

# White & Maroon

“For a Funnier Tennessee High”

Volume CVII, Issue 6

Tennessee High School, Bristol, Tennessee

March 31st, 2023

## THS Merges With West Ridge

By Bailey Vining

Beginning August 8th, 2023, Tennessee High School and West Ridge High School will combine to become the biggest and best mega high school Sullivan County has ever seen! We will be the new and improved Tennessee Ridge High School.

The future Mighty Fighting Zacians, inspired by the legendary Pokemon hero, show the fierceness that happens if you give a wolf a sword...Aaarrg. “Mighty mighty Zacians are the best, \*oh\* yes!”

Sullivan East High School will be squashed by the TRHS empire. No one

can beat the Mighty Fighting Zacians, with their signature play, based on the Pokemon’s move, “behemoth blade”.

West Ridge’s grandstands will be a fantastic addition to Tennessee High’s iconic Stone Castle. The beautiful color palette of maroon and blue will shine throughout the brand new halls and wave on flags across campus. Our new fight song will be “Vegas” by Doja Cat.

Although it seems an unlikely combination, by simply joining the two campuses—the primary Bristol campus and the Blountville extension—and with the addition of the upcoming

Southside Parking Garage™ –TRHS will solve multiple logistical problems for students.

To help address any unresolved rivalries between the old Tennessee High and West Ridge, once a year, the Annual Hunger Games will be held where one female and one male student from each campus will earn the honor of serving as tributes. The winner of the Fourth Quarter Quell will earn their own private bathroom to use at school for an entire year.

No school will be able to compare to us, we will be unstoppable!



Artwork by Joan Weddington

## I, Cheyenne Little, Am Quitting YoungLife



Pic creds: Joan Weddington

By Cheyenne Little

This is my formal resignation from YoungLife. I have dedicated my life to this ministry, but I’m now at the end of my rope. Like, literally. I should have won that game of Tug-of-War!

The Thursday clubs full of Spoons, sharks-and-minnows, scream-alongs, gambling, seances, eating Goldfish—the crackers, not the aquatic pets—and cozy games of patty-cake have been a staple in my life, but I have lost my voice one too many times, and have run in circles too long...hence the bum leg.

I have sacrificed too many days of valuable class time for “cultural leave”, and it has become a conflict of interest with my responsibilities governing Tennessee High. If I am truly going to be the future director of schools, I have to start now.

Yes, I will miss my YoungLife family, but we’ll always have our memories, like having my first Shasta at Carolina Point. Or seeing the churro-chucking cowboys in Colorado. But, thanks to the Couch-a-thon, when Ms. Kirk and I had a photo-documented heart-to-heart, I have now found my love for Viking Pride and I bleed maroon...until Thursday.

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*- Cheyenne’s  
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# Meet the 2023 Maroon & White Spring Staff

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# THS Parking Garage

By Ryan Bunny

It's 7:27 a.m. as you point your fuel-sucking pickup truck through the gates of the Southside parking lot, only to find that the few remaining spots are a terribly inconvenient 350 feet from your destination. Frustrated, you squeeze your truck into said space and walk to your first period, wishing we had a greater number of places to leave your car until your lonely trek back to it at 2:30. Wish no longer, for now, Tennessee High has taken on the ambitious project of constructing an 8-story parking garage!

Piercing the city skyline like a thorn in an infectious wound, the beautiful new Southside Parking Garage™ will tower over the nearby



neighborhoods, reminding all Bristolians how their tax dollars were well-spent. This is a far better allocation of funds than any educational program ever could be! After all, think of all the jobs such an expansive project is creating.

The garage is expected to complete construction in late 2035, but another decade of delays

should be expected (or another 50 years if it partially collapses during the process). BTCS leadership has assured the public that the new project will not delay the ongoing construction of the nearby Fairmount Opera House. No matter what century the Southside Parking Garage™ opens in, it will undoubtedly be a source of Viking Pride for years to come!

# Raw, Fresh Produce to Replace Doritos in Vending Machine

By Kat Staton

Many Tennessee High School students have voiced their concerns about the vending machines and their respective snacks, including their generally unappealing flavor and questionable healthiness. However, starting next week, the reign of cereal bars and flavorless "Flamin' Hot" Cheetos will be coming to an end – and replaced with raw, fresh produce.

After former First Lady Michelle Obama's secret guest appearance to THS, she realized that reduced-fat snacks and diet sodas were doing very little to combat childhood obesity. As the person who proposed the Healthy, Hunger Free Kids Act, she felt a responsibility to enact a new solution, deciding to use Tennessee High as the prototype.

In the future, instead of paying an exorbitant \$1.75 for a Nature Valley bar whose texture is closely comparable to that of mulch, or baked potato chips that appear to have a selling point of tasting stale, all snack machines will be stocked with fresh (shipped across the country) fruits and veggies to be sold by the pound for the low price of \$5.00. Mrs. Obama hopes that this change will prove successful so she can pitch the ideas to other schools in the future.

