

thePrecedent

PERRY HIGH SCHOOL | | GILBERT, AZ

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NHS hosts blood drive

By Saydria Ostler
the precedent



photo by Presley Plant

Senior Kylie Merrill donates blood at the NHS blood drive. The blood would then be directly donated to hospitals within Maricopa County.

This year, NHS has taken over the blood drive, which was originally run by Key Club. "I thought that because NHS is a service organization, it would make sense for us to serve the community this way," said club sponsor Cynthia Pino. NHS has recruited about 80 people to donate blood. Donating blood provides an opportunity for one person to make a difference. "Who knows where this blood will go? People often ask themselves what can they do, as just one person, to help. And this is one way. One day, it might be a Perry student in a hospital who needs blood. It's not an exaggeration to say that this could save a life," said Pino.

NHS partnered up with Vitalant, which is a non-profit organization for blood and plasma donations. Vitalant is the sole provider for hospitals in Maricopa County. "A big thing was working with a company that has such a big outreach to the community," said NHS Officer Nathan Lam, "It's a very direct way to give back to our community."

With the current blood shortage, many organizations are advocating for people to donate blood. "Every donation saves two to three lives, and when you donate blood, you get a notification of when your blood is used," said NHS officer Christine Burboz.

Black Girl Empowerment Club



By Lexi Amaro
the precedent

Senior Layna Walker, founder of Black Girl Empowerment Club, has always felt that she needed to make a bigger impact and statement in her community. She founded the club in order to highlight the treatment she has experienced in her years of high school. For instance, Walker has heard stories of girls being treated differently by teachers and students. "We get a lot of hate from all races, even our own, about our hairstyles, the way we talk, the way we carry ourselves. [We're] always being judged," said Walker. "It was just really sad to see how many stories they were behind about what girls go through."

When Walker first pitched this club's concept, she said, "As young black girls attend Perry, there's not that many [of us]. I feel like this club would give the comfort of knowing that they're not alone."

Through Black Girl

New full zero hour orchestra created



By Saydria Ostler
the precedent

As of the second semester, there is a new full orchestra class of 21 musicians that rehearse during 0 hour. A full orchestra is an orchestra made up of string and band musicians. "We dedicated to create a Full Orchestra to let orchestra and band students have an opportunity to play some of the vast canon of full orchestra symphonic music," said orchestra conductor Dr. Valerie Dopp.

Bringing together orchestra and band allows for the musicians



photo by Kayla Walker

Members of the Black Girl Empowerment Club pose for a group photo. The club works to provide a safe space for all African American Girls on campus, and to build each other up.

Empowerment Club, Walker said, "We can overcome the negativity with empowering each other." The club meets to discuss the difficulties that they have faced. The club's sponsor John Prothro values the importance of community in the club. "A lot of African-American young ladies don't feel like they fit or have a place here in our school. This [club] will make sure they have a place," said Prothro.

Senior Kylie Sanchez,

like many others, has found a new source of support in a group like this. "I've been to a few high schools, and...I've been to black student unions...but I've never had one that was just for black girls," said Sanchez. The members are hopeful that they can leave a legacy behind for the next year. "I want to see this [club] go on and become a true official club...so [that] there is a positive environment for black girls," said Sanchez.

Prothro reported that the reaction from both adults and students on campus has been positive. Walker explained that she wants to make a difference in the community through volunteer work. She hopes that through volunteering, the members can bond and spread the word about their club.

Black Girl Empowerment Club meets every other Wed. during conference and every Thurs. after school.

Mental support available for students

By Jason Richey
the precedent

Depression, anxiety, and ADHD are not new concepts that teenagers are facing. To combat these struggles, the support groups offered have recently opened again and are here to help struggling students.

The current support group advisor for the Stress and Anxiety group is Lindsay Taylor with the support of her two interns Bridget Baker and Brenton Montgomery. The purpose of the group is to help with techniques called mindfulness and cognitive behavioral therapy, CBT for short. "We give power to our thoughts. The CBT model allows us to not necessarily con-

trol our thoughts, but help direct what we do with those thoughts," said Taylor, "we start the meeting with a high and a low and then dive into what we are going to do for the day. We always have one lesson or worksheet that we discuss as a group."

These groups allow students a place to help others while helping themselves. "I think the group is very beneficial for people who don't have the financial means to be able to access counseling outside of school and it is very important they have a place to go," said senior Macy White.

Students can sign up by inquiring at the Mindfulness Room in C106.

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Foreign exchange students involved in traditional American high school experience



Over the years, Perry has hosted many exchange students from all over the world. Exchange students have the opportunity to experience American high school and culture by attending school here for the year.

Junior Tyna Mlejnková is from the Czech Republic and decided to come "...to learn English, meet new people, and experience a new culture," said Mlejnková.

