



(Photo: Conni Dykes)



THE MAGRUDER MESSENGER

May 16, 2014

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SAT changes

BY EMILY GOO

What's with the change in SATs? Recently, College Board has announced that they are changing the formatting of the SATs, and parents and students are wondering what that may mean for their children and themselves. Will it be more difficult? Will it be easier? Who is affected by the test changes?

The College Board has mentioned that the test changes will not affect current seniors and juniors. It has been announced that the test change will take place in spring of 2016. That means that students who decide to take the SATs

in spring of 2016 will see a newly formatted test. However, before that, all SAT tests will still maintain its regular formatting and penalty rules.

The goal of changing the SATs is to encourage more students to take the SATs by incorporating what students have learned in the classroom on the test. Many of the skills that students acquire in school will be applicable on the new test. For example, there will be questions where students will be asked to apply their reading, writing, and math skills to answer questions in science, history, and social studies context. So, no, having to

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With love, to Mrs. Schaefer



This issue is dedicated to Mrs. Denise Schaefer, a caring counselor and beloved colleague. (Photo: Jostens)

If you would like to help support the Schaefer family, please contact Mr. Rossini: Timothy_J_Rossini@mcpsmd.org



(Photo used with permission)

Boys' volleyball

BY COLLIN RIVIELLO

Magruder's 2014 Boys' Volleyball team is driving a 10-2 season record and is not slowing down. Magruder's Volleyball program has been a dominant force for several years in recent history. The Boys' Volleyball Coach, Jackie Krampf, has been in charge of the team's winning 2013 record of 8-5 and their most recent 2014 record of 10-2 (as of May 1).

With losses to 10-0 Clarksburg HS & 8-3 Sherwood HS; during the regular season, the teams' "Dedication and hardworking [effort] is showed by their willingness at practice." Coach Jackie said. Both she and her assistant, Coach Fill-

more likes to work with the boys on various drills, like to focus on specific exercises which train a specific skill. Likewise 6v6 mini games, serving and receiving balls all help to train a player's skills generally.

Senior, Outside Hitter Garret Wong has made a major impact on the team, with a school record of 20 kills in a single 3-set match. In addition, senior Setter Azevedo Evantanto handed out a season high of 34 assists in the win against James Hubert Blake HS. Both boys managed to "find the cord" (Serve low and make it over), a phrase the coach uses in practice to motivate the

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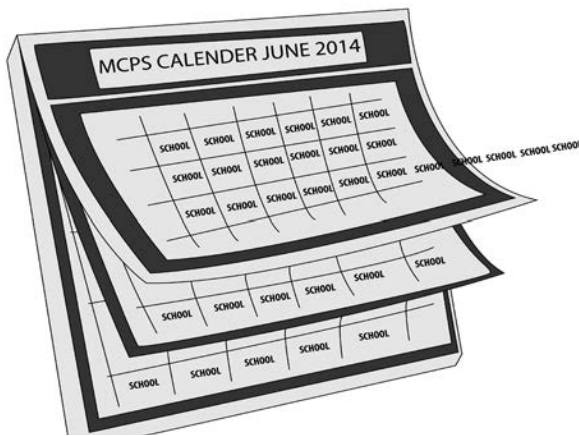


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Arts



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A visual representation of what you can expect in the days to come. (Art: John Paul Arango)

Snow Days

BY HANNAH REED

Montgomery county public school system will only have to hold two makeup snow days, under a plan approved by the Maryland State Department of Education. School was held on Monday April 21, 2014, known as Easter Monday, and will be held on Friday June 13, 2014, now the last day of school for students.

180 days of school instruction is required by state law, and MCPS has had 10 snow days this year alone, so six days needed to be made up. The MD board of Education would only approve the MCPS request to

waive four snow days if school was held on these two days. As a precaution there are four snow days built into every school year.

Announcing the makeup snow days, MCPS superintendent Dr. Joshua Star said, "We appreciate Dr. Lowery's recognition that this has been a very unusual winter and her willingness to grant us some flexibility in our calendar... By holding classes on April 21 and June 13, we can make up two valuable days of instruction without significantly disrupting our community's summer schedules."

Magruder over the years

Staff and building, 1970-2014

BY MARIA AMARO

Magruder High School opened its doors in 1970. Since then, it has gone through many changes: from school size to students to classes. Some teachers have been with Magruder from the very beginning.