# Tennessee High Black Market Door-Stop Swiper (REAL)

By Callie Eckley

As a journalist, I have one job: revealing the truth. I'm sure many of you have noticed the steadily declining number of door wedges around this here school building, but what if I told you that this was a greater issue than that—an epidemic if you will. I was on the dark web, searching the black market for hazardous chemicals—as one does—and something familiar on my feed caught my eye, the caption reading, "REAL Bristol Tennessee High School door wedge for ONLY 5K! BEST DEAL ON MY PAGE (not clickbait)"

So, of course, I did what anyone else would do: trusted it wasn't clickbait

and clicked on the suspicious looking link. Lo and behold, there were pages upon pages of Tennessee High door-stops. A pale wood one, scrubbed at the end reading "Story", another dirty, old one with "Slone" sketched with sharpie. There were plenty more listed—all from THS.

This is a call to action. All the students here at THS need to keep an eye out for the door-stop swiper, and remember, trust no one. We may be able to improvise with books on the door hinges, or a trash can propping up the door, but we will never be able to recover without the return of our beloved door wedges. Thank you for your time.

door wedges for sale | black marketX

REAL BRISTOL TENNESSEE HIGH DOOR WEDGE FOR ONLY 5K! Top Rated Plus closeoutsurplus (42,500) 99.6%

Brand New  
Buy It Now  
Free shipping  
Free returns  
1,527 sold  
\$5,000  
Sponsored

BEST DEAL ON MY PAGE (NOT CLICKBAIT)

THS DOOR STOP FOR SALE

Brand New  
Buy It Now  
Free shipping  
\$10,236.86

Open Box  
請花九元錢買我的人類食譜 :3  
Qing hua jiu yuan qian mai wo de renlei shipü:3  
or Best Offer  
Free shipping

## New and Improved Tardy Lounge Does Not Disappoint



**By Caden Cartwright**

The looming bell of doom rings three grim chimes as you speed into the newly constructed Southside Parking Garage™.

7:28 a.m. You rip off your seatbelt, slam the car door, and make a mad dash into the school. As you race against the clock through the first-floor main hallway and up the flight of stairs, one of the couples making out in the middle of the second-floor hallway pauses to call to you.

7:29 a.m. This is your marathon. Crowds of students and teachers cheer you on from the barely-used lockers. A continuous trail of rubber streaks marks the tile floors below you. Only yards ahead gapes the gateway to

your success as a student: Art I. Mr. Donald Quales is a notorious stickler for the tardy policy. In your final strides, you leap to catch the door, but miss it by millimeters!

7:30 a.m. “Ding! Ding! Ding!” Yet another reminder of your insufficiency.

You look up to Mr. Quales in horror. You begin your begrudged trek to the tardy room, accompanied by the morning announcements, when you are suddenly interrupted by Mr. Anthony Graham.

The hallway lights flicker, and you look over your shoulder for Agnes. “What the...?” you shriek, as a now illuminated Graham rises into the air, arms outstretched, eyes rolled back, and in a haunting impression of

the renowned Phil Swift, declares:

“The new-and-improved Tennessee High School Tardy Lounge features a plethora of commodities for its residents, whether they may be new or returning! Need a place to evade your work and responsibilities? The Tardy Lounge is the place to be—instead of class.

“This new lounge includes a personal fridge, microwave, Nintendo Switch, and vending machine for each student! School staff, however, must continue to use the single microwave and fridge assigned to their respective floor.

“More importantly, the lounge’s vending machines feature Apple Pay, bypass the 2010 Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act, and do not charge

extra for cards! While snacking on high fructose corn syrup and hydrogenated oils, students can only socialize and play, rather than catch up on trivial work or sleep!

“Any student who chooses to be forced to attend the Tardy Lounge, which is done regardless of any excuses provided, must finish all their work for the current semester by 2:30 p.m. that afternoon, or else their education will pause until the next semester begins. Those who would like to view their visiting records for the lounge may consult Dr. Benji Lewis. Please enjoy using the Tardy Lounge to its fullest productivity-avoidant extent!”

Horrified, you decide to skip first period and go to McDonald’s.

## Potral To Alternate Dimension Discovered in Mrs. Sutherland’s Room

**By Kaylee Hamrick**

Pupils of Mrs. Sutherland are all too familiar with the seemingly endless possibilities that her ever-expanding room presents. But after a run-in with the fire marshall, Mrs. Sutherland has discovered that her room may have something a bit more sinister lurking beyond the surface.