America is not junior Ada Saito's first stop. Saito was an exchange student in New Zealand for three months, prior to coming to to America. "I wanted to study English again."

Junior Amelie Ruschce came to America because, "I like the

high school experience because it's not the same as it is in Germany. It's much more fun," said Rusche.

Students get picked by a family within the CUSD district, and they stay with them for the year. Brooke Thompson and her family have hosted one exchange student previously and are currently hosting Saito. "We decided because we wanted them to have this experience because lots of [exchange students] don't get picked, so we wanted to help out as much as possible," said Thompson. She describes it as getting another sibling. "It's really fun because you get an extra sister or brother there who is always around and get to hangout with them," said Thompson.

While here, the students get involved in different activities. Both Mlejnková and Rusche were a part of cross



Submitted by Amelie Resche
Left: Junior Amelie Reusche visits the Grand Canyon while in Arizona. Center: Junior Tyna Mlejnková hikes in the desert during her exchange program. Right: Junior Ada Saito explores Disneyland during her time here.



Submitted by Tyna Mlejnkov



Submitted by: Ada Saito

country. "I love sports, so I got to do cross country and am going to do track," said Mlejnková. Saito is a part of the marching band. "Being in band is fun, and it's my favorite class," said Saito.

The foreign exchange students make the most of the scenery Arizona has to offer. "I have been to the Grand Canyon and other places here in the desert, which was really pretty," said Rusche. As well as seeing the Grand Canyon, Mlejnková has

gotten to visit a few different states. "So I have traveled through Arizona, and I got to see the Grand Canyon which is super pretty. Then I got to travel to California, Nevada, Colorado, and New Mexico so that was fun," said Mlejnková.

As the end of the school year is approaching, exchange students' time at Perry comes to an end, but there are still activities left that they are looking forward to. "I am looking forward to

Prom and graduation, because I have always seen it in high school movies, you know, like the caps and gowns. It's something that I have always wanted to experience," said Rusche.

Forgein exchange students experience many new things when coming to America: dances, sports, and daily school life. What seems normal to the average student is actually a unique experience to some students on campus.

Musicans place in Honor Regional Band, Orchestra



Senior Paige Johnston, sophomore Sadie Musa, senior Ryan Birn, senior Seth Traywick, and sophomore Alexis Taylor auditioned and placed in the Honor Regional Orchestra or Band. These musicians have the opportunity to audition for the All-State Orchestra or Band.

This year, three orchestra members, seniors Paige Johnston and Ryan Birn and sophomore Sadie Musa, and six band members, seniors Seth Trawick, Brandon Moak, GRADE LEVEL HERE Jessa Peace, Alana Jordyn, Abby Iannucci, and sophomore Alexis Taylor. Honor Regional Band/Orchestra musicians audition for their seat, and depending on how well the judges score them and how many people audition in each instrument category determines on whether or not they make it into the group.

Most musicians auditioned for different reasons. "I thought it would be fun to play challenging music with a full symphony setting," said senior violist Ryan Birn. "I auditioned because I thought it sounded

fun," said senior Seth Traywick, who plays the french horn.

"I auditioned for regionals, because I wanted to play in an orchestra that involved people from different places, and I wanted to be challenged," said sophomore violinist Sadie Musa.

"I tried out to experience orchestra outside of school and give myself a competition with other students," said senior bassist Paige Johnston.

Johnston auditioned for the Honor Regional Orchestra on both the bass and the violin and made it into the orchestra on bass. She practiced for five months of consistent daily practice to prepare for the audition. "This experience taught me that at first, practicing was really exhilarating, but afterwards it got slower and

harder to practice," said Johnston, "but after I did, the better I got, even though I didn't feel like it."

After making it into the regional group, the musicians have the opportunity to audition for All-State. Only members of the regional group may audition for All-State. Some students are certain about their decision to audition. "Of course, yeah, I'm going to audition for All-State Band," said Traywick.

Others are on the fence. "I think I want to go see if I like the Regional Band and if I like performing with them," said sophomore flutist Alexis Taylor. "The determining factor on whether I tried out would be whether or not I'd be able to learn the songs, because the bass is a difficult instrument," said Johnston.

New generation of college testing



once a month other than English" said junior Tayler Babbitt. Since COVID, the AP tests have been under many modifications and College Board wants to model the new SAT online test after the AP tests. These new changes are going to finalize for classes after 2024 in America and 2023 outside of the country.

Expectations are set high. The College Board is suspecting higher scores due to the new format. "It is something the students are familiar with" according to the College board website.

Many teachers try to fit preparing their students with the normal curriculum; however, time is limited and changes are constantly being made. The College Board is secretive about the new changes as finalizations have not been claimed absolute.

Students are trying to adjust as well, since the tests are still in the process of changing. "All I'm studying is the book on the SAT and ACT. I don't know what else to do if they're going to make changes," said Babbitt.

