

# Maroon & White

Volume CV, Issue I

Tennessee High School, Bristol, Tennessee

October 13th, 2020

## Trick or covid?

### Sheany Regules

Halloween. The holiday where kids dress up in their favorite costumes and go knock on doors, get a load of candy, and later run around the house bragging to their friends about what they got. This year however, there's a global pandemic occurring. So what does that mean for kids celebrating Halloween?

Although nothing is certain, some houses and neighborhoods have a plan to safely enjoy Halloween. The neighborhood surrounding Holston Avenue has become a very popular location for trick-or-treaters over the years. Filled with blow up balloons, lights, scary decorations, and some of the kindest people, this neighborhood gets over 600 trick or treaters from not just Bristol but also from Johnson City and Kingsport.

Bristol homeowner Aaron Lilly has a very astute idea for how to deal with this year's trick or treaters. He said, "We talked about putting a clothesline type deal and hanging goodie bags with clothespins, keeping them 6 feet apart for social distancing so kids can come up and pull one off." This would keep the 6-foot apart regulation going, and would also limit the amount of physical contact in between trick-or-treaters. Lilly also

went on to say that "kids have missed out on enough," and that in his opinion, "Halloween is sort of the biggest holiday for kids. No holiday has surpassed Halloween."

Another popular place trick or treaters love to get candy is at trunk or treats. Tennessee Avenue Baptist Church in Bristol, TN is hosting a "trunks of treats" on October 31st from 4-6 pm. The Children's Ministry Director, Tiffany Sweeney, also has precautions that they will take to ensure the safety of everyone at this annual event.

Sweeney says, "there will be security to maintain traffic flow, there will be volunteers with gloves handing out candy. We ask that children do not reach into the buckets to get candy. There will also be sanitation stations and this year we will not provide food. However, there will be 5 food trucks so anyone who wants to purchase food can. There will also be signs promoting social distancing and only a couple of families at a time going through the trunks."

Although this year's Halloween won't be the same, we can still make the most out of it. Whether you are trunk or treating, knocking on doors, or both, remember to bring your mask and social distance. Happy Halloween!!

## Firecracker Squad

### Sarah Clever



### The Firecracker Squad

Have you ever seen a school come together to make everyone feel welcome and a part of the team spirit? If you've ever seen the Tennessee High Firecracker Squad perform, then your answer to that question would be a resounding, "yes."

Senior Audreyana Cuddy, team captain, said, "The team is all about being a cheerleader for everyone. Whether it be a teacher, a faculty member, a student, a club, a sports team, or even a coach." As Cuddy explains, the Firecracker Squad aims to cheer at sports events that aren't typically cheered for, such as volleyball, soccer, J.V. football, and J.V. basketball. "Through the three years I've been on the team, I have enjoyed every moment of it, and think it's

something everyone should want to be a part of" Cuddy said enthusiastically.

The Firecracker Squad is comprised of cheerleaders, CDC students, and other interested students. Senior Lauren Ubani loves the welcoming and supportive nature of the squad. "The firecracker squad allows our special needs department to cheer on our fellow classmates," Urbani said. "This program is amazing, because... the love [our] team shows to Tennessee High sports is unbelievable."

In the end of the day everyone is left with smiles on their faces. Co-Captain Jenna Rhodes agrees and states, "Being on the firecracker squad means so much to me. It puts a smile on my face and it's so fun!"

## A Spark of Fire During Winter Season

### Fabian Maqueira

As the 2020-21 school year progresses, the winter sports season is almost here, and along with that comes new sports. The fall sports season's temperate weather made it easier for everyone to find different ways to handle the COVID-19 situation while still keeping our sports seasons going. However, now winter season is coming up and the cold weather takes us back inside, meaning that we won't be able to social distance with the same ease as we could during the previous sports season. Some sports such as Swimming and Wrestling might face challeng-

es dealing with COVID while still keeping their season. According to the last meeting of the Aquavikes, swimming and diving plan to start their season in December, with their first meet scheduled for early January. Coach Bright, the girls basketball coach said, "We're taking extra precautions in order to help our seniors get a season." "We are cutting them into smaller groups in order to help us prevent COVID in our team," she then added, "We're really blessed to have a season, and I'd like to make it as normal as I can, and hopefully our seniors get to play some basketball."