Throughout the week, a series of teachers talked about their time at Magruder and the memories they have made while working here.

Mrs. Ridgway

Mrs. Ridgway has been working at Magruder in the guidance department for 38 years. All of her 3 kids attended Magruder and she remembers the fond memories of being a Magruder parent.

Throughout her time working here, Mrs. Ridgway has seen teachers come and go, but says she always cherishes the friendliness of the staff. "They have always been a

special staff," she says of the past and current staff members. They've always been helpful and friendly to her even when her kids attended Magruder. Besides watching the building grow, she has also witnessed a technological revolution. "We [counselors] had to hand write transcripts, which was very tedious," she recalls.

As a counselor she has also seen classes change from general classes such as biology to more specific classes such as Molecular Biology and Forensics. "There's also been an increase in the variety of AP classes offered," she says. Working here for so long, Mrs. Ridgway has countless happy memories of Magruder that she will miss when she retires.

Mrs. Boyle

Mrs. Boyle has

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"Dodge, dip, dive, duck, dodgeball"

BY HANNAH REED



The 'dirtbags' compete in the final take all winners game. (Photo: Jennifer Esperanza)

After almost being cancelled for lack of participation, this year's dodge ball tournament kicked off with a whopping 24 teams. Numerous teams consisted of some of the clubs and sports teams here at Magruder, like drama, lacrosse, baseball (cleverly named the 'Dirt Bags'), and wrestling, or were made up of groups of friends.

Even some teachers got in on the fun and played on a team, such

as Mr. Tao, the wrestling coach, playing with the wrestling team.

The fourth consecutive tournament gathered a huge crowd of students, parents, and teachers alike. Round-robin games were intense and not even the fans in the crowd were safe with balls flying in every direction.

The final take-all winners game was between the aggressive baseball team, the 'Dirt

Bags', and the intense senior team dubbed 'Blitzkreig'. After an intense four minutes, the Dirt Bags caught their last opponent's ball and were crowned champion. Peter Loebach, a member of the Dirtbags, excitedly said "Tonight's win was a great team effort. This tournament is so much fun to play in, I highly recommend it."

Make sure you don't miss out on this fun filled event next year!

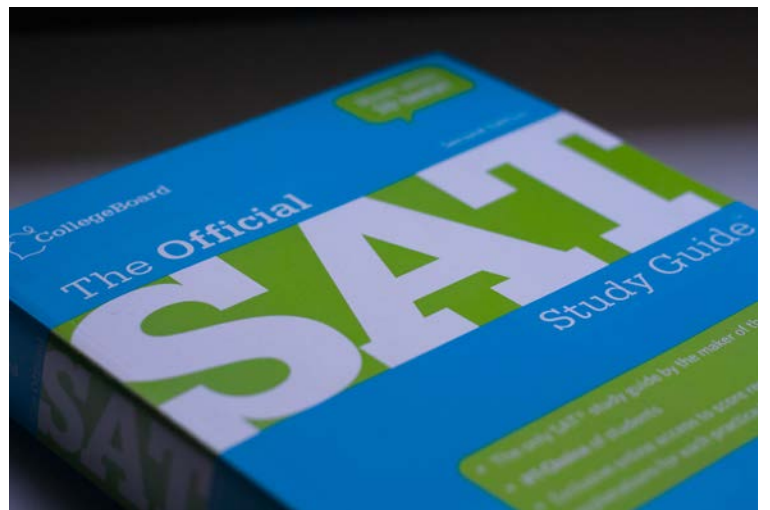
SAT

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take US history is not a waste of time because you may just have to answer questions on the Declaration of Independence. This test is designed to challenge students, like the previous SAT, but challenge them with what they know.

Also, students will be able to have access to free online tutoring and resources on the SATs. College Board is partnering up with Khan Academy, a non-profit organization that provides free online resources for students on about any

subject, in order to provide free tutoring and online practice testing on the SATs. Currently, there are not official review guides for the redesigned SATs, but they will be coming soon. For high school freshmen, who may be taking the new form of the SAT and want to prepare for it, there are example questions which are formatted in the same way it will be on the new SATs. College Board says that the best way to prepare for the redesigned test, is to stay focus in class because the test is based on the knowledge you acquire in school.



