

# THE MESSENGER

March, 2016

## Shelby Locke: Regional FFA Candidate

**By Caroline Dew**  
Messenger Reporter

Shelby Locke is a junior at McCracken County High School. She is a big part of The National FFA Organization. In fact, she is running for a region office. She has been in FFA since her freshman year and absolutely loves it. Her favorite thing about being in FFA is that they provide a positive environment that the club creates for the members. Shelby describes being a part of FFA as “incredibly humbling.” Since joining FFA, she has become a better public speaker, student, and friend.

Shelby ran for a region office on March 15, which is Region Paperwork Day and was held here at McCracken County High School. In order to run, she had to fill out an application in which she told about her burning passion for FFA, her Supervised Agricultural Experiences, community involvement, FFA leadership, and an activities sheet. On March 15th, Shelby was interviewed by 6 regional officers and 20 delegates, 2 from each school in our region. Each interview was impromptu that way nobody has an advantage over another. She is now the regional secretary-elect. This means she will be corresponding with other secretaries

to conduct regional activities. She is super excited to be in a regional office and to see where this opportunity takes her. She will be acting as a positive role model for FFA members in the region. She gives all the glory and happiness to God.

Shelby might run to be a Kentucky FFA State Officer as a freshman or sophomore in college. She says she will definitely be an active FFA alumni after she graduates. After she finishes high school, she plans to go to Murray State University and double major in Agriculture and Business Administration. She is majoring in two things because she is passionate about agriculture, but will also have the ability to be an efficient business leader if she chooses to be in a business profession. Shelby is not in other clubs at McCracken, but works with American Saddlebred horses. She is heavily involved in her church, Mayfield First Presbyterian, which she has been a proud member of for 4 years. She enjoys doing community service, such as the community breakfasts her church has on Saturdays. She also loves working at the Fancy Farm Picnic in the summer.



**Shelby Locke in official Future Farmers of America dress**

# Upcoming Events

## Sports

- 4/14- Tennis Match vs. Marshall County
- 4/14 - Baseball game vs. Bartlett
- 4/15 - Baseball game vs. USJ
- 4/16 - Baseball game vs. North Bullitt
- 4/18 - Tennis Match vs. Paducah Tilghman
- 4/18- Softball game vs. Marshall County
- 4/18- Baseball game vs. Marshall County
- 4/19- McCracken County Track Quad-Meet III
- 4/19- Softball game vs. Calloway County
- 4/19- Baseball game vs. Paducah Tilghman
- 4/22- Baseball game vs. Dyersburg
- 4/22- Baseball game vs. Daviess

# Staff & Support

Senior Editor..... Madison Vaughn  
Junior Editor ..... Raegan Archer  
Arts Editor .....Laney Yancey  
Entertainment Editor .....Preston Vasseur  
Design Editor..... Caroline Dew

## INDEX

Mustang Life.....	Page 1
Entertainment.....	Page 12
Humor.....	Page 15
Club Spotlights.....	Page 7

## Need Advice?

You can email any and all questions you have about life, love, and the pursuit of happiness to [mustang.messenger@mccracken.kyschools.us](mailto:mustang.messenger@mccracken.kyschools.us). Questions will be answered in the following edition of the paper.

# History or Hoax

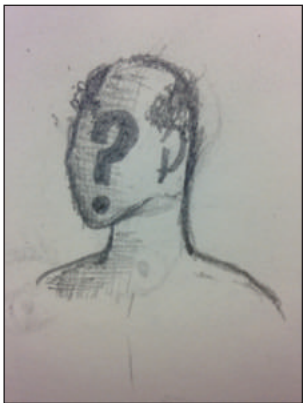
## Topic 6 – Cold Case Files

By Caroline Dew  
Messenger Reporter

Some of the most interesting things that have ever happened, are also the most morbid. The Holocaust for example, is a brutal display of anti-semitism, and is representative of how little some people care for other human life. A horrible event, arguably the most brutal in all of history; however, there is lots to be learned from it, and the mere idea that modern humans would even do such a thing is mind boggling, and therefore, the holocaust is a constantly interesting subject. This is just an example. Serial killers are often popular amongst researchers. Once again, the lack of humanity and the idea of somebody having such a lack of empathy that they can murder someone time and time again, is just fascinating. I think all of these things are interesting, at least. And I know of many people who think so as well, so here I will elaborate upon some of (in my opinion) the most interesting, yet lesser known, morbid subjects.

Madeleine McCann. The name does not likely ring a bell, unless you are an avid researcher of child abductions. This case, is unfortunately unsolved, but that doesn't mean there isn't fuel for interest within its details. Madeleine McCann was three years old, and staying in a resort on a family vacation. She and her younger siblings were left alone while her mother, father, and a group of friends ate at a restaurant within the resort. The parents say that the children were checked on every half hour by a member of the party. At 10:14PM she was reported missing. There are multiple disputes about witnesses. A couple staying at the resort states that they saw a strange man carrying

a child matching Madeleine's description at around 10:00PM. There was an initial suspect, an artist, who had been staying at the resort at the same time as the McCanns. A drawing was found in his book of a man carrying a little girl who was seemingly unconscious. He was later ruled out as a suspect.



Another particularly interesting case is that of three Australian children, who all went missing at the same time. The Beaumont children, Jane (nine), Arnna (seven), and Grant (four), lived in a popular seaside suburb of Australia, and would often visit the beach. The left for the beach at around 10:00AM, and were to return home at 2:00PM for lunch, per their

mother's instructions. They rode the bus to the beach and were supposed to ride it home. A woman reported seeing them playing under a sprinkler around 10:15AM, and saw a lean, blond man in a blue swimsuit watching them. He then approached, and began playing with them. The next witness reports them buying snacks at a cake shop, which was odd, because they had not left the house with enough money to do so. A logical assumption can be made that the children were given money. The last eyewitness was a postman who was very familiar and friendly with the children. He reported seeing them walking away from the beach around 3:00PM, happy, and even stopping to say hello. There was nothing he could tell wrong with them. Police trusted his claim, but evidence leads them to believe that he saw them earlier in the day than he really said. The Beaumont children have not been found to this day, and their kidnapper, or whatever may have happened to them



# The Little Things

**By Laney Yancey**

Messenger Reporter

Life is about the little things. Little things are the ones that lift us from our beds in the morning and make life seem a bit sweeter, even when you feel like you have your own personal rain cloud. Here are some tips to make some sunshine show a little sooner.

1. As soon as you wake up in the morning (yes, even before coffee), boil some water, squeeze some lemon in it, and drink up! This simple little sip of sunshine lets your grogginess drain away and makes your start to the day a bit more fresh.

2. Moisturize. The winter wants to suck out the happiness from your skin and sometimes being as soft as a baby dolphin, just simply makes things a little more bright.

3. Breakfast. On the days you can, get up and make yourself a waffle or treat yourself to a brownie batter donut from

Dunkin' Donuts (HIGHLY recommend, #notspoons). Food makes things better. It is a proven fact. Let your tummy smile.

4. Something about nostalgia is like hot chocolate. It has the ability to warm you up from the inside out. Try watching a movie you have always loved, listen to a song that meant something to you when you were assured you were going to marry your fourth grade crush, read a book that made you the person you are today, or even look at baby pictures.

5. Ups and downs. Sit down with your friends, family, or S.O. and just talk about the best and worst parts of the day. It can help you vent about that annoying thing called lack of motivation or that kid who keeps screaming during class and let you let those negative emotions leave before you finish your day. Talking helps, don't keep it all bottled in, little beans!

For more positivity, follow @yougogh-grl on Twitter



# Brooke Can Cook

**By Brooke Salsman**

Messenger Reporter

## Red Velvet Mug Cake Recipe

If you like your cakes quick and easy, follow this simple mug recipe and enjoy.

### Ingredients

6 tablespoons milk  
1 teaspoon white vinegar  
1/2 cup all-purpose flour  
1/4 cup granulated sugar  
2 teaspoons cocoa powder  
1/2 teaspoon baking powder  
1/4 teaspoon salt  
3 tablespoons vegetable oil  
10 drops red food coloring  
1/4 cup mini chocolate chips  
1 tablespoon cream cheese  
Powdered sugar, for serving  
Sprinkles, for serving (optional)



### Directions

1. In a large mug, whisk together the milk, vinegar, flour, sugar, cocoa powder, baking powder, salt, vegetable oil, and red food coloring. Fold in mini chocolate chips, and give it 1 more stir. Add a dollop of cream cheese right in the center of the batter, and push it down so it's submerged completely.

2. Microwave on high for 5 minutes or until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean.

3. Garnish with powdered sugar and sprinkles. Enjoy!



# Teacher Spotlight: Mrs. Rathgeber

**By Caroline Dew**

Messenger Reporter

Let's clarify that we're talking about Mrs. Rathgeber, first! Both Mrs and Mr Rathgeber work here at McCracken High, and they're both outstanding teachers. Mrs Rathgeber teaches English II and IV as well as newspaper. We here at the newspaper staff all love her very much, and are amazed by how outstanding she is, and could think of nobody better to spotlight than our newspaper overlord, Stephanie Rathgeber.

## How long have you been teaching?

This is my 5th year as a teacher.

## Did you have any jobs before teaching?

Yes. After college I took a job with Southwoods Recreation, which is a high end summer camp in upstate New York. I worked in their winter office registering campers, hiring staff, and planning activities for the summer. During the summer I was their upper camp girls head counselor for a while and their office manager later on. Southwoods is where I met Mr. Rathgeber.

I have a very special place in my heart for camp and especially for Southwoods. I started working there during the summer when I was 19 and we worked there for 7 full summers. Shaun and I were married on the camp property in the Adirondack Mountains and we even went back and worked for a summer when our son Emmett was a baby. I heart camp!