Adjustments are being made along the way slowly but confidently. College Board wants to make improvements which means shifting online to adjust the level of intensity of the tests for students.

Staff Editorial: Perks of using social media



As teenagers, we often face the stereotype that we are always on our phone and on social media. We hear it from parents, teachers, coaches, and basically every other authority figure in our lives. And to be fair...they are not wrong. But being more active on social media is not necessarily a bad thing.

Personally, I use social media to keep in touch with my friends and family who live out of state. Two of my sisters attend out of state universities, and we stayed in touch by sending

each other memes and TikToks. None of my extended family lives in Arizona; I only see them maybe one or twice every other year. Through social media, I can still see their big moments.

There are many different communities to be found on social media; there really is a place for everyone. Social media can help you find the right circle of people that you might not be able to meet in real life.

Social media has a reputation of being damaging to mental health. And that can be true. It can be a place of self-hatred and comparison, or it can be a place of motivation, inspiration, and comfort. It all depends on which accounts you follow. If you have a bad

feeling after getting on social media, unfollow those accounts that are making you feel that way.

Social media can be a good thing, because it allows, "easier communication; it's fun to share memories on it. Sometimes the good outweighs the bad, sometimes it doesn't. It can really affect people's mental health in a negative way if you let it get to you. There's a very fine line of where it's good and where it's bad," said sophomore Kateylin Mascari.

The platforms are a great way to stay up to date on current events. As seen during recent events, social media is a great way to campaign for and spread a message. There are a number

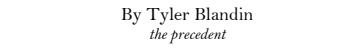


photo By Meghan McGowan
Social media is a constant in teenager's lives. Social media platforms often get a bad rap, but there is good to be found in social media.

of social media accounts dedicated to raising awareness for a particular issue. All major news organizations have social media accounts where they post links and head-

lines to their articles. But also, social media makes us laugh. There is so much funny content online; there is nothing wrong with using social media for a laugh.

Social media breaks lead to relaxation Social media breaks do not 'break' habits



Social media breaks may seem like a drastic action teenagers taken when they want to seem different from the crowd. Despite this, they may actually be the solution many need to destress.

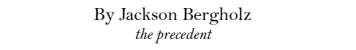
The modern world is more connected than ever, but this may not always be a good thing. Instagram is full of influencers and celebrities for people to compare themselves to. Being constantly faced with lucky influencers leading to unrealistic and unattainable lives can distract people from what is important. Social media is designed to show off the best in everyone's lives, only showing off the great moment and often avoiding the struggles. This paints an unrealistic picture that everyone else is living the dream because that may be all the post about. Escaping comparison central and returning to reality once in a while can be a grounding experience.

A cleanse from the negative influence of

platforms designed to keep users scrolling. Turning notifications off can help fight social media addiction and may help in avoiding checking out new posts or DM's.

Social media helps avoid loneliness and keeps everyone connected. Many users worry that if they take time off they will miss out on texts or stories. This is exactly the kind of feeling that social media is designed to capitalize on. Take Snapchat's 'streaks' for example, they place a number on friendships and are designed to get users to log on every single day. While simply sending a text every day takes a couple of seconds and may seem harmless, it is never just a text. These apps are designed to addict and steal time.

Taking time off social media forces attention away from everyone else's lives. So take a break once in a while, maybe even delete Instagram and Snapchat for a couple of days, see what happens.



Social media breaks do not work. Social media was originally created in order to connect people together, but today we use it to keep up with favorite celebrities and shows. There are many different forms of social media making it practically impossible to take a legitimate break from all forms of social media. It is important for everyday people, it gives them something to do when bored, or voice their opinions on certain subjects. For some it is even a source of income.

For your average person social media is a form of entertainment, taking a break from the funny videos or online arguments is hard for most in the first place. But the whole point of a social media break is to be removed from all of the drama and toxicity that it brings.

However, deleting these apps and the accounts that come with them may serve a short term solution to escape all of these problems, but

in the end it does not work for the long term. These people always go back to social media, even if they deleted the app they will just make a new account and continue with the same routine they used to have. After all that is what a break is, something you give up and eventually return to again.

Although a break from social media can be good for your mental health and to get away from drama; people who do this will be stuck with the fear of missing out and being left behind as well.

Not only this but many people spend hours and hours scrolling through TikTok, Instagram, and Twitter, when they give social media up for a couple days what will they do with that time? Many will use this time to develop hobbies and other extracurricular activities, but when they go back to social media they fall right into the same old routine, scrolling for hours on various apps.