The official review guide many students use to prepare for the SAT. (Photo: Eric Helgesen)

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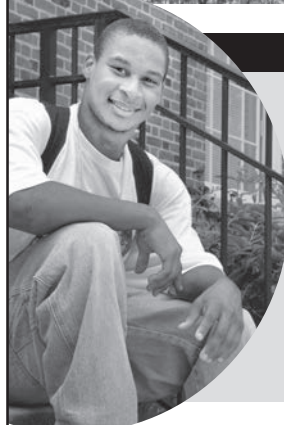
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PROFILE: ANTOINE

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I picked SU because it's a great value. When I first visited SU I noticed the smiles on everybody's faces. Seeing those smiles made me think what a wonderful place to go. Even beyond my Sea Gull football family, making friends was not a problem at SU. Everybody wants to get to know each other. Coming to Salisbury University was a great next step.

Girls' lax leaves it all on the field

BY COLLIN RIVIELLO

Magruder's Lady Colonels Varsity Lacrosse has always fought until the end, even with all odds against them. Standing at a final 2-9 record, with wins earned from Wheaton and John F. Kennedy HS, Magruder's players enjoy the time spent together, regardless of any outcome. Headed by Coach Martin and with the leadership of senior co-captains, Juliana Perl, Bri Albert, and Christina Martin, the girl's make some of the most crucial decisions for the team.

Resulting from numerous school day cancellations, consistent bone-chilling temperatures, and a constant loss of practice time, the Girl's still find a way to make the season more enjoyable together. Coach Martin has made "key adjustments" to the varsity program and feels, "Juliana, Bri, and Christina [each] demonstrated and

led by example of leadership, attitude, and work ethic."

Low Defender Becca Sonnenburg ('16), said, "[I] really enjoyed being on a team where everyone goofs off and gets along so well."

Her sister, Rachel Sonnenburg ('14) is the goal keeper for the varsity lacrosse team, and is attributed for her part in the team effort of defeating both Wheaton HS [13-7] and John F. Kennedy HS [14-7], an accomplishment which has eluded the Varsity Lacrosse Team for three years.

Coach Martin, notes that the "turnout this year was fantastic and the ladies have made improvements with every contest-that is success". "Furthermore, they demonstrate amazing positive attitude and sportsmanship at each contest".

Softball team shines

BY YZELLA VIDAURRE



Clara Lowe ('15) dashes across the field. (Photo: Lifetouch)

The Colonels Softball Varsity Team that was once a county power has now returned to their former glory. They have surpassed many obstacles to get them where they are now. Their final record is 11-1, which verifies that their hard work has paid off and their dedication is unwavering from their ultimate goal to return to State. The captains are confident that the team they have trained with are ready, willing, and able to take them to States.

In early April, Fiona Johnson topped the Washington Post's allmetsport leader board for the most home runs in the region. Fiona stated, "It is an incredible honor to be on the top of the list. It shows off how much we work during the winter. I congratulate everyone for the work

they put in also." At the beginning of May there were three varsity softball girls in Washington post's allmetsport leader board. The Team displayed extreme dedication to prove to the fans and even to the other teams that they can exceed all expectations.

From 2009-11 the girls won only five total games, yet since then have been improving exponentially from 2013-14. These girls are doing tremendously well due to their improved communication and teamwork. They have come a long way from the bottom and they show no indication of going back. At the end of May the girls lost only one game to Sherwood, but so far have won the rest of the games. Many are surprised to see Magruder rise up as a power house instead of a

slumping team.

Other than the two team captains, most of the girls came from JV last year. Fiona Johnson and her co-captain Junior catcher Clara Lowe were integral in the team's success. Clara says, "If one team member gets down, it tends to bring the whole team down because we feed off of each other's plays and how they are feeling. We try to keep the team uplifted."

The girls are a close-knit team that works efficiently off each other and plays to each member's strengths. They have single-minded determination and dedication that propels them to work hard and accomplish their goals to strive to become a better team with each game.

Fiona states, "We make certain things fun and me make it clear what the important things are that we need to get done. And once we have accomplished those goals, then we reward ourselves with fun. It is an equal balance of importance and humor that unites the team, which is clearly working." In 2013, girls from JV entered into the varsity team with practice with their team captains. The varsity girls take the games seriously and they strive for perfection.