## What lead you to teaching?

I would say that I was the type of kid who loved school and had always thought that I would teach on some level. My first year as a camp counselor solidified that decision for me. I loved working with middle and high

school aged students. I also have a love of history and literature, so naturally those were the subjects that I was most interested in teaching. I am certified to teach history in grades 5 through 9 and English in grades 5 through 12.

## Favorite movie?

Oh there are so many that I love, I don't know that I could pick just one. The Italian Job is a sentimental movie for me. It was a first date movie with my husband. I love John Hughes films and I watch Love Actually every Christmas. I love to watch movies that were adapted from books. I never see the movie if I haven't read the book first and usually the movie adaptations make me mad, however I can't stay away.

## Song lyrics that mean alot to you?

Forever by Ben Harper gets me every time. I walked down the aisle to this song. I love music and I am definitely a lyrics based music fan. I've always thought that Ben Harper was very poetic and songs like Forever and By My Side are very special to me.

Not talkin' 'bout a year  
No not three or four  
I don't want that kind of forever  
In my life anymore  
Forever always seems  
to be around when it begins  
but forever never seems  
to be around when it ends  
So give me your forever  
Please your forever  
Not a day less will do  
From you

## Favourite fictional character?

This changes rapidly but I would have to say that the character that I always return to is Molly Weasley from the Harry Potter series. The more kids I have the more I relate to her. She was a fierce, but practical mother of

7 who was trying to survive and give her children the best upbringing that she knew how. I always felt like she was the only true mother that Harry ever knew. In the battle scene of Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows, she draws from her grief and motherly passion to become a warrior and take down the monster (Bellatrix Lastrange) who murdered her son. That moment memorialized her character for me.

## Favourite comfort food?

I'm currently pregnant, so this answer changes based on the day. My go to comfort food is powdered donuts. However, I have a soft spot for Sonic onion rings with a strawberry cream slush.



Stephanie "Lawrence" Rathgeber, LOHS Class of 2003



Mrs. Rathgeber with her son Emmett on the first day of school.



# History Repeats Itself

**By Raegan Archer**

Junior Editor

Almost every high school student has heard the phrase “History repeats itself,” from a history teacher at some point in their academic career, but recently a rather dark stain in world history has reared its head again. Xenophobia is defined as “intense or irrational dislike or fear of people from other countries” or “the fear of that which is perceived to be foreign or strange.”

A rather famous example of xeno-

identify to deport to concentration camps.

A similar form of xenophobia can be found today in the United Kingdom. Recently Syrians have fled their country to seek refuge in countries where they believed they could keep themselves and their families safe, because they felt their home country was dangerous. In the United Kingdom there has been controversy, as the refugees in Cardiff have been forced to wear red wristbands as a form of identification as a refugee. These wristbands

Not only is there current day xenophobia in the United Kingdom, but there is also rising xenophobia in the United States. The potential GOP presidential candidate Donald Trump (Drumpf), known for getting his foot stuck in his mouth, is also very well known for his dislike of immigrants, namely Muslims and Mexicans. In an interview with Yahoo News in November 2015, Trump said he would consider requiring Muslim-Americans to register with a government database or mandating they carry special ID cards that note their faith (CNN.com). While this isn't exactly a “yellow star,” it's still requiring a certain

group of people be treated differently and identified by a people group they're a part of, even if they're legal citizens of the United States.

This is a great example of why history classes are important. Staying informed on what's going on in the world and comparing it to things that have happened in history are some of the only ways to avoid a second Holocaust or another World War.



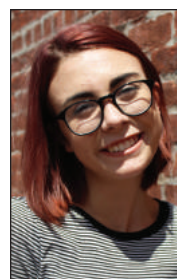
phobia in history is the Holocaust and the Nazi party. In the case of the Holocaust, xenophobia was coupled with anti-semitism. These feelings were pushed onto and encouraged in the public by Hitler and others in leadership positions at that time. Because of the hatred of the Jewish people, they were forced to identify themselves by wearing yellow cloth Star of David pinned to their clothing at all times. The Jewish people were made to wear these stars as a form of humiliation and segregation and so they would be easier to

have led to the persecution, harassment, and abuse by members of the public. You may think a simple solution would be to stop wearing the wristband, but if the refugees don't, they aren't given food at the housing where they stay. Not only are they forced to wear the wristbands, but front doors of their housing were painted the same red as their wristbands, which has led to vandalism and targeting of refugee housing, similar to the way Jewish businesses were targeted in Germany.

## March: In the Now

**By Laney Yancey**

Messenger Reporter



**Laney Yancey**

This playlist is inspired by the heartbeat of the night, an electronic pulse. Cheers to spring and feeling warmth coming to the surface enough to graze your fingertips, muted neons, and electricity.

**Night Vision Binoculars:** Passenger  
**Lisztomania:** Phoenix  
**Amor Fati:** Washed Out  
**Something Good Can Work:** Two Door Cinema Club  
**Don't Move:** Phantogram  
**Life On Mars?:** 1999 Remas-

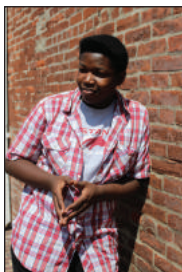
**tered Version:** David Bowie  
**Electroshock Death Grip:** Black Taxi

**Sleepyhead:** Passion Pit  
**Falling:** HAIM  
**Upswing:** Prince George  
**Past Lives:** BØRNS  
**New Theory:** Washed Out  
**Good As New:** Vacationer  
**Wolf:** Sylvan Esso  
**Lost That Easy:** Cold War Kids  
**Lampshades on Fire:** Modest Mouse  
**While I'm Alive:** STRFKR  
**Punching In A Dream:** The Naked and Famous  
**Helena Beat:** Foster The People  
**My Girls:** Animal Collective  
**Polish Girl:** Neon Indian

Follow Laney Yancey on  
Instagram &  
twitter:  
@yougoghgrl

# The New Panthers

By Xzaiviar Reeder



Reeder

We recently experienced the coming and going of the recent Super Bowl, however most of us simply watched it for the halftime show. During this halftime show there were no giant lions, sun kissed skin, or sharks. Rather we got something that many people seem to be up in arms about.

If you are one of those people who ignore certain things that are trending simply due to their short relevance in life, you most likely nodded your head through an entire conversation about Beyonce's controversial outfit during the super bowl. While admittedly great looking and designed very well, this outfit was based on that of the Black Panthers. A civil rights group that was used to defend African American protesters from police. Many people claim that there is no harm in dressing in such a way and that it is a simple expression of heritage. However, times have changed.

No one can ignore the past. America has always had problems with race relations. Something that most likely will never change, but people have fought against these ideals and try to forge a better future for their people. One these groups just so happened to be the "Black Panthers," a militant civil rights group. The black panthers differ from other militant groups as they had provided to their community. Providing free breakfast to school children and creating clinics and organizing blood drives. The black panthers truly were just people wanting to defend themselves and make a change. However, their

history is filled with brutality coming from police. One of the biggest incidents of this was on December 4, 1969. On this date, Chicago police raided the apartment used as a black panther base, killing Fred Hampton as well as other Panthers as they lay sleeping.

Continuous harassment by police as well as internal fighting among factions lead to the fall of the Black Panther movement leading to almost all leaders leaving, and most falling into drug use. This leads us to the "New Black Panthers". A quote by Eldridge Cleaver best sums up the situation. "As it was [the U.S. government] chopped off the head [of the Black liberation movement] and left the body there armed. That's why all these young bloods are out there now, they've got the rhetoric but are without the political direction and they've got the guns."

People are now part of a movement that has no idea what they want. People that have simplified a complex movement that wanted equality and turned it into a hate group. With the "New Black Panthers" demanding a land for African Americans and willing to take it by force, one can only hope that we move away from such extremist views and forget the "40 acres and the Mule."



**HOOPERS**  
• OUTDOOR CENTER •

Locally  
Downtown

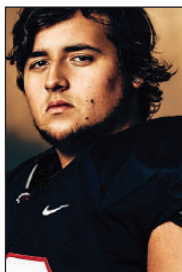


219 Broadway Street  
(270) 443-0019

www.HOOPERS.net  
f /HoopersPaducah



# Senior Spotlights



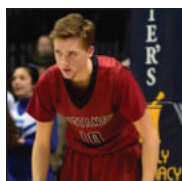
**Purdom**

**Wells Purdom:** Wells Purdom is a senior boy's basketball player. He will be attending college in the fall at the University of Kentucky. Wells is a center on the basketball team. When asked if he will be continue to play basketball after high school, he said, "No because I'll be continuing football after high school" Wells is also involved in FCA.

During his free time he likes to watch movies and work out. When asked how has participating in this activity affected you as a person, he said, "It humbled me a lot and taught me how to be part of a team when you're actually not playing. Brought me closer to a lot of guys I thought I would never be close to."

**Jacob Zakutney:** Jacob Zakutney is a senior boy's basketball player. He will be attending college in the fall and he wants to study kinesiology and hopefully become a strength and conditioning coach for a college or professional team. Jacob is the shooting guard and team captain for the basketball team. When asked if he plans on playing basketball after high school he said, yes but he is not sure where yet. In his

free time, Jacob likes to lift weights and compete in powerlifting. He also likes to hang out with his friends and play basketball. When asked how participating in this activity has affected you as a person, he said, "It has taught me how to be a leader. It definitely had a very positive experience on my high school and developed a lot of relationships I will have forever."