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holding on to your
INNER CHILD

We have lost our inner child, the main culprit: social media

By Presley Plant
the precedent

Currently 72 percent of teens are logged into Instagram; however, as Instagram ages their targeted users get younger. Social media was introduced to the world in 1997 and has been exponentially rising in popularity ever since. The expectation to respond has consumed the younger generation, who feel they have to be constantly connected. Social media apps, in their terms and conditions, include that a user must be 12 years or older but this requirement can be easily avoided by a click of a button... literally. Easy access to social media has encouraged the common culture of relying on likes in order to feel validated in teens' lives. Putting a number on people's lives encourages people to get absorbed in social media in an unhealthy manner and base their self worth off of a simple number. In order to

get that validation, children have masked themselves into adults. Kids have turned away from action figures and barbie dolls to video games and makeup sooner every year. Childhood seems to diminish in the presence of social media and people have chosen to accept that. Along with the benefits of maturing, so do the downfalls. Depression and stress develop when mature problems are introduced. Expecting a child to acclimate to those adult problems is detrimental. It has become socially necessary for a child to be current on social media. Without constant activity on these apps, teens are considered "out of reach." This can make teens feel excluded and exploits the fear of missing out in an environment

when peer pressure and fitting in already have an exaggerated importance. Social media is forcing the youth to grow up too fast, and can be especially damaging to younger kids who get past the age safeguards. It is time to let kids be themselves instead of fostering an environment which encourages them to chase clout and create an unrealistic expression of themselves.

photo by: Meghan McGowan

Understanding why we lose touch, Q&A

By Meghan McGowan
the precedent

The inner child is an essential part of who someone is. It extends beyond what someone might typically assume when the topic comes up. Usually it is pictured as someone's immaturity or playfulness, when in reality it is so much more. It also is their innocence and joy. It can be the look of delight that spreads across their face while opening a present that is exactly what they wanted. It is the ability to do what they enjoy without caring what

others think. This is more important than ever, and some think the latest generation is losing it. A person's inner child makes sure they do not forget to cut loose and have some fun. It makes sure that they remember that work and stress is not all there is in life. An inner child is an individual's child-like aspects. Each person releases their inner child in different ways, but why do we do this in the first place? Psychology teacher Daleana McPherson and former psy-

chology teacher Julianna Rodman gave their thoughts on our inner child.

Meghan McGowan: What is our inner child?
Deleana McPherson: I think that's where people want to relive the freedom or the ability to do silly things, but have it be okay.

Julianna Rodman: It's that feeling of innocence and happiness that people have with simple things.

MM: How is our inner child lost throughout the years?
DM: I think with the pandemic, a lot of people had to grow up a little, and figure out how they could face adversity. And sometimes we forgot to take a break and have fun.

JR: I think that the seriousness of the world and the pressures that we put on ourselves sometimes takes that away. Our focus is not on the simple joys but also kind of chasing instead of living in the moment.

MM: Do you think our generation has a greater sense of loss than others? What contributes to that?
DM: To be honest, I don't. I don't think your generation has lost their inner child. I think that you guys actually have a greater sense of inner child

Both Deleana McPherson and Julianna Rodman have taught psychology at Perry High School.

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Man on the Street:
What do you do
to embrace your
inner child?

"I like to do puzzles and also play with my dog," said sophomore **Abby Iannucci**.

"I surround myself with energetic people and do things like elementary" said junior **Joyce Gunaraj**.

"I like to go to the park and play on the swingset" said senior **Blake Johnson**.

"I quote the Doctor Seuss alphabet, wear toe shoes, and make stupid dad jokes" said math teacher **Julie Chesley**.

Kids meal showdown

Kid's meals are more than just a colorful package: you get the perfect amount of food for a lower price, and you can get back in touch with your inner child. Here's a breakdown of some of the best kid's meals out there.

By Lindsey Harrison
the precedent

Chipotle

Price: \$5.35
Includes: 2 taco shells or flour tortillas, 1 meat or guacamole, 2 sides, a small bag of chips, and a small drink.

I eat this meal at least once a week (that is not an exaggeration). Having leftovers is almost always expected at Chipotle; this eliminates the problem by having the perfect balance of protein, sides, and carbs. Plus chips! And a drink! For half the price of an adult entree, it's the perfect choice.

Wildflower

Price: \$6.59
Includes: Sandwich, mac and cheese, meatballs, or salad. A drink, fruit, and a small cookie.

Wildflower is often overlooked when it comes to restaurants, but they have consistently good sandwiches, salads, and more. The BYO sandwich allows for endless customizations or you can get a half-sandwich of Wildflower's signature sandwiches. Beware the cookie is comically small.

Culver's

Price: \$6.39
Includes: Chicken tenders, burger, grilled cheese or corn dog. Fries or apple sauce, a drink, and custard.

The Culver's kids meal has big enough portions to fill you up, but leaves room for the included custard. When you order entrees, sides, and drinks, it can add up pretty quickly. This way you can try a little bit of everything AND save money AND get custard.

Places to let your inner child shine through

By Callie Floyd
the precedent

In today's day and age, often teenagers can catch themselves growing up too fast. We find ourselves too busy with schoolwork and other priorities, and we don't remember we are still growing up. When you grow up, your inner child can start to fade away, but it's important to not let it vanish completely. There's a variety of different destinations in and out of Arizona that can help you resurface your inner child.