### What's Inside

**A Spark of Fire During Winter Season**  
Page 1

**How Old is "Too Old" for Trick-or-Treating?**  
Page 4

**Among Us Imposter Tips and Tricks!**  
Page 3

**VIKINGS VOCALIZE: WHICH HOLIDAY IS THE MOST OVERRATED?**

**Meet the 2020  
Maroon & White  
Fall Staff  
Editor**  
Gibson Bartlett

**Assistant Editor**  
Meghan Bryant

**Journalists**

Sarah Clever  
Sophia Detrick  
Fabian Maqueira  
Lucy Paulson  
Sheany Regules  
Julia Slagle  
Madison Wilson

**Copy Editor**  
Mary Huffard

**Business Manager**  
Jacob Finch

**Advisor**  
Mariel Story

# Cow Pastures, Sketchy Motels, and a Bruised Butt

Jacob Finch



**Logan Streetman (left) and Jerrick Juarez (right) in front of the Capitol after a long yet fun cycling journey.**

We all have impulsive callings to go do something. Whether it's as small as getting a snack from the kitchen despite not being hungry, or as big as completely skipping school to chill at home all day, these feelings always persist. However, most of the time we decide against these impulses. Mostly because they are never worth it, but what about the times when they would be? Do we take those chances then? Logan Streetman had such an instance over Fall Break, but he decided to take that chance.

At 4:00 pm on Saturday, October 3rd, 2020, Logan Streetman and his friend Jerrick Juarez embarked on a nearly 375 mile expedition to Washington D.C. via bicycle.

Both of his parents were completely supportive of his trip, and he had a persistent feeling of excitement leading up to the trip, and it was paid off once they began. Averaging about 55 miles per day, with the longest day being Friday, October 9th where they traveled 80 miles, the boys had a long but fulfilling 8 day trip. "Amazing views, quiet country roads, bombing massive hills, nice people, and many other factors made this amazing," Logan stated. "There were many other memorable moments as well: on our third day out, every meal we ate was paid for by thoughtful strangers. It wasn't always going our way, though; one day we had to patch Jerrick's tube with duct tape and gorilla glue, and we also got stuck on Lee High-

way at 10 pm. It all added to the experience, however."

With such a long endeavor, most people would get tired of the constant riding, but not them. "We got used to biking all day by our third day," Logan stated. They also loved the living situation. "Usually we found camp when the Sun was setting; whether it was a national forest, campground, or sketchy motel, like the one in Buena Vista, Virginia, we always found an interesting place to camp." They even spent a night camping beside of a cow pasture when they didn't have a set out plan before. "We both had enough materials to be comfortable between an ENO Hammock, sleeping bag, rain fly, and tarp."

When they finally reached D.C., Logan said it felt bittersweet. "We were said the adventure was over, but my butt was extremely bruised." Logan's dad and some of their family met them in D.C., and they spent some time visiting places like the Capital building. When it was time to head home, they opted to drive with his dad rather than go back the same way. "It was sad seeing how little time a week of biking takes to travel when driving," he said.

Logan and Jerrick are both extremely happy they embarked on such a beautiful and life affirming journey, and they hope that their spontaneous decision will help others to make ones similar.

## What is the best Halloween Candy?

Sophia Detrick

It's no joke that 2020 has left family and friendships broken after it's many lengthy debates that come out of it. But are we forgetting about one of the most important, unrecognized debates of all? What truly is the best Halloween Candy? There are multiple factors that go into the ultimate decision: age, popularity, and enjoyableness. For the sake of this article, only ACTUAL candies will be participating. That's right, your health freak neighbor who only hands out dental floss and apples has no say! So let's dive deeper and truly break it up to find out!

