

# UPROAR

Clothing



Music



Student Life



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For a trip in a time machine, travel to our in-depth coverage on pages 7-12





## Side Out: Volleyball Season Comes to an End

by Calie Schliep

Volleyball season has come to an end for the Sandy Creek girls. This season the girls accomplished something that hasn't happened since 2012: they made it to the district finals. Going into districts, the team was ranked number two, having to play the number three ranked Doniphan Trumbull on Monday, November 30. That night, the girls came out with a victorious 3-2 win advancing to the next round vs. the number one ranked team, Centura, being played Tuesday, the very next day. Exactly five days before Tuesday, Sandy Creek and Centura played each other in regular season game but unfortunately the girls lost in three sets. The team didn't let that loss get to them though; they came out firing, finishing the game in three sets, upsetting Centura and advancing to the district finals. In the finals the girls had to go up against Archbishop Bergan. Never playing them before, the girls were excited but also a little on edge. Senior outside hitter Kambria Chohon said, "I was a little nervous going into the game, but I knew that we just needed to be focused and play our game." Unfortunately the game did not go the way the girls wanted it to go. Archbishop Bergan came on top beating the girls in three sets, ending the season. "Yes, we had our moments but I don't feel like we played to our best potential, they were a good team but I think if we had

another shot we could honestly beat them," said Chohon. It was a devastating loss, but looking back, the team gave it their all and got a lot farther than most people expected.

Going back all the way to the beginning of the season, the girls faced Heartland in a triangular. Several games later they went head to head in the first round of conference. Heartland was ranked number two and we were ranked number 3. "Going into the game we knew it wasn't going to be a cakewalk; we fought until the end, and it showed. Everyone played their hearts out and played for each other," said sophomore libero Kyara Fike. Rankings proved wrong, and Sandy Creek came out the winners, beating them three sets to two. The same thing happened with Centura, as I said earlier. They lost to them in regular season but they knew it didn't matter; they just had to beat them when it really counted, and that's exactly what they did. The girls knew it was a do or die situation; everyone really stepped it up and came together and played as one big team.

For the past three years, the volleyball team was coached by Levi Gorsuch. This year was different. Josey Nunnenkamp was the new head coach for the girls. New coaches are always an adjustment for the girls, but that didn't stop the team from going out and getting a winning season.

Last year the team finished with an 18-12 record, competing against more teams than this season. The girls finished this year's season with a 17-12 record. No matter what the record was, the girls went out and gave it everything. They had to finish out the season strong. "The season went well; I think we finished stronger than we started. We had our ups and downs just like any team would, but the girls came together at the end and finished stronger than we probably thought we could," said Nunnenkamp.

This year's fan base was phenomenal. Everyone came to support the girls at every moment they could. At all of our home games, the team could always count on it being a packed house. All the parents and friends of the players would cheer as loud as they could; it didn't matter how the game was going. The student section was one of the best there has been in a long time. Senior middle hitter Makenzie Svoboda said, "The student section was lit; they all wore band hats and Ty was funny to listen to." The boys were at every game standing on the sidelines, cheering the girls on regardless of the score. Some people don't understand how much the crowd really helps the players on the floor. The girls are very appreciative of all the support and things parents, classmates, and friends do for them each and every day.

## Traveling Into A New Basketball Season

by Calie Schliep

For the first time in 40 years, there will be a new head basketball coach for the Sandy Creek girls. In the past, Russ Ninemire has been the man in charge, until this year. Jeremy Borer, Ninemire's assistant coach, will take over in his place. "I'm excited to try coaching on my own; I've been the assistant coach with Ninemire for a while now, so I'm looking forward to taking on his responsibilities as the head coach from here on out," said head coach Jeremy Borer.

Last year the girls had 16 out for basketball, and this year the team consists of 15 players. The team may not be made up of many players, but that doesn't mean the girls won't go out and give it their all. The team has four seniors going into the season: Jordan Woodbury, Kambria Chohon, Coree Lipovsky and Kenzie Turman.

Woodbury said, "I'm looking forward to playing with the girls. I think that we have a really good shot this year and that

we can make it to state if we just come to practice, work hard, play well as a team and get along. I think we can really accomplish a lot if we put our minds to it." 10-13 was the final record for the girls basketball team last year. This year, the girls are trying to push hard to go out to accomplish many more opportunities and end with a winning season.

As everyone probably knows, it is a big jump from junior high to high school in general. Along with the academic side of it, sports are also much more complicated. Freshman can have a hard time transitioning to the new drills and the new plays that the coaches will throw at them. This year's freshman group consists of Cailleigh Tripe, Jenna Jo Meers and Jaden Claycamp.

"High school basketball is a lot faster pace than it was in middle school. I would have to say that I prefer basketball in high school over middle school most of the time," says Cailleigh Tripe.

Although the transition is sometimes difficult, they always seem to pick up the new drills and plays quickly, along with improving as a player.

The first games were scheduled really close together as the team went out and played three games in a row, starting on November 30. They played Woodriver at home for the very first game of the season. The team lost with a score of 38-55. Following that day, the team traveled to Centura on the 1st of December and had a hard fought battle but came up short, losing 42-53. Finishing out that three day run they came back to play at home against David City. After playing games the previous two nights the fans didn't know how the game would go, but the girls came out firing and refused to lose. They finished the game with a score of 49-24. The team is continuing to improve with every game they play, and they are excited for the rest of the season.

## We've Got the Numbers, We've Got the Muscles

by Devony Keeler

As football and cross country ends, the Red Raider wrestlers get ready to start their winter season of 2017-2018. With a total of 20 wrestlers, they all believe that this year will be the best yet. They have the numbers, and they have the talent to make it all the way.

The team has four dedicated and motivated seniors to help everyone improve and push to be their best, along with six juniors, five sophomores and five freshmen. Students from the Lawrence-Nelson school also help make up the Red Raiders. The Red Raiders have had wrestlers make it to state every year so far and plan to do so this year as well. Coaching the wrestlers will be Head Coach Ryan Bauer, along with Assistant Coaches Tim Messenger and

Steve Hinrichs. Coach Bauer has been coaching for the Red Raiders since last year. The students and other coaches have been very welcoming and accepting. He is now a physical education teacher for the elementary, middle school and high school. Messenger has been an assistant coach for quite awhile. The wrestlers say that he's been around ever since they were little because he's been coaching at Sandy Creek for about 8 years now. Before coaching at Sandy Creek, he coached at other places, like schools in South Dakota. Steve Hinrichs has also been coaching the high school kids for about 8 years, like Messenger. Before coaching high school though, he also coached elementary for about 15 years. They don't plan on leaving anytime soon either.

"This year, the guys are really looking forward to getting in shape, being more successful by winning more matches than last year and make our way to state," said junior, Joel Shuck. The juniors are stepping up this year as leaders to fill in the senior's shoes for next year. Seniors say that they're going to miss competing at the meets. "I've been doing it since first grade. "It's my life," said senior Colt Rademacher. Even though it is their senior year, they're still going to give 110% at both practices and wrestling meets. The wrestlers have a total of about 20 meets this year, so be sure to cheer on your Red Raiders!

## Balancing Borer

by Sam Galaway

Between teaching students in the morning to coaching them in the afternoon, juggling sports and school is also difficult for teachers. As a coach and teacher, Jeremy Borer takes on the task of coaching during not one, but two sports seasons of the year. Borer coaches for the Sandy Creek football team

and the girls' basketball team. Although both sports are different in many ways, Borer says he enjoys "whatever is going on at the time. I enjoy all of the kids and watching them grow, succeed, and become more confident in themselves."