Baseball season recap

BY TYLER KOSSIN



A baseball player is winding up to bat. (Photo: Jostens)

After a slow start, the Varsity Baseball team seems to be back on track. However, expectations for the team are very high as the team won its first playoff game last year in over a decade. The team lost its first two games, but then rebounded to win three of their next five games. After a tough loss to Paint Branch, the team had the entire spring break to prepare for the second half of the season.

After the first eight games, senior catcher Kyle Heskett has certainly found his swing right off the start as he's holding a batting average of over .500 and an on base percentage of just under .700. Along with Heskett, Freshman Gerald Buchanan has followed in his footsteps with a .391 batting average and an on base percentage over .500.

Magruder's pitching staff hasn't been the best, but the two senior

pitchers have been performing well throughout beginning of the season. Seniors Nick Daskalakis and Hank Bunting have both started off the season strong. Daskalakis leads the team with an earned run average of 1.91 while Bunting isn't far behind with a 2.10. The two pitchers have also combined to throw 22 strikeouts over 32 innings pitched. Bunting has 6 of those strikeouts in 10 innings pitched and Daskalakis leads with 16 over 22 innings thrown.

Coming off of a 7-9 record last season with a playoff win, the team is now sitting at 4-9 (as of 4/28) and have three regular season games left to try and build up momentum for the playoffs. Although the team has faced a few tough opponents in the past few weeks, players like Junior Peter Loebach as well as Sophomore Rafael Reyes continue to perform at the

plate and are trying to build some momentum for post season action.

Coming off of a two game winning streak, it appears that the team may have found some sense of comfort heading into the postseason. Their record now stands at 6-9 (as of 5-9-14) as they head into today's playoff game against Clarksburg. Sophomore Sam Crickey admitted that "Our hitting isn't where it should be at this point and it definitely needs to improve. As far as our pitching and fielding, it is a little inconsistent but when our pitchers are performing and the fielders have their backs, we have a shot at beating anybody."

After traveling to Clarksburg for their first playoff game, the Colonels unfortunately went home empty handed while getting beat 6-0. The team just couldn't catch a break as some balls were hit hard but somehow right

at Clarksburg's fielders.

After finishing with a 6-10 regular season record, the team did have higher expectations. However, this is still a very young team with only four seniors who are leaving. Given that the majority of the team will remain the same and that they can only get better as they get older, next season could potentially be a breakout season for this young team.



Magruder players Wei-lee Wu (above) and Garret Wong (left) prepare to spike.

Volleyball

continued from P1

The Boy's entered the 2014 Montgomery County Boys' Volleyball Tournament in the 5th seed, with a first round pairing with 12th seeded Northwest HS (5-5). After defeating Northwest three sets to none, the Colonels advance to the Quarter Finals with a match against 10-2 Richard Montgomery HS on May 6.

Magruder

continued from P1

years and plans to retire after this year.

“I always tell myself that this will be my last year, but I always ending doing one more,” she says with a smile.

She has enjoyed her time at Magruder as well, working with students and watching her own kids graduate from Magruder.

“Handing my own kids their diploma at graduation was truly a magical feeling,” she said.

Throughout her time at Magruder, she was a part of many clubs and programs, like Graduation Coordinator and National Honors Society sponsor. She’s proud to say that she started the Yellow Rose Ceremony which is a special event where National Honors Society members select a teacher that impacted their life the most and give them a yellow rose.

As for memories of colleagues, she talks about the lunch bunch group that meets every Friday for lunch in her room.

The biggest change she’s experienced is the rapid change of technology, bringing along a wave of advantages and disadvantages. It’s easier now for here to input grades

and calculate grade averages. Also the Promethean board allows her to display a wide range of information quicker to her students.

One disadvantage she says is the advancement of cell phones. She finds them annoying, especially when she catches students using their phones in class.

“They’re such a hassle” she says, after admitting to not having an iPhone until recently.

“I love what I do,” she says, getting up to point at a “No Phones Allowed” sign to students coming in for lunch help.

Mr. Hanratty

Mr. Hanratty has been a teacher at Magruder for 24 years and has retired but still substitutes. During that time he has taught Latin, English, and math. He has also coached track and sponsored the Latin Club.

He describes that the school was small when he came here but over time it has gotten bigger. With the school size expanding, his Latin club also grew. He liked teaching Latin because “I only had to deal with myself as the only Latin teacher.”