First, let's focus on age. We can separate this into two significant groups: people under 30 and everyone else. There is a big difference in which age group eats what. Everyone knows it, the token grandma who only ever has caramel candies and peppermints in her candy dish that you don't really enjoy but eat them anyway just to keep her pleased. The type of grandma's that hand out the candy that leaves your dentist with a field day of cavities. We can compare this to the other side of the spectrum. Usually younger audiences, especially little ones, go for the more sweet and savory options. You know, your Hershey's, starburst, and skittles.

Now for popularity. Skittles takes the number one spot for the most produced candy. M&M's and Reese's Peanut Butter Cups seem to be in a never ending battle for most sold candy. Considering the most frequent candy I would get when I came home and dumped all my candy out onto the floor were tiny bags of M&M's and Skittles, it seems pretty safe to say that these

three are definitely fighting for the top spot for the best Halloween Candy.

Enjoyableness is all about a matter of personal preference. It depends on the texture, your taste buds, smell, and how good it looks. According to USA today, Reese's Peanut Butter Cups takes the crown with more than 36% of American's favoring the delicious treat. Honorable mentions go to Snickers, Hershey's, and candy corn. Ah yes, we can't forget about the iconic candy corn. Many love it, many hate it, many say it "fulfills the childhood dream of wondering what biting into a candle would be like." Interesting. Smell and the look of a candy are major factors. No one wants a stinky lump of sugar that looks like something your dog sniffs on the side of the road. So yes, the overall aesthetic does in fact matter when choosing the best Halloween candy out there.

Now, let's get down to the final say. The best Halloween candy is... drum roll please... There is none. Will the debate ever truly be resolved, or will it continue to tear down families and ruin even the tightest of friendships? Are just basing the opinion on those three categories enough? Will we ever know? And even then who makes such an important decision? Who are we to know who makes that decision? Beauty is in the eye of the beholder. It hinges on the balance of humanity. Who knows if humankind is even ready to hear such a significant conclusion? Hate to break it to you folks but there is just no "best" Halloween candy. Just kidding lol it's definitely M&M's!

# Everything About Imposters

Lucy Paulson

As someone who has been playing Among Us for a while now--including a collective 12 hours and 32 minutes just this week--I've learned a thing or two about being and sussing an imposter. Some of these tips are for 2 or 3 imposters, as I usually play 3 for a higher chance of being an imposter. Granted, these don't work every time, but they're helpful to know, so buckle up!

## PART 1: SUSSING AN IMPOSTER

**Following** Starting with the obvious-- I promise they get better: following. When someone is following you, it seems they're waiting on the kill cooldown to end or possibly have the same tasks, rarely. Nevertheless, if someone follows you around at least half of the map, call an emergency meeting and tell everyone; they'll usually vote them out. If you tell them they were following you but the other color turns it around and says you were following them, it's an immediate indicator that they're following.

**Blaming or Not Talking** Next, if someone is blaming or not talking at all, they are generally an imposter. Not every time, they might just be paranoid, but it is highly unlikely. In most games I've played, a person who blames a ton of people each discussion is one of the imposters. Now keep people in mind who haven't talked through most of the game, sometimes imposters don't talk so you forget about them, however, if you notice no one has talked, call them out about it. They'll be caught off guard someone noticed, have a bad lie, or start blaming you. Have a good alibi in case this happens, such as "Blue saw me do a visual task."

**???** A great rarity that isn't super popular but has proven my case a few times is that, regardless if a meeting is called or a body is reported, the imposter simply puts any number of question marks. It could be laziness or something I can't explain, but I've sussed out the imposter a few times doing that.

**Naming a Color Without a Reason** Another obvious action that someone is an imposter is if someone says a color with no evidence but keeps repeating the color. One that happens way too often is when someone says another color, the imposter will just simply say to skip without asking for evidence.