With teaching and coaching taking up most of Borer's time, there isn't a lot to spare. "I am very grateful that I have an understanding wife that knows what I am doing is important to me." Not only does Mr. Borer have a wife at home to keep happy, but he has three

kids that are "...in constant need of attention." No matter the duo's efforts, sometimes the children end up at practices. "It is a lot of work to give them the attention they need, but still being productive in a basketball sense."

Coach Borer has made a reputation for

himself as an amazing coach. "Borer was one of the coaches that is always there and no matter where or when you can call him up and he'll be there for you. He just cares about players," said senior football player Ty Schweer. Borer is known as a really good person off the field as well.

"How could you not love Borer?"

said senior Austin Wilson. Senior players Ryan Haack and Ty Schweer both said that Borer is a coach that "knows when to yell but also when to support you even when you make mistakes." Creating good relationships with players is a big part of being a successful coach. Basketball player Calie Schliep said, "Having a coach that pushes but you can still have good memories with is something I am very lucky to have."





# Students Cooperate to Make New Experiences

by Kyara Fike

Schools have many organizations. FBLA, Skills USA, drama, sports, HOSA, and Student Council—there are many things to get involved in. However, this article will focus solely on student Council and all of the things they do that often times go unrecognized.

Student Council does many events throughout the school. Some of these events include homecoming, the Halloween mixer, the food drive, the thankful tree, the Christmas dinner, the Sadie Hawkins Dance, flower sales, an Easter egg hunt, and May day baskets with a celebration. All of these events may seem small, but once you account for all of the planning and time spent setting it up, it's really quite a lot of work. It's a big task to take on all of these things, especially with a new adviser, but she's tackling it one event at a time.

Mrs. Nanette Shackelford is Sandy Creek's new Student Council and FBLA adviser. She's new to the school this year and is learning all about the crazy ideas that high school students come up

with. "The kids are motivated to do lots of different things; they're constantly brainstorming and planning different events. We have a great student body that wants to be involved." Something that she loves is that many of the students participate in pretty much everything. "There's a lot of repetition with the different organizations, which means that we can piggyback on a lot of different ideas because they go hand in hand," said Shackelford.

The "biggest hit" for Student Council is usually homecoming. Student Council plans a whole week of dress-up days such as pajama day, fashion disaster, class colors, throwback Thursday, and of course spirit day. On Friday, the entire student body votes for who they want to be crowned homecoming royalty. At the end of the football game the king and queen are announced and following this is the annual hoco dance. It's a semi-formal event where lots of students get together and have a good time dancing to the music.

"Not a lot of people danced, but the

ones that did were cool. Not everyone gets hype for the dance, but the ones that were made up for the buzzkills. The DJ was really good and played some fun songs. I suggested 'Mr. Brightside' but he didn't play it," said senior Maggie Rieckman.

One of the new events this year was the "Halloween Mixer." Each class throughout the week personalized their own corner in the commons with some spooky decorations. During focus time on Friday was when the mixer began. Some Halloween tunes were played while people gathered around the tables and talked. The highlight of this event is said to have been the tabletop s'mores. All in all, it turned out to be a great event.

"Although the Halloween mixer was fun, I'm really excited for the upcoming events of the Thanksgiving tree and canned food drive. I think it'll be a great opportunity for students and teachers to express what they're thankful for. Student council is a great organization," said junior Calie Schliep.

# Unbanning The Banned

Students want more options to drink

by Brittany Godtel

Sandy Creek High School has the policy that students are allowed to have and carry water bottles around the school as long as the water bottle itself is clear, and the students only have water. I think that as students, we need extra energy from coffee and other caffeinated drinks as we stay up all night studying on top of activities, sports and jobs.

"Having a job where I work almost everyday until at least 10 o'clock at night, then coming home at 10:30 and proceeding to do school work trying to get a solid 6 hours of sleep at night is impossible," said junior Sam Galaway.

With this, the journalism staff thinks that with the extra boost from caffeinated drinks, coffee and teas as a student would help us be able to focus more in classes and do better overall. Although we

know water is essential for our bodies, we don't understand why we don't have the privilege to be able to bring other drinks into our learning environments. With previous students being caught with alcohol in the school system, every student has been punished for their actions. The journalism staff believes that those of

us who didn't do wrong should not be punished for their irresponsible actions and, we should still be able to drink whatever nonalcoholic beverage we desire.

I know that a good majority of the students here at Sandy Creek loved having the Keurig in the library with full access.

If we just finished a stressful test, had too much homework, or just needed that extra boost, the library was at the end of the hallway doors wide open for us to make our coffee and tea.

"I feel like it is trash that we can't have even flavored water or flavored drinks like gatorade," said senior Faith Mueller.

"I miss the privilege of being able to make a cup of tea whenever I needed. Making my tea never made me late to classes and I still received pure enjoyment

from my tea and enjoyed my classes, more since the tea relieved all my stress."



"You know we just can't trust you with this privilege."

Editorial Cartoon by Samantha Stapleman

# Disrespecting Turkey Day

by Genesis Ramirez

STOP EARLY CHRISTMAS DECORATING NOW! Not only is it weird to have Santa out in November, but it's also disrespectful to turkeys everywhere. It's the only time of the year that they can shine, and they are now being overlooked because of a big fat man who gives children stuff they don't need.

Senior Ty Schweer, food enthusiast, weighed in on the subject.

"I feel that every holiday should be enjoyed and celebrated, and it just feels like you're skipping all Thanksgiving, which is an important and a celebrated holiday, and we just skip over it to go directly to Christmas. But why? There's a whole month you can spend after Thanksgiving but before Christmas. But instead, everyone just wants to go directly to Christmas. Why? Because of the commercialism behind it. Everybody wants to spend money. Everybody wants to go places and shop. Why? Why do you need to spend money on Christmas so early?"

In my house, I refuse to decorate until December. This, however, does not stop my mother from blasting the Christmas music and decorating her heart out. It's November, and we have the whole shebang: lights, tree, garland, SALT AND PEPPER SHAKERS. Our poor little turkey salt shakers have been switched out to Christmas mittens

weeks before Thanksgiving. This means that we will be eating Thanksgiving dinner with Santa staring at us. We will be drinking from Santa cups. We literally have dishes dedicated to Christmas but not Thanksgiving.

No room in the house is safe but mine. I refuse to let the holidays invade my room. The hallways are not safe. The bathroom is not safe. The tree fills out the living room and it honestly looks like Santa puked in my house and let the elves shit all over it.

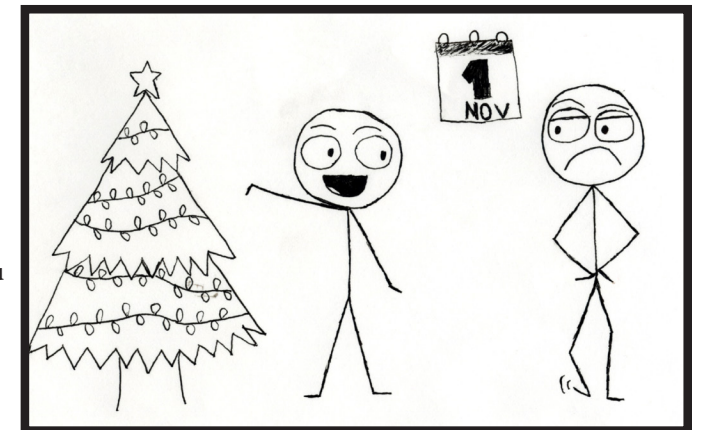
I understand that people really like Christmas and that it's traditional, but that doesn't mean that you can start decorating the day after Halloween.

Thanksgiving is also very traditional AND it's a holiday centered on eating food. If you decorate early for Christmas, you're basically choosing a big fat guy who breaks into your house once a year over food.

