

*spring edition 2023*

# TOWER TIMES

*whitefish bay high school*

*featuring...*

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# School Board Discusses Policy Affecting Student Publications

By: Fiona Meaney



The Whitefish Bay School Board discussed Policy 372 at their April 26 committee meeting.

On the evening of April 26th, the Whitefish Bay School Board met and discussed Policy 372, which focuses on the scope of school sponsored student publications. The policy impacts publications by limiting and/or removing any controversial material. At the high school, the affected publications will be Tower Times, Out of the Blue, Creative Writing Club and potentially the theater program.

The specifics of Policy 372 itself are unclear to the public. During the meeting, the school board discussed justifications for the policy, personal reasoning for a few members, and the wording and grammar issues in the document itself.

“[The policy would be] providing some guidelines for how we can appropriately moderate and guide students while still preserving their freedom of ex-

pression and freedom of speech within our schools,” said board member Brett Christiansen when introducing the policy.

Whitefish Bay School Board members shared their stances on the policy.

“Maybe we should have had it years ago,” said Treasurer Pamela Woodard.

President Anne Kearney spoke about how the policy would benefit “the work” the board is looking for.

“[It,] I hope, allows for a sort of safe-haven for the work we want done but not the kind that will endanger others,” she said.

Many members of Tower Times attended the meeting and editors Bill Lewis and Anavi Prakash shared their views on Policy 372 with the board. Both discussed what Tower Times means to them and how important it is that the publication,

among others, continue having freedom of speech. Lewis spoke about the relationship Tower Times has with the administration and why he believes no limits should be placed on the publication.

“We feel that we’ve developed a trust with both the student body and the administration without being disruptive to the learning environment and we have done so without the need of district oversight,” he said.

Prakash and Lewis discussed possible alternatives to the policy, specifically mentioning a free forum policy. The policy would give sole responsibility and accountability for published materials to the student journalists and editors of the publication.

School boards across the state have applied different intensities of restrictions when forming Policy 372. In the Parkview School District, the educational board has full control over what gets published. Their policy says, “The District and the Board may sponsor student publications and productions as a means for students to learn, under adult direction...student publications and productions are not meant to be utilized by the public indiscriminately and are not to be considered a forum for public expression.” Whereas in the Unity School District, “Student authors and editors are responsible for the quality and content of student publications.”

The decision of whether or not to approve the policy will span over three board meetings. The next meeting in which they would be discussing the policy is May 10th.

# School Community Reacts to Gun Violence, Walkout

By: Anavi Prakash

On Wednesday, April 5, Whitefish Bay High School students walked out in protest of gun violence. The event took place after seven people were killed in a school shooting in Nashville, Tennessee, on March 27. Since then, up to when this article was written, there have been 42 shootings, according to the Gun Violence Archive.

The walkout was led by seniors Sophia Zanardo and Em Koehler, junior Bill Lewis and sophomore Gracie Lutz.

“What prompted me most [to lead the walkout] was that I heard about the shooting and I didn’t even realize it was associated with a school,” Zanardo said. “I think that represents the lack of media representation because these are so common, so I just wanted to bring attention to that.”

Students walked out of their fourth period class after announcements. Some were the only people from their class who joined the walk out. Sophomore Lexi Kummrow was one of these students.

“Everyone was focused on their schoolwork and looked at me when I walked out by myself. [When] I came back in, everyone looked at me and my teacher gave me a tardy for coming to class late,” Kummrow said.

Since the walkout, the tardy has been removed from her record.

Freshman Gabriella Herpel had mixed feelings about the walk out.

“I think that although there were a lot of people who were mad about the amount of gun violence in the country and were actually walking out for a good cause, there were also a lot of people who were just using it as a way to



Students sit by the football field to listen to the leaders of the walkout on April 5.

no email that goes out, there’s no acknowledgement of it or acknowledgement of the possible mental health impact it could have on kids and that’s America in 2023.”

Whitefish Bay’s current policy to be prepared for a possible shooting at school is called ALICE, which stands for “Alert, (Enhanced) Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate”. This is subject to change in the future.

Students like Herpel hope there will not ever be a time when ALICE or another protection method must be used during an actual shooting.

“There’s too much gun violence in this community and it’s scary,” she said.

In a recent Tower Times poll of 222 students, 46% said banning assault weapons had an importance of 5 on a scale of 1-5.

Shootings and assault weapon bans continue to remain relevant in the news, yet the government has not taken any concrete action yet.

In the meantime, communities are walking a fine line between the shootings, especially at schools, of the past and present.

Ms. Gibson noticed this in her classroom not too long ago.

“On April 20th [the anniversary of the Columbine shooting], my freshmen didn’t know what Columbine was and that’s one of the days in my life that’s cemented in my brain,” she said.

get out of class and that should not be stood for,” she said.

While the leaders of the walk out were speaking, there was constant chatter from the back of the cluster of students that joined them on the football field.

“A lot of people were being very loud, which I understand, people walked out just to get out of school. It was sad for me because Bill, Gracie and I spent time writing our speeches that we wanted people to hear,” Zanardo said. “I was hoping people would be a little more solemn because people died in that shooting.”

The entire walkout was student-led and no correspondence from the district spoke about the Nashville shooting. Last year, there was also a student-driven walkout after the school shooting in Uvalde, Texas, but no message from the district.

Ms. Gibson, a social studies teacher, has noticed a lack of external reaction to shootings throughout the school and country.

“American society is desensitized to gun violence and unfortunately that is evident in our schools as well,” Gibson said. “When you have so much gun violence, specifically in schools, it’s to a point where yeah, there’s

# Congressional Hearing Examines TikTok Policies

By: Lucy Wu



Shou Chew, TikTok's CEO, testifies before Congress.

On March 1, The House Foreign Affairs Committee voted to approve a bill that could grant President Biden the authority to ban TikTok nationwide. Two days later, TikTok's CEO Shou Chew appeared before Congress and was questioned by lawmakers for 5 hours. The major topic of discussion was TikTok's ties with China.

TikTok, a content sharing app owned by the Chinese company ByteDance, is used by over 150 million Americans. However, because laws in China allow the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) to acquire data from Chinese companies for intelligence-gathering operations, understandable concerns have been raised regarding the protection of sensitive user data.

During the hearing, Chew repeatedly denied that TikTok had shared data with the CCP.

He stated that for over 2 years, TikTok has been "building what amounts to a firewall to seal off protected U.S. user data from unauthorized foreign access", effectively resulting in "American data stored on American soil, by an American company, overseen by American personnel." He did admit that employees based in China can still access some U.S. data, but that new data will stop flowing once Project Texas, a \$1.5 billion initiative to move all US user data into servers in Texas, begins.

In response to this, many representatives countered with their personal opinions. For example, Representative Frank Pallone said: "I don't find what you suggested with Project Texas and this firewall that's being suggested to whoever will be acceptable to me".

Another major topic of dis-

cussion was TikTok's impact on children. Representatives cited examples of research regarding TikTok's algorithm recommending videos damaging to people's social and emotional health, as well as examples of death caused by content promoted by TikTok. Chew fired back by stating the measures TikTok was taking to eliminate harmful content. He also said the issues were "complex" and not unique to TikTok.

The focus of the hearing was frequently diverted as well. Representative Debbie Lesko asked if Beijing has persecuted the Uyghur minority, to which Chew responded, "While it's deeply concerning to hear about all accounts of human rights abuse, my role here is to explain what our platform does." Later, when Representative August Pfluger asked if TikTok supports genocide, Chew again attempted to bring the conversation back to app. When asked a second time, Chew answered "No".