Arizona Science Center

Arizona Science Museum is welcome to all ages and has over 15 different science themed exhibits. This hands-on, interactive museum is not only educational but so much fun. From riding on a bike suspended 15 feet in the air, to being in an astronaut simulation, to visiting the planetarium, this museum has something for everyone.

Gilbert Regional Park

If you lived in the Gilbert area, you have probably passed by

Skateland

Ranging from \$5 to \$10 for skate rental and admission, Skateland is a great place to go with friends or family to get your inner child energy out. The DJ plays music from the early 2000s while you can skate, or play arcade games, or eat pizza all night. Skateland is a good destination to visit for a nostalgia rush.

Urban Air Adventure Park

This trampoline-centered park has attractions for all ages. Some attractions this indoor park features are

Disneyland

One of the most classic places to surface your inner child is Disneyland. Many young adults grew up watching Disney movies and shows, and being able to go to a Disney themed theme park can be one of the most healing vacations to do for your inner child.

photo by Lindsey Harrison

Artist of the month

Senior Kaylee Blech has been drawing since she was five years old as her grandmother, “was teaching me watercolor as soon as I could hold a pencil”, said Blech. She still does watercolor, but now focuses on pet portraits, which she sells. Blech bases the medium of her artwork on what her client wants, and she works on the iPad, with acrylic and watercolor as well.

Blech is a part of AP Art Studio, and they are currently working on their “AP Sustain Investigation,” which focuses on the “things around me that influence my art.” This project allows students to draw, paint, and truly embody what individuals and experiences have helped them discover their personal art style.



Photo provided by: Kaylee Blech

One of Kaylee Blech’s pet portraits. She produces both print and digital versions for her small business.

Whodunnit better- book or movie? Death on the Nile

By Sophie Barkett
the precedent

Whodunnit novels have been a classic staple in literature for centuries. The confusion a reader has coupled with the desire to solve the mystery creates a wide spread love for crime fiction. with Agatha Christie being a prominent staple of the genre .

One of her most popular novels. Death on the Nile, has been adapted multiple times since it’s initial release in 1937. The plot follows two main characters on their honeymoon in Egypt. While on a boat floating down the Nile, a murder occurs. Luckily, the infamous detective, Hercule Poirot is there to solve the crime.

This Decetive Poirot is a repeated character in Christie’s novels, and the more recent film Murder on the Orient Express. Both this film and the newest have been directed by Kenneth Branagh.

As a book, the story is entertaining and keeps you on your toes. Those who enjoy the mystery novel intrigue would enjoy this classic from the “Queen of Mystery.”

The novel does suffer from somewhat odd pacing, with the first murder not being

Searching for new Spring holidays to celebrate

By Lauren Ludwig
the precedent

Beginning fourth quarter, there are a lot of holidays to look forward to during the beginning of spring. Spring officially begins on March 20 in the U.S., hopefully bringing warmer weather and sunny days. Here are some holidays to celebrate along with the changing seasons.

St Patrick’s Day, on March 17 observes the death of St. Patrick. This holiday is a celebration of Irish culture, and often includes parades, food, and dancing. It is recommended to wear green on St. Patrick’s day, as early Irish immigrants believed that it would make them invisible to leprechauns.

March 29 is National Vietnam War Veterns Day, which commemorates and honors all the brave men and women who fough during the Vietnam War.

Ending off March, on the 31, is National Crayon Day. Take the day to remeber the good old days where

coloring pages were the only homework in sight. National Bunsen Burner day is also the 31, which allows us to remember the history behind science and the inventor of this simple tool, Robert Bunsen.

April 1st, also known as April Fools Day, is a day full of pranks and practical jokes. Originating in 1582, when switching calendar formatting, many did not realize that the year had begun, leading to a succession of jokes and hoaxes. To this day individuals celebrate April Fools day with hoaxes.

Following April Fools Day, April 2 is International Fact Checking Day. It is important to be able to verify any information in order to limit the amount of misinformation on various social media sites. The first official observation of this day was in 2017, however the concept was created in 2014, by the London School of Economics.

The week of April 5-9

This choice most definitely aids the flow of the movie.

As with any film, viewing Christie’s plot in a visual form, projects the information in a unique fashion. Watchers can pick up different details and perceive the character and their dynamics in a different way than a book reader might, due to the condensed nature of the movie.

However, another pro in the book column, is the abysmal green screen editing of the movie. While reading, one can imagine the scene any way they choose, as fantastical as the words describe, movies can not say the same. Some scenes are painfully edited, and at times the bright coloring of the scene seems to clash with the morose content.