Ty Schweer added to his rant saying, "You have 25 days from the start of December to Christmas to purchase your presents, to put up your decorations, to buy your food for

your meal. But instead we want to start two months in advance and it just seems absurd that everybody needs to start so early for something that is a really simple and basic holiday, just like everything else, and then we skip a holiday that's very important to American culture."

Thanksgiving has a sort of patriotism to it because it is unique to the United States. It's a national holiday, and it shouldn't be skipped. No one would skip the Fourth of July, so why would you skip turkey day? Christmas is overrated and doesn't deserve two months to itself. Give turkey day the respect it deserves. STOP EARLY CHRISTMAS DECORATING.



Editorial Cartoon by Sanie Davis

# The Catalans' Declaration of Independence

by Mariona Sauri Sanchez

The independence in Catalonia is so important for me. For a long time, the Catalan people have been fighting to have freedom and independence without any problems. The issues came when the Government in Spain did not let us be independent and have our own country. A lot of people don't understand why it is so important for the people in Catalonia to be independent. The story of Catalonia and Spain is so long, and there were and are a lot of issues with the Government. It's hard to be on the other side of the world and without my family during this hard time in our lives. On the first of October, the police from Madrid came to Catalonia and started hitting people including the elderly and youth.

For a long time, we tried to do a lot of things for try to have our own country, like demonstrations.

That day Catalonia had the opportunity to express how we felt all of these years--

that we wanted to vote to have freedom. The problem came when the police arrived, and they didn't let us do that. They didn't let us express ourselves and say, "Hey, Spain is stealing money from us--it is not yours." We had many bad years without money and jobs, and a lot of families were poor. It's hard to see all the old people from Catalonia, who have been fighting since they were kids, struggle. I saw videos from the first of October when Catalanian peaceful protesters were getting beat, and I started crying out of rage, sadness, and hate. Catalonia wants to be independent and responsible for everything that promotes the good of its people. Catalonia wants their independence to

establish the best international relations. Catalonia deserved this because they should not ask for permission to be independent they should be able to simply declare it. I'm so happy to say that I live in my country, Catalonia, and I feel free.









# Teenage: The Age of Teens

By Maggie Rieckman

Believe it or not, the teachers at Sandy Creek were once teenagers. They, too, endured awkward changes, put up with their "lame" parents, and stressed about the workload their own teachers gave them. On the other hand, they also kept up with the latest styles, hung out with their friends, went on dates, spoke the language of "slang," and were affected by the latest technology and news.

According to Ben Cosgrove in the TIME article, "The Invention of Teenagers: LIFE and the Triumph of Youth Culture", "most cultural observers agree that the strange and fascinating creature known as the American teenager" did not exist until the 1940s. The point isn't that people skipped over the ages of 13-18 until that decade. The point is: "...the modern notion of the teen years as a recognized, quantifiable life stage, complete with its own fashions, behavior, vernacular and arcane rituals, simply did not exist until the post-Depression era."

Before then, once a person's age reached double digits, they were considered an adult. What a sad thing that is. Though not always pleasant, adolescence is a time to figure out a multitude of things: what kind of person you are, what your interests are, what you want to do with your life, etc. Without those key years, the adults we know (such as our teachers) would not be who they are today. What they discovered in their teen years may have even lead them to take the path of teaching. I interviewed seven teachers and the principle here at Sandy Creek High School, asking them about their "teen experience."

**"It's an unavoidable transition period from being a child to being an adult."**

Nebraska. Mrs. Borer, a science teacher who attended Sandy Creek, reflected on the popular hairstyles from her teenage years during the early 2000's as having wispy bangs, curly bottoms, and lots of claw clips. She also remarked, "Girls would over-wax their eyebrows until they were teeny tiny"

As for clothing and shoes, the teachers, disappointedly, did not get caught up in the wacky and stereotypical fashion trends of their decades. For starters, Mr. Pernicek and Mr. Searle remembered wearing Levi jeans and tennis shoes most of the time. Searle, the high school principal and teen of the 80's from Harvard, Nebraska, added that the style during his teenage years was rolling up jeans. As I interviewed him, he pointed out my rolled-up jeans and said that I was "behind the times." Being a teen of the early late 80's and early 90's, english teacher Mr. Tucker from Illinois also wore jeans a majority of the time and stated, "there was a lot of denim." From these answers, one thing can be confirmed: denim will never go out of style, especially among teenagers.

As for the girls, Borer mentioned the brands: Lucky Jeans, Calvin Klein, Guess, and Fubu as being popular. Z Cavaricci, Fila, Joe Boxer, and Guess are brands that Hassenstab remembered as being "in" during her teenage years. She also noted that if somebody was anybody, they owned a Starter jacket. Both Borer and Ms. Tobias, english teacher and a late 90's teenager from Davenport, Nebraska, recalled that Dr. Martins was the shoe to have.

Lastly, Ms. Hubl was a fan of zebra prints, neon colors, and Miss Me Jeans (basically every disgusting trend of 2008).

Furthermore, teenagers might dress a little differently if they were going on a date. Surprisingly, locations of dates in small-town, Nebraska hasn't changed much, even since the 70's. Most of the teachers I spoke to described their dates as either going to the movies, eating out, or bowling. Mr. Tucker also mentioned that he had made mixtapes for girls and for dates, the girl and him would sometimes walk and talk around the mall.

Hunan's and Valentin's were specific restaurants that Mr. Searle remembered going on dates at. As a matter of fact, he starting dating "the sweetest little girl" that moved to town senior year, and she ended up being his future wife: Nurse Brenda. Searle stated, "It was the best thing that ever happened to me."

Ms. Tobias, Mrs. Borer, and Mrs. Hassenstab all expressed that they didn't date in high school, mostly because of the drama. "A lot of my friends had boyfriends, and I thought that was so boring," commented Hassenstab. Borer said, "I had a cluster of best friends, so we would hang out instead."

Some activities that several of the teachers did with their buddies include: going to movies, bowling, mini-golfing, hanging out at each other's houses, cruising (down Burlington if they lived near Hastings), shopping, and participating in sports. Ms. Tobias said, "I remember going to 'Titanic' with my friend, and he was sobbing and sobbing." Mrs. Borer said, "When my friends and I went cruising, we would listen to all different types of music from 'Salt N' Peppa' to 'TLC' to 'Green Day.'"

Another activity was taking weekend trips to the lake, something that Mrs. Borer and Mr. Searle did. Along with water sports, Searle and his group also went three-wheeling and sledding.

Mrs. Hassenstab and her teenage friends, on the other hand, engaged in more eccentric pastimes. "We would get away with a lot more," said

Hassenstab. "Not illegal things, we were just weirdos." On the side of the road, they would run by cars zooming down the highway. Going to the park late at night and playing on playgrounds was another way her and her friends entertained themselves.

Sometimes, teenagers socialize(d) just by talking to each other on the phone. Ms. Tobias used to talk on the phone for hours; eventually, she got her own landline. For privacy, Mrs. Hassenstab used the super long phone cord and stretched it across the kitchen and into the bathroom. "Six of us kids shared one landline," said Mr. Tucker. "I do recall a couple of my sisters staying on the phone while I talked; I could hear them breathing."

I also asked all of the teachers I interviewed if, like Eric Foreman's basement on "That 70's Show," they had a certain place all of their friends and them would meet up at and hang out. Mrs. Hassenstab's posse actually did hang out in one her guy friend's basement; it had a stairwell outside going down it from outside just like Foreman's. She said, "The boys would play video games, the girls would play cards, and the mom would sometimes bring down snacks." Both Mr. Pernicek and Mrs. Borer killed time at the local café with their own crew, Mrs. Borer's coffee shop being the "Blue Moon" in Hastings. Loitering around the Food Mart parking lot in Harvard was common among Mr. Searle and his friends, and an abandoned car wash in Blue Hill was where Ms. Hubl and her friends met up. Mr. Tucker mentioned that a lot of his friends would gather at parties and drink, but he never did that because he didn't want to get into trouble. "I was kind of a nerd," said Tucker.

