

An Interview with Senior Senator of Ohio, Sherrod Brown

By CAROLYN VAZIRI

1. Two out of three Americans support some form of gun safety legislation, yet a majority of our representatives are influenced more by the National Rifle Association than by public opinion. Tom Daschle, former Senator of South Dakota, says, "We need real campaign finance reform to loosen the grip of special interests on politics." Do you agree with this statement, and do you believe the Parkland students and younger generations should be pursuing the elimination of privately-funded elections rather than gun-reform?

From Senator Brown on Gun safety: "We cannot say we are doing what it takes to keep Americans safe until we are finally willing to pass commonsense laws to protect people from gun violence. I have always respected the rights of hunters, collectors, and other law-abiding gun owners, and no one intends to take away their guns. But when our children are not safe in their schools, it's clear something has to be done to protect against gun violence. Special interests, like the gun lobby, should not have a louder voice in our democracy than middle-class families. We need to get the big money out of politics by improving transparency and ensuring greater accountability for corporate special interests that are seeking to influence our elections."

Additional information on Senator Brown's record from his office:

Senator Brown supports all efforts by Ohio students to get involved in government and make their voices heard.

Senator Brown has led the way on campaign finance reform, since the Supreme Court decision, Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission, declared that corporations have the same rights as people and opened the flood gates for dark money in politics. Specifically, Senator Brown has introduced the DISCLOSE Act, which would provide important protections to the American people by promoting effective disclosure of campaign-related activity by special interests as well as banning "pay-to-play" by preventing government contractors and government bailout recipients from spending money on elec-



Photo courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

tions. Senator Brown has also spoken out against the influence of the NRA in Congress. We encourage you to watch his floor speech here: <https://www.facebook.com/SenatorSherrodBrown/videos/413150562443543/>.

And, Senator Brown is also working to pass commonsense gun safety measures. Senator Brown supported the original assault weapons ban because he does not believe weapons of war belong on our streets. He has voted for several commonsense gun safety bills, including bipartisan efforts after the shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary school took the lives of 20 innocent children and six adults. Senator Brown also supported legislation to ban bump stocks after the Vegas mass shooting. He has supported legislation to close the "gun show loophole" so that people buying weapons at a gun show or online undergo the same background check as someone buying them at a store in Ohio. And he has supported legislation to prevent people who are prohibited from flying on airplanes because they are listed on the FBI's terrorist watch list from buying guns.

2. Out of the 35 nations included in the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the United States ranks near the bottom (31) when tested in the Program for International Student Assessment, for tests such as reading and math. In his new "America First" budget, which intends to slash non-military spending, President Trump proposes to cut funding for the Education Department by 13.5% (9.2 billion). Do

you fear future consequences for our teachers and students who would face the brunt of this issue, and do you think investment in human capital needs to be a prime focus for the United States, who is falling behind other industrialized countries?

From Senator Brown: "Providing students with the education they need to succeed is crucial to expanding the middle class. The future of our nation depends on the quality of our schools. That's why I joined my colleagues in multiple letters to the heads of the Senator Appropriations Committee calling for full funding for critical education programs slashed in the President's budget."

Additional information on Senator Brown's record from his office:

Brown's office hosts Summer Manufacturing Camps for Ohio students each summer. The camps help introduce kids and their parents to an up-to-date, real-world understanding of American manufacturing, while teaching them the role manufacturing has played -- and continues to play -- in building and maintaining our economy and our middle class. Brown's office started organizing summer manufacturing camps in 2013, and since then, the number of camps throughout the state has grown every year. This year, Brown's office will help organize 19 camps in 15 counties.

Senator Brown has introduced the School Building Improvement Act to update and repair crumbling school infrastructure. The bill would provide direct grants and school construction bonds to (cont. pg 7)

Getting to know Mr. Shaka Arnold, our new MS Head!

By KELLI RAQUE



Photo courtesy of Bob Lee

Q1. What are you looking forward to next year?

A1. I'm looking forward to being in Columbus, at the Columbus Academy, as well as to working with the students and faculty I've been working with since October. I'm also looking forward to being back to where there are seasons -- fall, where in the Midwest the leave changes are beautiful, and winter, where I hope to see snow and have snowball fights and sledding rides with my kids. Most of all, I'm looking forward to change.

Q2. How did you find Columbus Academy?

A2. I came across an announcement about the middle school head position about a year ago. When I saw it, I became interested just with the logo and name, and then I did a little research. I liked what I learned, read, and heard, and from there, I decided to pursue that opportunity. I don't think it was by accident. I think this school was something I was truly meant to find.

Q3. Have you taught at any other schools? If so, where?

A3. Yes, Gilman School in Baltimore, Pine Crest School in Fort Lauderdale, and I had another job with the Baltimore Ravens of the NFL.

Q4. Are there any changes you will be making this year? What?

A4. I think there are some things we will need to change for the better, but for now, that is not my main focus. First thing on my mind is getting to know the community because I think that is more important than anything.

Q5. Do you have any kids? If so, How many, what are their names and what grade are they in?

A5. I have four children. One of them is Kelly, who is my oldest and will be in 7th grade. My next daughter is 10, who is Hanna, and will be in 5th grade. My son is eight, and his name is Joza, and he will be in third grade. Lastly, I have a daughter, Ina, who will be in the 1st grade.

Q6. Do you have any pets? If so, What type?

A6. I have a thirteen year-old toy poodle!

Q7. What do you like doing outside of school?

A7. I like to read when I can, as well as exercise, and really, to be quite honest, not do anything. Exercising, reading, and hanging out are my favorite ways to energize and relax. My all-time favorite books are the equivalent of Ramona and Beezus and Big Nate, as I used to read Judy Blume books, and Wonder is one of my favorite of all times. Some of those fiction books from when I was a kid are the ones I always remember. I also enjoy the ones the students read.

Q8. What was your favorite game when you were in Middle School?

A8. Basketball, no question.

Q9. If you had \$1,000,000 dollars, what would you do with it?

A9. I would look at for a while. I would get as many dollar bills as I could, then I would just look at it--put a big, fat wad in my pocket. After that, I would do what everyone else says they would do, which would be figure out who to give it to, how to donate it, and then I would make sure to keep some for the family.

Q10. Any tips for the new 6th graders (Class of 2025)?