**Hayden**

**Evan Hayden:** Evan Hayden is a senior boy's basketball player. He will be attending college in the fall but he is undecided as to where. Evans positions on the basketball team can go from a guard to a forward. This past season,

with it being his senior year, he had the role of being the team captain throughout the season. When asked if he will continue playing basketball after high school, Evan said, "I have opportunities to continue to play basketball after I graduate high school, but I haven't made that decision yet. Now that basketball is over, I'm going to spend a lot of time thinking about that, along with my other future plans. It would be hard to walk away from the game I love so much, but it might be for the best. I plan to make that decision sometime in the near future." Other than being on the basketball team, Evan is also involved in FCA. "Basketball has made high school the most enjoyable time of my life so far, and I can't thank God enough for blessing me with the opportunities I've had over the years."



**Kauffman**

**Madelyn Kauffman:** Madelyn Kauffman is a senior girl basketball player. She will be attending Georgetown College to play tennis, she will double major in special education and sports administration. She plays guard on the team. When asked if she will continue to play basketball after high school Madelyn said, "No, I'm playing tennis in college." Madelyn is involved in NHS, Beta Club, and FCA, she is on the Basketball and Tennis team. In her free time she likes playing all sports, and spending time with her friends. When asked how participating in this activity has affected her as a person, Madelyn said, "Basketball made my high school experience so much better. My teammates turned into my best friends and I had the greatest coaches that treated us all like family. I can't believe it's over, I'm going to miss stepping onto that court to play the game we all love so deeply."



**Womack**

**Calley Womack:** Calley Womack is a senior girl basketball player. She will be attending Murray in the fall and major-

ing in nursing. She is captain and forward for the basketball team. In her free time Calley likes to hang out with friends and watch Netflix. When asked how participating in this activity has affected her as a person, she said, "Playing basketball has given me friendships that I will never forget and taught me to never give up on something that you really want."



**Lemus**

**Maria Lemus:** Maria Lemus is a senior girl basketball player. She will be attending college and the fall and she will major in accounting. She plays guard on the team. Maria is also involved in the spanish honors society. In her free time Maria likes to go to the movies with her family and friends. When asked how participating in this activity has affected her as a person, she said, "It has taught me how important it is to have a supportive family and also taught me life lessons. Such as, never let one aspect of your life affect another. It has impacted by making me realize how quick great things happen."



**Rice**

**Maddye Rice:** Maddye Rice is a senior girl basketball player. She will be attending college in the fall, she will get a degree and start a career. She plays guard for the team and she is undecided if she will be playing basketball after high school. Maddye also plays on the soccer

team. In her free time she likes to hang out with friends and family. When asked how participating in this activity has affected her as a person, she said, "sports have brought me some of my closest friendships and taught me how to be a good teammate."



Smith

**Alex Smith:** Alex Smith is a senior girl basketball player. She will be attending Murray in the fall, and she will be majoring in business. She is shooting guard and captain for the team. In her free time she likes to watch netflix and hang out with friends. When asked how participating in this activity has affected her as a person, Alex said, “Being apart of the girls basketball team has showed me how important relationships are. If I didn’t play basketball, I don’t know what my high school years would’ve been like.”



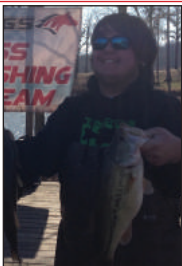
Kidd

**Kyla Kidd:** Kyla Kidd is a senior girl basketball player. She will be attending college in the fall and she will be majoring in physical education. She plays guard for the team. Kyla is also involved in the commonwealth middle college student council. In her free time she likes to spend time with her family while camping or hiking, and learning new things and being active. When asked how participating in this activity affected her as a person, she said, “Playing basketball has taught me so many lessons about life and about myself. For example, the faster you do something instead of complaining the faster it is over. (The 8 in 3) or that nothing worth anything comes without putting in the work. Playing sports, especially basketball, has taught me that pain is only temporary and necessary to achieve greatness. Of all the things I could have participated in in high school I am so blessed to have had the opportunity to participate in something so incredible.”



Rudy

**Lexi Rudy:** Lexi Rudy is a senior girl basketball player. She will be attending WKCTC in the fall and majoring in business. She plays forward for the team. Lexi is also involved in FCA. In her free time she likes to hang out with friends and work. When asked how participating in this activity has affected her as a person, Lexi said, “It has taught me to be a leader and has developed



Mayo

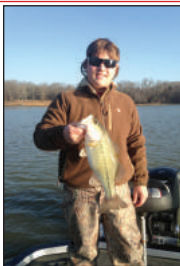
friendships i never thought I would have had.”

**Jake Mayo:** Jake Mayo is a senior on our Bass Fishing Team. Mayo is the current President of the Bass Fishing Team and says he plans on fishing in local tournaments and in the Bass Fishing League even going as big as the Costa Del Mar tournaments. Mayo also plays guitar and hunts in his free times away from fishing. Mayo plans to attend WKCTC for two years and earn his associate’s degree in business before transferring to Murray State to earn a bachelor’s. Mayo says being apart of the team has affected him in a rather big way, becoming President of the team gave him a big responsibility, saying it’s gone great and made the team grow as a family. Not only has the Mayo learned more on fishing but learned even more on being a team leader.

**Austin Belt:** Austin Belt is a senior on the Bass Fishing Team for McCracken County High School. Belt plans to continue on with collegiate fishing while attending Murray State University. Belt is also involved with the Ag department here at MCHS. Belt says besides fishing he also enjoys hunting and hanging out with friends in his free time. The fishing team not only helped Belt make more friends but

helped him be more successful on the water which makes his experiences more enjoyable.

**Shelby Copeland:** Shelby Copeland is a senior on the Bass Fishing Team for McCracken County High School. Copeland plans to attend WKU and joining schools local bass fishing team. Copeland the right hand man to President Mayo being



Belt

the team’s Vice President of the Bass Fishing team. Shelby is also a member of FFA at McCracken and enjoys hunting, archery and competing in fishing competitions. Copeland says the Bass Fishing Team has taught him more patients during his time and will carry that with himself throughout college.



Copeland



BAPTIST HEALTH<sup>®</sup>  
PADUCAH

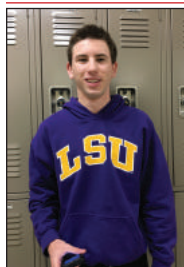
Walk In Clinic  
Mccracken Co. High School

Hours  
Open school days  
7:30am - 3:30pm

Available to  
Students  
Teachers  
& The Public!



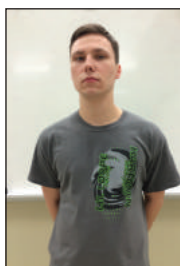


**Canestrini**

goes through his high school career and hopes it carries on into his later life as well.

**Zack Canestrini:** Zack Canestrini is a senior on the McCracken County High School Bass Fishing Team. While Canestrini doesn't plans to continue on with Bass Fishing after high school he does plan to join the Military after school and be a part of the army. Canestrini say the Bass Fishing team has taught him patience while he

of the school team, though, because the swimmers are truly my family.

**Garner**

**Kyler Garner:** Kyler is a senior member of the Mustang Bowling team. After high school he plans to attend WKCTC before transfer to Murray State as an OSHA major. Kyler hopes to continue bowling in leagues and tournaments as he proceeds on to the next level of education. While at MCHS, Kyler has been an active part of the FFA.

**Pitt**

attending college. Pitt also plans to go to school to study to be an Optometrist. While Pitt is not in any other clubs or activities involving MCHS, Pitt does workout at the gym and spend time with his friends. Being apart of the swim team taught Pitt the meaning of dedication, teamwork, self confidence and to have fun and also impacts his whole high school career while he's been juggling his school work and swim at the same time.

**Jack Pitt:** Jake Pitt is a senior swimmer for the McCracken County High School Swim Team. Pitt says he swims for the spirit races and is the lead-off or anchor in relays. Pitt plans to end his swimming career after he graduates, although schools have been recruiting him to swim for their school, he wants to focus more on school while

**Gross**

he stated "Wrestling has taught me to never quit and give 100%."

**Levi Gross:** Levi is a senior member of the Mustang wrestling team and a current team captain. He will be attending Georgetown College as a Biology major in the fall. He hopes to continue his education by attending graduate school to become a physician's assistant. When asked about the impact that wrestling has had on him,

**Seth Estes:** Seth is a member of the Mustang wrestling team and a current team captain. After high school Seth hopes to persue a degree in criminal justice as he trains to become a police officer. Seth is a big part of the Mustang community ; he was a starting defensive tackle for the football team in the fall.

**Estes**

**Jeffrey Mathis:** Jeffrey is a senior member of the Wrestling team and a current team captain. This school year, Jeffrey has participated in wrestling, baseball, and football. After high school, Jeffrey will be attending WKCTC to continue his education.

**Mathis**

Bowling Team Members not pictured: Avery Edwards and Preston King.

**Stevens**

Honors Society, Spanish Honors Society, and Future Business Leaders of America. When asked about her time as a Mustang swimmer she stated, "Swimming has taught me the value of working hard and being a part of a team. Swimmers are some of the hardest workers because months of training can culminate in an improvement of just half a second off your time. I've loved being a part

**Kelsey Stevens:** Kelsey Stevens is a senior on the MCHS swim team. She competes in freestyle and back stroke. She is also a team captain this year. She is currently undecided on her college plans but is hoping to attend either Centre College or Transylvania University and continue her swimming career. While at MCHS she has been a member of the National



## History

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

remains a mystery.

There are many more interesting cases that I could have included in this article, but that would take probably the whole newspaper itself. If you are interested in any of these cases, or would like to know some more interesting cases to research up on, feel free to contact me at caroline.dew@stu.mccracken.kyschools. There are lots of sources of information on the internet regarding these cases and ones like it, as well.

# Eat Well at School: A Guide

**By Brooke Salsman**

Messenger Reporter

"The school lunch is awful!" "Thanks Michelle." "If only there was some way to avoid eating school lunch!" If you've said/heard any of these statements, you may want to take a peek at this.