Congress appeared to be unsatisfied with Chew's answers throughout the hearing. Many representatives called him out for being "evasive", yet sometimes, Chew wasn't even allowed to respond after critiques. In a statement to CNN after the hearing, a TikTok spokesperson said, "Shou came prepared to answer questions from Congress. But, unfortunately, the day was dominated by political grandstanding that failed to acknowledge the real solutions already underway."

# TikTokers Look to De-Influence Overconsumption

By: Hallie Amato

#deinfluencing has over 480 billion views on TikTok. To compare, this figure is more than double the views #BookTok gets. “De-influencing” is a way to combat overconsumption, the excessive buying of makeup and clothing products promoted on social media by creators. The quantity of clothes the average person purchases has skyrocketed 60% since 2000, according to Fashion Revolution. Many environmental issues stem from overconsumption, such as overflowing landfills and harmful carbon emissions.

A common trend on TikTok

is to post “hauls,” masses of clothing and makeup bought at once, ranging from a few items to entire double digits. While it’s completely okay to splurge and buy things for your own enjoyment in moderation, TikTok encourages excessive spending that is neither good for your bank account nor the environment. This misleads app users to believe that in order to feel good, they need to buy products that aren’t always long lasting or important.

Fast fashion and overconsumption are closely related.

Clothing and accessories that

are extremely cheap and poor quality tend to get thrown out faster, especially in situations where it’s only being purchased to be worn once. Not only do these companies contribute greatly to climate change, but they also tend to use unethical child labor.

Social media’s culture encourages overconsumption of skincare and makeup products, as well.

Buying makeup because it’s “trending” isn’t the best way to go, unless you’re sure it will be a product you will enjoy for a long period of time. The pressure for having an “aesthetic skincare routine” is real, but purchasing tons of high end skincare products just for quantity isn’t sustainable.

These videos may solely be based on opinion, but they are still effective. The Rare Beauty blush is one of the most popular makeup products in 2023, yet @livvmarkley argues otherwise: “I think this product is so difficult to use. Like one drop gets everywhere and I feel like it’s kind of patchy.” Depending on the creators you follow, you might trust varying #deinfluencing videos. A viewer is more likely to either buy or not buy a product based on their favorite influencer’s opinion. The rise of “deinfluencing” is crucial to slowing overconsumption and promoting healthy spending for the greater good of society.



# The Importance of Earth Day

By: Thor Gabik

April 22 is a special day: It is Earth Day!

The concept of Earth Day was first proposed in 1970 by Senator Gaylord Nelson from Wisconsin. He was concerned with the status of the Earth due to the fossil fuel consumption in the United States, the Santa Barbara oil spill of 1969 and Rachel Carson's novel *Silent Spring* (1962). Senator Nelson wanted to make a change so he organized a teach-in at a college campus and settled on the date of April 22 as it fell on a weekday between spring break and final exams for the college students.

The event gained national attention after the name was changed to Earth Day.

Thousands of people around the nation protested and demonstrated on the street on April 22. To the shock of most people, Democrats and Republicans united and in late 1970, under

President Richard Nixon, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was created and signed into effect. Many environmental laws followed in the coming years. In 1990, Earth Day went global. Two years later, The United Nations held an Earth Day Summit. This event prompted President Bill Clinton to award Senator Nelson with the Presidential Medal of Freedom for his role as the founder of Earth Day.

Thirty years after its inception, Earth Day 2000 had a new, yet familiar message. People around the world wanted their leaders to understand that an action plan to use clean energy and tackle global warming was a necessity and top priority. In order to combat lobbyists and cynics who thought climate change was a myth, Earth Day was re-established as a major global event to heal the environment by the creation of an



Earth Day website. The fight to combat climate change still goes on, but with Earth Day being a global secular event, that unites over one billion people over 190 countries to take action and do something to benefit the Earth. For more information on the day and Earth-friendly activities, visit [EARTHDAY.ORG](http://EARTHDAY.ORG).

· World ·

# Cold War in the Aegean Sea

By: Shiv Kulkarni

While the US remains captivated--both in terms of humanitarianism and military aid--by the continued war in Ukraine, there exists a second looming conflict that has been simmering between fellow NATO states for years that may finally be reaching a tipping point, all over a few islands in the Aegean Sea.

The conflict between Greece

and Turkey in the Aegean Sea has been ongoing for decades, but tensions have escalated in recent years, with both sides engaging in military posturing and engaging in dangerous confrontations.

Turkish forces as a counter to such actions have occupied the previously Greek held island Lesbos. The conflict is rooted in

a number of factors, including disputes over territorial boundaries, exclusive economic zones, and the rights to certain islands in the Aegean, namely the Lesbos, Chios, Samos and Dodecanese islands. The latest developments in this conflict could have significant implications for NATO and the United States, as both Greece and Turkey are key

members of the alliance.

The dispute between Greece and Turkey over the Aegean Sea dates back to the early 20th century, when the two countries agreed to a series of treaties to determine their respective borders after the end of the Greco-Turkish war. However, these treaties have been a subject of dispute ever since, with both sides claiming that they are entitled to a larger share of the Aegean Sea. This has led to numerous incidents, including the collision of a Greek and a Turkish warship in February 2020, which raised fears of a wider conflict. In recent months, tensions have continued to escalate, with Turkey conducting military exercises in the Aegean and Greek airspace and Greece responding by increasing its military presence in the region. The two countries have also been engaging in a war of words, with Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan accusing Greece of “provocation” and “violating international law,” while Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis has warned that Greece will not be “intimidated” by Turkey’s military posturing.

The conflict between Greece and Turkey has significant implications for NATO, which includes both countries as members. NATO’s role in the conflict is complicated by the fact that it is a military alliance, but it is also committed to upholding international law and the principles of democracy and human rights. This means that NATO must balance its commitment to its members with its obligation to uphold said principles. The United States, as a key member of NATO, also has a stake in the conflict. The U.S.

has been a strong supporter of Greece, which is seen as a reliable ally in a region that is increasingly unstable. The U.S. has also been critical of Turkey’s human rights record and its increasingly authoritarian government, which has strained relations between the two countries. However, the U.S. also has important strategic interests in Turkey, which is a key partner in the fight against terrorism and has a key role in the stability of the Middle East, namely in the recent war with the Islamic State in Syria.

In light of these conflicting interests, the U.S. has tried to balance its support for Greece with its need to maintain good relations with Turkey. In September 2020, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo visited both Greece and Turkey in an effort to de-escalate tensions and find a diplomatic solution to the conflict. However, these efforts have not yet yielded significant results, and the conflict has continued to simmer ever since. The

Biden presidency has yet to send a delegation or attempt to halt hostilities among other concerns but has historically taken a pro Greek and anti Turkish stance in foreign policy, this ambiguity from the US at present however leaves the tensions growing, untempered and unresolved.

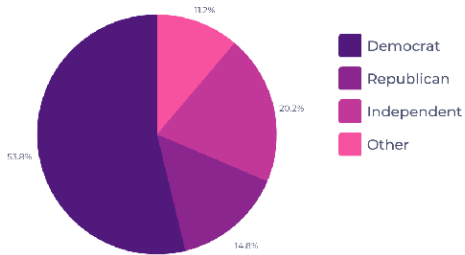
The conflict between Greece and Turkey in the Aegean Sea is a complex and long-standing issue that will not be resolved overnight. However, it is important for all sides to continue to engage in diplomatic efforts to find a solution to the conflict. NATO and the United States have an important role to play in this process, as both Greece and Turkey are key parts of the alliance and the breakdown of the two nations into war could spark a schism in NATO at a point of historic tension with the superpowers of China and Russia. In the event of further escalation of the conflict, the fate of both NATO and the current geopolitical climate may be forever changed.