Being the only Latin teacher meant that he could see the same kids year after year. He taught them while developing

friendships with them as well.

“I’d teach the same kids year after year, and then I’d teach their siblings who came after. It was like generation after generation, and I got to know their families as well,” he says.

Such close friendships with students also meant it was difficult when he lost students.

He has known so many people who have passed away from Magruder, including some of his own students. He is very against drinking and driving, against drinking in general. He holds a special place in his heart for his students that have passed away.

In front of Magruder there is a garden of names of students that have passed away while attending Magruder. “I have difficulty walking past the garden of names,” he says. He stops by there every day to say a prayer for all of them.

He truly loves knowledge saying, “I try to learn at least one new thing every day.” Instead of retirement he became a sub because he loves what to he does.

“After 44 years of teaching, I still wake up at 6 am.”

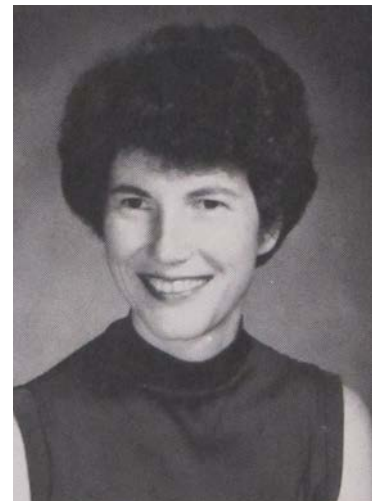
1970



Top: Magruder High School building (1971 Magruder Liberator)

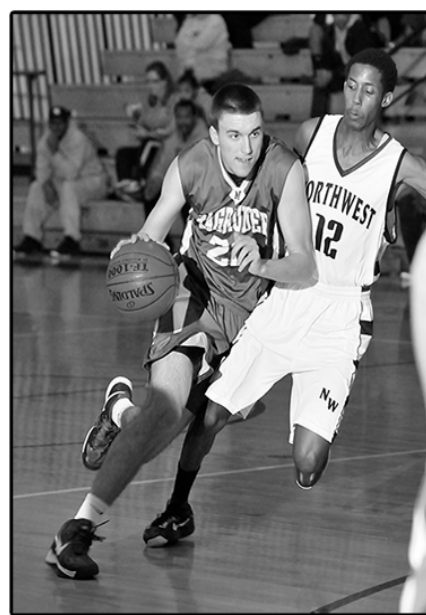
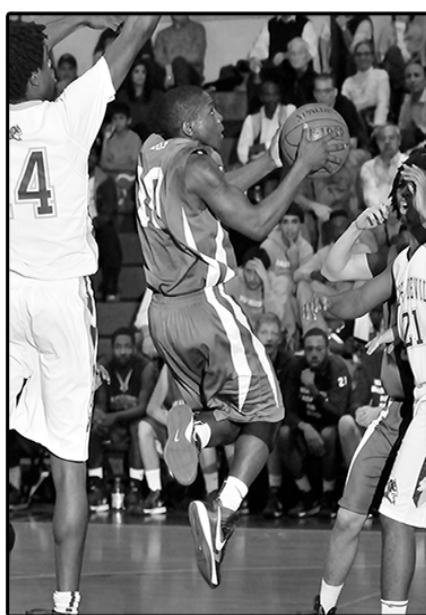
Above: 2014 MHS (Photo: Emily Goo)