Between the two forms of media, some of the characters’ names and characterization differs. For example, the character Bouc [enter last name] from Murder on the Oriant Express makes an experince taking the role of Tim Allerton in the book. However, these characters differ vastly, with Bouc having a close rapport with the detective and a more aloof demeanor. Tim, however, harors a intense disdain

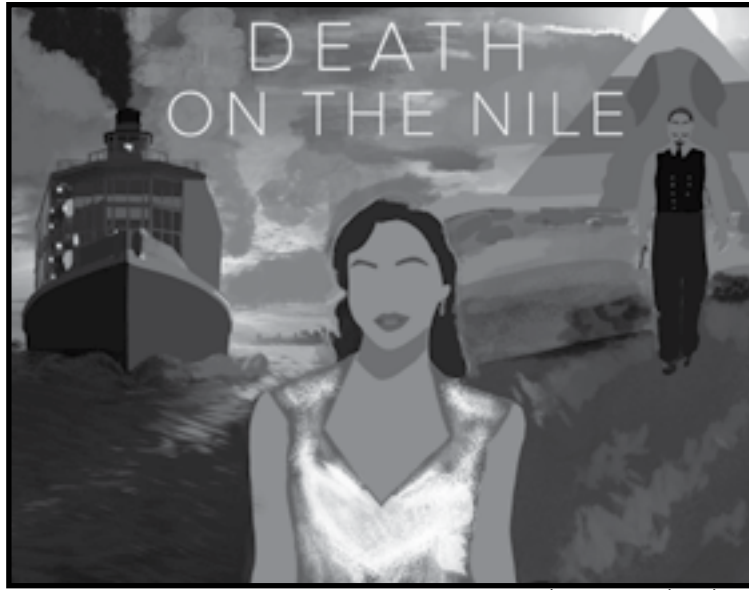


photo By Presley Plant

Death on the Nile was released originally in 1937, and has been adapted to the big screen. The movie features a murder mystery with a picturesque setting in scenic Egypt.

for the detective, contrasting to their connection the movie shares.

The novel is better at creating suspense and keeping the mystery. Details the Christie brings back around in the “big reveal” have more impact in a book form, where they are only mentioned once hundreds of pages ago, rather than seen merely minutes in the past.

Another added benefit to the film is the increase in diversity. Considering the novel was previously released in 1937, the story is predominately white. The movie adaptation allows for more diversity among races and sexualities. The novel includes content that would not be socially accepted today , so any potential readers should be aware of historically accurate racism and sexism.

More things to be aware of when consuming this plot, is its graphic nature. The movie visually shows gore, with death being a main component of its plot

Overall, while both forms were entertaining and enjoyable to watch/read; the book, as it usually does, tells the story better.

Black History: overlooked legacies, important figures

Even after February, it is important to recognize the accomplishments of African Americans and a time for recognizing their central role in US History. Here are some documentaries that focus on a few of the amazing individuals who helped to solve important social, political, and scientific issues in America.

Just Mercy- Just Mercy focuses on social justice, and draws attention to the significant amount of flaws in the criminal justice system. Director Destin Cretton emphasizes how racism blinds as well as influences the system which ends in different treatment based on the color of skin. The basis of this film focuses on Bryan Stevenson, an experienced lawyer, and his quest for justice as he exposes racial inequality within the criminal justice system. This film is on the more serious, earnest side of the spectrum and could be triggering for some audience members. Stevenson, played by Michael B. Jordan, helps Henry Davis who is on death row from facing unjust accusations. This show truly highlights how racism has never really left and in order to spark change, people must advocate and

fight for what is right. The historic past cases really give the film an authentic feel to the film and make it seem like you are experiencing it all first hand and get special access to all the key members and their thoughts.

Hidden Figures- This 2017 film introduces important themes regarding racial injustice and gender inequality. The director, Theodore Melfi, chose to tell a historical event but turn it into a more heartwarming story rather than a documentary because she wanted to pull on the emotional strings of all the viewers at home. The film follows three women, specialists in mathematics, who helped serve and perform calculations behind the scenes of one of NASA’S greatest accomplishments. Katherine, Mary, and Dorothy fight against sexism and racism throughout the film, and Melfi’s great use of script showcases how this minority is supposed to act and stand up. The warmth and success of the characters is a very impactful moment in the film and builds ambition in watchers at home. The launch of astronaut John Glenn was seen as a national success but what is unique about this film is

how the focus is mainly on the brains who made it possible. Hidden Figures is more of a powerful, motivational project than an accurate one, because they wanted to stress the importance on how all people are capable of accomplishing great things regardless of the color of their skin.