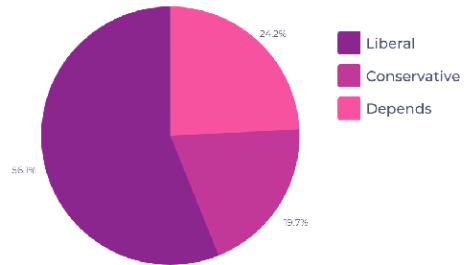
# Whitefish Bay Student Political Poll by: Carly Pence

Tower Times polled 222 students on their various political stances and beliefs. These are the highlights of those polls. To view the full results, check out the Tower Times website at [www.wfbtowerimes.com](http://www.wfbtowerimes.com).

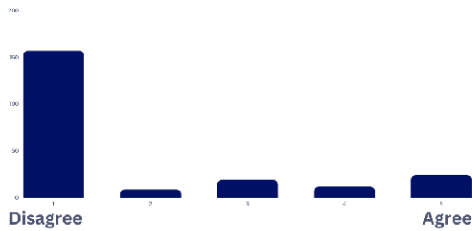
Do you identify as a Republican, Democrat, Independent, or Other?



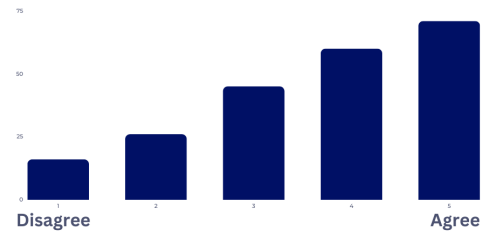
Would you consider your political beliefs to be more conservative or liberal?



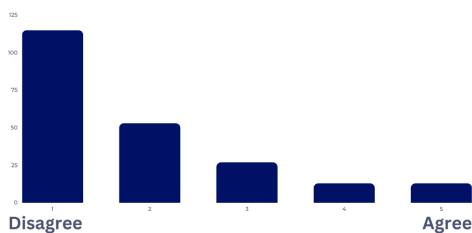
The Supreme Court made the right decision in overturning Roe V. Wade.



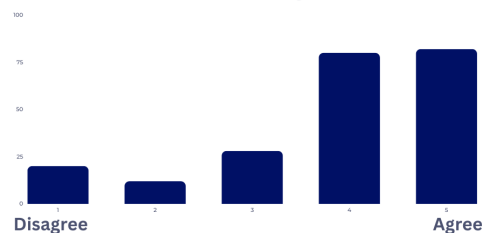
Our nation's police force needs to be reformed.



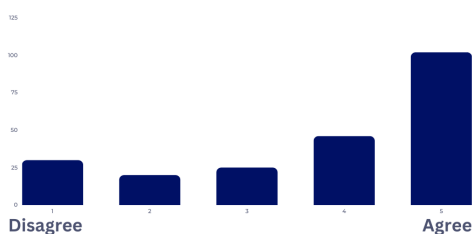
It is legitimate for the government to ban certain books in schools.



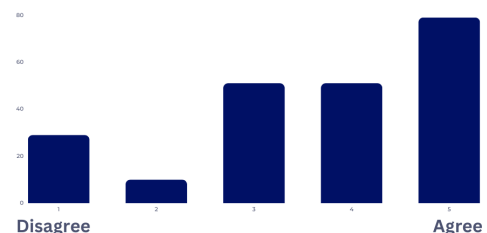
We should continue to support Ukraine in it's war against Russia.



We need to ban assault weapons.



Marijuana should be legalized.





# GSA Takes Charge of Health Class

By: Elle Rymer & Ella Smith

GSA (Gender-Sexuality Alliance), along with other students, has observed how outdated and minimal the content on the LGBTQIA+ community is in the curriculum taught at Whitefish Bay High School. The only class that actually touches on queer topics is Health, which is taught sophomore year.

At GSA, we strive to create a welcoming and accepting environment for everyone in the LGBTQIA+ community and its allies. Along with this, we strive for accurate and current representation in the classroom. We have been working with the PE and Health department to update the terms and concepts discussed in the Human Growth and Development unit and its slideshow.

The most glaring issues we aim to change are as follows:

## Outdated Acronym and Incomplete Definitions

The slideshow uses the old acronym, LGBTQ, instead of the updated one, LGBTQIA+. It also uses non-inclusive and incomplete definitions. We will update the acronym and use more recent and inclusive definitions.

## Not Interactive

The old slideshow was not engaging and did not require students to interact with it. We will reform the slideshow to ensure that students are able to extend and make connections with their new knowledge.

## Doesn't Include AMAB or AFAB and has an Inadequate Depiction of the Gender Spectrum

AMAB (assigned male at birth) and AFAB (assigned female at birth) are commonly used to

describe someone's biological sex while still remaining inclusive and respecting their identity. These terms, along with the most effective and recent gender spectrum, are not included in the slideshow. We will include definitions and examples of AMAB and AFAB as well as a more comprehensive model of the gender spectrum, which is shaped more like a coordinate plane than a line.

## Doesn't include the Aromantic or Asexual Spectrums

Though the slideshow touches on the topics of asexuality and aromanticism, it did not go in-depth to truly teach the students what they mean and how they work.

We will be sure to add a slide fully dedicated to this topic.

## Included a "Guess this Person's Gender" slide

The old curriculum included a slide that prompted students to guess a person's gender. This slide was inadequate and counterproductive since it taught students to assume someone's gender rather than disregard appearance. We will remove this slide and instead discuss how this issue is harmful.

These changes have already been moved to the school board for approval and will be taught starting in this semester's Health classes.



# Ultimate Spring Movie Guide by: Margaret Murphy

Spring in Wisconsin: gray, seemingly non-existent, and not quite enticing. It's either too cold or too hot. Summer is around the corner but not quite close enough, and we're so caught up in our lives we tend to not notice the budding trees that slowly begin to breathe life back into our surroundings. Although Springtime in Wisconsin can be all over the place, these movies will get you in the spring mindset, just in time for "a time of rebirth", according to our English Department. Whether you're curled up on the couch or doing a movie night outside, this ultimate movie guide has something for everyone. Enjoy!

1. for the period piece
2. for the family
3. for the "I want a wholesome movie" crowd
4. for the iconic cast
5. for the "I hate school" days
6. for the ultimate sing along
7. for the sports fans
8. for the classic rom-com night
9. for the "I want to be traumatized" movie watchers



# Something Rotten is Anything But

By: Emma K Dickinson

Whitefish Bay's yearly musical is something that students and staff look forward to. This year the crew and cast put on a production of the Tony Award nominated musical *Something Rotten*. Before attending the show, I had heard of *Something Rotten* by name and vaguely knew that it involved Shakespeare. My musical theater experience usually consists of me attending productions and never participating in them. My only involvement was in middle school, as La Bird #5 in a production of *Seussical*.

While walking in the theater I had resolved to be skeptical, but as soon as the music started I knew this review wouldn't be critical. At the heart of this show was a cast and crew who were all truly committed. It could be seen from the shining faces of the performers to the care and craftsmanship of every set piece on the stage.

When the lights dimmed in the theater, I was immersed in the incredible sets. They were impeccable, with the effort clear in every single painted rock on the enormous buildings that were so easily shuffled around the stage by the crew. The theater, that could be opened as if it were a doll house, was truly a work of genius. Many of these impeccable set designs came from the brain of junior Bill Lewis, whose designs I had the luck of seeing from the first sketches to standing tall on the stage. Long dresses, puffed pants, corsets and plumed hats added to the Renaissance feel. As the musical progressed, the egg costumes garnered a laugh out of the whole audience.