## Option 1: Pack Your Lunch

The best way to eat what you prefer at school is to bring your lunch from home. If you're unsure of what to pack, here's a list of healthy options.

1. Baked Potato- Poke the potato with a fork a few times to let steam escape,

wrap it in a wet paper towel to preserve moisture, and microwave it for about 8 minutes (check it after 5 to see how it's doing.) Then, wrap it in aluminum foil to keep it warm and pack any garnishes you'd like (cheese, bacon bits, etc.).

2. Turkey Sandwich- This one is pretty self explanatory. It's quick and easy.

3. Soup- Heat it up in the morning, pack it in a thermos, and you're good to go.

4. Healthy Snacks- This includes fruits, granola bars, yogurt, etc. You can buy to-go hummus packs at Walmart that require no preparation.

5. Leftovers- It may not be your #1 choice, but it saves money and may be more preferable than the school lunch.

## Option 2: School Options

You may be unable to pack your lunch at home. Fortunately, contrary to popular belief, there are some great healthy options here at school.

1. Protein Shakes- They're served cold and thick.

2. Sub Sandwiches- Whenever I don't pack my lunch, I go straight to these. They're healthy and come in convenient plastic containers. How fun!

3. Protein Packs- These usually consist of a muffin, a cheese stick, yogurt, and a pack of carrots.

4. Soup- Every Time I've had soup at school, it's been

A-OK. I definitely recommend it as a safe option for people who really just despise school lunch.



**FLIP OUT  
ABOUT**

**Flipster**  
MAGAZINES

60 popular magazine titles  
Read them on any device  
Save money, save space, save time

**AVAILABLE NOW ON MCLIB.NET**





# Bevin Makes Cuts

**By Parker Lyon**

Messenger Reporter

It's no news to anyone that Americans love to spend money. Enough money to add up to 18 trillion dollars that this country owes. This debt is a big burden on America and many politicians are scrambling to find out just how to solve this problem. In efforts to stop this problem, newly elected governor Matt Bevin, recently proposed a new

budget that would cut a lot of money that a lot of Kentuckians relied on. Some government jobs are at risk, some are worried that the Kentucky arts program will be cut and that teacher pensions will be lowered. According to the courier journal "Details of the impact of these cuts are not yet known. Bevin said it will be the job of his cabinet secretaries to determine how best to apply their reduced appropriations. He told reporters before the speech that his budget does not eliminate funding

for the Kentucky Arts Council – a fear of the state's arts community. But his plan does cut the council's parent agency – The Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet – and it will be that cabinet secretary's job to determine how to cope with the cut." As regards to the teacher pensions he says that he will add to the teacher pension system. Bevin said that he would add 1.1 billion in funding for the Kentucky teacher retirement system. With all of this said, none of this is set in stone. First it will go

to the Kentucky house, if passed it will go to the senate where the republicans have control.



# Why Being Single is a Good Thing

**By Leah DeRossett**

Messenger Reporter

We've all been there; either your boyfriend just dumped you, the girl of your dreams is dating someone else, or maybe you just long for a relationship but can't find anyone who you would want to share that bond with. Most of us get so caught up in what everyone else is doing, we forget to remember that our lives are our lives, and no one else's. It may send a ping through your chest to see a cute couple holding hands in the hallway, but being single isn't all that bad. There are a lot of reasons to love being independent.

## Saving Money

Valentine's Day, Christmas, birthdays... Though it may be nice to just simply be around your significant other on those days, and yes, sometimes they pull the notorious "I don't want anything this year," let's face it, we all expect at least a little something. But when you're single, you don't have to worry about how much you should spend on those special days. In fact, you can spend all your money on yourself! I've always said that the day after Valentine's Day is my favorite day, because all of the chocolate goes on sale.

## No Girl, No Drama

It seems like everyday that I walk down the halls I see at least three couples arguing along the way. It seems exhausting to constantly have to worry about whether one person is mad at your or not, constantly having to make sure that they're happy. Why would it be fun to stay stressed? Why isn't he texting me back? Why is she being distant? What did I do? To me, that seems like a lot of work, and a lot of pressure on one person. When you're

single, that's not an issue. All you have to do is sit back, relax, and enjoy the entertainment that couples give you with their everyday arguments.

## More Me-Time

How many times have you asked a friend to hang out but have heard them say "I can't this weekend, I'm busy with..." it's tiring, indeed. It seems like no matter what you do to try to hang out with your friends, they're always busy with their boyfriend or girlfriend. But what we need to understand is that one day, we will be that person as well, and we need to enjoy the time we have to ourselves while we have it. Take a walk by yourself, watch a movie, get some errands done. Hanging out with yourself is fun, because after all, you know yourself better than anyone else. There's no awkward conversation of "where do you want to go eat?" "What do you want to do?" It's just you, and you can do whatever you want. That in itself is a blessing.

Sometimes we forget that we are young, and we have our whole lives to find someone to occupy our time. While we have the chance to live and have fun, we should. If you have someone to spend your time with, that's great. If you don't, well, that's not the end of the world either. Relationships are fun, but they don't always last. Be happy that you don't have the stress weighing you down, and embrace the solitude that you have. Not everyone can appreciate being independent, but if you stop worrying about what other people have and focus on what you have yourself, you'll realize that you don't have it all that bad.

# In Loving Memory

**By Kaitlyn Craig**

Messenger Reporter

In the past several weeks this school has experienced a lot of tragedy. The most recent of those tragedies personally hit me really hard. On March 1, 2016, the world lost a beautiful, loving person. Farah Ervin was a 16 year old Junior here at Mccracken County High School. She loved everyone and was always thinking about what she could do to help someone.

I only knew Farah a short amount of time. I was only blessed to know her a little over a year. But in that year she had a very big effect on my life. She was a very good friend of mine and I always knew she was there if I ever needed anyone to talk to. I'm going to miss her infectious laughter, her beautiful smile that could light up a room, and her sparkling personality. She would laugh at the smallest things and she was positive almost all of the time. She went through some really hard times, but she always had a smile on her face. She loved everyone and was willing to help anyone who had the slightest need before she helped herself.

Farah touched many people other than me as well. She touched almost everyone who was blessed to know her. I asked one of Farah's other friends from my church, Elizabeth Day, about Farah's impact on her life. When asked about what she will always remember about Farah, Elizabeth said, "I will always remember her dedication to people, and the fact that

she was always there when you were having a bad day, or you just needed a hug." She was one of the best encouragers I've ever met. She was a bright ray of sunshine even on the cloudiest of days. Farah didn't realize how many people her positivity and helpfulness reached. She didn't realize how many people considered her a friend. But through the recent events, I have seen with my own eyes, large amounts of people who considered her a good friend, and even closer than that, a sister, come together and feel true grief. Her life meant something, and many people were affected by Farah's presence.

Sometimes it's confusing on why things like this happen. But I'm a solid believer in the fact that everything happens for a reason. The pain of losing her will be there for a long time. But Farah still lives on in our cherished memories. I have complete faith that we will see Farah again someday. But until then, we will never forget the lovely Farah Ervin.



# Which Breed has the Upper Paw

**By Caroline Dew**

Messenger Reporter

Dogs and cats - everybody loves them. This is a fact. If you say that you do not love dogs and cats or puppies and kittens, then you are lying to me. Puppies are adorable and playful and love everyone and everything and want to play and have the cutest habits. Kittens have tiny tails and stick them straight up in the air and hop around like little idiots. It's all adorable. Everyone has heard of huskies, yorkies, and just regular house cats. But there are hundreds, if not thousands of breeds of dog and cat out there. Broaden your horizons. Don't be mainstream. Get yourself a Czechoslovakian Vlcak. That's a dog, by the way. Or maybe you can get yourself a Selkirk Rex. That's a cat. I just looked them up, their fur looks like wool on a sheep. It's really cute.

Let's start with dogs. Dogs are super cute and adorable, and like I said, everyone wants one. Even people who are allergic to dogs want a dog. They're man's best friend. And when you're walking your dog, and someone stops you and asks what kind of dog it is that you're walking, why not leave them wondering if you're crazy by telling them it's a Vlcak? They'll probably wonder if you have something in your throat. Czechoslovakian Vclaks are also known as Czechoslovakian Wolf-dogs. They look like wolves, by the way. They're basically Europe's German Shepherd. They have pointy ears and the same kind of body, but their coloration is that of a wolf almost. What about a Catahoula Leopard Dog? That actually sounds a little scary. It reminds me of Cthulu, and he is not a dog. But rest assured, the Catahoula Leopard Dog is just as cute as any other dog. It's a dog - with spots. Like a dalmation, but

not black and white and not mainstream. Maybe you'd be interested in a Peruvian Inca Orchid. You actually probably wouldn't be. They're the ugliest dog I've ever seen in my life. They're even worse than those Chinese Hairless Crested. They have no hair. But maybe if you're allergic to dog hair, you can have this guy as your friend. After all, it's what's on the inside that counts, I guess.

Now cats. I like cats more than I like dogs, but sometimes I like dogs more than I like cats. It's a confusing thing. Most of the cats around here are just stray tabby cats or typical shorthaired cats with various color patterns. But you'd be amazed at how many cat breeds there are. There's this one, that looks like a sheep. It's fur looks like a sheep, I'm not even kidding - and it's fur is curly too. It's really cute. It's called a Selkirk Rex. I really recommend google imaging them, they're super adorable and I just now decided that I want one. Or maybe you want a cat that will remind you of a demon. The American Curl's ears curl inwards like devil horns. It's really funny. The Laperm looks just like a Selkirk Rex to me, I'm sure there are some differences. But I'm telling you about it because it is literally named 'Laperm' because it looks like it has a perm. Lastly, there's a cat called the Ukrainian Levkoy. It looks like a Sphinx Cat but it's ears are curly. I think hairless cats are adorable but hairless dogs are ugly.