When teenagers interact, it's almost impossible for a unique dialect to not slip out. With slang, they speak their own language of sorts. Today, we say "lit," "savage," "slay," and "shade." But throughout the existence of the teenage species, this language has changed; all terms eventually go out of style. Mr. Pernicek said, "Everyone imitated the 'Fonz'" (a character in the hit TV show: "Happy Days"). Mr. Tucker remembers when the word "bad" was used to describe something good. "As if," "duh," "dude," "tight," and "yo" are expressions that Ms. Tobias used as a teenager. Abbreviated texting is a trend that Ms. Hubl gave into with typing words like "lol." The slang she used included: "hella," "whateva," "fo shizzle," and "peeps." Embarrassingly, Mrs. Borer admitted to saying: "talk to the hand" to her siblings as a teen.

When teenagers interact in modern day, it's also almost impossible for politics to not come up. However, with the nonexistence of social media, it didn't arise in conversation among adolescents until recently. "I wasn't all that politically aware," remarked Mr. Pernicek. Mr. Searle stated, "I only had to worry about school, sports, and fun."

Though teenagers haven't always been involved in politics, world, nation, and local news has always affected them in some way. While Mr. Pernicek was a teenager, the Vietnam War was coming to an end; a peanut farmer was elected president (Jimmy Carter), followed by an actor (Ronald Reagan); NASA stopped going to space; the Iran hostage crisis happened; and the 1973 energy crisis took place. He remembers that during the latter, the nation did not "fall back" for daylight savings time. "Kids did not like that," stated Pernicek.

Mr. Tucker kept aware of current events by reading the newspaper every morning with his dad. The hype about Y2K was buzzing in the air when Ms. Tobias was in highschool. She said, "I remember thinking how I thought people were silly with preparing for the end of the world." The Columbine shooting occurred in 1999, and Mrs. Hassenstab remembers what was going through her and her schoolmates' minds after hearing the news. "We were just kind of shocked," she recalled. "We started to question: 'who would do this at our school?'" In 2001, Mrs. Borer was a sophomore. She said, "I remember being in Mr. Pernicek's study hall. One of my classmates came running in, saying that planes ran into the Twin Towers." She added, "Everyone was in a state of disbelief the entire day." Borer also pointed out that the rest of the news during her high

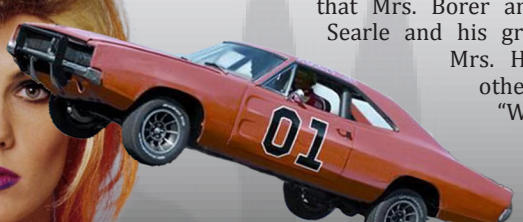
school career, including the invasion of Iraq, revolved around 911.

Another thing teenagers are greatly affected by is technology. Something new and exciting is invented in what seems like every decade. When Mr. Pernicek was 16, his family bought their first color television. He also remembers playing the first video game ever: Pong. He added, "People were starting to get microwaves and VCRs in my teens." When Mr. Searle was in high school, he didn't have computers due to them being so new and expensive. "Throughout high school, we had typewriters," he said. "There was no such thing as the internet." That means finding sources for research papers in an actual library, not an online search engine. Finally, the internet was born during Mr. Tucker's last couple years of high school; however, it was extremely slow. During his freshman year of college, email made its way into the world. Tucker said, "I remember kind of being blown away by email." When Mrs. Hassenstab graduated high school, she received a bag phone. Also, Hassenstab, Ms. Tobias, and Mrs. Borer remember really enjoying instant messaging. "IMing was the bomb," stated Borer.

Something that teenagers don't seem to think is the bomb is being a teenager. Mr. Tucker said, "I didn't really like being a teenager. I was in a hurry to grow up." He continued, "I was always a really quiet and shy kid, so the social aspect of high school was tough. I also remember feeling a lot of stress trying to figure out what I wanted to do." Mrs. Hassenstab said, "I had a lot of fun in high school, but the low self esteem and mean people that teenagers, especially girls, have to deal with is stupid."

Ms. Tobias, however, is neutral on her teenage experience. She said, "It wasn't bad. It wasn't great. It is what it is." On the other hand, some teachers enjoyed high school and would even go back. "I liked every bit of high school, and I don't see myself much different than I was as a teenager," said Mr. Searle. Mr. Pernicek said, "I don't want to sound like an old guy, but being young, you didn't have the responsibilities you do as an adult, just chores and homework." He continued, "Being young is a good thing. If you screwed up, it wasn't the end of the world; you have safety net."

Whether you see your teens as the worst decade of your life or the best decade of your life, I think that we are all in agreement that it is a completely necessary learning experience. It's an unavoidable transition period from being a child to being an adult. In this stage of our lives, we live in an inescapable world all our own, where adults don't always take us seriously, and drama is ever-growing in a hormonal petri dish. Though it's healthy to look forward to better things, the problem (that I have) is daydreaming much too often about the future and forgetting the present. Consider this quote from the incomparable Ferris Bueller: "Life moves pretty fast. If you don't stop and look around once in awhile, you could miss it."





# Throwback Making A Comeback

By Kyra Sorensen

To say that fashion has come a long way since the 1950s is quite the understatement. One could even say that fashion has come a long way since the 1990s, and they would be 100 percent correct. Fashion has made it a long way, needless to say: from the 1950s, when women wore a simple shirt and a skirt and made it look fashionable, to the late 2000s, when women wore yoga pants to simply show off their assets.

Today, as you walk down the hallway at Sandy Creek High School you would see a variety of clothing being worn. Some students are wearing bootcut jeans and work boots with just a shirt, while others are wearing nice skinny jeans and birkenstocks. During the winter some girls trade in their birkenstocks for their Ugg boots.

"It's really easy to see the changes that have come in fashion even from a year ago to now," said senior Genesis Ramirez. "I think when we think of fashion changing we think of girls changing what they wear but men's fashion has really come a long way as well. Men went from wearing full suits everyday to now wearing jeans and a shirt. You can definitely tell the changes in hairstyles and that's my favorite thing to watch change over the years, especially in men's hair."

With the changing generations things that are taboo may change and things that might not have been okay twenty years ago are now a norm. Tattoos, for example, are being tolerated so much more than before. This may be because of the increasing tolerance that companies are now having for exposed tattoos and body jewelry. Before teachers were not allowed to have exposed tattoos and now teachers

can have tattoos as long as they are not inappropriate or offensive. Before when a heavily tattooed person walked down the street people would gawk or even changed sides of the street but now you may see two or three people with showing tattoos just walking down the street normally.

Senior Maggie Rieckman said, "I subscribe to several fashion magazines, and you can see, clear as day, that what's on the runway at fashion week today has strong ties to what people were wearing in past decades. I think trends are always going in and out of style; none of them are truly dead."

Going through the decades the fashions have changed a lot, some trends have come back and luckily some stayed in the past.

During the 1950s women wore long flowy skirts and with a nice shirt or a dress that was at least knee length. Men dressed up in suits sometimes or wore jeans, leather jackets and a plain white shirt.

In the 1960s women's fashion changed just a little, the dresses got a little shorter and the colors were much brighter. For men, their fashion changed a little more: bell bottom pants were introduced and those were worn with button up shirts normally. However, men did still dress nicer with a sweater vest over a button up shirt and dress pants.