With the stage set, it is time to discuss the beating heart of this musical: its cast. Taigh Moran



dominated the stage as Nick Bottom with his impressive singing ability. He and Jackson Poppert, who played Nigel Bottom, had some of the best banter of the production, comically expressing the relationship of the two Bottom brothers. Winfield Mitchell shined as Shakespeare, with his comical walk and overly confident performance, both of which fit his character perfectly. Andie Andraca's animated portrayal of Nostradamus captivated the audience through her exaggerated motions when seeing the future and her powerful voice. While there are many more cast members each deserving their own shoutout, I'm afraid my gushing might take up the whole review.

With this incredible crew and cast, it is no surprise that they were able to pull off this challenging yet heartfelt production. The comedy was my favorite part of the whole production, whether that was Ari Ayala sweeping in as Lord Clapham with his purple frilled coat or Sam Petski committing fully to his role as Shylock and repeatedly articulating his love for the theater.

The Puritans also got great laughs with Maddie Bunke commanding the stage as the overbearing mother of Portia (Lauren Slawinski). The musical number "Make an Omelette" was truly

incredible as the hilarious misinterpretation of Nostradamus's prophecy and the audience was positively in stitches when the eggs and dancing omelets came out.

Behind the comedic gags and sparkly costumes exists the heartwarming nature of this show which I found equally profound. The struggle of a creative like Nigel Bottom, not confident in his own work and struggling to find his place in the world was heartfelt and relatable to me. The love stories, while admittedly exaggerated in some parts, were also heartwarming with the efforts of Bea (Danielle Presburg) to help her husband and protect their union being particularly touching.

Overall, I cannot reiterate enough how blown away I was by all the effort that went into this production. I could not find a single person on the stage who did not appear genuinely excited to be there; an attitude that sounds easy in practice but, as a performer, is incredibly hard in execution. Although the musical is comical and excellent on its own, I sincerely believe that the efforts of the Whitefish Bay cast and crew breathed a unique life into the production. If you missed seeing this one, you may have missed what is, in my opinion, the best musical Whitefish Bay has put on.

Next on the theater program's list is *Play On!*, on May 12-14.

# made in milwaukee

(by bill lewis)

*Radio is a huge part of popular culture. From its conception as a mass media format, it has revolutionized the way we've gotten our news, listened to stories, and – most notably – how we listen to music. I sat down with Dori Zori, program director of 88Nine Radio Milwaukee, about her experiences as a radio veteran in our city.*

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## **Go ahead and introduce yourself and tell me what you do!**

My name is Dori Zori (that's my real name!) and I'm the program director here at 88Nine, which is part of the greater Radio Milwaukee network. 88Nine is what you hear more on the radio, and then our sister station HYPHEN that launched in June that's more of an urban alternative station focused on Black and Brown communities. We work together a lot as a way to bridge the gaps in our very segregated city through music. Anyways, not only am I program director but I'm also the morning host on weekdays! Before I was here I was working as a volunteer DJ at WMSE for close to 20 years while I was working a different job. I'm really happy to be somewhere that gives me a job in radio and champions Milwaukee at the same time, it's my home!

## **Speaking of WMSE, what got you into radio and why have you stayed in it for so long?**

I had a friend, Scott, who was going to the Milwaukee School of Engineering where they run WMSE from, and he had a show. They have three hour shows there and they're all live, and his shift was 3am to 6am. He

was studying for his exams, and he asked if I wanted to come in and help him run the board, so he could just sit on the side and study, and I said yes! Afterwards he asked me to come back again and then he graduated and I sort of never left, so I got into radio kind of by accident through a friend! I didn't go to broadcasting school – it was just such a basic college station that they didn't require me to. The fact that I had jobs that were flexible enough to allow me to come in every week and do a shift really helped build my knowledge. A lot of people get into radio because they go to school for broadcasting or journalism, but I got in because I knew someone that was here so I feel very thankful for that. I didn't know that would kind of change my life and you know all these years later and have a career doing something like this.

## **How do you think radio has changed over the 30 years you've been working in it?**

How you listen to radio now is totally different than how it was 30 years ago. When I was your age, it was a stereo in your house or car. Now people get streams through apps on their phones or speakers. Tarik Moody, the program director here for HYFIN, was very focused on that digital format. 10 years ago when I started here, he was already thinking about how cars might not even have access to radio anymore, and it would be more satellite-based. So he tried to get us started in those digital platforms and streams. Radio is changing in terms of how people consume it, so we're trying to keep up with that. I think people will always care about this sort of locally-produced content, so we have to continue to seek out where they are consuming it most. But on air, we have that combination of music and stories down that sets us apart. Not every station

# Dori Zori

## *88Nine Program Director at Radio Milwaukee*



would stop in the middle of the hour to broadcast a locally made podcast like *By Every Measure*, or even put it on the air at all. I think that we're managing to stay relevant through that.

**Radio Milwaukee heavily emphasizes community through music; how have you tried to reflect this sentiment?**

We're starting to bring back our Thursday night concert series called *State of Sound*. We invite bands across the state, specifically Southeastern Wisconsin, to play shows here. Making these shows free and partnering with community organizations like *Hunger Task Force*, and featuring local food vendors has really made it into something quite special. We also have *Grace Weber's Music Lab*, a program started in partnership with *Grace Weber*, who's a nationally-recognized, Grammy-winning artist from *Tosa*. It's run by a local artist, *B-Free*, or *Britney*, who works here at *Radio Milwaukee*. The program is part open mic, part music industry education program. It's open to high school students for free, and you can just sit and watch, play a set, DJ, or what have you. It's a really inclusive way to bring young people together and to provide them with an artistic release.

**Silly question, but how do you learn to have such a clear radio voice?**

It's something I've learned over time, I never took classes. We do air checks all the time to make sure we don't say the same thing over and over again. Additionally, at *88Nine*, we want our DJs to sound like themselves – there's no personas at all, that's why we all use our real names. I don't go home and try to think of a bunch of bits. There's nothing wrong with that, but we want to be ourselves. When my colleague *Marcus Doucette* is on the air, he's very chill and zen, just as he is in real life. We also have to think a lot about what's going on in the real world too, though. Lots of terrible things happen on the news or your own life, but nobody wants to hear about that, it's not good radio. So when I'm having a bad day, or I'm feeling tired, I try to imagine the people I'm closest to who listen to my voice, like my sisters, and I pretend like I'm talking just to them. It really helps ground me and snap me back.

**Read the full transcript, coming soon to [wfbtowntimes.com](http://wfbtowntimes.com)!**

# Professional Sports Records Broken in 2023

By: John Egan

Tension was high in the crowd on February 7 during the Lakers-Thunder basketball game because Kareem Abdul-Jabbar's National Basketball Association (NBA) record for most points scored was on the line. With just 18 seconds left on the clock in the third quarter and two points away from breaking the record, LeBron was passed the ball and excitement in the crowd began to grow. When LeBron took his shot, every pair of eyes and phone camera in the stadium followed him. The moment the ball went through the net, the crowd went wild, knowing they had just witnessed history.

Abdul-Jabbar's record, which had stood for almost 40 years, was finally broken.

Abdul-Jabbar, once a star for the Milwaukee Bucks, is regarded as one of the best players in NBA history, holding multiple records. The breaking of his record is a monumental moment for the sport, and is unlikely to be broken again in the near future.