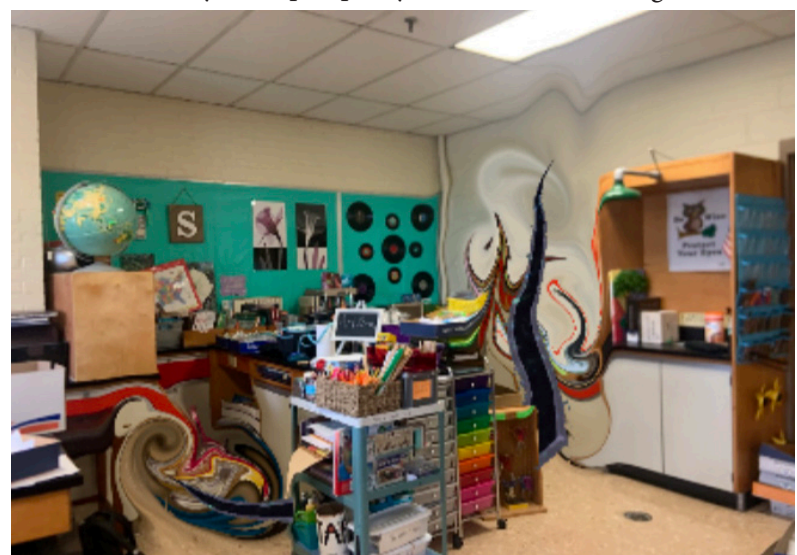
You heard it here first: Mrs. Sutherland’s tidy streak has disrupted the balance of reality, tearing a hole in the space-time continuum and opening a portal to another dimension in her room. To learn more about this phenomenon, I contacted physics teacher Dr. Lewis, who is currently

studying the wormhole in an attempt to further understand what this will mean for the future of our school.

“Mrs. Sutherland’s classroom is a typical example of quantum tunneling, which is where an object goes from one location to another location instantly,” Dr. Lewis explains. The wormhole is scheduled to collapse on itself on April 29th, 2023. It is not yet known if the collapse of our dimension will conflict with prom night.

Until then, Mrs. Sutherland will continue to hold class in her fabled room, working closely with the national guard and school board to

assure the safety and prosperity of Tennessee High School.



# The Breakfast Club

By Nathaniel Morefield

Although Jeff Lebowski, or "The Dude" as he is widely known, has risen to a celebrity status since his 1998 documentary, The Big Lebowski was released, his whereabouts for the following years have been shrouded in mystery. That is, until now.

This elusive superstar has never wanted anything more than a simple, rugged life, but since the release of the film, his life has become a nightmare.

Although The Dude has been known to keep his usual cool even through the most stressful of circumstances, "All those interviews man, they got to me. You know, I'm not typically a real violent guy, but they had me fantasizing about strangling those reporters during interviews," he said.

"Some reporters even broke into my home one time and got mud on my rug. Don't put that in your paper though or those Coen bros will try and make a sequel. Lord knows that's all I need right now." The Dude was desperate for a much-needed change in scenery to protect his peace. So, he hit the road, drove straight down through California, right over the border, all the way through Mexico. He revved up the engine in Panama and flew right over the Canal.

Eventually, The Dude's engine broke down in the Amazon Rain Forest. He thought about having it fixed, but the tall trees and vibrant wildlife felt like a haven for his anxious mind, the lush grass: a carpet for his weary feet. So he planted his roots, fell in with a family of sloths. With them, he'd spend the next 10 years of his life learning their gentle ways.

He found that inner peace he'd longed for in their simplicity. Sure, sometimes he'd think about his life before: his friends and family, his rugs, all the perks of being a celebrity, indoor plumbing. Nothing though, he resolved, could compare to the serenity he felt in that forest. "I guess nothing's really more valuable than that peace, come to think of it," he said.

One day however, The Dude was disturbed to hear the piercing sound of a saw blade in the distance. He tried to ignore the sounds but, but with each passing day, they grew louder, drowning out the familiar buzz of wildlife around him. The sloths had begun to grow restless, and he knew it couldn't be much longer now before they would have to go.

The dude, continued on Page 6.

# The Cortez Report: The Forgotten Cooties Pandemic

By Ricardo Cortez-Aleman

Humanity has faced many epidemics: the Bubonic Plague, the Spanish Flu, Ebola, and the most recently, Covid-19. However, there is one pandemic that is hidden in plain sight, waiting to strike: Cooties.

The disease is obtained by having any physical contact with a person of the opposite sex and can only be removed by passing it to someone else.

Exact origins of the sickness are unknown and many say that it is nothing more than a "fictitious childhood disease"; however, those spreading this misinformation are trying to sweep this severe illness under the rug. The Cooties pandemic has ravaged every aspect of people's lives; jobs have been lost, families broken apart, and friendships destroyed all due to this bombastic infection.

"At first I didn't think Cooties was serious until my best friend got it," Iam Ariel Persone stated. "I remember the day so clearly. It was during recess

and all was swell and peaceful.

Suddenly, in the corner of my eye, I see my best friend, Jane Doe, [being] kissed on the cheek! I [threw up immediately] and started crying, as I knew what was going to happen," she said sullenly before excusing herself to sob in the corner.

"Word got out and havoc broke loose. Everyone on the playground quarantined themselves in the classroom and poor Jane was banished to the playground forever. Her life hasn't been the same and as much as I

love her, I am [never] touching her [again]. I cannot risk getting infected."