A10. Talk to the older middle school students, get some tips from them on how to survive middle school. For the first few months of middle school, relax. Try not to freak out, because everything is going to seem crazy. It's normal to be overwhelmed--so ask questions. Ask as many questions as you can.

Q11. If you could say one thing to the world, what would you say?

A11. It's not always easy, but be nice. Most importantly, the right thing to do is the hardest thing to do.

Having an interview with Mr. Arnold was a great opportunity. He is very nice, joyful, and funny. I am so excited to have him here next year! Something tells me that he'll be here for a long time, so if you get the chance, introduce yourself to Mr. Arnold. Say hello or even smile. He'll return it right back to you because that is Mr. Arnold.



Photo courtesy of Cindy Wilson

Exclusive Inside on the Cold War Trial

By ANDREW BARREN & CAROLYN VAZIRI

Eighth grade Social Studies teachers, Mrs. Miller and Mr. Cavnar, challenged their students to comprehend and analyze the underpinnings of world conflict and compromise. This year, the 8th grade learned about World War I, World War II, and then finally, the Cold War. When examining the details of each conflict, students were engaged in simulations with interactive activities. This way, instead of memorizing names and dates from textbooks, the students were making their own negotiations and compromises with “world leaders”, learning history in a fun, exciting way. A Cold War “trial” was held May 24th, with the grade split into two camps: the Capitalists and the Communists. From there, students selected jobs such as Press Corps members, lawyers, and witnesses. This year was unique, for the Press Corps had the opportunity to produce an evidence board for their respective issues. For a real-inside perspective, we had the opportunity to interview Mrs. Miller: “As to my original prediction, I really didn’t have a

strong sense of who was going to win this year. I knew the Communist team was very motivated and felt like they had something to prove given the two-year Capitalist winning streak and the letter/flag that were passed onto them from last year’s team. However, I knew the Capitalist team also had some excellent work going into their arguments, and was impressed with their collaboration! I will say this is also the first year that there was such significant espionage going on. I knew it would probably be close, and so much relies on how the panel of judges reacts to each case, which we can’t know until it happens.”

Summary of Cold War Results:

Korean War (Issue 1): Communists- For this issue, the panel of judges were most drawn to the Communists’ argument concerning the 38th parallel. In their strong argument, the Capitalists attempted to appeal to the Dystopian conditions in North Korea, but the Communists’ argument that the war was the consequence of the unfairly drawn divide

caught the attention of the judges in the end. This was the closest ballot, with the judges voting 5-4 Communists.

Guatemala Coup (Issue 2): Communists- The Capitalists tried to paint Guatemalan leader, Arbenz, as a communist and used this portrayal to justify their involvement to prevent the Domino Theory. However, the Communists successfully proved that the law had been applied unevenly. Cuban Missile Crisis (Issue 3): Capitalists- Initially, the Communists were persuasive arguing that arming Cuba with missiles was defensive. However, the judges’ minds were set when Castro’s evidence check determined that his intentions were retaliatory in response to the American missiles in Turkey and Italy.

Congratulations to the Communists, who snapped the Capitalists’ two-year winning streak! Their flag will be hung in Mrs. Miller’s room next year, and they reserve all bragging rights.

2018 6th Grade Business Fair

By MILANA BISWAS



Photo courtesy of Bob Lee

you enjoyed their products. Hosted in the Barton Room this year, the Business Fair was so much fun for all ages. The Class of ‘24 had been working so hard since the beginning of the fourth quarter, and they didn’t want to let their customers down. Some booths had food, some had entertainment, and some were just flat out cool. Each 6th grader had a unique idea that they selected independently or with a partner of their choice.

The budgeting project

was an additional part of this fun project in which the 6th grade managed a business all by themselves. They applied for jobs, and everyone in the grade was assigned one. Each student also were given “children” (water balloon babies) that they cared for to simulate adulthood.

This project encompassed many skills, such as math, reading, writing, and creativity. The Business Fair was filled with amazing ideas and was a success once again.

The Ohio Senate Race: Where do the Candidates Stand on Gun Control?

By CAROLYN VAZIRI



Pictured: Jim Renacci
Photo courtesy of Wikipedia

No issue has galvanized our post-Millennial generation more than gun safety reform. The deadliest high school shooting in U.S. history took place on February 14th at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, leaving 17 people dead. This shooting has proven to be a tipping point for young people across the country with emerging leaders calling for action. The “Monument for our Kids” placed 7000 shoes on the grounds of Capitol Hill—each pair representing the 7000 children who have been killed by gun violence since the 2012 shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary. The student-led “March for Our Lives” took place on March 24th, and while the march drew attention and publicity, the students did not stop there. They have created a political movement, demanding action from lawmakers.

Ohio has an important U.S. Senate race this year between incumbent Democratic Senator, Sherrod Brown, and Republican Representative, Jim Renacci. Where do these politicians stand on gun control? Senator Brown has received an “F” rating from The National Rifle Association, the nation’s largest gun-rights organization. His rating is a reflection of his views and votes on this issue. In the past, he has voted for an assault weapon ban and has supported the Brady Bill. The Brady Bill, named after James Brady, the former White House Press Secretary under Ronald Reagan, who was shot during an assassination attempt on the President, requires a waiting period and background check for those wishing to buy a handgun.

In late March, Brown introduced three spending programs to address gun violence. Together with Republican Senator Rob Portman of Ohio, he co-sponsored the STOP School Violence Act, which funds school security improvements and allocates funding for early intervention and prevention programs. The second is the FIX NICS Act. It fixes the National Instant Criminal

Background Check System (NICS) requiring that mental health and law enforcement records be updated and information be included if the individual is being investigated as a potential terrorist. The third measure ensures that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have the freedom to conduct and support research into “firearm safety and gun violence protection.” Brown would also like to close the gun show loophole, requiring people who buy guns online or at gun shows to undergo the same background checks as those who buy in stores.

The Republican candidate, U.S. Representative Jim Renacci, is a member of the National Rifle Association and has received an “A” rating from the NRA three times and has been endorsed by Ohioans for Concealed Carry. Renacci has always been a strong defender of gun rights. In an interview with USA Today, Renacci states that his strong support of Second Amendment rights is due to safety and welfare concerns. He explains that the number one reason that people cite for owning a firearm is self-defense.