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Mrs. Pat Ridgway

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2013

1994

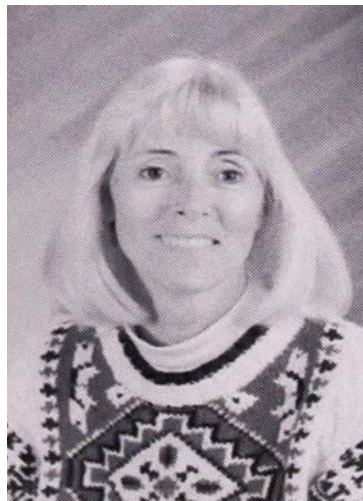
2014

1990

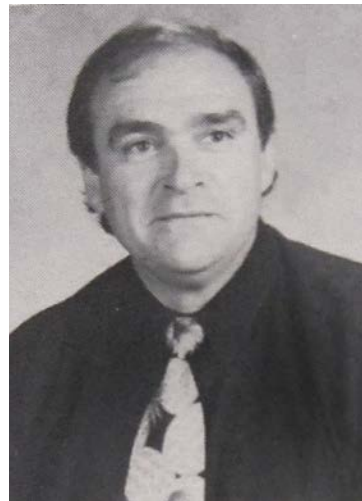
2013



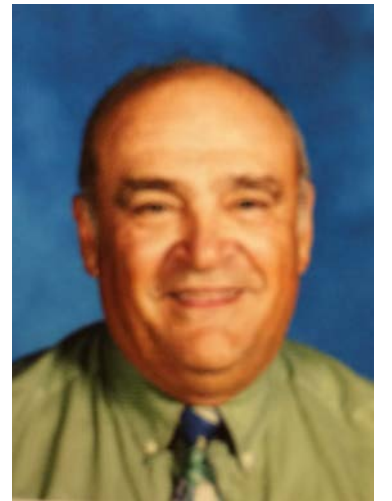
1977 Liberator



Mrs. Susan Boyle-1994 Liberator



Mr. Doug Hanratty- 1990 Liberator



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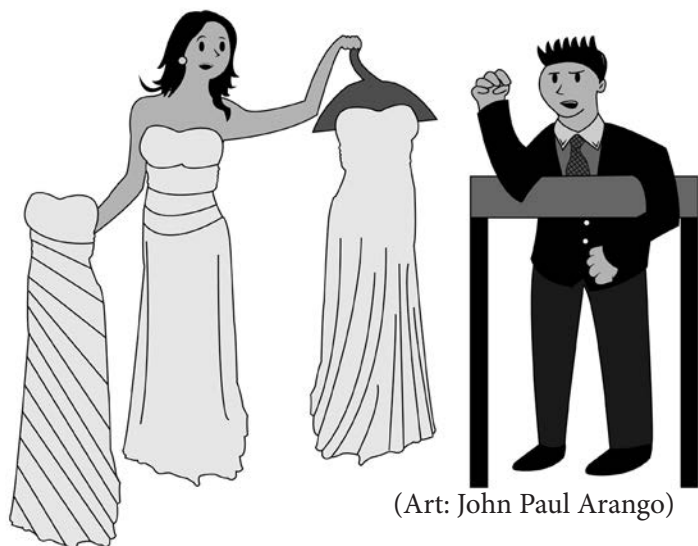
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Prom perspective

BY COLLIN RIVIELLO



(Art: John Paul Arango)

Prom is supposed to be the big moment of every teenage girls' high school social life. Four years of studious work, late nights picking out outfits, and infinite calls and texts get piled into one evening. Prom is the event where some of the 708 days of fretting on what-to-wear and what-color-of-eye shadow-to-use pays off, and all the effort gets judged in five hours! This evening still has the chance of ending in tears if the bachelorette's date dumps her the night before the magic happens.

My perspective as a male, who ideally on prom night only wants to make the date feel special and truly happy, is that many girls' over think their prom's picture-perfect appearance.

The Male's cost on 5-6 hours of his life is roughly \$200 for a tuxedo and some flowers, in addition to a nice dinner.

A girl's cost for a dress, ranging from about \$75.00 - \$890.00. All of the make-up and shoes

in addition to the possible hair styling takes up a good part of the preparation time needed before the prom starts. The emotional and financial cost of a female's attire and happiness is perplexing to me, especially when the prom's emotional stress toll is relatively low compared to a bride's wedding day.

Personally, I believe that some girls' may succumb to the peer pressure of competing with other girls' to be the best looking female there, or to be the most attractive to a man. This eventually results in some girls' fretting over every single little detail about their appearance.

I simply believe that both bachelors and bachelorettes should enjoy prom in memory together. They should celebrate the moment as a way to recognize their accomplishments over four years. To be able to live life stress-free as the last few days of being a high school senior dwindle down is an experience everyone should enjoy.

Glasses vs contacts: see the differences?

BY PETER ROUTSON AND YZELLA VIDAURRE

Glasses and contact lenses have one thing in common: they both correct vision. You must take the pros and cons into consideration when deciding between the two. Glasses may have some advantages that contacts don't, and vice versa, but it all comes down to your opinion and which you prefer. We have no intention of changing your opinion, just making you aware of the alternative option.