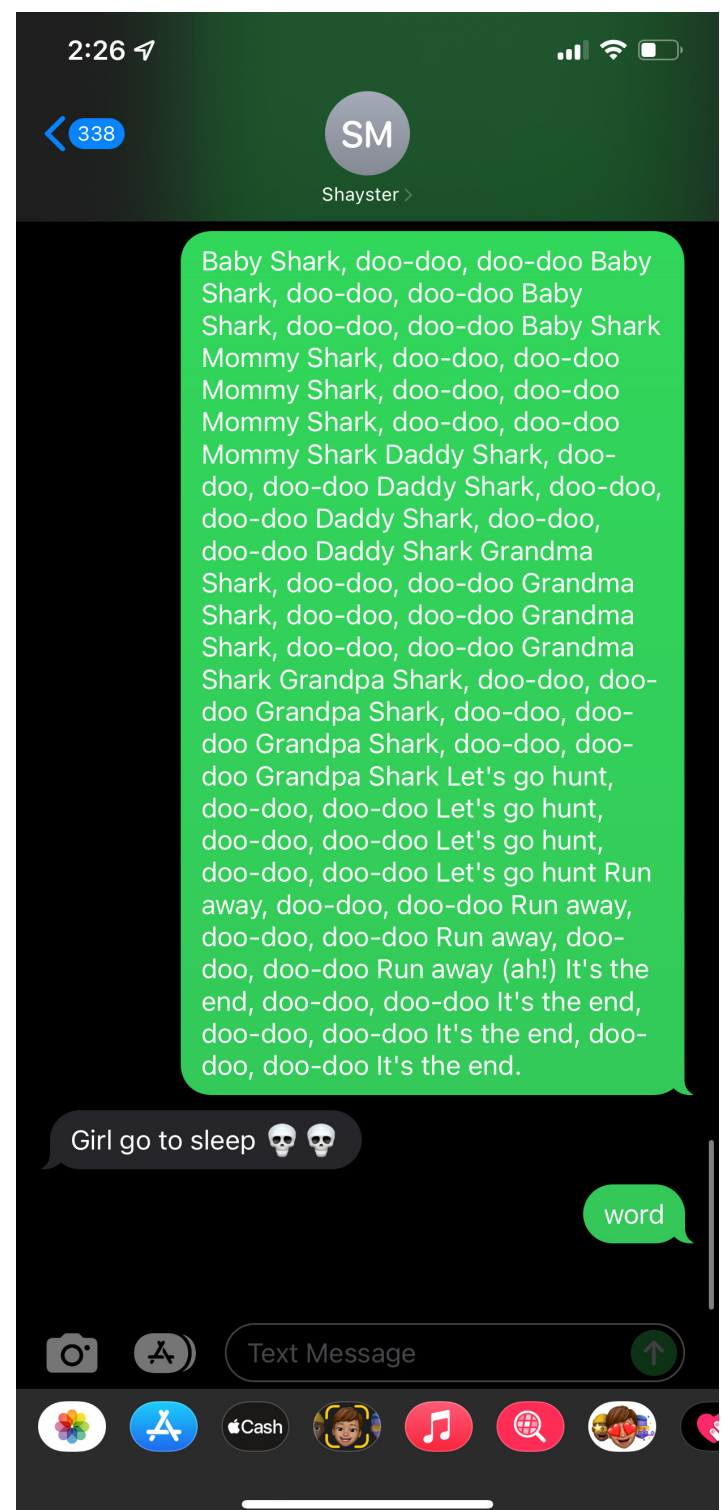
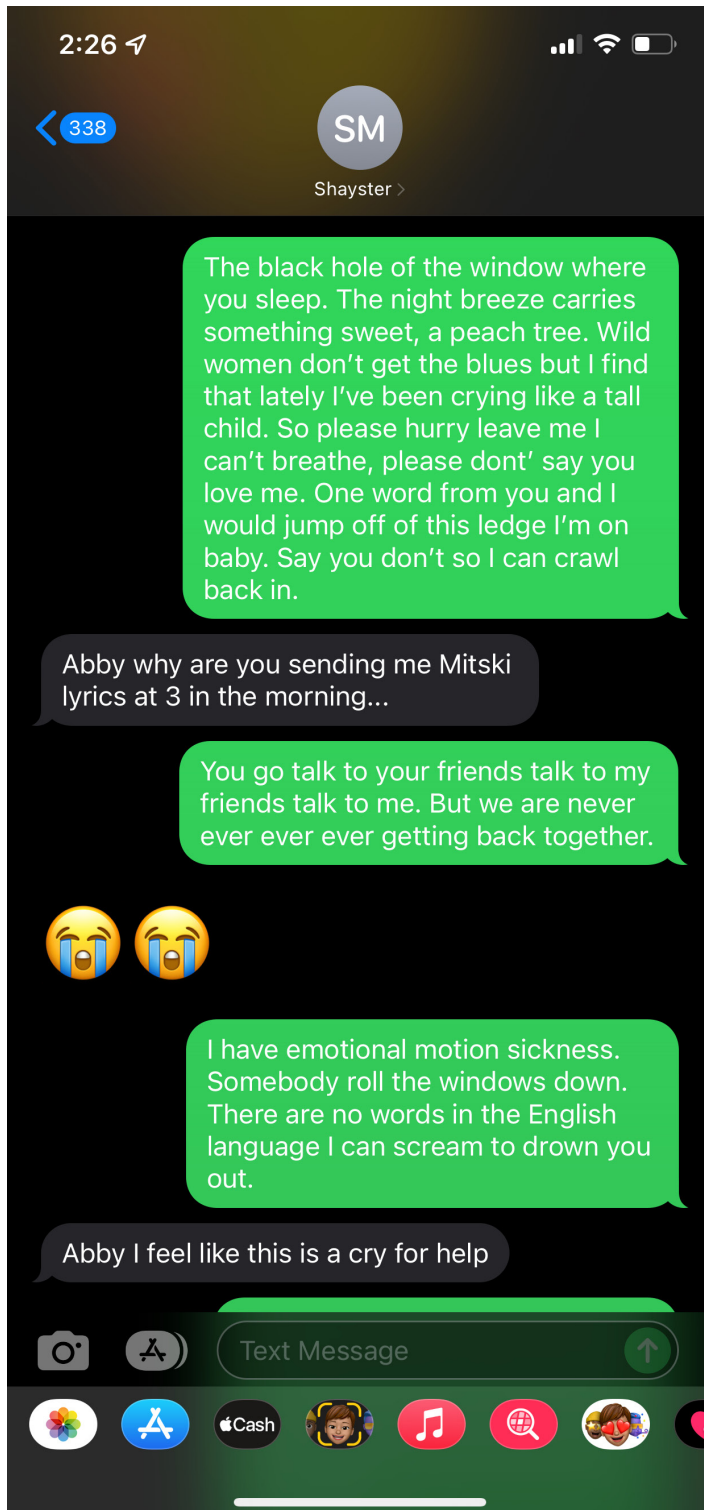
Although Iam is only seven years old, the story she presents moved many and has helped spread awareness of the danger that Cooties cause every day.