Just a month later in Are, Sweden, Mikaela Shiffrin, the United States alpine skiing phenom, grabbed her 87th World Cup win, beating the overall record previously held by Inegmar Stenmark. Going into the second run of the slalom race, she was in the lead by almost a second, which she maintained, crossing the finish line of the second run with .92 second lead, securing her victory. Slalom is Shiffrin's best discipline, and constitutes the majority of her World Cup wins. It was 11 years after her first win on the FIS World Cup circuit at the same location that she pushed alpine skiing to



LeBron James after breaking the NBA record for most points



Mikaela Shiffrin skiing to win her 87th World Cup.



Skiier Inegmar Stenmark previously held the record for most World Cups won.



The US Women's Soccer team playing in the World Cup this year.

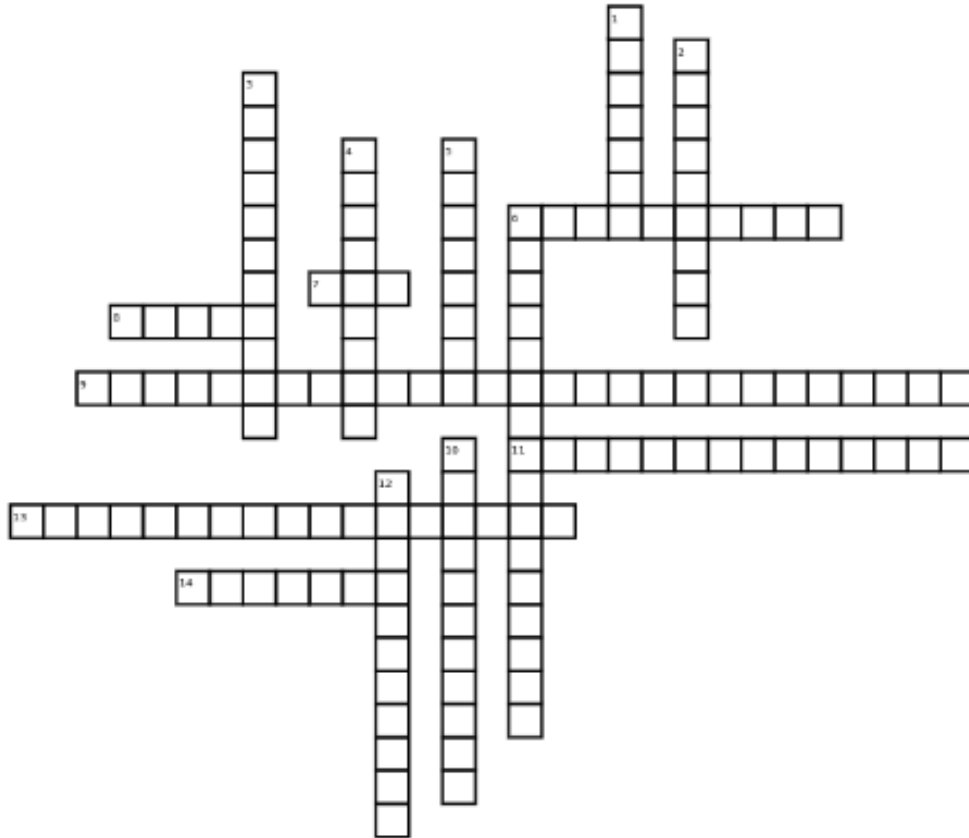
new limits.

The former record holder, Inegmar Stenmark, raced for Sweden from 1976 to 1989. He was purely a technical skier, meaning he only raced slalom and giant slalom. He won the World Cup title three times and was one of the greatest technical skiers to compete in the world cup.

Looking ahead, the US women's soccer team has a shot at breaking the record for most consecutive World Cup victories. Having won the 2015 and 2019 World Cup, they are currently tied with Brazil and Italy, who have won 2 Men's World Cups in a row, and Germany, who has previously won 2 Women's titles in a row. A win for the Americans would put them at 3 victories in a row, breaking the record. The World Cup tournament will be played in Australia and New Zealand and starts on July 20th.

# Wisconsin Crossword

By: Abigail Albrightson



Our state has so many things that make it uniquely Wisconsin! Here are just a few of Wisconsin's fun facts :)

**Down:**

- 1. Wisconsin state motto
- 2. Wisconsin is the \_\_\_\_\_ state of the U.S. (spell out the number - e.g. fifteenth)
- 3. Wisconsin state song (no spaces)
- 4. Host city of the Wisconsin State Fair (no spaces)
- 5. A uniquely Midwestern ice cream that is found in Wisconsin (no spaces)
- 6. Town in Wisconsin that requires a ferry ride to get to it (no spaces)
- 10. Name of Wisconsin's first governor (no spaces)
- 12. Fruit that Wisconsin leads the nation in exporting (plural)



**Across:**

- 6. Wisconsin state flower (no spaces)
- 7. Month that Wisconsin was founded in
- 8. Wisconsin state bird
- 9. Great Lakes that touch Wisconsin (includes "and", no spaces)
- 11. Wisconsin state nickname (no spaces)
- 13. Wisconsin license plate slogan (no spaces, 's is its own character)
- 14. Capital of Wisconsin

Answers are on our website [www.wfbtowertimes.com](http://www.wfbtowertimes.com). Good luck!

# Curd Quarrel

By: Fiona Meaney



It's undeniable that Wisconsin has the best cheese curds in the country. "America's Dairyland" isn't just a silly nickname. People from all over the world (give or take) travel to Milwaukee to get a taste of our marvelous and iconic curds. But the real debate is deciding where to get the right curds. The only logical way to decide is through a Curd Brawl: pitting two curd restaurants against each other and, through a series of trial and error, see which one comes out on top.

First, I chose what most would consider a reliable curd source of curds: Culver's. Their cheese curds have always been delicious and satisfying. The second source is the underdog, because I've never actually visited it before: Solly's Grille. When I asked around for curd recommendations, Solly's was mentioned almost every time. I rated the cheese curds on a scale of one to fifty. There were five subcategories, each on a scale of 1-10.

**Crispiness:** does it have a good crunch when you dig in? Is it too

crunchy?

**Cheese texture:** does it do that fun grilled cheese stretch if you bite into it? Is it too chewy?

**Cheese flavor:** is it a bad cheese?

**Dip-ability:** can you dip it in a sauce (such as ranch) without it losing its flavor? Does it act as a good vessel for those sauces?

**Overall flavor:** is it super salty or not salty enough? Does it have a strange lingering taste?

Solly's vs. Culver's. Let the quarrel begin.

## Culver's

I started with our beloved recommendation to any relative who comes to visit: Culver's. I attempted to get the curds on my roller skates, but they refused to let me go in the drive through and wouldn't let me inside if I kept them on, so it took a bit of time to reach the curds. Here are the stats:

**Crispiness:** 7. It had a slightly soft crunch on the outside, and maintained the same texture even as it got cooler.

**Cheese texture:** 7. The cheese is a bit chewy and not super melty, but wasn't super dislikable.

**Cheesiness:** 6. It tasted more like oil than cheese, if I'm being honest.

**Overall flavor:** 6. Again, it was a bit oil flavored, so not amazing.

**Dip-ability:** 9. Their RANCH tastes outstanding with these curds. They both maintain their flavor really well, even when drenched in ranch to cool down the cheese.

**My total: 35**

## Solly's

Next up, we have Solly's. I have to say, I was surprised by these curds. I didn't have many expectations for them, but they were delightfully delicious. Take a look at the stats:

**Crispiness:** 8. I couldn't tell if the crisp was a batter or just the melted cheese, but it was so, so good. My only complaint is that the curds got softer as they cooled down.

**Cheese texture:** 8. The cheese had that wonderful grilled cheese stretch and stayed that way for the amount of time it took to devour them.