So, dogs and cats are great. This we can all agree on. If you don't agree, get out. Stop reading this paper. And even if you THINK that you don't like dogs or cats, I'm sure there's some absolutely insane breed of dog or cat that doesn't even LOOK like a dog or cat. You can have one without even really noticing it is what it is. Don't be mainstream. Let's put huskies out of business.



# Choir Rocks NOLA



**By Lauren Stokes**  
Messenger Reporter

On March 9th of 2016, 34 members (and 9 chaperones) of the McCracken County High School Choir embarked on a journey to New Orleans, Louisiana. They took this trip using a tour company called Music Celebrations that helped them with the itinerary. In New Orleans, they visited the college campus of Xavier University. They performed at a nationally recognized venue, the St. Louis Cathedral and took part in a community service project, St. Margaret's Assisted Living Performance. Some fun things that this group of students did includes a swamp tour guided by the man who inspired the Disney character Ray the Firefly in Princess and the Frog. They attended a St. Patrick's Day Parade. They saw a cemetery tour, a ghost tour, a sculpture garden, and how Mardi Gras floats are designed and sculpted.

While singing at St. Margaret's Assisted Living, it was an emotional time. Choir member, Michaela Walker, describes the experience as helping her understand that music has the power to heal and it is more than just lyrics. In New Orleans, music is ex-

pressed very openly on the streets. This showed everyone how much people care about music and even when they have nothing, they have music. Abigail Shelby says her favorite part of the trip was taking all the tours around the very beautiful town. When asked how this trip helped her, she said, "I took away that our choir is capable of so much more than what we do on a daily basis." Another choir member, Matthew Jordan, enjoyed singing in the "absolutely breathtaking" St. Louis Cathedral. He describes the experience as life changing. From this trip he learned that some of the things you have to do in life are not always going to be things you want to do. Music has had a huge impact on Matthew's life and going to New Orleans was something he will never forget.

# Student Run Bank

**By Lauren Stokes**  
Messenger Reporter

This winter a class of McCracken students have been working to open

will serve, faculty, staff, clubs and students at MCHS. Lots of controversial has come from this bank, as students feel that it will be very difficult. It seems to be a very big task to put out a bank to many students who



a bank in our cafeteria. It's purpose is to help kids learn money managing skills. Clubs can make accounts to withdraw or deposit money from the bank and students can take out a loan of up to 50 dollars. David Dodd who is president, chairman of the board and head teller, told me the purpose of the bank is "To educate students about banking, and to promote responsibility, integrity, maturity, and confidentiality within our students" He also told me that this bank will serve more than just students it

are new to the money managing skill. David Dodd told me that the decision to open the bank was based on the reasons to teach students certain skills: "To ensure students graduating from MCHS have the financial skills necessary for the "real world" and to pave the way for a great new tradition here at McCracken." The Mane Stang bank opened on Tuesday, March 1st. It is open on Tuesday and Thursday around lunch time, so make sure you check out the Mane Stang Bank "Where the interest is you."

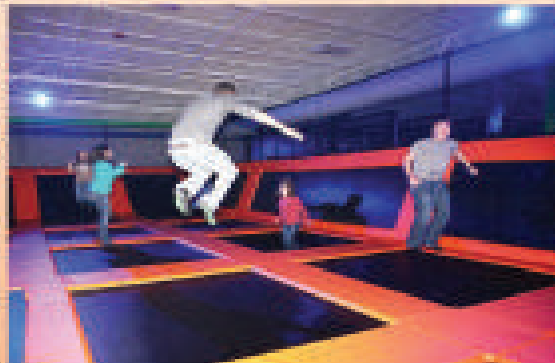
## MESSANGER FUN FACT

The male cicada is the loudest insect in the world. Their sound can reach 120 decibels. By comparison, a jackhammer breaking concrete is 100-120 decibels.

Mentleloss.com



# TEEN NIGHT



Introducing Vertical Jump Park's Teen Night! Leave your parents and little brother or sister at home!! Attractions include: 8,000 square feet of open jump trampolines, 3 basketball dunking lanes, a huge stunt bag, a jousting battle beam, 2 dodgeball courts and a double sided rock climbing wall! Dance on the tri-state area's largest dance floor with the best sound and lighting system!

## TEEN NIGHT:

TEEN NIGHT IS FOR  
HIGH SCHOOL TEENS ONLY!

## TEEN NIGHT DATES:

MARCH 5TH - GLOW PARTY  
MARCH 19TH - SPECIAL GUEST DJ  
APRIL 2ND - GLOW PARTY  
APRIL 9TH - SPECIAL GUEST DJ

## TEEN NIGHT HOURS:

9PM - 11:30PM

## TEEN NIGHT PRICING:

ALL ACCESS PASS - INCLUDES UNLIMITED  
JUMPING & DANCING: \$25  
DANCING ONLY PASS: \$10  
GLOW PARTY T-SHIRTS: \$12

Come party with all your friends at Paducah's hottest new venue -  
**VERTICAL JUMP PARK!!!**

verticaljumppark.com | (270) 366-0331  
reservations@verticaljumppark.com  
5101 Hinkleville Road, Unit #610, Paducah, KY 42001

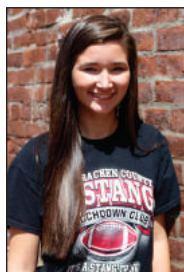
Located at Kentucky Oaks Mall next to Dick's Sporting Goods. All Jumpers must have a current e-waiver on file. Vertical Socks are required to jump and can be purchased upon arrival.



# The CHACO Movement

**By Madison Vaughn**

Senior Editor



**Vaughn**

Chaco's were born in 1989 when a Colorado rafting guide decided to build a sandal fit for the outdoor living. A sandal that is durable, comfortable, and multi-functional.

The Chaco sandal has been around for longer than I have been alive, but has recently become more popular within the teenage community within the last five years. Chaco's are seen a lot within outdoor events, church camps, and mission trips. It is a sandal that is comfortable to spend a whole day walking in, yet stylish and looks good on your feet.

My addiction to the Chaco sandal began when I attended church camp in 2013 and my camp counselor was wearing a pair. That is when I realized I wanted a pair. My addiction began summer 2015 when I finally

bought myself my first pair of Chaco's. I wore them every single day that I had a chance to from then on. I had a feeling I wasn't the only one so I took some time to interview other students that I saw wearing Chaco's around school.

Courtney Mims is new to the Chaco family so I asked her a few questions on how much she loved them. When asked about how she felt about her Chacos, Courtney responded with, "I got them, because I saw a lot of people wearing them and I thought they were really cute. When your first get them, they are kind of uncomfortable, because you have to get used to them, but then it's like you're not even wearing shoes. I wear them every time it is sunny outside so about 5 days a week. On a scale from 1-10, I rate them a 10. They are definitely the best shoes ever."

Margaret Emmons has owned her Chacos for about a year now. She says, "I bought them, because everyone else was getting them. At first, they were really uncomfortable, but I got used to them. I'd rate them a 9

out of 10. I don't regret buying them, they're totally worth it. One of my fav shoes!"

Chacos are really worth the money you spend of them, because they are multi functional and super comfortable!



# Hope

**By Luke Harris**

Creative Writer

One knock, two knocks  
Echoes from the door  
No reply at all  
Everybody had gone  
Everybody gave up  
He must be lonely  
Does he not care?  
Maybe he should not care  
What's a peasant to a king?

It's been a while  
Awfully quiet too  
Nobody but him at the gate  
Is there really a king  
Maybe he is gone too  
Maybe he gave up  
Maybe this peasant should give up  
Ragged clothes and dirt poor  
Nothing to offer that a king wouldn't have

"Please let me in I'm still waiting for you"  
Silver eyes, sad eyes, they close  
Eyes weep for a king long forgotten  
No support from the land he reigns  
Those walls are so tall  
He wishes they'd just crumble  
Expose the king he wished to see  
It's been a while, he knocks again

Wait  
Are the doors moving or is it just hopeful eyes?

Luke Harris original artwork.





# Summertime Sadness

**By Leah DeRossett**  
Messenger Reporter

Rain, rain, go away... The weather isn't unbearably cold anymore, but now we have the spring showers making their appearance. It's times like these when we all long for a summer that seems to be so far away. With one quarter left in the school year, we all seem to have a sense of summertime sadness. Now is the perfect time to plan a summer that we won't forget. Since we want summer so bad, we might as well plan to make it one for the books!

### Make Some Playlists

Something that nearly every person has in common is a liking for music. Sometimes music can trigger memories that give us a feeling of a calm sensation. I can't recall a single summer that doesn't make me think of a certain song that my friends and I jammed

### Plan Some Trips

Occasionally, we are fortunate

face it, we rarely ever have the money, the car, or the permission from

We have Venture River that is less than an hour away. You can have

our parents to go somewhere far away. However, trips don't have to last for weeks at a time. A day trip to Nashville, a weekend spent in St. Louis, or even just a three day camping trip to the lake can be enough to make some never ending memories. With enough pre-planning, you can come up with some fun ideas to spend your time during the summer. Maybe plan one for each month!

### Enjoy the Opportunities Around You

If you are unable to go on trips during the summer, it's not the end of the world. There are plenty of things to do here in Paducah. Paducah is full of surprises, and if you have some good friends by your side, the fun possibilities are endless. Paducah has a pool, a park, and a beautiful downtown area.

scavenger hunts around town, host bonfires, and explore areas of the town that you've never been to. You might even learn that Paducah isn't half bad.

Don't worry, time never stops and summer isn't growing any farther away from us. Just a few short months and we will be free to do whatever we please. Hang in there, summer isn't too far away!