If you have a close friend or relative that might have been in contact with Cooties, make sure to contact the authorities immediately and have them quarantined.

Pic creds: Hayden Arnett



# Not Too Shabby with Shayla and Abby



## Cupcakes for Felines or Felons?

By Hayden Arnett

I find the support that Cupcakes for Kitties has garnered utterly ap-paw-ling, considering the dark truth behind the company, and I have been silent long enough.

On January 14th, Cupcakes for Kitties owner, Pavitra Surma, reached out to the student paw-pulation to sell her cupcakes—the profits benefiting cats in local animal shelters, allegedly—with the company distributing the

cupcakes on February 14th.

Prior to this, Surma's fur-ends were coaxed into buying cupcakes under the guise that we would be innocently supporting felines, when in reality, we were supporting a felon.

That's right—Pavitra Surma is a felon. Surma concocts her purr-ple cupcakes with a poisonous recipe that causes feline mutations in humans. I very nearly avoided being turned into an American shorthair when, after eating

a cupcake, I noticed that every other word I attempted to speak became either a “meow” or a claw-ful cat pun. I was rushed to the hospital and treated with a strong antibiotic, and have not noticed any other symptoms since.

Unfortunately, other students—or should I say, the other victims—who ate Cupcakes for Kitties haven't been seen at school since the end of the school day on March 10, 2023.

Supposedly, witnesses report seeing these students back at school at 7:30 on March 22, 2023, but this has not been fact-checked by me or Maroon & White officials. Although 11th graders Bella Smith and Macy Galloway both stated that the cupcakes “taste[d] like normal cupcakes,” they periodically licked their arms and arched their backs throughout the conversation, suggesting they were NOT okay.

A surprising number of cats have been seen curled up around the THS campus, adding fuel to suspicions that this is no mere tail, but a conspiracy to turn kids into kitties.

Since the situation has been brought to light, the (felonious) student-owned company has kept the ingredients

included in the cupcakes hush-hush, raising even more suspicion. Some believe the cupcakes are made from basic ingredients such as avo-cat-o and paw-sta, but without a food label, who's to say the distribution was even legal.

When asked about her involvement with the scandal, Surma curiously had “no comment.” However, she did state that she “did not harm anyone” and that she was “sorry, [she] guess[es]” in a now deleted Instagram story.

Digging deeper, one can find her involvement with a group called H.O.S.A., a secret organization, whose name stands for “Humans Overthrown by Sweet Animals.”

Officials hope to get to the bottom of this affair before anyone else is exposed to this cat-astrophe.

Protesters are calling for the production to come to a halt, and some are even coining the phrases “Felonies for Felines” and “Cupcakes for Criminals.”

Students should be on the watch for Surma's newest product: specialty pawpcorn.



## THS Student Premier's Faceless Portrait Over A Decade in the Making

By Shayster McCain

Some may point to Renaissance artists such as Rembrandt or post-modern artists like VanGogh as artistic giants, but the real artistic innovations are happening in the twenty-first century by little-known up-and-comers--these are none other than faceless portrait artists.

Faceless portraits are the best art form out there; with the style's attention to detail, shading, depth, and proportions--while following a minimalistic style--it out-shines all others.

Many faceless portraits consist of depictions of popular shows, celebrities, or familiar faces. They can be seen on many sites: Instagram, Pinterest, Etsy, and more.