The 1970s was definitely a different time for fashion. Men wore very low-cut shirts and denim on denim was very popular as well with some guys. Bell bottoms and button up shirts were still very trendy for men during this time as were sweater vests. The fashion for women included bell bottom pants with a tighter fitting shirt or even a

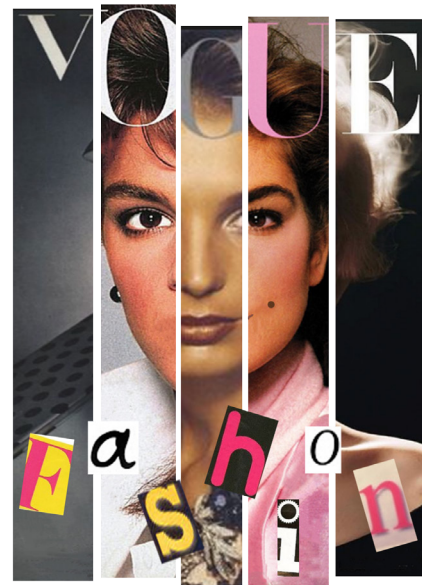


Photo Illustration by Atley Van Emmerik

crop top. There were more patterns in the clothing and the colors were still very bright.

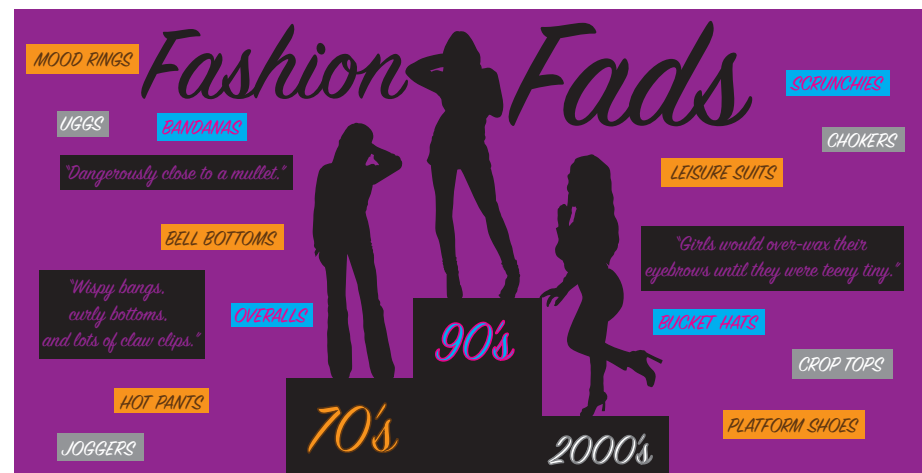
If I were to pick one word to describe the 1980s I would definitely pick the word colorful. Bright colors were worn by both men and women. Patterns were worn with other patterns and leg warmers were very popular. Leggings and a long shirt were worn but also big puffy pants and shirts that matched somewhat.

Wearing all one color was very popular in the 1990s along with plaid. Bell bottoms were no longer a big trend. Instead men wore straight leg jeans and sweaters with patterns on them. Denim on denim was also a very popular trend for both men and women.

In the 2000s, denim was still very popular. Girls wore track suits and crop tops, which are fashions that are returning. Attention grabbing jewelry was also very in. Although it's not coming back to the same extent that it left, it's still making a comeback. Very tight tops and loose bottoms are another early 2000s item coming back to everyday fashion and runway fashion as well.

"Often, I keep clothes and shoes around because I know that at some point I will be able to wear them again in the future," said art teacher Crystal Hassenstab.

Photo Illustration by Kaylee Yost



# Music Through The Ages

By Samantha Galaway

Music has come a long way from the experimental banging on a drum to the digitally edited sounds that we know today. Everyone has their own taste in music that they are almost never the same. Let's take a walk down memory lane.

One of the 1900s most music defining decade is the 60s. The artists of the 60s created a sound that would carry over for years to come. One of the 60s most notable bands is the Beatles. This group created songs that rocked the nation, with their most memorable hit being "Hey Jude." The 60s also brought the soul music of Aretha Franklin and her hit song "Respect."

Fast forward 20 years to the iconic decade of the 80s. The 80s brought a new life to rock and roll, by bringing the attention towards bands like Guns N' Roses and AC/DC. "I enjoy music from the 80s because it actually had a meaning," said senior Ty Schweer. Not only did rock and roll evolve in this decade but artists like Michael Jackson and Madonna revolutionized pop music. Michael Jackson was named the king of pop later in 1991.

The 90s was full of grunge, boy bands, and a new version of rock music. Grunge is a key component to the 90s. The Red Hot Chili Peppers brought in what can only be called as grunge rock. Coming in with a similar style, Nirvana had several hits just in

the early 90s, some of those being "Smells Like Teen Spirit" and "Come as You Are." Teen girls were swooned by the young boys involved in bands such as the Backstreet Boys, while Christmas music hit an all time high with Mariah Carey coming out with the her song "All I Want For Christmas Is You."

Music of the early 2000s for many of my peers is described as "the music of our childhood." Many of us weren't even in the double digits but that music influenced us and really made an impact, between the ever iconic Destiny's Child and the subtly inappropriate lyrics of Rihanna.

"It was

the music me and my sisters listened to when we were younger," said sophomore Daelene Hinrichs.

While coming out with some amazing hits in the late 90s, at the age of 17, I may add, Britney Spears made a huge comeback in the 2000s. She came out with what are known now as cult classics such as "Toxic" in '03 and "Womanizer" later in '08.

Music today has taken a twist in another direction that happened quite rapidly. The music genre has shifted from pop/rock and roll to rap music. Artist Drake has caught many listeners' attention with his glamorous lifestyle and combination of R&B and rap in his music. Along his side Nicki Minaj has made her way into the industry starting in 2010 with her upbeat and bubbly music. Although she didn't get her major media attention until 2013, her sound became more rap and less pop. A name that has gotten wear in the past couple years is Taylor Swift.

"All you hear anymore is Taylor Swift, Taylor Swift, 'Dubsmash,' or Taylor Swift," said Sandy Creek staff member Jared Blackwell.

Finally the artist that has totally rocked the music world in 2016 was Beyoncé and her "Lemonade" album. Both have provided amazing music and attention to real-world problems.

The evolution of music has come a long way, millions of years to be exact, and it will never stop changing.



Photo Illustration by Joseph Ackerman



# Let Me School You On School

By Genesis Ramirez

Sandy Creek High School has seen a lot of changes in recent year and even more changes are on the horizon. Let's take a second to document the progress that we have seen and the progress that the older generations have seen as well.

In the past, the Sandy Creek building was located in Fairfield and in the 1968-69 school year it was moved to its current location. When the building was first constructed, the price tag was \$700,000.

The original building at the current location contained a vast majority of the high school that still stands and the high school gym. The high school gym itself has seen many changes like new flooring and new plaques from SC's wins. The flooring was replaced in 2013 and the bleachers were also replaced. They were once traditional wooden bleachers until 2014 when the school installed red and white plastic bleachers

over Christmas break. Another addition to the gym was the new, larger scoreboard, along with the large video board Sandy Creek bought in 2014.

A new shop department was added in 1977. They also remodeled the building in 1977. A couple years later the elementary school was built. The elementary and its gym are relatively new, having been built in the fall of 1995. This made the school feel more like one because there were no longer elementary classes in Edgar and Fairfield.

Years after, the track was redone and new bleachers were installed outside. The track was redone in 2012, and although there was already buildings for extra storage outside, a new building was made for track equipment in 2016. This happened at the same time that the new concession stand with bathrooms was being built. Some shop

students helped with the construction of the concession stand. It brought a lot more people to the games and therefore more money to the junior class.

In the spring of 2017 the demolition of the south side of the building began. The new building is going to cost about \$10 million. Sandy Creek is now adding a newer section to the school. This building is going to add more square footage to the school, offering significantly more space for students to learn in. It's fair to say that the students and staff are very eager to welcome the new addition.