**Cheesiness:** 7. Good cheese.

**Overall flavor:** 6. It was a bit too salty toward the bottom of the bag, but I still enjoyed it.

**Dip-ability:** 7. Good size and their sauces work well.

**My total: 36**

Solly's curds narrowly defeated Culver's curds with a score of 36. Their cheese curds had a lovely crisp to them and the cheese wasn't over or underwhelming. They were incredibly salty once you reached the bottom of the bag, but overall they tasted marvelous.

So there we have it folks, the champion of the 2023 Curd Brawl! Solly's Grille defeated Culver's in a very close match. I have to say, I was on the edge of my seat the whole time. I never expected the underdog to put up such a valiant and delicious fight.

Do you have any other foods or restaurants that you'd like me to review or pit against each other? Let me know! Email me at [26fiona.meaney@wfb schools.com](mailto:26fiona.meaney@wfb schools.com).



# Potato Chip Battered Cheese Curds

*By: Magnolia Judy*

As a Wisconsinite, cheese curds are a fundamental part of our culture. Wisconsin is infamously known for its dairy and as the state's license plates say, we're "America's Dairyland". Even out of state, our cheese curds are craved and raved about. Their texture and squeakiness are a favorite for some, but, just like all foods, can be a dealbreaker for others. If cheese curds are a dealmaker for you, use this recipe to share homemade cheese curds with family and friends! (Recipe from [Dudefoods.com](https://dudefoods.com)).

## Ingredients:

- 2 quarts oil for frying
- 1 bag of potato chips, crushed (Kettle Brand, Lays, Etc)
- 1 pound of fresh cheese curds
- 6 eggs
- 2 cups flour
- Your preferred dipping sauce



1. Heat oil in a deep fryer or skillet at 375 degrees.
2. Whisk until smooth to combine milk and eggs.
3. Coat the curds in flour, dip in egg wash, and roll in crushed potato chips. If they need another coat, repeat this step.
4. Fry the cheese curds in the oil for about 60 seconds per batch.
5. Dry on paper towels and serve with sauce or alone.
6. Enjoy!

By: Tower Times Newsroom

As a newspaper by and for students, we elevate students' voices and create a space for them to share their ideas with the student body.

We are successful because we work off of our classmates' input. This is what inspired our goal to amplify student voices. We want to continue achieving this goal, but we fear that requiring an adult to be responsible for it would prohibit us from maintaining it.

We understand that student expression can be a contentious topic in the current political climate and the school board may feel a need to outline the capacity we can operate in. However, it is imperative that they do not impede on the free expression that we have exercised for years.

The school board has proposed Policy 372, which would potentially limit the school's

publications' scope and freedom of speech.

In the 80+ years Tower Times has existed, we have used what is considered a free forum system. We, the students, choose the words we use when we report and we choose what we want to share with the school community. There is no adult or administrator reviewing our work before it is published. This allows us to report on the issues we genuinely care about without the fear of being censored.

Tower Times is an extracurricular at Whitefish Bay High School. We don't report for a grade. We write about issues and events relevant to the student body. Part of why we need to let controversial articles have a voice is so we can spark productive discussions that allow us to work towards common ground. Depriving us

of our independence indisputably threatens our, and with that, the entire student body's free speech.

We strongly believe that any policy that is put in place should be made with the input of students who are a part of the affected publications. We want to ensure our values and goals are protected because Tower Times is one of the only forums where student voices are explicitly heard, despite being one of the most important in the school community.

In our school board's focus plan, the "whole child" has balanced attention to all aspects of their lives, including intellectual well-being. We believe this is fostered by empowering students to speak their mind and letting them take responsibility for their own words, not by putting them on a leash.

## April Team

**Editor-in-Chief:** Anavi Prakash

**Content & Layout Editors:** Bill Lewis & Ella Smullen

**Advisor:** Mr. Wepfer

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**Interactives:** Abigail Albrightson

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Bay students, at a loss as to the propriety of their dating habits, now have a source of comparison. On March 10, 1967, the Purple Parrot proffered his opinions on this subject. The scene was Green Bay West, where the cats are really wild. The conversation ran like this:

Do you double date or usually single?

“Yes”  
 “I only take one girl out at a time.”

What time do you have to be home from a date?

“When the clock strikes 12:00”  
 “When it’s over”  
 “For breakfast”

Do your parents have to approve of a date before you go out?

“They don’t even approve of me!”  
 “No, they’re afraid to”  
 “Well, I can’t go out with just any dope addict, alcoholic, or hippy that comes along”

Can you go out on school nights?

“If I do, I can’t come in again”  
 “To the drugstore”  
 “Only if they come on weekends”  
 “I go out on school days”

What do you look for in a date as far as looks, personality, etc.?

“Hair, skin, and a beating pulse”  
 “Money!”  
 “What can we say? It’s best to keep the faith, baby.”

How much do you spend on a date?

“Five yen”  
 “As little as possible”  
 “About 49 cents a pound”  
 “Twenty cents for the bus fare”

What do you usually do on a date?

“Wish I was with someone else”  
 “Try to communicate”  
 “Who cares?”  
 “Sit and soak up the atmosphere”

Do your parents wait up until you get home?

“Who goes home?”  
 “No, but they read the paper until I do.”  
 “Yes, but then I consider myself lucky. Not every girl is greeted with flashing lights, horns, and gentle reminders of ‘you’re two minutes late!’”

What restrictions do your parents put on dating?

“Not to go out with Jim Wienick”  
 “It has to be a girl (except for special occasions)”  
 “Don’t sit in the car in the driveway”



sadistic teaching styles or his own humiliating stupidity? Or should he be held accountable for his actions even though he had no previous knowledge of his condition?

This archive is from the first issue of *Sour Times*, written in 1999. Is it just spring fever? Could we all be in danger of a mental overload which may even be a real factor in spontaneous combustion? Last week Friday, after a long morning of vigorous testing in the areas of Physics, US History, and Pottery, Earnest Hemplingway, a fourth year senior, suffered what he refers to as "a tripped circuit" due to the mental strain of his classes. As Earnest left his fourth hour art class he became suddenly overwhelmed with feelings of injury. Is Earnest really a victim of

By: Bontia Bigkova

# Plea of insanity saves fleeing 5th hour student from detention

. Sour Times .

at the "vulgar and horrifying words used." "That word [vagina], it just terrifies me. I knew that I had no choice but to step in." His protest was unsuccessful, because he had no connection to the show whatsoever, and has never been to any of the other high school productions. When asked about what he would do if this happened again, he says, "It was hard for me to do, but I know that the world is a better place because of it."

plague, with the word "vagina" being used to describe an area of infection through a catchy song. White learned about these lyrics being used through the drama department's Instagram post announcing the show, captioned "What's that creeping round the corner? The BLACK DEATH! But fear not, because Craig is here to save the day in Bubonic Craig: The Unsung Hero of the Dark Ages! Showing March 3, 4, 5, 10, and 11." White then searched for the soundtrack and was "shocked"

"I know other men like me have this same fear," says Edward White, a 48 year old resident of Whitefish Bay Village, "and that's why I'm putting myself out here like this." On January 16th of this year, White drove his 1972 Cutlass Ciera onto the front lawn of the WFB public high school in protest of the drama department's musical choice. The musical being Bubonic Craig: The Unsung Hero of the Dark Ages. The show contains slightly mature language when describing the symptoms of the bubonic

By: Luciano Donnoch

# Grown Man Afraid of Word "Vagina"

. Sour Times .