Our very own Abby Morefield, THS junior, is an aspiring faceless portrait artist. She is premiering a new series based on the show of the century, Breaking Bad, starting with Walter White.

“The faceless art form really captures the essence and character of the person I am drawing. When drawing the Walter White portrait, I wanted to make sure I captured every detail of his scraggly goatee perfectly to show how deeply the mysticism of crystals in the show

resonates with me,” Abby said.

Her unbreakable passion for Breaking Bad is evident in the brush strokes and detailing she used.

“The faceless art form is so underrated,” said her brother, Nathaniel. “It's a metacommentary on late stage capitalism and its effect on the prison industrial complex.”

These drawings take YEARS to complete. Abby started the Walter White portrait when she was only four years old. By that point, however, she was already invested in his character.

“She used to always want art supplies for Christmas,” Abby's mother said, “but she started asking for chemistry sets.”

What does the future hold for Abby? Clearly, her career can take one of two paths, and not many of us have the talent to be able to choose between art and science. Whatever she decides, her work represents the unique and fascinating beauty of not only the faceless portrait genre, but of the power of depicting our favorite tv characters. Abby's art may be new, but this is the new highbrow. Her “Walter White” is sure to be remembered for millennia to come.



Art by: Abby Morefield

## The Dude Cont. From Page 4

By Nathaniel Morefield

The Dude resolved to take a hike through the forest. He hoped that if he went deep enough, he could escape the looming sound of the saws, but it was impossible.

Eventually though, he came across a hut and found an old man living there. With his usual demeanor, he asked him, “Hey, how ya doin’, man?” The man replied, “I’ve seen worse days and better places, but better places are hard to find.” The Dude stayed with the man for the night, but before he awoke, the man was gone. The Dude knew immediately that he had to follow.

He ran as fast as he could, and got all of his sloth family together. They had to do the best they could with what they had, so they replaced the broken engine with the sloths all working together cranking the wheels. Don’t worry, The Dude had a steady supply of leaves for their stamina, although as I’m sure you can imagine, the car went much slower this time around.

They drove and drove until the sound of saws was long gone, in search of a new home. They drove until the wheels fell off and the old car collapsed.

Today, “the Dude abides” in a little town called Bristol, TN. The Dude decided to start a new life here with his family of sloths, but to avoid suspicion, he would need to act as if they were a normal human family to the rest of the world, occasionally having a few of them stand on top of each other and dress in human outfits. And lastly, he’d of course need to take a new name to keep up his anonymity. For reasons that will forever remain as mysterious as the man himself, he decided to go with “The Slone.”



Pic creds: Hayden Arnett

He now provides THS with his signature calm disposition. I don’t know what we ever did to deserve such a dependably tranquil dude at our school, but “it’s good knowing he’s out there,” just “takin’ her easy for all us sinners.”

## The Divine Motifs of “Cocaine Bear”

By Piper Booher

Cinema— by its true definition, is an incredibly effective art form that takes into account cinematography, the frame and its use of themes behind the stories of directors achieving their true vision. And what story could be completed without the usage of literary techniques such as the MacGuffin? The MacGuffin is an object or tool that sets a chain of events in motion within the story, of which all parties search for. Star Wars: A New Hope revolutionized the concept of the MacGuffin back in 1977, when the character of R2D2 became a living-breathing MacGuffin with the Death Star Plans installed within the character. Cocaine bear takes this concept a step further by having the MacGuffin—cocaine—be the protagonist, since protagonists—unlike heroes or “good guys”— are only the characters we follow.

After having watched Cocaine Bear, I am stunned by what the film had to offer. What was on the plate for entertainment was a bear that got high on cocaine, but to my surprise, it was much...much more. I came away from the movie with a divine message, gifted to thee who looked past the blood and silliness; this being, the cocaine within Cocaine Bear is the true tool wielded by the divine and supernatural to bring upon retribution for humanity’s corruption of its creations!

From the very beginning of the movie, the cocaine is handled as cargo on a drug-smuggling plane, literally raining from the heavens above. This starts as motivation for the plot to continue from here, with a domino effect leading up to the bear. Humanity has a tendency to claim land and denounce all other animals and plants as tools for the species’ success—which is significant in the origins of cocaine in the real world: an innocent plant turning into a harmful substance. As a protagonist, the cocaine is reminiscent of the actions of Frankenstein’s Monster, with the creation destroying the creator piece-by-piece by denying his family and friends’ right to exist. And what better vessel to wreak havoc among the heathen masses? A predator, a wild animal... Aha! A bear!

The main villain of Cocaine Bear is this one drug dealer who seeks to profit off of the cocaine by following the bear’s trail, but eventually goes to kill it in the movie’s climax. He shoots it at point-blank range, only for the bear to come back to life with the power of drugs. What this represents is that even though the bear is defeated, it doesn’t die! By managing to maul the dealer after being shot in the face, the bear shows that the will of the divine overwhelms the use for greed and corruption of the habitats of Earth.