**MESSENGER LIFE HACK**

**SPEAR THE CREAM IN YOUR OREO WITH A FORK FOR EASIER MILK DUNKING!**

**Mr. Sandless**  
Wood Floor Refinishing

**David Clapp**  
Owner  
KyWest@MrSandless.com

**270-856-4700**  
www.MrSandless.com

*After*

*Before*

**Bellview Baptist Church**

Reaching IN | Reaching OUT | Reaching UP

**4875 Old Mayfield Rd. Paducah KY 42003**  
bellviewbaptistpaducah.com



# Entertainment

## Fuller House

**By Bailey Caudle**

Messenger Reporter

As everyone knows, one of the best family T.V. show from the late 80's and early 90's has come back but with a new spin to it (and a different name). This show is Fuller House or original known as Full House.

(BEFORE CONTINUING READING,

SPOILERS WILL OCCUR)

Full House was released September 22, 1987 and it ended on May 23, 1995. The old show was about a man named Danny Tanner (played by Bob Saget) who's wife had died and his brother-in-law Jesse Katsopolis (played by John Stamos) and best friend Joey Gladstone (played by David Coulier) come live

with him to help him raise his 3 daughters D.J.(played by Candace Cameron-Bure), Stephanie (played by Jodie Sweetin), and Michelle (played by Mary-Kate and Ashley Olsen). The show was awesome and it had a lot of great life lessons in it. The show had some other great characters like Rebecca Donaldson/Katsopolis (played by Lori Loughlin)

who is Danny's co-host and ends up being Jesse's wife, Kimmy Gibbler (played by Andrea Barber) who is D.J.'s annoying best friend, Steve Hale (played by Scott Weinger) who is D.J.'s love interest/boyfriend throughout the show, and last but not least Nicky and Alex Katsopolis (played by Blake and Dylan Tuomy-Wilhoit) who are Jesse and Rebec-



## Reimagining Art: Painting with Fiber

A Destination Art Museum in the Heart of Historic Downtown Paducah, Kentucky

- Student Discounts
- Open Year-Round
- Special Group Rates
- Bus Parking
- Award Winning Gift Shop
- 6 Restaurants within 3 Blocks



215 Jefferson Street, Paducah, KY 42001 • [QuiltMuseum.org](http://QuiltMuseum.org) • Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Mar-Nov, Sun 1-5pm

Background Quilt: Sun-Bathing Blue Tit by Inge Mardal & Steen Hougs

## Fuller House

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17



ca's twin boys. Oh, and you can't forget about Comet who was the Tanner's dog throughout the show.

The full first season of Fuller House was released February 26, 2016 on Netflix. Most of the original series main cast members reprise their roles on Fuller House; some in regular roles, with the others in special appearances. Mary-Kate and Ashley Olsen, who alternated in the role of Michelle Tanner on Full House, are the only main cast members not reprising their role in the series. The new show is about D.J. who is now grown up and has 3 boys Jackson Fuller (played by Michael Campion), Max Fuller (Elias Harger) and Tommy Fuller Jr. (played by Dashiell and Fox Messitt). The whole family has came together for one last time before Danny, Rebecca, and Jesse move to Los Angeles for Danny and Rebecca's new talk show. D.J. recently lost her husband, and is having a hard time, not to mention her raising her 3 boys on her own. So, her sister Stephanie and best friend Kimmy decide to live with her and help her out. Kimmy has a daugh-

ter now, Ramona Gibbler (played by Soni Nicole Bringas) and has a rough relationship with the charac-

ter Jackson, but throughout the first season, they start to form a friendship. Stephanie is a wild child, and before living with D.J. she never stayed in one place for long, and doesn't have must experience with kids. At the end of the season D.J. finds herself in a love triangle with a old love and a new love. On March 2, 2016, less than a week after the release of it's premiere, the series was renewed for a second season.

In my opinion Fuller House is okay. It is not as good as Full House but I was expecting that from a spinoff. when you have a show as great as Full House was, it's hard to make a spin off of it years later and it be better. I really just like it because I like seeing the old characters and seeing them grown up and have families and getting to see where they are now. Fuller House also does a great job with rephrasing or bring back things that happened in Full House and I love that, it's like I'm reliving Full House all over again. If you haven't watch it you should its seriously not that bad.

## The 88th Academy Awards Recap

By Patrick Carroll

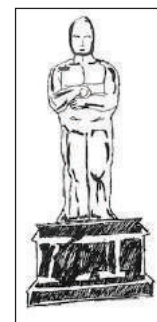
Messenger Reporters

And thus another Oscar race comes to an end. There weren't too many surprises when it comes to the trophy winners themselves. The big topic this year was the lack of diversity amongst the acting nominees, or #OscarsSoWhite. A massive negative reaction to the second consecutive year with no African American acting nominees prompted the Academy to announce "substantive changes" with the goal of "doubling the number of women and diverse members of the Academy by 2020." Chris Rock returned as host almost ten years after his first appearance and people seem to be mostly satisfied with him this year. He handled the controversy pretty much exactly as you would expect Chris Rock to do, his opening monologue being the highlight. The jokes in between... not so much, mostly falling flat and teetering on offensive and low-brow.

Speaking of the acting categories, did you Leonard DiCaprio won Best Actor for The Revenant? Of course you did. His win generated a whopping 440,000 Tweets per minute, making it the most-tweeted moment of an Oscars telecast ever. Brie Larson, who you may recognize from 2012's 21 Jump Street took home Best Actress for her emotionally harrowing performance in Room. Swedish actress Alicia Vikander had a very good year in 2015, appearing in as Ava in the existential sci-fi Ex Machina, Guy Ritchie's The Man From U.N.C.L.E., and The Danish Girl of which she won Best Supporting Actress. I have a feeling this isn't the last we'll be seeing of these two actresses at the Oscars. If you followed the Oscar race this year, you knew all of the acting categories were pretty much locks,

which makes it all the more upsetting when Mark Rylance took home Best Supporting Actor for Bridge of Spies over Sylvester Stallone in his iconic role as an aged Rocky Balboa in Creed. This was easily the biggest upset of the night.

Mad Max: Fury Road unsurprisingly swept the technical categories, winning six in total including Best Editing, Costume Design, Makeup & Hairstyling, Sound Editing and Mixing, and Production Design. The glaring one missing being, in a big surprise, Visual Effects which was taken by Ex Machina, mentioned earlier. The Academy here was likely impressed by the CGI work with its low budget, as the film is pretty independent as opposed to the flashy big budget, practical effects of Star Wars: The Force Awakens and Mad Max. Emmanuel Lubezki won his third consecutive Oscar for his cinematography for The Revenant, a feat never before seen until this year. The creator or Anchorman, Adam McKay, now has an Oscar for his screenplay for the star-studded The Big Short. Tom McCarthy, the writer and director of one of the worst movies of 2015 (The Cobbler starring Adam Sandler) won Best Original Screenplay for Spotlight, the true story of how reporters of the Boston Globe uncovered the massive scandal of child molestation within the Catholic Church. In a bit of an underwhelming conclusion, the film collected the Best Picture prize.





# FILM FLASHBACK: ‘SCREAM’ TURNS 20

**By Adam Sims**

Messenger Reporters

Twenty years ago this December, the first of Wes Craven’s “Scream” series sliced its way into theaters. The film would go on to generate three sequels and a TV series, which debuted on MTV last year. The second, third and fourth installments generally received mixed-to-positive reviews, but no follow-up could match the surprise and originality of the first film.

Following an aggressive bidding war for Kevin Williamson’s script, originally titled “Scary Movie,” it was settled that famed producers Bob and Harvey Weinstein would foot the bill for the film and horror-film legend Wes Craven (director, “A Nightmare on Elm Street”) would

direct. Craven’s meta 1994 sequel “A New Nightmare” could be seen as a predecessor to the self-awareness of “Scream”: the film saw original “Nightmare on Elm Street” actress Heather Langenkamp playing herself and facing off with a revamped Freddy Krueger in real life. The “Scream” screenplay, also somewhat meta and self-referential, successfully turned the slasher genre on its head by making the slashers’ victims teenagers who were well-versed in the tropes of slasher films.

“Scream” follows Sidney (Neve Campbell), a teenage girl whose mother’s brutal homicide remains unsolved. Several years later, her town is being shaken by murder again—despite being billed on the poster, Drew Barrymore is killed

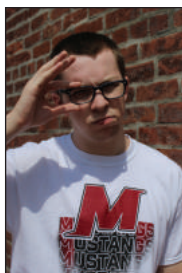
off in the very first scene. Her killer wears a generic Halloween ghost-face costume, and he forces her to answer horror movie trivia questions before slaying her. The film’s supporting cast includes David Arquette, Courteney Cox, and a delightfully insane Matthew Lillard.

“Scream” broke down the door for a new kind of genre mash: the meta horror-comedy. The trend’s infant stages began in the 1980s with films like “An American Werewolf in London” (1981) and “Evil Dead II” (1987), and continued well into this century. The \$103 million “Scream” raked in at domestic box office almost certainly had something

to do with the success of films like “Shaun of the Dead” (2004), “Zombieland” (2009), and “The Cabin in the Woods” (2011), which may be the single most meta horror-comedy since “Scream.”