“Whether you’re a new parent or living on your own for the first time, you should always have the ability to exercise your right to protect yourself against those who wish to do you harm. I am a firm believer that to deter people looking to use guns for acts of violence, law-abiding citizens should be allowed to fully exercise their rights to carry.”

Renacci supports conceal and carry laws and co-sponsored legislation to eliminate the transfer tax associated with silencers, an apparatus used to mute the firing of a gun. He argues that most mass shootings are carried out by mentally unstable people, yet he voted to repeal a rule restricting gun sales to the mentally ill, citing civil liberty concerns that would deny citizens their right to due process (right to defend oneself).

In a recent interview with Fox News, Renacci proposed that social media platforms should be tracked for hints that someone could become violent.

“We’ve got to come up with a model that starts to look over all of the social media and pick up these issues, and then says, ‘Hey we got a problem.’ That’s probably going to be the next best invention coming forward because that is a necessary thing for our country.”

The Royal Wedding!

By KATHARINE FORNSHELL & LAINE MASSICK



Photo courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

Prince Harry and American actress Meghan Markle tied the knot on Saturday, May 19th, 2018. They announced their engagement in November of 2017, and their ceremony took place in St. George’s Chapel in Windsor Castle. This location was very special to them, because it dated to the 15th century, and many members of the royal family have been married there. The royal wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle was picture perfect. Not only was the happy couple beaming with joy during their wedding day, but people all around the world were able to enjoy the ceremony and experience their happiness from their own homes as it was broadcast worldwide.

Six-hundred people were invited to the service, and 200 of their close friends and family were invited to the after party at Frogmore House. Viewers at home got to see who was on the guest list as people arrived. There were many notable guests that attended, including the royal family and Queen Elizabeth, George and Amal Clooney, Oprah Winfrey, Victoria and David Beckham, and many more. After that, thousands of people crammed the streets to see the royal family, Meghan Markle and her mother, Doria Ragland, arrive at St. George’s Chapel to start the ceremony. Seeing the guests of honor really got viewers and people in the crowd excited. The bobbies were even trying to get the crowd to do the wave when they all drove in. There was quite a fever pitch as people awaited the nuptials of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle.

This wedding was a departure from traditional royal weddings, because it incorporated elements from Markle’s biracial heritage.

The African-American Episcopal priest, Michael Curry, delivered a theatrical, impassioned sermon. A Gospel choir performed “Lean on Me” and “This Little Light of Mine.” After the reading of the vows and exchanging the rings, the ceremony concluded with the guests singing the United Kingdom’s national anthem and a heartwarming performance of “Stand By Me” from a British gospel choir. After the ceremony, the newlyweds rode in a carriage procession around Windsor Castle to end the ceremony. The wedding cake at the reception afterwards was made by Claire Ptak, an American pastry chef who lives in London, and it was a lemon elderflower cake. Prince Harry and Meghan Markle are a perfect match, and their wedding looked flawless and beautiful. This was an important day for Prince Harry (who is now Duke of Sussex) and Meghan Markle (who is now Duchess of Sussex) and for everyone who witnessed this moment in British Royal history.

New US Embassy Move in Jerusalem

By COLIN HARRISON



Photo courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

On May 14th, the United States moved its Israeli embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, becoming the first country to position its embassy in Jerusalem and to recognize Jerusalem as Israel’s capital. This decision has angered the Palestinians, because they recognize Jerusalem as their capital, as well.

The Palestinian and Israeli conflict began in 1948 but has deep historical roots dating back to Biblical times. The axis of the argument is over the division of land. The Palestinians argue that the Holocaust forced a wave of immigration to the region that led to an aggressive competition for land. The Israelis argue that Palestine is their original homeland that they have every right to settle and defend. Wars have ensued, restless peace treaties have been brokered, but the region remains a powder keg.

The United States moved its embassy as a symbolic gesture of support to Israel. “I have determined that it is

time to officially recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel,” the president said during a speech in the Diplomatic Reception Room of the White House. “This is nothing more or less than a recognition of reality,” Trump said. “It is also the right thing to do. It’s something that has to be done.” While speeches were being given in Jerusalem, chaos erupted at the Gaza border. Many Palestinians had gathered in protest. The Israelis claimed that Hamas had organized the protests. Regardless, 58 Palestinians

were killed and 2700 were injured in this latest chapter of the most recalcitrant conflicts in the Middle East. The international community has reacted strongly to this incident. French President Emmanuel Macron denounced “the violence of the Israeli armed forces against protesters”. A spokesperson for British Prime Minister Theresa May said she was, “deeply troubled” by the use of live bullets and “the scale of the violence.”

MAOS- Mixed Association of Students

By AMIYA TIWARI



Photo courtesy of Pixabay

MAOS, or Mixed Association of Students, is an affinity

group for students from a mixed ethnic background. Being mixed is different in everyone’s house, but the goal of this group is to feel togetherness with other students that have two or more identities. MAOS is a group where students

can openly express who they are to people that they share a unique connection with. At the Multi-Cultural Fair, find us at our mixed lemonade station, and see what MAOS is all about. We look forward to seeing you at the fair!

Lyric and Video Review: “This is America” by Childish Gambino

By MILANA BISWAS



Pictured: Childish Gambino, Photo courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

As some of you may know, the song, “This Is America”, reached #1 on the iTunes Top Charts for a few weeks now. But, like many other songs, “This is America” has a deeper meaning as to why the artist wrote the song. The artist who wrote “This Is America” is rapper Donald Glover, whose stage name is Childish Gambino. This song is one of many of his songs that are to influence young individuals in ways of good. Rap artists tend to use their music that way, since many teenagers listen to rap music today.

The video that accompanies the song has a lot of symbolism. It starts with a black choir group. This is to symbolize the power that African-Americans have in our world and the influence that they make in music. The beautiful and harmonic voices are truly stunning as well as enjoyable. In the music video, the group is heard while there is a male guitarist in the public garage.

When Childish Gambino appears, he’s just dancing like a happy, free person, which is what the world should be like. Then, he pulls a gun and shoots the black male guitarist, whose head has been covered. Gambino’s message is another symbol of gun violence.