What made me bat an eye at this reading was researching the usage of bears within religious texts. Specifically, in the Bible, 2 Kings 2:23-25, a bald man by the name of Elisha calls upon God to punish the children who bully him for being bald; so, as any reasonable punishment for bullying the bald, God sends 2 bears to maul all 42 of the disrespectful kids. What’s interesting is that in this story, God sends bears to carry out God’s will. And who is sending the traffickers of the afterlife in Cocaine Bear? The bear, of course!

The bear is non-discriminatory in its wrath, taking human life to be hunted down, with the morally good characters being caught in the crossfires of the bear’s rampage. Whilst the human characters are shown more often than the bear or cocaine itself, the majority exhibit the goodness of humanity, the humanity worth protecting and rooting for. Meanwhile, the drug traffickers are seen as the ones to be purged of for their crimes.

If you still need convincing, think of the cocaine not as a character like the humans, but as a means to an end in the story. Like stated previously, the cocaine is the most efficient weapon of choice to carry out divine intervention! After mind-controlling the bear, what actions the bear follows isn’t moral or good in any way, but a necessary evil to purge those wanting to profit off of these harmful drugs. When the bear uses up all of the cocaine, eliminations of the dealers, and sadly innocent lives caught within the crosshairs, by a drug-fueled ursine (bear). Cocaine Bear does work in mysterious ways.

Pic creds: Nathaniel Morefield



## Your health partner for pediatrics

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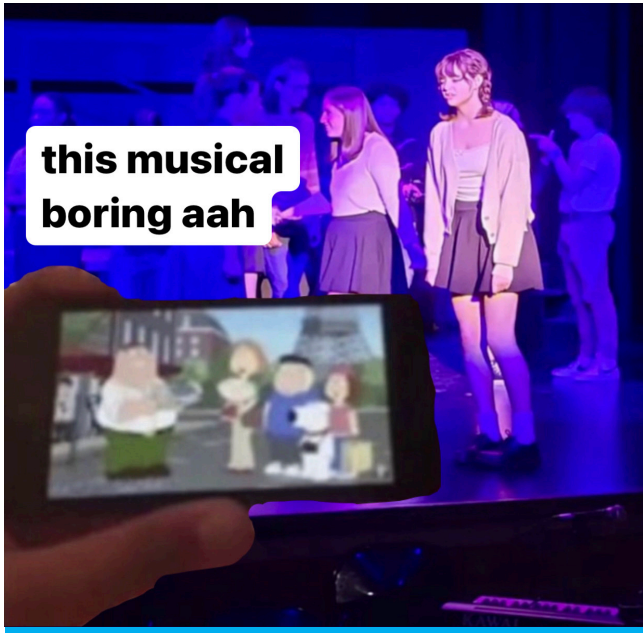


 **bristol  
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associates



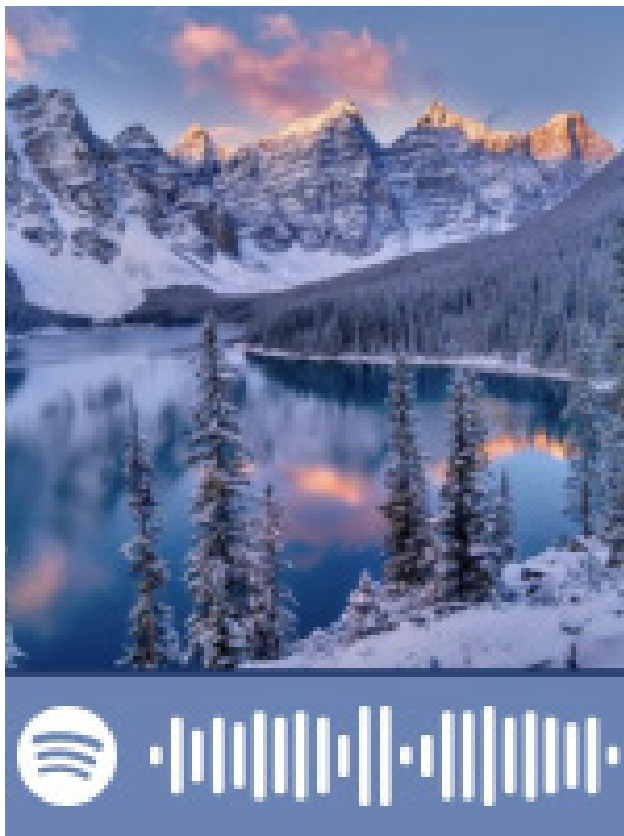
### Meme of the Month

By Anna Grace Hodges



### Spring Playlist

By: Joseph Burriss



### april fools word search

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| F | I | I | A | C | L | O | C | K | M | A | U | E | F |
| Y | G | M | D | B | A | M | B | O | O | A | S | O | I |

By Kacey Hamrick

gags clownery shenanigans tricks buffoonery  
bamboozled antics flabberghast mischief toomfolery

### Which Maroon and White Member Are You?

By Callie Eckley

1. What is your favorite subject in school?  
A. Math B. Science C. Social Studies D. English
2. Pick an after-school activity?  
A. Karate B. Piano C. Volleyball D. Robotics
3. Rina Sawayama?  
A. Yes B. seY C. Maybe (smile) D. Don't ask me that
4. Is your name Caden Tyde Cartwright?  
A. Yes B. Yes C. Yes D. Yes