**Get Out** This game has really upped my trust issues. When I'm doing a task on my own and I see another color come in, I immediately look at the color, and hopefully, if I can, if they're imposter or not, get out. Now sadly I know this because it's happened to me too many times. When I see someone enter I think, "Oh it's \_\_\_" and sure enough it's the imposter. Also, Don't rely on the taskbar to tell you anything.

## PART 2: BEING THE BEST IMPOSTER

**Hop in a Vent and Wait** To be the best imposter, be careful not to do anything from the above paragraphs! My favorite thing to do as an imposter is to run straight to either electric or med bay. I hop in a vent and wait for someone to come in electric and in MedBay, and I pretend to inspect a sample. Embarrassingly to say, I've only recently learned you can move around vents. After you've gotten the crewmate, vent and go to another room. Preferably across the map if you can; it helps your alibi.

**Stick up for Imposters and Non-Imposters / Have an Alibi** If you're going to stick up for the imposter if they're being called out, make sure to stick up for non-imposters so you're not sus. Don't be too vocal though. Having a good alibi is key in protecting yourself, be honest, which sounds more believable, such as, "I wasn't in admin" or, "I was in electric with pink downloading data." Don't be a room over or across, you usually can vent to those places and I've seen a crewmate tell an imposter that they can vent to the room over when they tried to form a poor alibi.

**Fix the Sabotage** If you or another imposter sabotages, go fix the sabotage to build some trust with others. If I'm playing with multiple imposters, I like to turn the lights off, stand with the crewmates trying to turn the lights back on and flip them off so the other imposters have time to kill crewmates. This is a good time for a truthful alibi about where you were and who you were with.

### Don't Follow

Finally, I won't go into much detail, but don't please follow, y'all. Are you trying to get voted out? If too many people are going to electrical or someplace, go somewhere else. Get to electric before others if you can, most swipe their card first so you'll have some time but if not hang out in a vent somewhere not by where everyone is going. Electrical is basically the "Hunger Games" equivalent of the cornucopia so take extra caution. Happy gaming!

## What your Among US color says about you:

**Fabian Maqueira**

**Red:** SUS

**Black:** Actually knows how to play

**White:** Gets killed in electrical

**Purple:** Never talks in the chat

**Brown:** Leaves the game it's not the imposter

**Orange:** Always following people and acting sus

**Yellow:** Calls meetings for no reason

**Cyan:** First one to get voted out

**Pink:** It's the imposter 99.99% of the time

**Blue:** Has an excuse for everything they say

**Green:** Wears the Jason masks all the time and probably the 2nd imposter

**Lime:** First one to get killed



# Chicken Salad Chick Review I'm Still Here

**Mary Huffard**

Chicken Salad Chick has arrived at the Pinnacle and has been open since September 15, 2020. On October 16, 2020, I called in an order for myself and my family. The menu had several options of chicken salad, sandwiches, soups, and salads. The employee on the call was very friendly and polite. We chose to do a curbside pickup and our food was ready when we got there, and the employee who brought it out was also very friendly. We ordered a scoop of the Fancy Nancy with a strawberry salad, Lauren's lemon basil chicken salad on

a croissant with a cup of potato soup, and a turkey pesto sandwich with a cup of tomato soup. We each sampled each other's meals and enjoyed each bite. My favorite was Lauren's lemon Basil. The portions were just right. Each meal came with a pickle spear and a vanilla cookie. The total cost for our meals was \$28.37, which is not too high considering the great quality. The meals were all very delicious and the service was great, I would most certainly get food from Chicken Salad Chick again!

**Gibson Bartlett**



With a full alphabet of in-person learners, the halls of THS are filled with more students than we've seen all year. One new issue that comes along with them is the crowded main stairwell. And if you think I'm about to spend 449 words talking about how annoyed I am with a set of stairs, you are absolutely correct. I'm Gibson Bartlett, and although I've had to wander the halls to get my destination, I'm still here.