Now, this was when the chorus changed because, when you witness a shooting, your adrenaline can just jump, and everything changes in that moment. Gambino just shot the guitarist, and gives the gun to a young boy holding a red cloth. The red cloth allegedly signifies the Repub-

School Shootings

By KELLI RAQUE

What happened on May 18th is something no one in Santa Fe, New Mexico, will forget. A student walked into Santa Fe High School with a shotgun and a 0.38 caliber revolver and started to shoot, killing eight students and two teachers, and injuring thirteen others. We are only 22 weeks into 2018, and there have been 23 school shootings. It averages out to one shooting per week. We have already broken the record for the highest school shootings in a year. 2014 had fifteen shootings in a time span of one entire year. These occurrences seem to be happening more and more frequently. As students, are we are putting lives at risk just by going to school? If we do not do

something, the death counts will continue to rise. Then what will happen? Maybe a couple shootings a week? Will multiple shootings per day become commonplace? We have to do something now! We need to stand up and fight against this. We need to support legislators who will prioritize our wellness and safety. As students, the best thing to do is speak up about gun control, school security, and mental health screenings, and we can contact our elected officials and demand change. Maybe then we will begin to see safer schools, and we can go to school without the need for lockdown drills and the fear of losing our lives in the name of learning.

An Interview with Mr. McGrath on his time with Academy

By ANDREW BARREN, CHARLIE BELFORD, & SARI SHOCKET



Photo courtesy of Bob Lee

8th grader Andrew Barren: **What has been your favorite memory at Academy?**

Mr. McGrath: "I do not have a single memory or event, but what has happened this year is that I got the chance to teach again, and I have not taught for eighteen years. Just because the schools I have been in recently are bigger and there was really not enough time to teach. So, being an advisor and having kids while being a teacher as well has certainly been the best part here." 8th grader Sari Shocket: **Do you enjoy being a teacher or the head of a division?**

Mr. McGrath: "Being a teacher. I started as a teacher and had been a teacher for ten years strictly, and then I came to this kind of work in middle school and for the first twenty years, I also taught one class, like I do here at Academy. So

it was fine, there was more variety of doing the office work, just more kinds of things. And, so I like that. But really, the highlight is obviously teaching. Just much more fun and nice to watch kids learn."

8th grader Charlie Belford: **Which job do you find more difficult, teaching or administration?**

Mr. McGrath: "Certainly, it would not be teaching. There are many more deadlines as a divisional head and rules to establish and follow, and things to figure out. Being a division head is not as satisfying as being a teacher; it's not the same kind of experience."

8th grader Andrew Barren: **What is something you found most unique when you first came here?**

Mr. McGrath: "Well, the first thing I noticed was what it is like to be in the Midwest. I came from the coast. I taught in Georgia, Delaware, and two Florida Schools. The people here in the Midwest are so nice, kind, and thoughtful. I noticed it. I noticed it from the start. It still has brought to my attention the idea of everyone being so nice was not a one time thing, here in the Midwest. It still strikes me every day to be in such a kind community."

8th grader Sari Shocket: **Have you always taught middle school or other divisions?**

Mr. McGrath: "Yes, only middle school. I started coaching way back. Before teaching, I coached girls' middle school softball. I was also a camp counselor or at a camp for kids with cerebral palsy. How dependent those people were, really made me enjoy the age of middle schoolers. After coaching girls' softball and being a camp counselor, I then strictly taught for about ten years."

8th grader Charlie Belford: **What are sort of the different places you have been to and taught and how does it compare to Ohio and the lifestyle of Columbus Academy?**

Mr. McGrath: I was born in Boston, but mostly grew up in Chicago. But, I do not remember most except the beautiful skies. But, then I moved to the state of Delaware. It was a lot like this. The landscape was a lot like Ohio. Then, I went to Florida. Entirely different, South Florida is all palm trees. So, what strikes me the most being in Ohio and what I have enjoyed the most is the rich culture here at Academy.

8th grader Sari Shocket: **Have you taught in other schools in the Central Ohio area?**

Mr. McGrath: No, first time I have been in Columbus, and it has been a real pleasure."

Advice Column

Collected by MILANA BISWAS

RISING 6TH GRADERS:

Milana Biswas '24: "Don't stress! 6th grade is just the beginning of Middle School. Sure, friendships can change, homework will start to pile up, schedules will get confusing at first, but after the first few months, it all becomes second nature! So, don't be afraid to open up, take risks, and trust the process!"

RISING 7TH GRADERS:

Colin Harrison '23: "Don't worry too much about tests or quizzes. If you pay attention, and do what you supposed to, you will be fine. Try to branch out and try to make new friends. This is a grade where people change, not just physically, but as people. Try not to get stuck in your opinions of somebody, try to actually get to know them. Do your work, so you can do all the fun things the teachers have planned. Seventh grade is a great time to try a new sport. I encourage you to do so. Enjoy yourself."

Kate Fornshell '23: "7th grade is a fun, enjoyable year with many memories to come. Even though it is the first year of exams, there is nothing to worry about! The exams cover material you have already learned from the past, so you just have to pull out your notes and review them one more time like you did for other tests. Have fun next year! You'll have a great time."

Katie Wu '23: "7th grade may seem like any other grade, but it is very fun. Each subject offers exciting topics and kinesthetic activities! Hueston Woods is a big highlight of the year, as it includes no reflections and just pure fun! It is a chance for you to meet new people and make new friends, while enjoying active or creative activities! Enjoy all the time in 7th grade and don't worry about exams. Just think of them as a big test, but still make sure to study! You will have a great time in 7th grade!"

RISING 8TH GRADERS: Maddie Jeffers '22: "8th

Grade can be intimidating, but it is truly a wonderful experience. Make the most of your last year of middle school, and don't forget to chill out every once in a while. The D.C. trip was one of my favorite memories, and it really is what you make of it. Take good notes, don't procrastinate, and always ask for help if you need it." Sari Shocket '22: "8th grade is truly an amazing year. From the D.C. trip, to fun days with the whole class, to just coming to school each and every day, eighth grade is a year, where, you can be yourself and have fun. Make new friendships, take really good notes, listen in class, and do not stress because you got it!"



Photo courtesy of Bob Lee

President Trump Targets Planned Parenthood in New Act

By CAROLYN VAZIRI

WASHINGTON, D.C.- In mid-May, the Trump administration introduced a new law, one that would federally defund Planned Parenthood or any organization that provides pregnancy termination services. Planned Parenthood is a non-profit organization that provides women's health care services in the United States and across the globe. Their services include breast and cervical cancer screenings, STI testing and treatment, contraceptive counseling and services, emergency contraception, etc. This measure would significantly impact the financial bottom line of organizations like Planned Parenthood, who rely on federal funding for medical services unrelated to pregnancy. More than 40% of Planned Parenthood's 1.3 billion in revenue comes primarily from Medicaid

reimbursements for typical medical services.