Becoming- This 2020 American documentary film directed by Nadia Hallgren follows Michelle Obama and her journey to becoming the first lady as well as a rare and close up look on her life. The duration is one hour and 29 minutes. Although a lot of the film may seem mostly staged, one aspect that is very enjoyable is the ability to watch Obama’s more genuine responses when they show clips during her public events. These clips are super unique in the way that you get to see Obama in a different light than from what most of us know her to be. Many young students and small groups of people are rather interested in how she overcame the many prejudices that come with being a minority. One of the most intriguing and powerful quotes from within the film is when she said, “We can’t afford to wait for the world to be equal to start feeling seen.” The film drew

By Derek Fernandez
the precedent



photo By Presley Plant



photo By Presley Plant



photo By Presley Plant

Significant images from each documentary. The NASA logo represents *Hidden Figures*, the book represents *Becoming*, and the gavel stands for *Just Mercy*.

the audience’s attention when she said that which helped build on the character Obama possesses. I highly recommend watching this film and educating yourself on our country’s first ever African American first lady.

Best tunes for Women’s history month

By Sophie Barkett
the precedent

In lieu of Women’s History month, and following Black History month, here is a playlist of black women creators, and some of their best songs.

| | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| <p>Doja cat- Streets</p> <p>This song blew up on tiktok for its catchy lyrics and Doja Cat’s masterful wordplay. This song is a huge confidence boost, and its perfect to blast in the car. While dealing with serious topics in the lyrics, the song still remains light-hearted.</p> <p>“You held me so down, So down I never grew, oh”</p> | <p>Truth hurts - Lizzo</p> <p>No matter how many times you hear this song on the radio or on a department store, it never ceases to couple the well known lyrics and dance-able music. This song has become a classic, and its message of empowerment known as one of her most popular songs.</p> <p>“that’s the goddess in me”</p> | <p>Female Energy, Part 2 - WILLOW</p> <p>While WILLOW herself identify as gender neutral, this song embodies everything feminine. This song is only fitting for women’s history month, and to truly sum it up- it is beautiful. A true masterpiece to the ears, and allows for an appreciation of womanhood.</p> <p>“I am human, I am woman”</p> | <p>night in your hands”</p> |
| <p>Hold up- Beyonce</p> <p>This song is an instant confidence boost. This song, which bashes a toxic relationship, has relatable and deliberate lyrics. Listening to this song will immediately make you feel as though you can do no wrong, and you deserve better.</p> <p>“What a wicked way to treat the girl that loves you”</p> | <p>Where is my mind - Tkay Maidza</p> <p>This techno and eclectic cover of the Pixies original adds a modern twist. Amidst the overwhelming nature of the high-school experience, this song has a relatable perspective of unsureness in oneself.</p> <p>“Your head will collapse, But there’s nothing in it”</p> | <p>What are We Gonna do now?- Indigo De Souza</p> <p>A more mellow song on this list, but still a wonder nonetheless. This indie song starts off slower, but speeds up into a beat-drop that makes you want to dance. This song will make you feel a whirlwind of emotions in the absolute best way possible.</p> <p>“I’m holding my</p> | <p>Some readers may struggle with the story’s quick pace. The story is only about 20 pages, and the plot moves very quickly. It may also be hard to follow when each meeting takes place, for the girls go many years in between seeing each other.</p> <p>To this day, while readers may have their own ideas, no one knows the race of Twyla and Roberta. This fascinating and impactful story is easy to comprehend and brings to light important topics, in a format that everyone can, and arguably, should read.</p> |

Storytime with Sophie: Recitatif

In accordance with Black History Month, the short story, “Recitatif” by Toni Morrison was published in book format for the first time since its initial release in 1983. The published version includes an introduction from Zadie Smith. This introduction dives deep into details of the story and its impacts.

The story follows the life of two young orphaned girls in America. These girls, Twyla and Roberta, lived together for four months in an orphanage before departing. They meet again throughout various points in their lives, reconciling in the hazy memories of their youth.

Taking place in 1950’s America, the topic of race and segregation is heavily explored. The story from Twyla’s perspective, explores various stages of each girl’s life: young adulthood, marriage, and motherhood. While the girls don’t actively stay in contact, they reunite often, but not always for the better.

The most captivating part of this short story, however, is its ambiguity. The story is written to be an experiment, with the reader as the subject. The race of each girl is never specified, only that one is black and the other white.

This thought-provoking novel, plus the accompanying introduction from Zadie Smith, forces readers to contemplate and consider. This story points out the way race is perceived in society, and how different people attribute specific traits to a race. Each reader may have a different idea and perception on the novel, allowing for interesting conversation.

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Senior athletes: sign college contracts


Sneaker-

By Sabrina Digne
the precedent


This semester, 18 students signed to continue their athletic careers in college. Usually, the signings take place in one ceremony, however since there were many athletes this time, there were two ceremonies held in the auditorium, with nine at the first one and nine at the second. Not pictured: Michael Loughboro-Swim- Committed to The Master’s University and Evan Nail- Swim- Committed to Arizona State University.