April 2023

Tower Times

# Spanish Foreign Exchange Student Caught!

By: Elizabeth Bennet

Amid the introduction of preterite and imperfect to Spanish 2, students have become desperate. A shocking tip has reached the ears of the Sour Times that cheating has been occurring, but not just your regular academic dishonesty.

On Profe DeBoer's first preterite and imperfect test of the semester, one of Whitefish Bay's own foreign exchange students was caught cheating.

When defending themselves, the student who will remain anonymous, claimed that "in Mexico they don't even use this

grammar!"

Subsequent outrage ensued, with Profe DeBoer completely unsure of how to deal with the situation.

When asked to comment on the topic, Senora Bjerkvold said "no que arriesga, no gana". The student, who is completely fluent in the very language they were tested on, continued to profusely defend themselves and parents have become outraged.

Some question the school curriculum while others push for the same punishment as any ordinary student.

The controversy even reached the ears of Mrs. Levek, upon hearing the news, was as flabbergasted as the rest of the staff.

A board meeting will be held to determine the fate of our unfortunate student and we wish them the best of luck in this trying time.

On behalf of the Sour Times we publicly discourage such actions, however if you choose to engage in academic dishonesty, no te atrapen!

# Iceland Travelers Go To Akron Instead

By: Sara Winters

Spring Break was a period of calm and excitement for many students, a time where they could unwind from school. Although many experiences can replicate those feelings, no vacations over these last few weeks made students as happy as their impromptu trip to Akron, Ohio.

Originally supposed to travel to Iceland, which the traveling students had begun paying and planning for last year, problems started on the first day of break when the travelers got to the airport.

Prices for the flights originally banked at \$332 per student, but due to recent inflation in the economy, that low price

skyrocketed. Now each flight would cost 332 thousand dollars, way out of the trip company's price range.

"We felt it would be unfair to bar most kids from going on the trip, when two of their friends would have the time of their lives in the wonders of Iceland," said the travel agency when asked about the change.

"We think we found a solution to the flight pricing that will make everyone happy, while not having to ask for money from the government."

After trying to get flights and lodging at Disney World to join the band and orchestra on their Florida trip, money also prevented the travelers from

joining their musical classmates.

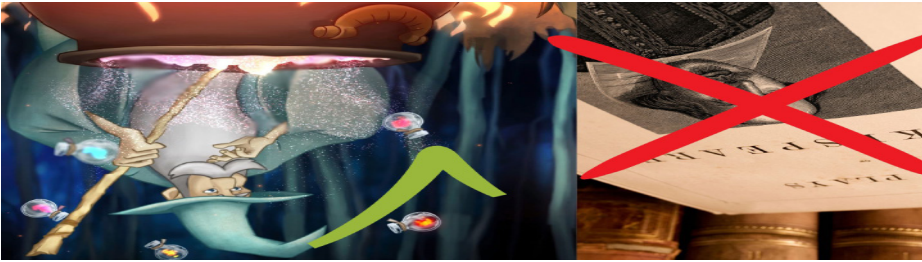
But no need to panic, as the travel company found an exciting destination for the students—all the educational opportunities and none of the cash.

Students were sent to Akron, Ohio, to learn the wonders of grain and rubber production. They were overjoyed, and one anonymous student even said "This trip is wonderful. Inflation prices does have a purpose after all!"

The travel agency has said that if flight prices don't go down next year, the spring Japan trip will instead become a visit to Prescott, Arizona.

# English Department Refits AP Lit

By: Sam Pelski



ly addressed in the College Board-sponsored exam, teachers note that the skills students gather in their "toolbox" of magic tricks may be employed during the exam to distract and fluster proctors in order to gain more exam time.

When questioned about the efficacy of the new curriculum for preparing students for both writing past Whitefish Bay and taking the May Exam, one teacher replied with a Thoreau quote: "So thoroughly and sincerely are we compelled to live, reviewing the possibility of change. This is the only way, we say; but there are as many ways as there can be drawn radii from one centre"

While the editors at *Times* commend the anonymous teacher for dousing the student population with a dose of Walden, perhaps the teacher should refrain from "circling" around the question. After all, it is evident that not one radius question will appear either on the AP Exam or in real life.

Expert speculations have forecasted a kaleidoscope of possibilities in a reformed course, with rumors ranging from classes brimming with lessons on the printing press to teachers assigning students to compile their instructors' finest qualities, but one rumor - fact - remains startlingly consistent: a new reading list.

It has become a near certainty that the replacement for the myriad of curated poems, short stories, and essays scattered throughout history will be "Make: The Magic Maker's Handbook" by Mario Marchese.

Originally composed in 2021, the collection of card-trick essays, according to department heads, has proven to hold an enduring grip and influence on the American psyche. Students will read and study one card deception every week; Fridays will see learners attempt the practiced tricks in a peer-evaluated practical assessment to determine reading comprehension.

Although the content discussed will not be specifically

Sweeping changes have been proposed within the revered halls of the English wing, dispatching legions of rumors that have saturated every conversation and permeated every crevice of Floor 1.5. Indeed, the premonitions seem to be well grounded in fact given recent patterns; each Thursday, teachers have been spotted flocking to assembly in Room 256 during Lunch Hour. Eyewitness reports attest that following the most recent meeting, a whirlwind of instructors burst out of the dismantled room, sending one pupil's wheelbarrow of the night's homework flying. The nucleus of conflict during these frigid meetings may seem inscrutable to the casual eye, but a well-trained observer can decipher the cause of the totality of the disruption: AP Literature. The premier Senior English course offered, AP Literature works to cultivate students' understanding of literature through analyzing texts and applying concepts such as character, structure, setting, and literary analysis in the context of famous literary works from many genres and periods. This seemingly-innocuous class appears to be the crucial topic in the vortex of debate during these fraught meetings, for one phrase occupies the mind of every teacher:

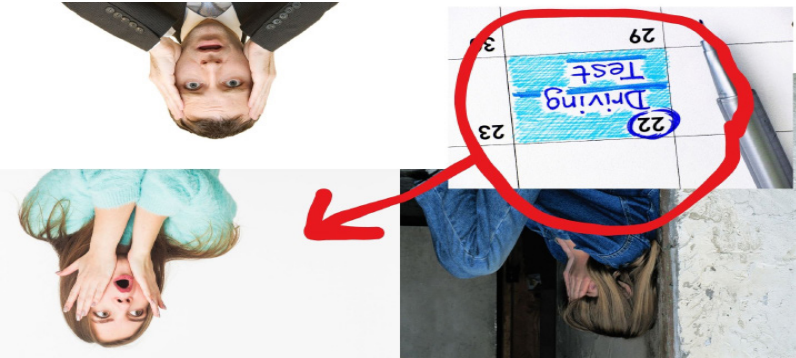
# Students Avoid Driver's Ed Course

By: Robert Roberts

already taken every other class. After interviewing a senior who would prefer to stay anonymous, when asked why she didn't enroll in the class or complete the course through one of the other various Driver's Ed programs in the area, she quickly replied that she preferred the experience of being driven to school by her mom.

"We've gotten closer than ever over the past year, and a lot of that is because of our morning ritual where she drives me to school. I wouldn't have it any other way."

Clearly, the student population agrees; this semester students will enjoy taking more useful and interesting classes, like AP German or Concert Orchestra, instead of Driver's Ed.



everyday, like scooter safety, the dangers of tall corn, and a plethora of metaphors describing what would happen if your car had a train collision.) Then, students would be able to take tests like in regular classes and practice driving around the newly repurposed track on Lubar Stadium.