The president of Planned Parenthood, Cecile Richards, vows to fight on.

"You can't completely end a public health care system in America and not think about what the impact will be on the folks who have least access to care." It is unclear how the healthcare void would be filled, if organizations like Planned Parenthood are defunded. Kirsten Gillibrand, U.S. Senator of New York says, "I think this is an issue that should enrage the American public, particularly women, because it's an attack on them. I don't know why members of Congress think it's their job to tell women what to do with their health care." This measure could have devastating consequences for low-income women and men.

Brassica Review

By SARI SHOCKET



Photo courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

Brassica is a very popular Mediterranean, fast-casual, healthy, and fun place to eat in the Short North. The Short North is located in downtown Columbus where you can find many cute boutiques, restaurants, and stores. Brassica is one of the most delicious restaurants in the Columbus area. Brassica is a fairly new restaurant owned by the same owners of the very popular restaurants Northstar and Third & Hollywood. Brassica is similar to Chipotle-style, however it has Mediterranean classics such as flavorful hummus, crispy and crunchy falafel, fresh veggies, and

the best of all, their pita bread. Overall, my favorite is a salad base with kale mix, lentils, falafel, cucumbers, and a side of pita bread with hummus. It is truly the best restaurant with many healthy and tasty options. Also, each of the employees are very kind, generous, and patient if you take a long time to decide what you want. Additionally, the restaurant is very cute inside and has a magnificent, bubbly, and fun atmosphere. All in all, I really hope you get the chance to try Brassica, and I hope it becomes one of your favorite restaurants.

Late Night Thoughts

By KELLI RAQUE

Orange is the only color you can taste. If you make a hole in a net, you are making fewer holes. If we can't see air, can fish see water? Toys-R-Us means Toys are us.

The Miracle Season: How Volleyball Got Their Famous Story

By MILANA BISWAS

a smile, the thought of winning another state title would be unbelievable. Kelley couldn't wait for a new season with her best friend.

The next morning was unexpected and horrible; Kelly didn't even know what to think. She got a call that announced that Line had been found slammed up against a tree, with broken bones, deep cuts, a banged up moped, and had died. Kelly was heartbroken. Her best friend died the night they had discussed their future. Line's voice was haunting. The pain she felt to lose someone so close to her, and the pressure she put on herself to win a title for her friend, was something Kelley found hard to manage.

When school arrives, speakers and flyers were in the halls to remember a soul so bright, yet gone too soon. Members of the school were deeply saddened by the tragedy, but no one suffered more than the Women of Troy and Ernie Found, Line's father. Line's mother had died

Balboa in boxing, Davis in football, and Robinson in baseball. So many countless stories have influenced our sports' stories. The Balboa story was made into a movie we know as Rocky, Davis was portrayed in the 2008 film The Express, and Robinson was featured in the movie 42, released in 2013. All of these people were inspiring enough to be called legends in sports history. Each game itself has an incredible and inspiring story.

But, what about volleyball? A new movie was released in April that was based on something that took place in Iowa in 2011. It was a volleyball story. Some people didn't know what to expect. Would it sell out every time or would it be a total flop? Some movies that were meant to be inspiring weren't that great, because they lacked something. Therefore, the directors knew that movie lovers would like to see a movie full of power and emotion, all in one. With further

discussion about various topics, with power came women, and with emotion came a tragic story. The movie they produced is called The Miracle Season.

The Miracle Season was based on a real life event involving a 17-year-old girl named Caroline "Line" Found. Line was a kind-hearted, determined individual. She was the leader of the team and wanted the team to be victorious and receive the recognition they deserved. The volleyball girls, also known as "The Women of Troy," were unstoppable and eventually won the state title. "The Women of Troy" were amazed at what they had accomplished and couldn't wait for the new year.

Fast forward: The audience is waiting for the new season to start. Line just said goodbye to her friend, Kelley Flicher, from a youth church group meeting. She said, "This is going to be our year, Kel!" As Line hopped onto her moped, Kelley said goodbye with a wave and

from pancreatic cancer about a week before her death, making Ernie suffer from losing his wife and his daughter in the span of two weeks. The loss of their star player brought them many defeats. So Coach Bresnahan, the head coach of the team, told them that they needed a new setter and leader. Line had been the setter of the team, which meant Coach needed to see who could best fill the position. While each girl demonstrated their volleyball skills, there was only one who was just as great as Line: Kelley Flicher.



Photo courtesy of AF MIL

End of Year Reflection

By KATIE WU

ers willing to plan exciting things for us.

The most valuable skill I started to develop this year was procrastinating less. Columbus Academy gives much more homework than my public school, and I had to learn how to manage my time by not procrastinating. I learned to keep up my school work, piano, viola, and dance. The school taught me to push myself and to not wait until the last minute to do things.

I think our class has improved as a whole throughout the year. We have improved our respect and listening, especially during class meetings. We are quiet almost immediately after a teacher tells us to be. Another thing that our class has improved on is getting to class on time. At the beginning of the year, many of us would head to class right before 8:05 a.m., but now, we all are in our classrooms by 8:00. Overall, there has been a lot of growth this year by the students in my grade.

Student at CA since Pre-K- Morgan Crain '23
"My favorite part of 7th grade was Hueston Woods. I really liked how we stayed in our own rooms with our friends and how the teachers trusted us to make good decisions," Morgan says. She explains that it feels good when have teachers

have trust in our actions, and they let us have a lot of fun.

Morgan says that her best learning experience this year was being productive. She needed to make sure she could get her schoolwork done in time while also juggling sports. "My best learning experience was being able to manage my time with sports after school every day and my school work."

Lastly, Morgan thinks we have really improved as a class in two aspects. We are able to turn in our work on time and work hard in class. This is not only in school work, but many students make responsible decisions, and own their mistakes when they have done something wrong. Another area we have improved in is working together, according to Morgan. We support each other and help our classmates to be successful. "I think our class has grown to be more responsible, and we work together well as a grade."
Student at CA since Pre-K- Kate Fornshell '23
"I got to be able to bond with my friends, and get to know people I didn't know as well. I also got to know my new teachers." Kate was able to bond with some of the new students, and create friendships with them. She spent more time

with her teachers, and was able to know them better as the year progressed.