Adam Knowles
Football
Committed to University of Mary




Avery Bibbey
Gymnastics
Committed to Utah State University




Steven Kennedy
Football
Committed to University of Mary




Cade Lacy
Baseball
Committed to Phoenix College




Daylon Mauch
Football
Committed to Arizona Christian University




Lillia Besedin
Soccer
Committed to Western Oregon University




Makenna Buist
Soccer
Committed to Pace University




Michael "Red" Poehls
Football
Committed to Crown College




Sophia Tate
Soccer
Committed to Fairmont State University




Jackson Lee
Football
Committed to Florida International University




Sienna Reed
Softball
Committed to Regis University




Rylee Davis
Softball
Committed to Dominican University



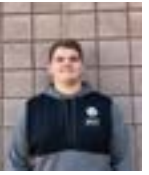
Alexia Jackson
Dive
Committed to Brigham Young University



Amaya Wiley
Swim
Committed to Arizona State University



Lukas Hinze
Baseball
Committed to Phoenix College



Trevor Swan
Football
Committed to George Town

A sneakerhead is someone with an extensive knowledge and interest in sneakers. Whether they prefer buying, selling or just collecting, sneakerheads are known to be pretty passionate about shoes. “I’ve been into shoes since 7th grade, but I got into them more freshman year and have been collecting and selling them ever since,” says senior Evan Gratton. For sneakerheads that take interest in selling, there is more to the process than just the shoes themselves. They also have to take into consideration the cost, profit, and demand regarding each pair and how it differentiates depending on brand, color, etc. “I’m a part of a shoe group that tells me how much profit would be...I keep the ones that don’t profit but look good or ones I just really like... but I always see what the profit will be like before buying,” said senior Nithik Jawahar. Fashion trends are constantly changing, but for sneakerheads, the shoes they buy/sell are more than just a trend they will move on from. When certain shoes stop trending, they simply get added to the collection, and become more vintage as time goes on.

Junior Olympics for water polo



By Reagan Reynolds
the precedent

Submitted by Audrey Numeron

Junior Audrey Numeron swims across the pool in hopes to advance the ball. The ability to stay afloat and watch what is happening can help her team score.

In summer of 2021, junior Audrey Numeron got the chance to compete at the junior olympics for water polo. Her team ended up getting 3rd place, and she notes that she was able to progress as a player because of this opportunity. “It was so fun and memorable,” said Numeron. This was a huge opportunity for her to grow with her teammates and play against tougher competition outside of Arizona. Before water polo, Numeron was strictly a swimmer. After spending most of her life compet-

ing in swim competitions across the state, she decided to try out water polo. She found that she was able to translate her talents from swimming into water polo, and, eventually, found herself becoming successful in the sport. She believes that waterpolo needs more recognition especially in Arizona. Due to the extreme heat the addition of this sport into schools could be l. “We have such great swimmers here, I think the sport would be a great addition to high schools,” said Numeron.

How announcing dreams came true for AP World History teacher

By Talya Galbay
the precedent

Announcers make up a large factor of the excitement at high school games. It’s a given that football games, soccer games, and other sports have someone to add commentary to the game, in addition to relaying the score. Though, since you can’t see them up in the scoring box, who actually are they? AP World History Modern Teacher John Prothro has been an announcer even before he started teaching at Perry High School. “I used to work at TV stations in Los Angeles. And I had a pretty good gig with internship and working on T stations and I got to do college radio,” said Prothro. In addition to this, he was also an announcer at Willis before he switched to Perry High School. Regardless of his passion for broadcasting, he also has a love for teaching. “I’d been going to college to be a teacher, but I’d also been doing sports casting, I took classes in college for for that, so then I had a choice to make,” said Prothro, “so let me do the teaching for a little bit then I’d go back to the broadcasting. Went did the teaching and never got out of it.” Since then, Prothro has fulfilled his desire for both broadcasting and teaching at Perry. He is the only AP World History Modern and announces for a range of sports including football, basketball, volleyball, and wrestling. “I like sports. Part of the thing I like about sports is listening to the announcing of the starting line ups. As a child I used to practice announcing at a boxing ring,” said Prothro. This originally sparked his interest in announcing. When addressing a play, Prothro finds it best only to comment when a play calls for it “because people have not left their homes to come hear me announce, they come to watch the game. I do not want to get in the way of that.” His goal when reporting is to make a better experience for the audience. Another goal for Prothro is to make sure he is pronouncing the names correctly. “I’ll go online and look on the roster and practice saying their names and if there is a name that I’m unfamiliar with, I always get to the venue early and talk to either the coach or the player to see how they want their name pronounced.” Prothro values this and takes “intricate care” to make sure he says everyone’s names correctly. In addition to announcing, Prothro also enjoys “hanging out with family, reading, exercising, going to church, and of course eating. I love doing that,” added Prothro. On campus, he takes part in African American Culture Club and Black Girls Empowerment; Prothro is also the department chair for social studies.