Sandy Creek Alum Mary Hild said, "I'm really excited to see what education opportunities the students are going to get from the new building." Although it is currently only cement blocks and steel beams, with every passing day Sandy Creek is starting to see the light at the end of the tunnel.

# May I Please See The Manager

By Faith Mueller

The Sandy Creek One Acts team recently concluded their season at districts in Geneva, coming in sixth place. They also placed seventh at conference One Acts.

"It's interesting watching the team perform from off stage because you could see how they acted off and on stage" said senior, Maggie Rieckman. Michaela Goracke, who has been doing One Acts for three years this season, was proud of how her students had done.

**"It is a challenge to make set pieces that are appealing to judges"**

"I look for improvement every year" Goracke says. "I really want to get the 'Superior' rating every year. We have done that!"

Not only is one acts a great experience for the students, but it is also great for the sponsors. One Acts creates a fun environment that cultivates memories that will last a lifetime. "There are lots of times that we are in practice and

someone does something completely unexpected, and we just laugh" Goracke recalls. "This year it was Serenity Caves. We changed her character and she nailed the slurring of the words! It was hilarious!" Caves had a lot of character changes in this play, but this character clearly has

stuck with Goracke. In the story, the students reenacted "The Wizard of Oz" with a modernized twist. Named "The Wizard of the Mall," the story followed

the basic plot of "The Wizard of Oz," but it was set in a mall, making the story interesting. "There were a lot of ironic similarities between 'The Wizard of the Mall' and 'The Wizard of Oz,'" said Brittany Godtel. "For example, instead of a tornado, Dorothy runs into a revolving door."

A good play and good actors does not mean that the One Acts group

have not faced troubles. The fact that Sandy Creek is a smaller school does not help. The students have to be shared by all the sponsors.

"I only get my One Act kids twice a week for 45 minutes," recounts Goracke. Most of their practices end up being at the Clay Center Middle School gym, but that gym is often used for other things. This makes it challenging to make set pieces that are not too big and transportable. It is a challenge to make set pieces that are appealing to judges but are also manageable, considering the lack of practice location.

One Acts does one play each school year, and auditions are open to anyone. If you have wanted to do One Acts in the past, you should consider doing it next season. One Acts is a good way to get involved with a group activity. It form bonds and memories that will last a lifetime. The times that these students have shared will influence them forever.

# Breaking The Buzzer Ceiling

By Faith Mueller

Now that the young women's quiz bowl has concluded, senior Maggie Rieckman has had time to reflect on the season.

"This year was a good year for young women's quiz bowl," said Rieckman. "Our team got pretty far in the competition, and I'm really proud of us."

Darrell Pernicek, the quiz bowl sponsor, is also very proud of his teams. "I was proud of both teams that competed," he said. "It is hard to compete and it is hard to maintain your focus for that long of a period. Additionally there was some adversity, weird stuff happens. Our team handled it very well. I am proud of them for this and for who they are.

There was one round that they were one question away from the championship, but ended up in the running for third and fourth place."

Pernicek said that the goal was for every teammate to answer a question. "We achieved that goal," he said. "I am very proud." Young women's quiz bowl is very important for a school. "I like young women's quiz bowl

better than other quiz bowls," said Rieckman. "I feel that guys sometimes feel like they are superior to women. I feel more confident

in women's quiz bowl because I'm not worried about being judged for being wrong. I buzz in more in women's quiz bowl." There is less hesitation for the

young women because they will go forth with answers that they are less sure about, according to Rieckman.

Leading the way for the women's quiz bowl team was senior captain Charlotte Okraska.

"As the captain you don't really do anything except challenge," said Okraska. "There was one point where the other team challenged

us, but at the time, it was very confusing. They weren't following the rules, and it was addressed incorrectly. I didn't really know what to do. This may or may not have changed the outcome of the game, because it was really close."

There are five very smart senior girls on this team: Charlotte Okraska, Maggie Rieckman, Allison Story, Genesis Ramirez, and Barbora Janakova. These girls have been together for a long time and they understand the way each other think.

"Because we know each other so well it makes it easier to work together," said Rieckman. "Each of us

has our own specialty. If we know that a question is probably within someone else's range, we will hold back for them."

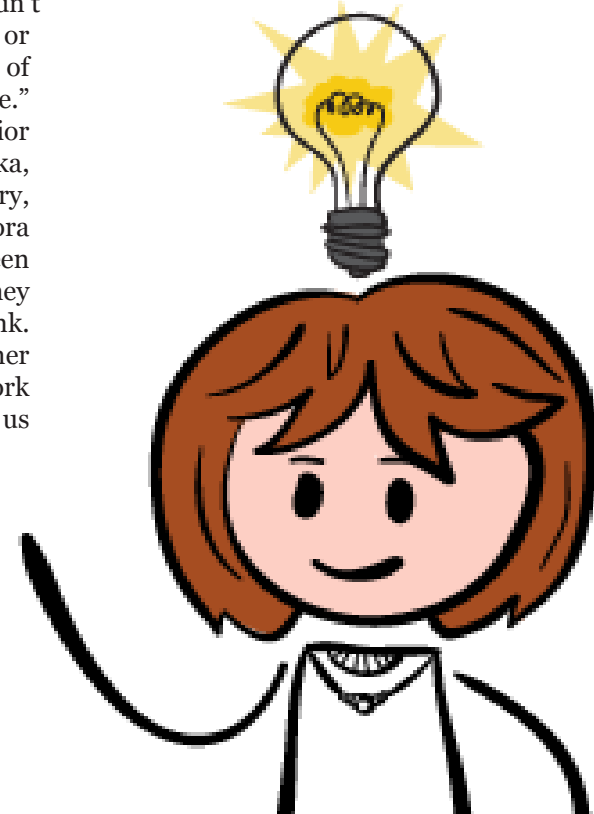
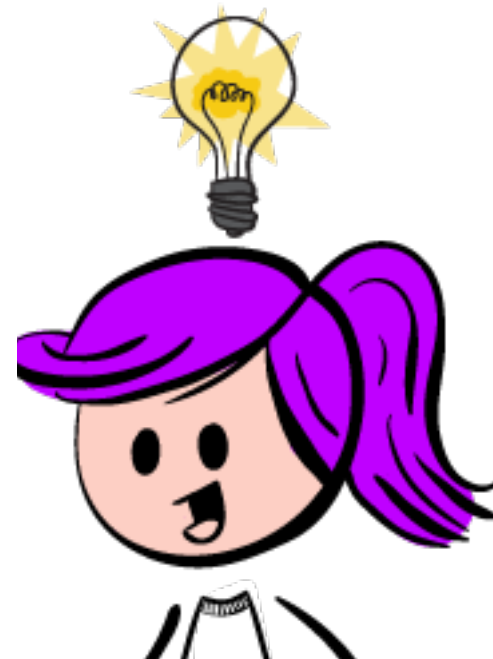
What are these specialties? If the question is just some sort of random genre, most of the girls consider themselves in the know. If the topic is literature there is a good chance Rieckman

and Okraska know the answer. Rieckman also is well read in her history. Story, being a lover of theater, is given first chances at all the theater and poetry questions. Ramirez is well versed in her Geography and all things healthcare. Janakova is well aware of and keeps up with foreign affairs.

Even though young women's quiz bowl has finished, other quiz bowls have just begun. Sandy Creek has a good reputation when it comes to quiz bowl, with four conference wins behind them. With Pernicek as their sponsor, the group is looking forward to their season.