When we in-person learners were first planning our routes between classes at the beginning of the year, we had the luxury of taking whichever path we pleased without the thought of it becoming overcrowded. Now we're at full capacity and realizing the entire student body of THS is taking the main stairwell between every class. Last month, you could easily make your way between floors, but now it is a common occurrence for traffic to stop entirely.

Sure, this has been a problem since the dawn of time but it seems this year has brought alongside the existing onslaught of crises and catastrophes, a slower method of escalation between floors. The main stairwell is crowded beyond belief, but how are we to fix the issue?

The biggest cause to the melancholy main stairwell monotony is students not knowing other routes to different places. If this is you, there are some lesser known paths that can get you to your classes faster: the stairs outside Mrs. McMakin's room are a very easy way to go from the 3rd floor to the 2nd floor and the stairs outside the band room are seldom used and a central connector for the 1st and second floors.

I found when traveling from Mrs. Kitzmiller's room to Mrs. McMakin's room after 2nd period, the main stairwell route took 2:52. Going outside and through the auditorium doors to the Mrs. McMakin stairwell clocked in at 1:37. Bam. Math. I had to go out of my way and travel a greater distance, and I still saved 90 seconds.

The main stairwell is important for those who need to go up or down multiple floors during class changes, but when students use it without it being an absolute necessity, we are bound to have slow-downs and large crowds. It's important to remember everyone is trying to get to class, and if we consider different routes to take, we can move forward as a school.

Well, I've been writing this after lunch while stuck between the 2nd and 3rd floors, but it looks like the line is moving, so I guess I better wrap it up. I'm Gibson Bartlett, I've put in my steps for today, and I'm still here.

## A Taste of Fall: a Pumpkin Spice Latte Review

**Meghan Bryant**

Fall brings forth cooler temperatures, the crunch of leaves on the ground, and the celebration of Halloween. However, for many, the autumn months are marked by something even more special: pumpkin spice season.

I, while an avid fan of all things fall and spooky, am not a very big fan of the taste of coffee or pumpkin. I am normally a hot chocolate kind of person. I also prefer an apple pie to a pumpkin one. Because of this, I have never dared to try the well beloved pumpkin spice latte. Until now.

Upon first taste, my face was immediately scrunching in disgust. All I could taste was the bitterness of coffee. However, as I continued drinking, the flavor became more and more tolerable. I began to notice the "pumpkin" taste. To me, it didn't resemble pumpkin, but tasted more like fall spices. While it became more pleasant as I

drank, I don't think I would order one again. For me, it was too much coffee, not enough pumpkin.



Drawing Credit to Emilyn Belcher

## How Old is "Too Old" for Trick-or-Treating?

**Julia Slagle**

When I was a sophomore, I decided to go against the taboo of trick-or-treating as a teenager. Me and a few of my friends went door to door on a cold Halloween night, thinking it would be fun to unlock some quality memories. However, as we traveled to each house, so many adults refused to give us candy. We hadn't even been out for thirty minutes before people began criticizing us for "stealing children's fun." This got me thinking, should there be an age limit on trick-or-treating? Many states have already enforced laws insane enough to charge a 16 year old with a misdemeanor! Trick-or-treating is a tradition that the majority of us have grown up with, and it doesn't make sense to me how being a certain age immediately determines what our intentions are on Halloween night. I know 10 year olds who are more mature than some kids my age, so who's to say there aren't 14, 15, or 16 year olds who still want to enjoy a childhood tradition? That would be the equivalent to making it illegal to believe in Santa Claus! In my personal opinion, there should not be an age requirement for trick-or-treating. Now, I am not saying it wouldn't be weird to have a 50 year old man in a clown costume beg you for

candy at the front door; however, just because he's 50 doesn't make him any more dangerous than the 5 year old waiting behind him. That would be a rare instance though, because the majority of us would not continue to trick-or-treat by at MOST age 18. I am just saying there shouldn't be legal action taken for someone who is harmlessly trying to have a good time. That being said, you are never too old to trick-or-treat. You may get a few weird looks, but if it makes you happy, go for it!