Looking at the statistics, only one student joined: a superior who needed one more credit as an elective who had

This semester, the administration announced a trailblazing course designed to make high school education more practical: a driver's education (Driver's Ed) course. Driver's Ed is expensive and consumes a lot of time. The administration said their end goal was to make transportation more accessible. The new course would cover the 30 previous online lessons (which cover topics drivers face

# Mrs. Rice Declares Love For Class of 2026

· Sour Times ·

By: Tommy Corrigan

Recently, in an interview with Advanced Geometry and AVID teacher Mrs. Rice, we discovered her secret love for certain students, or a certain grade of vorte grade to teach, Rice When asked about her favorite parts of teaching is "Being given the opportunity

to repeat myself ten times per class period". She also expresses how the freshmen specifically have great problem solving skills independent they are during this year, specifically how their fantastic math skills-- especially their addition and subtraction knowledge-- are enough that they never feel the need to ask any questions, or participate in class.

However, they do not collaborate during class, but as Rice states, "their eagerness to collaborate and share answers after tests" is one of the most special things about the class of 2026. She also enjoys when they use anything but a pencil for taking assessments, because it is a pleasure to read their answers written in neon highlighter.





I decided to add some dither fish, to spice it up. I chose to add Odessa bars. Bad choice. 10 Altums versus 6 Odessa bars. After the overnight war was over... 0 Altums and 1 Odessa barb. Six fish single handedly killed a successful and profitable project and then decided to kill each other until only one remained.

Worse yet, the surviving barb was too fast for me to try to capture it so I had to wait until it died. It did... 4 years later. A 75 gallon tank, with one stupid 2" barb. Ugh. Trial first, research second... Not making that mistake again.

### Are you open to the public?

Actually yes, I am. I offer tours of my basement to people who want to see it. I charge a very reasonable price of \$20 for a 30 minute guided tour. I have 13 tanks in total. 7 are strictly show tanks. 4 are breeding tanks disguised as show tanks. 2 are growout tanks.

I even have a gift shop where I sell plushies of some of the fish I have. If you're ever in the area, stop by. I guarantee you, it'll be an experience you'll never forget.

Duckweed is a weed. It even has WEED in the name. This vile, repulsive, pest, should be sent back to where it first came from... Southeast Asia. You can take back your Trojan gift and shove it.

Ever go swimming in a lake with duckweed in it? 2 months later and there'll be duckweed in places you never wanted duckweed to be. I once got

duckweed in one of my tanks. It killed all of the fish. The waiter had the acidity of vinegar. The only way I could prevent it from infiltrating my other tanks was to exterminate it. I took the tank to a bomb range. 3. 2. 1. BOOM! No more duckweed.

Extreme measures must be taken in matters of life and death. The life and death of my business. Never again, will I EVER get duckweed. Ever.

### What fish would you never get again?

In my many years of fish keeping and husbandry, I have made many mistakes along the way.

My biggest mistake however was when I didn't do prior research and put non-compatible fish together.

One of my more early breeding projects was when I bred Altums. Altums are the most valuable, largest, most sought after angelfish out there. People want them because they get large vertically and horizontal-ly. The average size is 6" long and 8" tall.

I had a very successful group of multiple pairs, living together in a 75 gallon. After some years of success,

### What plants do you sell?

I sell guppy grass which is a self procreating aquatic plant that is especially useful in fry tanks. All I have to do is put some guppy grass in a tank, let it multiply and then sell it. My best guppy grass customers are high school biology teachers. They love the stuff because it's so genetically complex or something like that. All it is is green spaghetti noodles but hey, they're paying \$20 for one cup when I bought it for \$1 for half a cup so I'm not complaining.

### What plant would you never get again?

I will never again, in my life, get duckweed. They say it's used as an easy way to eliminate algae. False! They say fish eat it. False! They say it's native to North, Central and South America. False!

This weed is an invasive species that takes over literally everything. Goldfish don't eat it and they eat everything. I had one that ate a heater. Looked like he was smoking a Cuban cigar.



# Experience: Tropical Fish Breeding

By: Thor Gabik

Let me get right to the point. I'm a self-employed tropical fish breeder. Yes, I breed tropical fish in my basement along with aquatic plants.

## Where do you sell your products?

I sell them to a pet store who then sells them to a sushi bar. Farm to fish market to plate. Order Chilean sea bass. I'll bet you anything that you won't be eating actual Chilean sea bass. You'll be eating a fresh raised common plecostomus, otherwise known as a sucker-mouth catfish, that came from my basement. Bon Appetit!

## When did you start breeding fish?

I have been breeding fish since I was 9 years old. I have even been successful in breeding shrimp. Word of advice... even though a fish might be marketed as "Shrimp Safe", it isn't. If guppies will eat shrimp, then anything will eat shrimp. Shrimp are best put in a tank by themselves, but no one wants to look at a box full of water with some tiny blue or red or other colored variety of shrimp scurrying around on the substrate. To most people... boring.

## What was your favorite fish?

My favorite fish was my silver Arowana, Titan. He was 4 feet long, had a girth of 1 foot and

weighed close to 40 pounds. I had to feed him frozen mice three times a day. His tank was 300 gallons. That's 84" long, 48" deep and 30" high.

Everything was great until, after 10 years of love and care, he decided he'd had enough and while I was watching him, decided to jump up, break through the top lid and land on the floor.

Imagine this scene, a 4 foot long, bloody fish that weighs the same as a medium dog, with teeth might I add, flopping around on the floor. In trying to pick up my beloved pet, whom I'd cared for a decade, I was rewarded with a bite to the calf and a broken finger courtesy of his massive mouth. I was not a happy camper.

In the end, I had to call a friend over, and after we picked up Titan, my friend was hit in the right eye by Titan's monstrous tail. We decided to blame it on a tree branch. After finally putting Titan back into his tank, we replaced the lid. Two hours later, I came back home to find Titan dead on my basement floor. I buried him in my backyard. He even got a coffin. We had some good times.

## What have some of your breeding projects been?

I currently breed cichlids. These cichlids come from the Great Lakes of Africa, Tanganyika, Malawi and Victoria. The

nice thing with cichlids is that they don't need to look alike to breed. I can breed a red one with a blue one and get purple fry. The hardest part is controlling the inbreeding. Sometimes the dudes forget who's mom and who's sister.

Culling is never fun but it is a necessary part of the job. I feed the culled fry to my shark Jake. He enjoys them so it's a win-win. I get a healthy brood and he gets larger.

My current project entails me trying to breed two Electric Blue Acaras. This will definitely be my hardest project as both of the Acaras are male. Some species have the ability to change their sex but acaras do not. They want to mate with each other. I've walked in on them lip-locked with their breeding tubes out.

Problem, male fish don't produce eggs so I have two male lovers who will be permanently sterile. A sex change for one of them is an option but that's only done in high tech labs, run by professionals. I'd prefer to go to a dark, stingy basement run by amateurs, but the AFSCP (Amateur Fish Sex Changers Police) shut those people down. Either way, I have my work cut out for me on this one, but if I get eggs, I'll be making some serious dough. We're talking \$30 for one, 1" fish. In a brood of 100-200, that's at least 3k, about 2-3 times a year, for 6-8 years.

# CLICKBATTI

CyberPatriot  
Team to Create  
Snow Day  
in May

STUDENTS TO BE LOCKED IN  
SCHOOL FOR PROM AFTER  
PARTY

Student Charged  
\$10,000 For Ear-  
marking A  
Library Book

“HEARTBREAKING:  
ALL ATHLETES  
FORCED TO DO  
PUSH UP TEST

WFB English Teach-  
er Reads ‘Best Essay  
Ever Written’, Gives  
It A C+

**UNFEATHERING**

**TIMES**

**SOUR**

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