**"Each of us has our own specialty."**

**"Young women's quiz bowl is very important for a school."**





# Hey Stranger: Stranger Things 2 Review

By Maggie Rieckman and Maci Maldonado

An unnatural phenomenon has swept over the nation since the summer of 2016. It's a strange thing. It's "Stranger Things." "Stranger things" is a Netflix original show that has had a strong following since the release of the first, eight-episode season on July 15, 2016. The first season captivated the Netflix audience with its beautiful mixture of science fiction, mystery, and romance. Set in Hawkins, Indiana, 1983, the first season is about young a boy who vanishes into thin air. Friends, family, and local police soon discover that his disappearance is no usual kidnapping. They become entangled in a top-secret mystery involving government experiments, a different dimension, a monster, and a peculiar little girl.

The second season of "Stranger Things," or "Stranger Things 2," continues the story with the same characters one year later. Everything should be back to normal, right? Wrong. Things are more screwed up than ever, and in some people's opinions, the product is even better than the first season. However, others feel that "Stranger Things 2" falls short. My journalism colleague Maci Maldonado and I have differing opinions about the direction that season two has taken. We have discussed anything and everything "Stranger Things 2." Warning: spoilers ahead.

MR: Hey stranger, in my opinion, "Stranger Things 2" was better than "Stranger Things." Not that the first season sucked, I loved them both.

MM: I disagree. Season one was better than season two. I don't like how the characters are developing; they were better in the first season. There were also a lot of changes I didn't like within the plot. It was a lot darker, and "Stranger Things 2" was just not as interesting as season one in my eyes.

MR: Well, I disagree with that. From the first season to the second, the plot thickened. Also, new characters were added, the current characters evolved, and I think the show had more comedy. I really enjoyed these changes. A transformation I liked in particular was that of the character of Dustin. He's my favorite character mostly because of his role in season 2. He proves to be most humorous of the friends, and I'm a sucker for comedy.

MM: Yes, I do agree with you on that. He's one of my favorite characters too because he brings light to the darkened plot of season two.

MR: He does. I loved how he raised a demodog (Dart) on accident just because he wanted something cool to show off. A scene I loved was when he stole books from the library to learn more about Dart because the librarian wouldn't let him check out more. Another one my favorite parts of the season with him was in the last episode where Dart remembered Dustin and let him and his friends pass through the tunnel because he gave him a "3 Musketeers" bar. I love nougat too! Also, I adore his awesome relationship with his mom (except for when he led her on a wild goose chase to find her cat,

which was killed by Dart).

MM: In the first season, Dustin had a more supportive role, but in season two, he really became his own character. Also, among all of the new character pairings, Dustin and Steve form a brotherly relationship. I think that it was good to see a new side of Steve as he became more supportive. It was also a nice change to see Dustin adopt some of Steve's confidence, especially with his persistence to ask a girl to dance at the Snow Ball.

MR: I also really liked the Steve and Dustin pairing just because they were in such similar situations with being rejected and kind of lonely. They really helped each other out with both being edged out of love triangles.

MM: That's true. They were both sad and needed someone to talk to. The only good thing that came from Dart eating the cat, was Dustin seeking help from Steve, the beginning of their friendship.

MR: A character pairing that I really didn't like was Hopper and Eleven. They both have explosive personalities with awful tempers, and their confrontations were like battles. It was really stressful watching them communicate.

MM: Ya, it seemed like Hopper was using Eleven to fill the void of his late daughter.

MR: I got that vibe too. I don't think that relationship was beneficial for either of them, especially because Eleven is a moody teenager with special powers who is just trying lead a sort of regular life, and Hopper restricted her from that.

MM: I agree because Eleven doesn't have a functioning parent, and Hopper isn't a good role model. He's teaching her that it's okay to lie and hide things from people.

MR: I think that Hopper's dominance made it very hard for Eleven to figure out her life. She still managed to grow and undergo huge changes in the second season though, the biggest being having a new name (Jane) and having hair.

MM: I don't think she'll keep her new name though. At least I hope not. Eleven is a unique name that suits her.

MR: It is perfect for her; Jane is a good middle name. I don't think Mike would like the name change either. Speaking of Mike, he and the rest of the "party" grew up a lot from the first to the second season. Mike, Dustin, Lucas, Will, and Eleven have all matured appearance-wise and relationship-wise with romance playing a bigger part in their lives.

MM: It's super cute that the boys are starting to notice girls. In the first season, girls were gross, now they're cooler than "Dungeons and Dragons." Mike was the only boy from the group who hopped on the love train in season one. Something that really grinded my gears though was Mike's attitude in "Stranger Things 2." While all of the other characters were livening up, Mike was a mopey rain cloud. Another transformation I didn't like was Steve's. He lost his backbone and became the mom of the group.

MR: You see, I loved that. He became a leader, and not of a group of bullies. Nobody likes season one Steve, but everybody loves season two Steve (except for Nancy).

MM: I don't love season two Steve. Someone that everybody hates though is Billy, a new character. He kind of replaced the middle school bullies from season one.

MR: Oh god, Billy.

MM: He is seriously a psycho. I felt really bad for Steve when Billy was beating him up. Another memorable Billy scene was when he and Mike's mom had that super awkward encounter.

MR: That was so awful that it was great. You could cut the sexual tension with a knife, and it was hilarious. I honestly liked seeing him be anything else but a jerk. Aside from Billy, I thought the other new characters (Bob, Max, and Murray) were really great. I especially loved Murray, a new conspiracy theorist guy in Hawkins. He's super crazy-so crazy that he's kind of a genius. Also, the scenes he has with Nancy and Jonathan are so funny. I loved it when he psychoanalyzed them and dropped a hilarious sexual innuendo.

MM: I was dying laughing. However, I think the show would have been fine without him; he was too wacky. Also, I liked Max, especially when she overcomes her fear of Billy and threatens him. But it seemed like they were trying to replace Eleven as the girl in the group with her. It was kind of unnecessary. Ugh, I also didn't like that Max ended up with Lucas other than with Dustin. I would have liked those two together because it would have been so cute. On the other hand, I really enjoyed the new character Bob's presence on the show. He was so sweet and really good for Joyce.

MR: Yes, Bob was awesome, and he added a lot to the story. Poor Bob. The worst part in the entire season was his death scene, but he shouldn't have stopped running. Doofus. In Chapter 8: The Mind Flayer, Bob is ruthlessly torn apart by demodogs, and it's almost unbearable to watch. It was a huge loss because I grew attached to Bob due to the the goofy and kind role that he brought to the show. He also solved important clues and riddles that ultimately helped the main characters save Hawkins.

MM: That's true. I wish they would have kept him alive. I would have liked to see a love triangle between Hopper, Joyce, and Bob with Bob winning. The nice guy needs to win for once instead of being mauled to death by alien dogs. One good thing that came out of his death was a drive for everyone to avenge his him. They didn't want Bob to die in vain, and I think that significantly helped in defeating the new monster.

MR: That love triangle would have been interesting to see. I would have liked to see Bob stay alive, mostly to be with Joyce. It's awfully sad because Joyce was happy due to Bob helping her recover from the events of the first season

and cope with the events of the second. For example, he was there for her and her entire family while a giant new monster possessing her son. He could have run away once he found out about it, but he stayed.

MM: I loved that Bob got a hero's death though. He died doing something super brave to save people he loved. Not everyone would risk being killed by a pack of demodogs. The freaky thing is, the real monster controls them.

MR: It's terrifying. The villain used to just be a predatory monster: the demogorgan. Now, there is a smarter, bigger, and more vengeful monster that controls the rest of the "upside-down" creatures like a queen bee does.

MM: Absolutely terrifying. It was an interesting twist to end up having the mind-flayer and an interesting way to change Will's character too. But I feel bad for the poor kid; he has been through so much.

MR: Yes, poor Will. He had to be exorcised for goodness sakes. Aside from that part and Bob's death, my least favorite part in the season was in Chapter 7: The Lost Sister. It wasn't badly directed or anything, but I hated the fact that Eleven turned over to the bad side for a little bit under the influence of a group of criminals, including her long lost sister, Kali (or Eight).