"My best learning experience this year was when I learned to ask teachers for help instead of just doing it by myself." She explains that if she didn't understand material when studying, she would ask for help from teachers, and that would give her a better understanding of what she was learning.

Kate thinks our class has improved as a whole in the sense that we have learned better life skills for the future. Kate said, "In all of our classes, we have had activities that have shown us what the outside world is really like. We have developed an understanding of what it will be like when we progress towards the future and experience things beyond our own community." All three of us seemed to have pretty similar opinions, but our most valuable skills were not the same. It was interesting to see what goals we focused on throughout the year and how we went about completing them. Also, it was great to see that we all thought our class has improved in different ways and are going to be great leaders next year. Clearly, the three of us all loved our 7th grade year!

An Interview with Mrs. Mason

By MAREN LAWRENCE

Mrs. Kay Mason has been an Academy teacher for 21 years, but her time is coming to a close at CA. Mrs. Mason will be taking a new job in New Orleans to be a head of lower school at Isidore Newman, a college preparatory school just like Academy. Mrs. Mason's positions at CA have included 1st grade, 3rd grade, 5th grade, and 6th grade teacher. She was also the Head of the Lower School for four years, and a part of many boards that focus on bettering the community. Her favorite thing about teaching here has been meeting and getting to know all of the students and her many friendships with members of faculty. Mrs. Mason said, "Academy has prepared her in many ways [for her new job.]" It has prepared her by having a lot of professional development, looking at the school from different angles, and her roles in the Lower School for 19 years gave her a lot of experience. She is excited for this job because of the it is an environment like Academy, the position itself is exciting, and especially the warm weather! We are sad to see Mr. Mason go, but the CA community has enjoyed and appreciated her time here very much!

Middle School Wrap-Up: Eighth Graders' Memories

By MADDIE JEFFERS

As the year comes to a close, we spoke with fifteen eighth graders about their experience in middle school. We asked them about what their favorite memories were, and the answers among them were resounding. Many had different answers, while most were the same or nearly identical. If you are a seventh or sixth grader, please take a look as to what this year's students shared so that you can be on the lookout for these wonderful activities.

Many 8th graders shared how tremendous this year has been. Even with the stress of exams, our teachers were there for us every step of the way. This year was filled with snow days, fun field trips, and unity in our own DENS. We encourage you to take the time to thank your teachers for how wonderful they have made this year, and don't forget to visit them next year. I think I speak for the eighth grade class when I say, thank you to all the teachers and mentors we have had in our middle school career. It has truly meant a lot to us how much you care and how much effort you put into making sure we are happy, safe, having fun, and well cared for. Thank you for an amazing four years. Now, let's take a look at what these eighth graders had to say:

The Washington D.C. trip. This was the most frequent answer, which did not come as a surprise to any of us. Out of the fifteen students we asked, eleven of them said the D.C. trip was their favorite memory from middle school.

Project Discover. A number of 8th graders said this was a memorable part of eighth grade year. Anyone coming into eighth grade year should be excited about this project! The project ranged from learning a new skill to even creating our very own

middle school newspaper. Presenting the project takes place in the form of a fair. **Sixth Grade Naval Battle.** This was a favorite among many students. From building your own naval ships to sailing them across our pool, this is definitely regarded as a memorable moment of our middle school career.

Summit Vision Outdoor Ropes Course. After splitting up into different groups, each set had the chance to experience several different suspended ropes courses, which were all set over thirty feet in the air. Some advice to grades about to experience this: don't be afraid to try new things! You won't regret it. Remember you are totally safe and will not fall, no matter how much you think you might.

Jack White Advisory Challenges. A new addition this year, the challenges included jump rope, tennis, a relay race, and free throw shooting, among others. Each advisory had a chance to compete with other advisories in the same grade. In the end, the winners would play a giant game of tug of war in a bracket format that had teams compete until the winners were found.

Sports. From the hard practices to the challenging but fun games, every sport had a team that students were able to rely on and play together to have a good time. Some sports even had the opportunity to go on a run to buy ice cream after the season!

Cold War Trial. Held on May 24th, the Cold War Trial was a much-anticipated day for anyone in the eighth grade. After the two sides, Communists and Capitalists, worked for weeks on their different agendas, the results came in that the Communists had won 2 out of the 3 cases. This was such a memorable moment for the eighth graders, and there was an astounding amount of work that went into it.

2018 Summer Playlist

By MILANA BISWAS

With summer rolling in quicker than ever, you need some vibes to keep you cool, so here's some summer songs to listen to on your days off from school. (Selected based on the iTunes Top Charts).

1. *This is America by Childish Gambino
2. Whatever It Takes by Imagine Dragons
3. Back to You by Selena Gomez (From "13 Reasons Why")
4. *Mine by Bazzi
5. *God's Plan by Drake
6. *FRIENDS by Marshmello & Anne-Marie
7. Love Lies by Khalid & Normani

8. *Redbone by Childish Gambino
9. *Congratulations by Post Malone ft. Quavo

*explicit content. (Clean versions are available)

These songs have a lot of bass that makes you feel like dancing and chilling all in one. Sometimes rap songs have the best vibe when it comes to relaxing (mostly). That's why a variety of the songs chosen are established to have a better feel and get into summer, and maybe even pump you up in some cases! Hopefully, you enjoy these songs as much as other people do. Have a great summer!

THE CHAMPIONS LEAGUE FINAL

By ETHAN WEISER



Photo courtesy of Flickr

many chances stopped by Real keeper Keylor Navas, including one fantastic save against a powerful shot from Trent Alexander-Arnold. After halftime, it seemed like it could have been anyone's game, but despite a valiant effort from Liverpool, Real came out on top. The downfall for Liverpool, however, was two glaring mistakes from young goalkeeper Loris Karius. The German had two blunders that ended Liverpool's hopes: the first being passing the ball almost straight to Real Madrid striker Karim Benzema right in front of goal. A cheeky one time finish from him opened the scoring, only for Sadio Mane to equalize minutes later. Karius' second mistake was letting in a weak shot from 30 yards out by Bale, who finished the night with two goals. Neither of these mistakes were the biggest moment of the match though. That recognition goes to Gareth Bale's world-class bicycle kick in the 64th minute that put Real Madrid on top.