## March Netflix Recommendations



**Carroll**

**By Patrick Carroll**

**TV Series  
- Daredevil  
(Season 2)**

Daredevil Season 1 hit last April and was the first in a succession of Netflix

original Marvel shows, with Jessica Jones to follow later in November. Both were some of the best things seen from the Marvel Cinematic Universe (as in sharing continuity and reality with The Avengers movies and solo superhero movies thereof) yet, all the while standing on their own as artful, gritty ensemble dramas that elevated the superhero origin story. The benefit

of hosting these shows on Netflix rather than broadcast TV is that they can be darker, edgier, more violent and, at times, gruesome. Jessica Jones handles heavy, mature themes such sexual abuse, alcoholism, and drug addiction. In the case of Daredevil, its action is a bit bloodier, more contained, and more intricate than your typical Marvel flick. In Season 2, Hell’s Kitchen has calmed, but it’s not out of the fire yet. When an unknown vigilante begins to take the fight to the streets in a big and bloody way, Matt Murdock must don the mask of Daredevil to stop him before innocent people end up in the crossfire. A battle of full measure versus half, a conflict of morality and justice, Daredevil vs The Punisher. Jon Bernthal who you may recognize as Shane from The Walking Dead plays The Punisher

(aka Frank Castle) in the mercenary’s debut to the Marvel Cinematic Universe. Netflix is already in development of a spin-off series for his character, apart from the series leading up to The Defenders (Basically, it’s The Avengers for all of the Marvel TV heroes in one show. Luke Cage and Iron Fist shows are yet to come). The show also see French actress Elodie Yung as Elektra, a Greek assassin and love interest to Matt Murdock.

**Movie – Bernie (2011)**

The true story of a good-natured mortician that strikes up a friendship with a wealthy widow, though when she starts to become controlling, he goes to great lengths to separate himself from her grasp. A story so unbelievable, it must be true, as the tagline suggests. Jack

Black delivers a marvelous and enduring performance as Bernie Tiede, transforming himself as a likable, dapper, mild-mannered mortician to cold-blooded killer with ease. Black had previously collaborated with director Richard Linklater eight years before on the comedy School of Rock. Each performance earned him a Golden Globe nomination for Best Actor in a Comedy. This film also marks the third appearance of Matthew McConaughey in Linklater’s work, after his beloved portrayal 20-something-year-old stoner Wooderson in Dazed and Confused. His depiction of District Attorney Davidson is a understated touchstone in his Hollywood reawakening, “The McConaissance.” One can only hope the two actors may appear in more of Linklater’s projects in the future.

# The Life of Pablo; Album Review

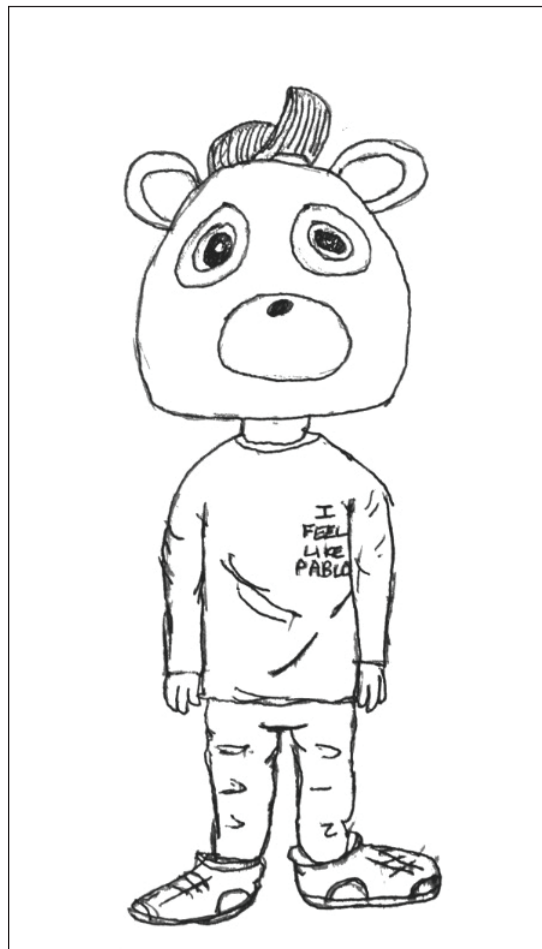
**By Preston Vasseur & Adam Sims**

Entertainment Writers

SCORE: 8/10

To put it simply, the excitement around and immediately following Kanye West's seventh studio album *The Life of Pablo* was extraordinary. Twitter rants, three album title changes, controversial lyrics, the \$53 million in debt Kanye announced he was in, and Kanye's claim that it would be the greatest album of all time—all coupled with Kanye's pre-existing reputation as one of the most divisive celebrity personas today—were all sources of this tremendous anticipation. Many critics and fans alike were ready to dismiss Kanye and TLOP. It appeared he didn't have a clear vision for this one, and considering his essentially flawless six-album run, it looked as though he was due for a flop.

Kanye debuted *The Life of Pablo* to a sold-out Madison Square Garden on February 11. Well, sort of. That version of *The Life of Pablo* had ten songs. 48 hours later, the public got another, 18-track version of *The Life of Pablo*. Kanye evidently spent the hours leading up to *The Life of Pablo*'s early February morning digital release still finishing the album, still tweaking the tracklist. At one point, on "30 Hours," Kanye references the Madison Square Garden release party for the album on the album that he'd already released. And as far as we know, we may still not have a final version of *The Life of Pablo*. West tweeted shortly after the album's release that he would be "fixing" the Frank Ocean-assisted "Wolves." The album's exclusivity to the Jay Z-co-owned streaming service Tidal means the album is forever in digital limbo. It's a living, breathing, unfinished album, one



that West can continue tweaking and updating and fixing into infinity if he so chooses.

Although structure could be seen as the album's biggest weakness, this isn't the fault of the tracks themselves; there are few if any truly weak tracks on Pablo. "Ultralight Beam" kicks off TLOP with heavy soul sampling in accordance with West's announcement that this would be gospel album. This is fitting as on "Ultralight Beam" Kanye mainly discusses his faith, draws parallels between himself and the Apostle Paul, and establishes many of the main themes of the album.

Kanye is more sober, more personal and more introspective on *The Life of Pablo* than he's been since

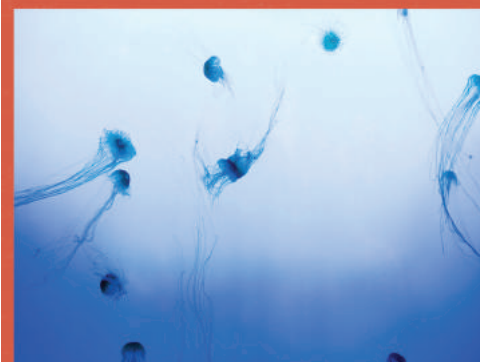
2008's *808s & Heartbreak*. On "Real Friends," he admits his own failures as a family member and friend: "When was the last time I remembered a birthday? / When was the last time I wasn't in a hurry?" Here West hints at his own depression and makes references throughout the album to his own mental state, something the media has been speculating about for weeks. "You ain't never seen nothing crazier than/ This n--ga when he off his Lexapro," he says on "FML," but "Feedback" sees him demanding, "Name one genius that ain't crazy." Kanye raps uninterrupted for four straight minutes on "No More Parties in L.A.," and one line from that song, "My psychiatrist got kids that I inspired," has already been cited as one of the best rap lyrics of the year.

It's not entirely clear why West jumbled his tracklist before the release; one Twitter user has observed that if you sequence the album in order of the original, three-act-structured tracklist that Kanye gave us, the album is much more cohesive. You get the feeling cohesion wasn't a priority for Kanye this time around. As far as structuring and transitioning goes, *The Life of Pablo* is a mess. That being said, it's probably the best-produced, most brilliant and compelling mess you'll hear all year. Clumsy on its feet as it may be, there are

way too many great songs on the album for it to ever be called anything less than great or very good. In both structure and overall sound, *The Life of Pablo* is very much a greatest hits album—all the sounds Kanye has pioneered over the last twelve years over six albums can be found here. West moves haphazardly from *808s & Heartbreak* AutoTune to the soul samples of *The College Dropout* to the experimental minimalism of *Yeezus*, and he dares you to keep up with him. The album is so engaging and so listenable because the moment you start growing tired of a certain Kanye sound, another completely different Kanye sound begins. These are sounds Kanye has mastered before, but what is decidedly his least experimental album also manages to be his weirdest album yet.

## MESSENGER FUN FACTS

**A group of Jellyfish is called a "smack."**





# Humor

By **Caroline Dew**  
Messenger Reporters

Conspiracy theories... they're rather interesting. Whether you believe them or not, some of them are actually quite plausible. But those aren't the kinds that I want to talk about. Those are fun, but not near as fun to talk about as the absolutely insane conspiracy theories that people actually believe. And if you believe any of these, I totally respect that, and you have the right to believe them - but I strongly

encourage you to reevaluate and at least go over some evidence.

Let's first start with Hitler being alive during 9/11 and somehow having something to do with the American tragedy. Some people believe that Adolf Hitler did not commit suicide in the bunker, but rather escaped to Argentina and lived out his life with Eva Braun. Which, while unlikely, is still possible. But some of those people also believe that Adolf Hitler is still alive, or at least was on September 11,

2001. This would make him the oldest person alive. He was born on April 20, 1889. That would make him almost 110 years old on the day of the terrorist attacks. Not to mention, even if he had been alive, he would have had to negotiate with Osama Bin Laden to somehow help orchestrate the terrorist attacks, and go unblamed.

What about our world leaders being lizard people? Are you already thinking I'm crazy? Good. By

thinking that this is not at all plausible, you are proving that you have at least an ounce of common sense. To make you lose some of your faith in humanity, this conspiracy theory is actu-

ally one of the most widely believed of the 'crazy' conspiracy theories. Theorists that support this believe that all of our world leaders and influential people are not humans, but lizard shapeshifters that are only disguised as people. This theory was popularized by David Icke. Is mr. Ceglinski considered an influential leader? If so, is he a lizard? We want answers, mr. C.

Okay. This one is pretty neat. Some conspiracy theorists actually believe

that the Middle Ages never existed, and that the year 2014 is actually the year 1717. This one actually made me think and I'm ashamed to say that. This one is

known as the "Phantom Time Theory". This theory goes to say that for some reason the Middle Ages were included in the western calendar, and that to cover up the mistake, fictional historical characters and

events were squeezed into history. Figures like Charlemagne. This theory was first proposed by a German historian named Heribert Illig and his colleagues. They state that evidence like gaps in archeological and documentary history.