Seniors Julia and Carly Slagle, age 3, on Halloween night in 2006.

# Vikings Vocalize: Which holiday is the most overrated?

## Sheany Regules

**Jashun Hernton** (9th grade) "Easter. I mean it's not overrated but I'd say Easter because it's not really relevant anymore."

**Alexa Garcia Mancera** (9th grade)

"Halloween because we can't go trick or treating since apparently we're too old."

**Justin Regules-Lopez** (10th grade)

"Valentine's day because in reality people care too much just to get a box of chocolates and some roses."

**Taylor Ryan** (10th grade)

"St. Patrick's Day because I just don't get the point"

**Sam Weddington** (11th grade) "New Years because it's just an excuse to party that's really the only reason people celebrate"

**Lorianne English** (11th grade) "Halloween because you just dress up for one night there's no real point in it"

**Caden Myers** (12th grade)

"The most overrated holiday is Valentine's Day. Let's be real, does anyone actually enjoy it? Single people are sad and couples are stressed over gifts, not to mention the horrible chalk heart candies."

**Kaylie Mosher** (12th grade)

"Thanksgiving is the most overrated because none of the food is actually good."

## A Quarantine Halloween



# Halloween Movies

## Lucy Paulson

It's the Great Pumpkin Charlie Brown

Nightmare Before Christmas

Hocus Pocus

Beetlejuice

Hotel Transylvania 1 and 2

Addams Family

Corpse Bride

The Mummy

The Mummy Returns

Gremlins

Edward Scissorhands

Ghostbusters 1 and 2

Goosebumps 1 and 2

Coraline

Labyrinth

Casper

Dracula

Ernest's Halloween

Hubie Halloween

The Haunted Mansion

Frankenweenie

Halloweentown 1, 2, 3

Girl vs Monster

Don't Look Under the Bed

The Scream Team

# Spooky Soundtrack

## Meghan Bryant

1) "Calling All the Monsters" by China Anne McClain

2) "Ghostbusters" by Ray Parker Jr.

3) "Thriller" by Michael Jackson

4) "Monster Mash" by Bobby "Boris" Pickett, The Crypt-Kickers

5) "Superstition" by Steven Wonder

6) "(Don't Fear) The Reaper" by Blue Oyster Cult

7) "Zombie" by The Cranberries

8) "I Want Candy" by Bow Wow Wow

# A Pandemic Approved Halloween

## Maddy Wilson

With Halloween 2020 drawing closer and closer, many are left wondering what exactly to do in such uncertain times. If you are one of these people, look no further for I have formulated a few ideas for a perfectly safe, pandemic approved Halloween at home!

**Watch Movies:** Perhaps the most obvious choice, but nonetheless a great way to spend a Halloween night is by bingeing a variety of scary movies. To try and make the experience as lively as possible, bring snacks, turn off the lights, and get comfortable. But if you're not into horror, Halloween themed films like Ghostbusters and Hocus Pocus are also good choices.

**Make Homemade Costumes:** Though you may not be going out, that doesn't have to stop you from dressing up. You don't need to make an extravagant costume, but throwing together a little something with a small group of friends or your family could be fun even at home.

**Eat Festive Treats:** There's a variety of fall themed treats that you could make on Halloween night. Some are even scientifically proven impossible to dislike, namely those Pillsbury ready to bake cookies with little pumpkins on them, Rice Krispie treats, and pumpkin pie. Or if you're too lazy to bake, just buy an entire bag of candy from Target and eat it. Nobody is stopping you.

**Be Creative:** From carving pumpkins to painting something Halloween-y on a canvas, your options are endless.

**Look at Decorations:** Driving to different neighborhoods and looking at the fun Halloween decor before it gets too dark would be a nice, relaxing way to enjoy your evening.