The Welshman was assisted by an amazing cross in from Marcelo and in one touch captivated everyone in the stadium. Such an impact performance from a substitute is almost as rare as a goal of that caliber, and Bale is the talk of the town now, rumored to be leaving Madrid for more playing time.

This Champions League final was everything you could want from a match, as per usual for the tournament. Overall, it felt like the teams were equally matched, and when it came down to it, the loss of Salah and Karius' issues in net were to blame for the end of great season for Liverpool. Real Madrid did not enjoy any success in Spain with an extraordinarily bad year by their standards, but the Champions League crown may have saved their season. It will be interesting next year to see how the tournament plays out. Maybe next year they will play again and then Liverpool will prevail. Anything can happen.

I must mention that the best player in the world currently, Mohamed Salah, seemed to be deliberately injured by Sergio Ramos, Real Madrid's star defender, and substituted off in the 30th minute. Ramos did not receive a foul for the incident, but there has most definitely been backlash against him and his actions, which had Salah crying as he walked off the pitch at the end of the game. Salah's presence most certainly would have changed the game for Liverpool, but Ramos' machination was effective, stymying the Liverpool attack. Before Salah's exit, Liverpool looked to be in control with

How a Real-life Spider-Man Saved the Day

By CAROLYN VAZIRI

who happened to catch the spectacle on video. Gassama says, "I climbed up to save him, voilà...I did it because it was a kid. I love children very much...I didn't think about the floors, I didn't think about the risk."

A petition has spread online, calling for Gassama, who is now an internet sensation, to be awarded his residency papers. Recently, French President Emmanuel Macron invited him to the Élysée Palace, where he offered him a job as a firefighter and suggested applying for naturalization. To see the video of the event, go to: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-5777403/Paris-hero-climbs-four-storey-apartment-block-rescue-boy.html>



Photo courtesy of The Australian

PARIS- Mamoudou Gassama has only been in Paris for six months, but soon, everyone in the city will

Closing the Code...For Now

By MILANA BISWAS

That's a wrap! Norse Code is out for summer. Well, until school starts, that is. While the Norse Code won't have an new editions out over the summer, this year was just the beginning!

The Norse Code staff could not have written four issues (more to come) without the dedication of our founder, 8th grader Carolyn Vaziri. Originally a Project Discover approach, Vaziri wanted to start a newspaper at the school to get the word out about special events around the school and the world. Now, it has become a monthly tradition in the Columbus Academy Middle School community!

We interviewed Vaziri and her fellow 8th graders about the start of the Norse Code and the future of it, too. Here's what she has to say about her idea turned to reality:

What/who inspired you to start the newspapers?

My sisters Maddie (*16), who started the Columbus Kidspatch her senior year, Charlotte, who was a writer for the Daily Northwestern, and Elizabeth, who has a job in publishing in New York. I'd say an interest in writing runs in the family because of my mom, who seeded this passion from a young age.

Who has helped you and the staff throughout this journey?

I couldn't have started Norse Code without the help and guidance of Ms. Seymour, who dedicated hours editing every article and attending all meetings. I'd call Ms. Seymour our "Editor-in-Chief." Mrs. Carter aided me in spreading the word about Norse Code, as well as getting it approved. Mrs. Miller answered every

question regarding technology, and she helped me print every issue. I wouldn't have been able to format or design Norse Code without Ms. Zive, who taught me how to use InDesign during recess, Flex, and after school.

How many students are currently on the Norse Code staff?

We currently have a staff team of 26, including students from all grade levels. (We started with 15).

What did you plan to include in the issues and why? What were the goals?

There are several extra-curricular opportunities for science and math students at Columbus Academy, such as Math Counts and Science Olympiad, yet there are no extra-curricular outlets for students who gravitate toward the humanities. Norse Code creates a forum for middle school students who share a strong interest in Language Arts and Social Studies. I want the newspaper to serve two goals: First, we would like to develop the highest standards for truthfulness in journalism. Second, we would like to expand the democratic voice to all of you, who may just be embarking into the arena of politics.

How did you get the word out to the rest of the grades? How did you keep everyone on track?

To begin, I sent out an email to the middle school. We have meetings every F Day during Flex to discuss future articles and topics, and the next meetings revolve around collaborating, organizing, and adding final touches before the next edition.

Who are you passing Norse Code to next year? I will be passing Norse

Code over next year to 7th graders Kate Fornshell, Colin Harrison, Maren Lawrence, Laine Massick, Sean Ellis, Emily Motta, Nnenna Onwe, Noel Sedlock, and Katharine Wu. Whoever wants to spearhead next year's Norse Code is ready and capable!

What do you consider your main accomplishment this year?

I am so excited for what the paper has become, and my greatest joy this year has been seeing everyone's journalistic writing develop!

The Norse Code staff was really happy to share their articles with you this year! And, there's always room for next year! Sign up when you see an email coming to you next year in the fall. Our new leaders, Kate, Colin, Maren, Laine, Sean, Emily, Nnenna, Noel, and Katie will lead the Norse Code in the fall and the staff is so happy to come back next year!

However, we have to say goodbye to our current 8th grade staff leaders: Miya Tiwari, Andrew Barren, Carolyn Vaziri, Charlie Belford, Emma Yakam, Maddie Jeffers, Mallory Smith, Rosie Gruber, Sari Shocket, and Sophia MacDonald. All of our leaders have been very helpful throughout and will be missed by the remaining staff as they head to the Upper School.

Last but not least, we would like to thank our readers for picking up an issue as they walk by and for helping to spread the word about it. The fact that you read our articles every month is so helpful for the staff, because despite our busy schedules, we spend as much time as we can on writing the content for Norse Code. Thank you, and we'll see you next year!