Whether or not you are a conspiracy theorist or not, the fact that some people actually believe this stuff is kind of crazy. I mean, Hitler doing 9/11 seemed

## IMAGINE THE DIFFERENCE 5 POINTS CAN MAKE.

Ask these students how they increased their ACT scores 4 to 7 points!



Paducah Tilghman Grant Hucheson | St. Mary Catherine O'Rourke, Ross Whittaker, Jimmy Walters | McCracken Brenna Adams, Jeremy Latham

"My son Preston had a positive experience working with Sylvan on his ACT. They were especially accommodating in working around his schedule and working in his specific area of need (science) and helped him to increase his score 5 POINTS in science." —Melinda Vasseur, McCracken County Parent

Classes for the April ACT begin March 14. NEW ADVANCED READING SKILLS class begins April 11.



# A Love Story

By Kevin Dawes  
&  
Christian Cathey  
Messenger Reporter

There was a war unlike any other war that ever took place on the face of the Earth. As the dust settles among the battlefield that this war took place on, we understand the true meaning of the event that occurred here. The war of the chicken noodle soup and the spoon. Once upon a time, they were tied together like the marriage between two loved ones. Yet evil came way faster than you can say “fin-ister bister mo-mister”. The chicken noodle soup found out that the spoon was dipping itself into other soups besides the chicken noodle soup. The spoon was even dipping itself into some cereal and even some chili and a little ice cream on the side. The chicken noodle soup was devastated that the spoon would do such unspeakable acts.

Word went around fast that the chicken noodle soup’s love with the spoon had been corrupted by the deeds done by the spoon. The spoon tried to reason with the chicken noodle soup, but the chicken noodle soup knew no boundaries because it’s soupy mind that was once filled with joy and love was now filled with hatred and resentment for the spoon. The spoon had messed up big time. The spoon even went as far as to publically

apologize on it’s talk show but the chicken noodle soup did not budge an inch.

The spoon had some fork buddies that tried to cheer him up but the spoon doesn’t work like the forks. The forks puncture what they please while the spoon holds what it needs. The fork buddies had knife buddies that tried to persuade the spoon. But knives slice and dice and leave things in pieces. The knives convinced the spoon that if he could not reason with the chicken noodle soup the only reasonable rational

thing to do is destroy the chicken noodle soup’s home and tip the bowl so that the soup will spill out onto the ground, left to die.

The chicken noodle soup heard about this and thought “If that stupid little cheater spoon wants to kill me I’m gonna bend this spoon so far backwards he’ll be able to dip himself.” The chicken noodle soup prepared for the confrontation with the spoon, as the spoon did the same. They agreed to meet on the kitchen table a little past noon.



A little past noon and on the kitchen table lies the chicken noodle soup face to face with the spoon she once loved. The spoon tried to sweet talk the chicken noodle soup but the chicken noodle soup smelled a little tomato. There was a little tomato residue on the spoon. The battle began and it was a long, hard fought battle. Twelve minutes later the spoon was bent but the chicken noodle soup’s bowl was cracked and slowly pouring out.

On this day, we learned that some actions are irreversible and we can try to talk them out or fight them but sometimes the best thing to do is move on and find another bowl of chicken noodle soup or find another spoon. The worst thing about this day was that I was out a bowl and a spoon. A bowl I loved and a spoon I valued deeply.

## Conspiracy

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 21

absolutely insane, but once I saw the lizard people theory I realized that some people are actually nuts. The Phantom Time Theory is actually really interesting, I’ll admit that, and it makes some sense, but I still think it’s wacky. If you’re interested in conspiracy theories, be sure to look deeper into the ones I mentioned! There’s definitely more to them.

**FOLLOW US ON  
TWITTER**

@MCHSMessenger



# Clinton

**By Kevin Dawes  
&  
Christian Cathey**  
Humor Writers

The Hero's (Donald Trump) current rival is the she-demon Hillary Clinton. If you were to compare Hillary Clinton to a super villain she would be Plankton. Everything she does ends in failure. You guys don't realize that the Krusty Krab is America and Hillary Clinton is trying to steal our Krabby Patty Formula and make her own Krabby Patties at the Chum Bucket. Her formula will not help bring happiness and joy like Donald Trump's original recipe will.

Hillary Clinton thinks she can become President just because she is a woman. Well surprisingly not all women are stupid. Hopefully women are not going to just vote for Hillary because she is a woman. Hillary Clinton has a diabolical scheme to take over the United States and then the world. I remember when Obama was first running for presidency there were rumors that he was the Anti-Christ. Well I tell ya' wat Hillary Clinton is the Anti-Christ. She tryna take 'er guns and 'er jobs! This daughter of gun is tryna turn this country into some backwards baby eating communist nation.

Hillary Clinton is a terrorist. Hillary Rodham Clinton. Rodham. What sort of jihadist middle name is that. See Barack Hussein Obama was overlooked. Hussein is completely Al-Qaeda like and look at all the destruction he's caused. Hillary Rodham Clinton wants to ban Waffle House. Why, I don't know but the only logical reason is because she hates America. Right here in our hometown we have two Waffle Houses. One in Lone Oak and one in the 'Land. I know that we

Paduciens would be extremely mad to have our Waffle Houses and our guns taken away. Hillary Clinton's main policies while in office are:

1. Take our guns.
2. Ban Waffle Houses
3. Take our trucks away
4. Not build a wall
5. End Democracy

Hillary Rodham Clinton isn't gonna make America great again. She is going to make America like the Islamic State of Iraq. I am not okay with this and you shouldn't be either. Hillary Rodham Clinton is a disappointment when compared to the legend that is her mystical husband Bill Clinton. Bill Clinton should be running for president. Now that would be an interesting debate Bill Clinton vs Donald Trump.

Hillary Rodham Clinton thinks that it is funny to punch babies. That is not funny at all. Babies are the most defenseless beings on the planet. Hillary Rodham Clinton would more than likely steal candy from a baby and then eat the candy in front of that baby. Hillary Rodham Clinton would call a noise complaint on her neighbors when it's their birthday.

Bill Clinton is greatly disappointed in the mark that Hillary Rodham Clinton is leaving in society. Bill Clinton left a significant mark on society. Greatly entertaining America and helping America. Hillary Rodham is gonna bring an all eternal doom upon America. This is why Donald Trump is clear answer to America's success. As DJ Khaled puts it "major key to success." Donald Trump is America's key to success, whereas Hillary Rodham Clinton.

# Trump

**By Kevin Dawes  
&  
Christian Cathey**  
Humor Writers

Donald Trump: the savior that America needs, but doesn't deserve. The economic genius, the social savage, and the business mastermind.

It is the year 2016. America's status, politically, is about as equivalent to chopsticks in a fine dining restaurant. There is no hope, which Obama said he would bring. Not even Star Wars Episode IV: A New Hope can bring America back from Obama's foolish rule that set the country backwards. America is like Leonardo DiCaprio without an Oscar. What "The Revenant" is to Leo, is what Donald Trump is to America. America's Oscar is Donald Trump.

Donald Trump is ready to bring the glory back to the United States of America. The man claims "let's make America great again." If that doesn't get your blood flowing I don't know what will. Donald Trump is ready to tell the Devil "you're fired." Right now Donald Trump is the most qualified candidate. God specifically equipped this man with special skills to effectively lead the people of this glorious country. These skills are brute assertiveness, deadly honesty, majestic hair, and a fiery passion to succeed that cannot be quenched.

Donald Trump has been told no many times and as we all know rejection is very harsh, "my whole life really has been a 'no' and I fought through it. It has not been easy for me. It has not been easy for me." as Donald Trump stated. See America is at an all

time low because of the terrible ruling of Obama. Donald Trump knows what it's like to be at the bottom of the barrel. "I started off in Brooklyn. My father gave me a small loan of a million dollars. I came into Manhattan and I had to pay him back, and I had to pay him back with interest. But I came into Manhattan, I started buying up properties, and I did great, I did a good job. But I was always told that would never work." as Trump explained to us in great detail. As the trap lord mongo savage duo, Rae Sremmurd puts it, America is finna go up like Donald Trump.

Donald Trump does not believe in failure except for the failure of those who stand against him. Donald Trump has good genes, take a look at his daughters, Tiffany and Ivanka. When we had the time to interview Donald Trump he took us on a flight in his private jet above the islands of Caribbean. We took a pitstop in Australia and at this time Donald Trump revealed to us his secret formula for winning. Many compare this formula to the Krabby Patty formula that Plankton has been trying to steal for decades. Now that we know his secret formula we are better prepared to do anything from being fathers to jet ski champions.

Now that we have learned his secret, understood his harsh beginnings, many rejections along the way, and the powerful set of skills God harnessed him with we now know that Donald Trump is the hero America oh so needs. We firmly believe that Donald Trump will save America and make America great again.



READY TO HELP YOU FIND YOUR PERFECT TUXEDO.  
DO PROM YOUR WAY!

# PROM With Mr. Penguin

YOUR LOCALLY OWNED TUXEDO SHOP!  
303 BROADWAY - DOWNTOWN PADUCAH  
270-444-6520

A COMPLETE IN STOCK STORE!

OPEN MONDAY - SATURDAY 10 AM TO 5 PM  
SUNDAY 2 TO 4 PM

ASK ABOUT OUR \$50 PROM DISCOUNT



tux box

**MISTER PENGUIN**

303 BROADWAY • PADUCAH, KY

\_\_\_\_\_ is our store representative.

Ask about our **\$50.00 Prom Discount**  
REDEEM ONLY AT TIME OF ORDERING

[www.jerrystuxedoden.com](http://www.jerrystuxedoden.com)

