlook (con't)

Lillian Oxford

My family moved back to Pittsburgh that summer to be with my grandparents while their health is declining. Along with this move, we were able to live closer to my aunt's family again while my dad's parents moved back with us as well. Now, we are living in South Park and I get to look back at all the places I've been to and things I went through to become who I am today. Life is a gift, and all the people we meet along the way, the adventures we experience, and trials we forgo shape us into who we are. So live while you can, enjoy the little things.



IMPORTANT DATES

May 28: Seniors' last day

June 2-3: Graduation practice

June 4: Graduation

June 6: Last day of school

June 9: Kennywood picnic day

Melia's manifestations

Melia Petrello

Throughout the year, I have highlighted many artists of the past whom I enjoy. However, for my last article, I would like to highlight new artists which I believe will have future success.

Glixen

Phoenix-based shoegaze band Glixen is quickly gaining popularity for their dreamy sound and stage presence. They are frequently compared to the band Julie for both their appearance and sound, however Glixen still brings something unique to the table. Glixen has a much more angelic and dreamy sound compared to Julie's more heavy and intense sound. Glixen released their first EP "She Only Said" in 2023 and just released their second EP "Quiet Pleasures" in February.



Computerwife

Computerwife is the New York based solo project of Addie Warncke. She released a self titled EP in 2020 and a full length self titled album in 2023. Many of her songs are heavily distorted and have a uniquely digital sound. In fall of 2024, Computerwife supported the highly influential POISON GIRL FRIEND on their North American tour.

SILICONE VALLEY

SILICONE VALLEY is a New York based electronic artist, comparable to artists such as Snow Strippers or The Hellp. He released his debut album "NO. 1 SPIRIT" in 2023 as well as

Melia's manifestations (con't)

Melia Petrello

an interview with Nothing Radio, he said he is very bad at revisiting songs, so most of them are finished in one sitting and he is sometimes in the studio for 16-20 hours a day. He also said that he intends on releasing an album in the near future and most songs on it will be produced away from the computer, using "a lot of synthesizers, and guitar, and yelling."

Her New Knife

Her New Knife is a Philadelphia based ambient noise rock band. Last year, they released their album "Nightcore+++" and an EP "chrome is a lullaby." They are signed under Julia's War Records, a label by fellow Philadelphian band They Are Gutting a Body of Water (TAGABOW).



Full Body 2

Based in Philadelphia, Full Body 2 is creating incredibly unique and dreamy electronic music. Also signed under Julia's War Records, it is clear what amazing talent is coming out of Pennsylvania. Full Body 2's unique electronic sound creates a nostalgic ambiance, almost reminiscent of video game soundtracks from the early 2000s. Their music is fast and energetic, yet peaceful and angelic.

Summer bucket list

Dalya Jabra

As the school year comes closer to an end, it's finally time to start thinking about what to do over the break. Don't wait until the end of summer to start checking off your bucket list!

Stargazing: Summer nights are perfect for stargazing whether it is alone or with a friend. Watching the stars and meteor showers from below allow people to appreciate the beauty of the world while also making it memorable.

Roasting s'mores: With the delicious dynamic of melted chocolate, crunchy graham crackers, and roasted marshmallow, roasting s'mores over a campfire has always been a summer staple.

Picnic: The ideal summer picnic includes packing fresh fruits and vegetables, choosing a suitable location, some blankets, and friends/family to play board games with.

Go to the beach: The beach is a great place to relax or have fun with friends and family. There are a ton of fun activities to do, such as building sandcastles, collecting seashells, surfing, reading, and of course, swimming.

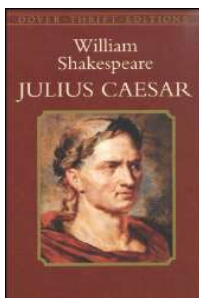
Attending an outdoor concert: It's common to see your favorite artist at large outdoor venues like Stage AE or Starlake during the summer, but there are also concerts in our backyard. Every Friday night, the county holds the annual concert series at the amphitheater in South Park. Festivities begin at 7:30pm and also include food trucks along with music for local and national artists.

Go to an amusement park: For anyone feeling energetic and filled with adrenaline, amusement parks are the perfect place to be. It is a great opportunity to explore different rides with your favorite people, creating beloved memories. A great spot in Pittsburgh is Kennywood, but if anyone is willing to travel, Waldameer, Cedar Point, and Six Flags are other well-known amusement parks.

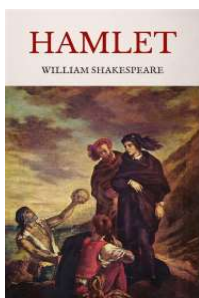
Ox' 'n' Koh's book corner: seniors' least favorite books

Lillian Oxford & Autumn Kohnen

As our senior year is coming to an end, we have decided to focus our last edition on seniors' least favorite taught books in their high school career. We asked for seniors' least favorite books, but looking at our responses, we have learned that South Park seniors really hate plays.



The first play that seniors have voted on is “Julius Caesar”. This tragedy by William Shakespeare is about Roman senators who conspired to kill Caesar, but their actions led to war and death. Most of the seniors explained that “Julius Caesar” was boring, stupid, and hard to read. Overall, seniors just do not like Shakespeare as a whole. At least two students explained that “Romeo and Juliet” is 100 times better than “Julius Caesar”.



Hamlet is voted the second worst play that seniors have read. “Hamlet” by William Shakespeare is about Prince Hamlet, who has a mental breakdown after his father was murdered by his uncle. On Hamlet’s quest to seek revenge, everyone tragically dies. Students explain that the play felt like it took five years to finish. Seniors also stated that they just hate Shakespeare, because it is harder to read when compared to most books they read in class.



“The Crucible” is voted the third worst play seniors have read. “The Crucible” by Arthur Miller is about the Salem Witch Trials. The story is about a Puritan town, with a group of girls who accuse a bunch of people of being witches for their own selfish reasons. Students have said that “The Crucible” did not make any sense and that the play is aggravating. Because of the dramatic irony within the play, it is understandable that seniors found the play aggravating.



Congratulations
TO THE CLASS OF
2025

The staff of The SPress congratulates all of the graduates, including those on our staff:

- MEGAN BEAM
- SAVANNAH BOOTH
- CALLIE HEYNES
- TOM HOLMES
- AUTUMN KOHNEN
- RHI LORD
- LILY OXFORD
- MELIA PETRELLO