The Online Dangers of New App: Mappen

From NORSE CODE STAFF
Written by CHARLIE BELFORD



Photo courtesy of Flickr

As school gets out and summer rolls in, many kids want to stay up to date on what is going on around them. From pool parties to movie nights, no kid wants to be left out. Apps like Mappen track where you are and allow you to post "status updates" to let people know what you are doing. What many people do not know that apps like these come with many disadvantages and dangers. Mappen for instance is always tracking your location, meaning no matter where you are, the app can use your location to post updates, or to send notifications to friends that are near you. Although this app may sound fun and cool, there are some serious problems beneath the surface that you don't know about. Mappen can track things that you are interested in, and with that create hundreds and hundreds of "personalized" ads. This meaning, everything you search on the internet or spend time looking at is recorded by this app and stored in a huge database. Mappen's Privacy Policy reads, "When you use our Services, we may

collect your personal information...That information may include, among other things, your full name, email addresses, age, birthday, password, phone numbers, schools attended or attending, device identifiers, and other information you provide. We may also collect information from your user profile, including, among other information: photos, usernames, gender; geographic information, likes, interests, bio, country, character names, email addresses, and contact information for and links to other websites." This app may look organized and cool on the outside, but on the inside, it is very sketchy and almost seems like the app is stalking you. Although we, the Norse Code staff, can't physically do anything to fully prevent you from this app or others like it, we do want to warn you about apps like this because there are many people who are on these apps for a bad reason, and you never know what or who you could run into while trying to "connect" with new people. Thank you, and have a great summer!

Interview with Sherrod Brown continued...

the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration". Taking into account the drastic difference in fatalities, do you plan to champion an increase in budgetary allocations to address this crisis?

From Senator Brown: "The opioid crises is a public health emergency. I've called for a comprehensive, coordinated, and sustained public health campaign to fight it through education and prevention, treatment, and recovery. We cannot accept that life expectancy will continue to decline. That families will continue to be torn apart. That entire communities will be written off. And we don't have to. We can take the lessons of the past and apply them to the opioid crisis today. We need a full-scale, comprehensive, coordinated public health campaign, designed by experts at the CDC, NIH, and the Office of National Drug Control Policy, informed by data, and coordinated across public and private entities.

The Administration must step up, put partisanship aside, put experts in charge, and launch a public health campaign that will endure beyond the next election cycle. We have the best scientists and public health professionals in the world. We have the know-how. We need the political will."

Additional information on Senator Brown's record from his office:

Senator Brown supports combatting terrorism and funding efforts to address the opioid crisis. He knows that we can and we must do both. He has championed efforts to boost funding for Ohioans working to combat the opioid crisis and will continue to call for more funding. Most recently, he helped secure \$6 billion in the budget deal Congress passed in March and worked to ensure states like Ohio that are hardest hit will be first in line to receive funding. Learn more here: <https://www.brown.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/>

brown-secures-funding-to-combat-oidpid-epidemic-in-ohio-stop-fentanyl-at-the-border

Senator Brown also recently called for a full-scale public health campaign to address the opioid epidemic in a speech to the Cleveland City Club. You can learn more about his call and read the full speech here: <https://www.brown.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/brown-calls-for-full-scale-public-health-campaign-to-fight-oidpid-epidemic>

4. In a 2018 study, the SSH (Stop Street Harassment) found that, "...nationwide, 81% of women and 43% of men reported experiencing some form of sexual harassment and/or assault in their lifetime." Now that the #MeToo Movement has amplified this issue, would you support gender sensibility training starting in middle school when these issues first become prevalent?

From Senator Brown: "We have a serious problem in this country with sexual

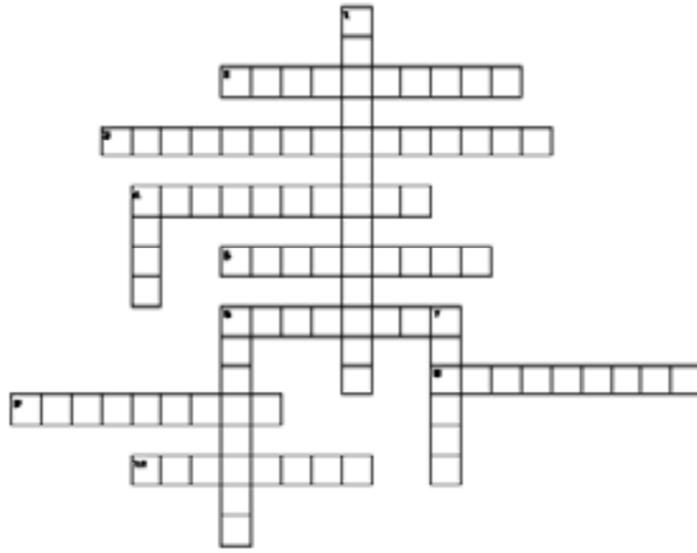
harassment and assault – in Congress, in Hollywood, in business, in the military – everywhere. I am grateful to the victims who have had the bravery to come forward. Their courage has created a movement that is bringing about change. I am open to any ideas to address this issue."

5. Do you have any advice for students who wish to pursue a career in politics? From Senator Brown: "However you decide to get involved, it's important that your elected official hear from you. You have a role to play in the direction that our state and our country take. Stay engaged. Ask tough questions. Pay attention to the people elected to serve you and make your voices heard."



Photo courtesy of Flickr

Crossword Puzzle



Down:

1. Epic dinosaur movie that stars Chris Pratt
4. You may not be a caveman, but you still need one to play this sport.
6. Take me out to the ballgame
7. Best place to meet friends

Across:

2. They do not enjoy summer at the zoo.
3. 4th of July tradition in Columbus
4. Best rollercoasters
5. Color explosion
6. Keeping it clean in the pool
8. Global warming airtment
9. Except when riding bikes
10. Where can you find Black Raspberry Chip ice cream?

Summer Fun

O	P	A	W	F	E	S	N	E	U	Q	R	H	U	G	Z	N	Z	T	S	B
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Y	A	X	O	I	M	H	E	M	F	K	O	O	S	N	G	Z	N	V	I	
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CHILL	FOOD	FRIENDS
FUN	LONG-DAYS	POOL
SLIDES	SUNGLASSES	SUNSCREEN
SUNSHINE	SUNSHIRTS	TANNING
VACATION		

Crossword by Kelli Raque

Columbus Academy MS Word Search!

B	U	S	I	N	E	S	S	F	A	I	R	I	I
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- LACROSSE
- FOOTBALL
- WASHINGTONDC
- BASKETBALL
- TENNIS
- FIELDHOCKEY
- WRESTLING
- COLDWARTRIAL
- CHESS
- SOCCER
- ORGANDAY
- NAVALBATTLE
- GOLF
- BUSINESSFAIR
- TRACK
- SWIMMING
- HOHICAN

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Level 4.00

Edited
by MS. AMY SEYMORE