MM: I didn't that either because it just wasn't Eleven. I don't want to see her go extremely dark. It was funny when she said her outfit was "bitchin," but I didn't like that style for Eleven.

MR: I agree 100%. Now, let's switch gears and talk about the happy moments of "Stranger Things 2." My favorite scene is in Chapter 8: Mind Flayer (ironically the episode with my least favorite scene is too). It is in the last four minutes when Eleven makes her grand entrance after being secluded for almost a year from the group. Everytime I watch it, I cry because of the way Mike and Eleven look at each other. It's beautifully heartbreaking.

MM: That honestly might be my favorite part too. Mike and Eleven are people's favorite pairing, and it was the most anticipated scene of the entire season. It was everything people wanted and more than they thought they needed. Also, when Eleven finished Mike's sentence about how many days he called her; it was the sweetest thing ever.

MR: I loved that too. Those two are the spirit of the show. A close second for my favorite part in the season is at the end of the last episode: Chapter 9: The Gate. Eleven has another stunning entrance (all prettied up) to the Snow Ball, the dance that Mike promised to take her too in the first season (swoon). The romance between those two is so pure and sweet; I live for it.

MM: I really like that part too. In the first season, Mike called her pretty, but at that moment, he called her beautiful. I loved how their separation didn't weaken the relationship; it strengthened it.

MR: That's a really good point. That part that we both love didn't last long though. Following

the Snowball was the end of the episode and season. It showed the Mind Flayer in the other dimension, clearly super pissed. I didn't mind the ending because nothing could ruin that Snow Ball dance scene, not even a creepy shadow monster ominously hovering over the middle school in the upside-down. I understand that they had to have a cliff-hanger, and this one was alright. I'm just glad that there's going to be another season.

MM: I liked the fact that while the kids were happy at the Snow Ball, the mind flayer was there in the other dimension, watching. It was very eerie. I think that introducing the mind flayer at the end of the season built a lot of hype. It really makes me excited for the third season.

MR: Me too! Because of that last scene, I predict that Hawkin's troubles with the upside down are not over. Eleven was able to close the portal, but there were 10 other child lab rats maybe similar to her. They all have different powers, as we learned with meeting her lost sister, Kali. I could see the show making one of those kids have similar powers and come to Hawkins to open the portal back up. Why? I have no idea.

MM: That would be interesting. I think that season three will definitely get darker, and they'll introduce new characters, maybe some of them being those other kids from Hawkins Lab like you said. I also think they will over more of Eleven's backstory from Hawkins Lab. In addition, I could see them showing more aspects of the upside-down, unraveling the mystery of it.

MR: Yeah, that would be fascinating. Like I said before, there were 10 people before Eleven at Hawkins Lab. I would like to learn about all of their backstories and where they are now, even if they are dead. Of course, I want to see a lot more of Mike and Eleven together. I'd also love more of Nancy's badass side. I really enjoy watching her kick butt. Lastly, I really wish for Will to have a little peace. That poor kid needs a break.

MM: He does. Personally, I really want Dustin to get a girlfriend. I also want to see the progression of Mike and Eleven's relationship with her changing. In addition, part of me wants the Hopper/Elven duo to continue and grow stronger, and part of me wants it to be over.

MR: Cool. Next, let's talk about the technical details of the show. One of the best things about "Stranger Things" is the time period that it is set in: the 80's. Of course, I didn't exist back then, but I wish that wasn't true. The movies, music, and style was superior, in my opinion, than that of today. Anyways, the show is full of pop culture references from that decade. My favorite is in the scene with Steve and Dustin chatting while walking on the railroad. It's an obvious nod to the movie "Stand By Me" (my favorite 80's flick by far). I also appreciated that the guy who plays Bob, Sean Astin, was Mikey in the Goonies, another classic. Bob had a line about buried treasure when he was figuring out

a riddle concerning the upside-down, and it was everything.

MM: I haven't watched a lot of 80's movies, but I did notice some cultural references as well. I thought it was really cute how the group dressed up like the "Ghostbusters" characters. It really suited them. Dustin keeping Dart also reminded me of Elliot keeping E.T. I also got an "E.T." feeling in season one with Mike keeping Eleven. I know she's not an alien, but the way he hid her was similar to the movie "E.T." Lastly, the introduction of the arcade in "Stranger Things 2" was super fun. It gave the kids a cool place to hang out that was relevant to the time.

MR: Not to mention, the soundtrack of the show features multitudes of nostalgic hits. With tunes like "Should I Stay or Should I Go" by the Clash and "Time After Time" by Cyndi Lauper, the musical moments in season two will keep you jamming.

MM: I agree, it was edited well. A lot of other aspects of the show were well-edited such as the camera work and special effects. Seriously, those demodogs looked real. I was worried for the actors.

MR: That was amazing. Like you said, the camera work was extraordinary. I found myself saying several times out loud while watching: "that's a gorgeous shot."

MM: Same.... and I think that marks the end of our "little" talk.

MR: Okay, it's been a pleasure talking with you Maci, let's wrap this up.

MM: Thanks, this was a very entertaining conversation. I can't wait until the next season comes out. Maybe we can spit out another ten pages.

After we discussed "Stranger Things," Maci and I also decided to take "Buzzfeed" quizzes online to find out which "Stranger Things" characters we are. After completing the survey, I found out that I am Will. Apparently, "I am sweet, honest, and fun-loving, just like Will" (Buzzfeed Community). Maci found out after taking the quiz that she is Nancy with being "studious and curious with the tiniest dash of rebellion" (Buzzfeed Community).

Sadly, Maci and I can't transport to Hawkins and take our rightful roles as Nancy and Will. However, we can continue watching and loving the Netflix original series. Even if skeptics of "Stranger Things 2" like Maci feel that it was not up to par compared to season one, it's impossible to not enjoy at least one aspect of the newly dropped nine episodes. Whether it's the plot, new characters, old characters, cultural references, or a certain scene, there is something for everyone in the new season. And for those of you who refuse to break down and watch "Stranger Things," you guys are lame. Be inspired by this quote from Kali, Eleven's "sister." This is how you will feel after you finally watch the show: "I just feel whole, like a piece of me was missing and now it's not." Please, join the strange side. We have pudding and nougat.



# Ask Sam

By Sam Galaway

Straight from SC Journalism comes a new type of advice column: Ask Sam. Ask me about anything, ask me about your problems, or even ask me about my problems, I don't care. I'll try and answer your questions with honesty and integrity. So to kick off this new era, here are a few questions from your peers:

*Dear Sam,*

*I have come to find out that I have a problem with standing up to people. How do I confront them?*

Confrontation is a reasonable thing to be fearful of. I feel like a key to confronting people is to pretend as though whatever you're going to say doesn't have consequences. This is probably not the best way of approaching things, but it works. If you just believe that what you are going to say doesn't have any blowback whatsoever, then you can live your life carefree without hate. You may be destroying other people's lives, but you are a happier person. That's what's important, right?

Dear Sam,

*I have classes with a person who I can't stand. Is there a way to tolerate them?*

You don't want to forever hate them, but you should bottle up your feelings and rant to your mom, or whomever you rant to. Don't talk to them unless **ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY!** If you do, it will remind you how much you hate them and just ruin your day.

*Dear Sam,*

*I am on the fence about breaking up with my significant other. It's just not the same. What should I do?*

I think that being on the fence isn't a good thing in a relationship. Yeah, you have times where you will argue. However, if that's all you do and you are seriously considering not being together anymore, break up with him/her. If you just don't want to be in a relationship, break up with him/her. You have the rest of your life to date. It's high school. It's okay.

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