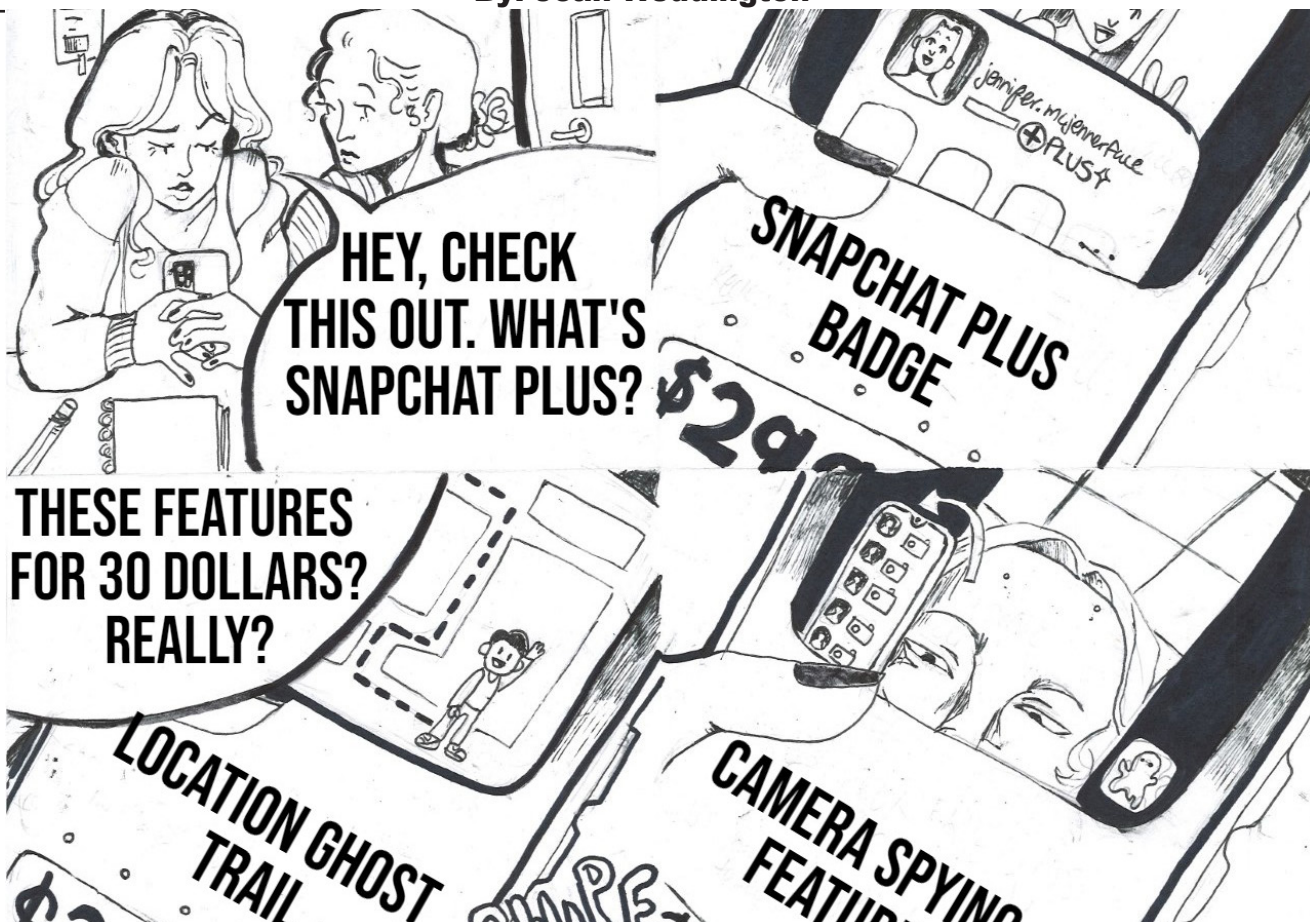
#### Results:

Mostly A Answers: Caden Cartwright  
Mostly B Answers: Caden Cartwright  
Mostly C Answers: Caden Cartwright  
Mostly D Answers: Caden Cartwright

(This message is approved by Caden T. Cartwright)

### Satire Comic Corner

By: Joan Weddington



### Vikings Vocalize

#### What is Your Greatest Accomplishment ?

9th Grade Jake Mullins: "I'm on my way to pee right now."

9th Grade Connor Patlan: "I like food."

10th Grade Harper Robinette: "Keeley Greene and Ella Nigar"

10th Grade Chase Wolfenbarger: "Surviving Coach Stubbs' workouts"

11th Grade Adyn Patlan: "Flying into Jupiter on an airplane but instead crashing into the Sun, reincarnating as Jesus Christ and overthrowing the government."

12th Grade Rylan Henard: "I pour cereal before milk."

12th Grade Paige Helms: "Finley."

Teacher Mr. Slone: "The Pythagorean Theorem"



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