There are many advantages to glasses that contacts don't have. First they are easily removed and involve no hassle; you remove them and you're done. Lucky glasses are a one-time expense and require low maintenance. Glasses can be seen as fashionable accessories that you can pair up with different outfits. Glasses also have the option of turning into transitions lenses that block the sun from reflecting into your eyes. Glasses are also preferred for people who have allergies, as having watery eyes can prevent you from being able to wear contacts.

Gladly, glasses do not dry out and become

painful, which helps avoid eyestrain and headaches. The bad thing about contacts is that they require cleaning every day with solutions that you must purchase regularly. If you do miss a cleaning with contacts, it can cause a serious eye infection that requires medical attention. Contacts also do a better job of correcting and treating astigmatism. Most people aren't comfortable with placing their finger into their eyes to place the contacts. Senior Drew Mesa stated, "I prefer glasses because I don't want to poke my fingers into my eyes."

Contacts have many pros and cons prevailing in a non-tool based object rather than the tangible glasses. Sure, you put on contacts, but when you put them on, they no longer exist, and they are just windows into a new way of looking at things.

As with glasses, contacts have quite a few positive points over glasses. Contacts do not fog up, whereas glasses tend to fog up when air pressure changes. When you put contacts in, you don't feel that you are wearing any-

thing on your eye. But with glasses, once you put them on, you have to worry about them falling off your face.

If someone is near sighted, contacts tend to be of much more help than far sighted people. Contacts do not obstruct your view as much as glasses do. You do not have to worry about a glare or a reflection bouncing off the contacts. Contacts also do not alter the wearer's physical appearance like glasses do; this is the main reason that wearers stick with contacts rather than the more convenient glasses.

Now that all the facts have been presented, we leave it to you to decide.

The Messenger

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Our Policy

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The staff does everything to try to make the news reported on the newspaper as accurate and free of bias as possible.

The editorial opinions are those of the *Magruder Messenger* staff.

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Art show expo

BY YZELLA VIDAURRE



The infamous minions from the popular pixar hit 'Despicable Me', created by students are being displayed at the annual art expo. (Photo: Yzella Vidaurre)

The art show is a time and place where students put their best art on display for all to see. Art is seen as the center of language and culture. It could be seen as a way to express your inner creativity or to simply capture the simple elegance of something. The art show is in place to award the students for their work and achievements.

It took place on the 30th of April and art was everywhere you looked. Performing arts entertainment was available to also showcase successful advances in the arts. People milled about paintings, stopped to gawk at photographs, and marveled at clay sculptures.

The art show is an important event to the students who work endlessly to put their work on display.

It takes weeks to set it all up and to make sure all last minute touches are accomplished. Painters, sculptures, and photographers stand proudly beside their works of art and sometimes explain the idea behind it or simply why they choose that particular piece. The highest have entire displays to showcase their artwork and sit

beside it while you observe.

This amazing opportunity is given to students who have earned the right for their work to be seen. They all put a lot of hard and dedication into what they have created and are glad to have their work being viewed. It is an honor for them to have your compliments and to excite your attention on that they have created.



Melissa Merhi ('14) posing with her art piece. (Photo: Peter Routson)

Photographers picked in global competition

BY SCOT EHRHARDT

Two Magruder students, Eric Helgesen ('14) and Shirsten Talbert ('14), were selected as finalists in the Photographer's Forum 34th Best of College and High School photography contest.

Talbert said, "My picture was taken for a freeze motion photography project, where you have to capture something in motion, in this case, colored corn starch. It was a simple idea, and simple process, but it gave me a really cool picture!"

The contest gathered over 16,000 photographs from around the world. Helgesen and Talbert's photographs will be published in the Best of College and High School 2014 book, available in June.



Camouflage (Photo: Eric Helgesen)

Battle of the teachers

BY JISU SONG

Which of your favorite teachers would win in a contest of strength, speed and skill? May 22 is your chance to find out at Magruder's first ever Battle of the Teachers! Four teams of teachers, coaches, administrators, and staff will go head to head in events that mimic those of the Battle of the Classes that students hold annually during homecoming week. Mr. Su, Ms. Gallo, Coach Harwood and 27 others will compete in team and individual events like the obstacle course, egg spoon relay, water balloon toss, tug of war and donut-eating contest. Come to the gym right after school on Thursday, May 22 to see your favorite teachers' competitive sides as we wrap up and celebrate the end of another school year with this fun and friendly competition.

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