

The Magruder Messenger

November 8, 2013

Volume XXXIII, Issue 1

Homecoming 2013

BY HANNAH REED



Spirit Week: Stand Out to Fit In

BY YZELLA VIDAURRE

Magruder High School has a week full of festivities: Homecoming Week. This laid back week is called Spirit week. Every day is a different opportunity to dress-up and show pride in our grade level. They have a little friendly

competition and score each grade on how many people dressed up. They total the score at the end of the week to decide the winner. Pajama Day, consistently a favorite, to get ready everyone just rolls out of bed. Twin Day is when

everyone matches with one or two of their closest friends (or the principal). Junior Leroy Hyson, who twined up with Principal Evans, stated, "Twin Day is the best day 'because I got to get dressed up as Mr. Evans, and I liked the reactions I got in the halls."

Things got crazy on Wacky Wednesday. Everyone showed off their creative spirit in mismatched
SEE SPIRIT on P5

Soccer field becomes a new kind of classroom

BY CARMEN HERNANDEZ

It's a bright hot day. Most students go home happy they can now relax, but not the boys soccer team. They stay and play their hearts out. This is a different kind of classroom, which the students are truly dedicated to.

Boy Varsity Soccer coach Juan Gomez has "eidetic memory" as he likes to call it. Every practice he makes sure to compliment and correct the team. They give practice their all. They practice a skill until it's mastered. "They have three types of behavior... In their house, at school and with their

coach," said Coach Gomez. "With me is when they behave the best because what they want is to play, and that is when I get the chance to correct their behavior," says Gomez. The soccer players showed that the best place to correct behavior is in sports. They have a motivation and know they have something to lose. Chiheb Auachria, Ofentse Kale, Kevin Joya, Jose Ramos, Bryan Argueta and Juan Escobar. Bryan Argueta, Juan Escobar, and Dylan Cecil show teamwork, and sportsmanship. Come check out their progress at their next game.



Junior Dylan Cecil (number 22) shoots the ball past the defender

Shutdown ends, families remain tense

BY TYLER KOSSIN

As of the first of October, massive chunks of our government were officially shut down. Hundreds of thousands of federal workers were furloughed, leaving all of these hard working Americans sitting on their couch, waiting. The Democrats and Republicans were not able to come to an agreement in regards to the federal budget. This created a domino effect, leaving many Americans around the country scratching their heads as to why such an important agreement could not be achieved.

The number stands at 350,000. Yes, because a few hundred people couldn't come to a consensus on our government funding; around 350,000 hardworking Americans are now not working nor getting paid. An important concept to note is that here in Rockville many families are feeling the effects of the shutdown as we are only 15 miles from the nation's capital. Members of families in the Magruder community are unfortunately being furloughed, leaving some students anxiously waiting for things to change for the better.

Colonel Stevenson Reed, the Junior ROTC instructor here at Magruder had a few important things to say regarding the government shutdown. Reed provided some good insight on how this affects the United States on a mass scale. He said, "The confidence in this nation goes down, and that affects our perception of us

as leaders in the free world."

Reed then went on to discuss how the shutdown may affect his own Junior ROTC class as well. The class is currently scheduled to attend a field trip at the Antietam battlefield on October 24th. However, the battlefield itself is now closed for any visitors, due to the parks and recreation department being furloughed.

Fortunately, Reed is remaining optimistic for the field trip despite the shutdown. He stated, "I have confidence in us still being able to attend, because of the impact this shutdown will have on the debt ceiling and wall street. They will set aside their differences." Reed is staying a bit optimistic on the situation, while others in the community have lost a good amount of faith in government.

Caleb Bailey, a junior here at Magruder has witnessed the effects of the government shutdown. When asked if the government shutdown has affected him in any way, he immediately told us that both of his parents are currently furloughed.

"My mom is growing a bit more anxious every day, while my Dad is kind of just going with the flow," Bailey said. Bailey also summarized that his father does not have much faith in the government coming to an agreement, as he believes that it will be quite sometime before things finally come back to normal. What comes next?

SEE GOVERNMENT on P2

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Government Shutdown's effect on Magruder

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As hundreds of thousands of workers are still out of the job, many have been asking some pretty frequent questions. One of them may be, how does this shutdown end? Well, the answer is pretty simple. Whenever the president signs a spending bill for the government.

This doesn't seem too tough to accomplish, but it gets pretty complicated when our government today stands pretty divided. The Republicans are currently only willing to pass up a spending bill which repeals the new Affordable Healthcare Act, bet-

ter known as "Obamacare". While on the other hand, President Obama along with the Democrats are against repealing Obamacare.

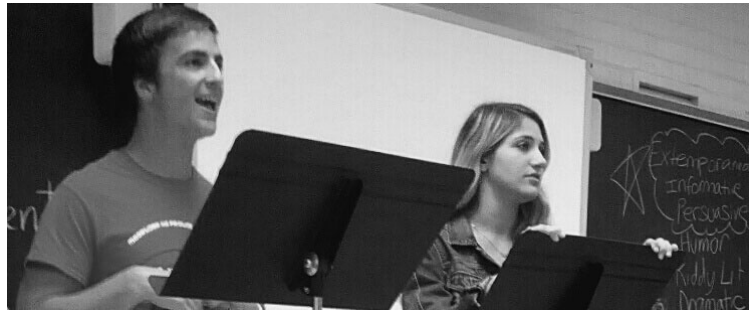
As a result of this political stalemate, nothing is really getting accomplished leaving many Americans curious, yet confused as to why all these other people have to suffer for this political mishap.

The most important question many are asking is likely a timeframe of when this shutdown may finally end.

The answer? It's anyone's guess.

Club Corner: Magruder Forensics

BY MAY KASSIM



Mark Pavan (left) and Nicole (right) (Photo: Kaci Gossard)

Did you know that James Earl Jones, the critically-acclaimed actor for his profound, intense voice once had a speech impediment? The actor that voiced both the original Darth Vader and Mufasa of Disney's the Lion King overcame an almost crippling speech barrier that he had as a small child. He quotes, "I was a stutterer. I couldn't talk. So my first year of school was my first

mute year, and then those mute years continued until I got to high school." How did he rid himself of this impediment? He joined his high school's forensics club.

The National Forensics League holds competitions in which schools compete in the science of public speaking. The student finds a piece that is

five to ten minutes long, and is to stand in front of a judge and perform it. The piece could go from Stephen Colbert to The Lorax.

Every Wednesday at lunch, the forensics club meets in Ms. Harper's room. The club is led by President Marc Pavan, Vice-President May Kassim, and Secretary Nathan Clugston, as well as some veterans. Not only does forensics benefit students for college, but it also encourages students meet friends. Not only in the club, but from other schools as well. It gives you an opportunity to meet other people and improve on your oratory skills that will help you for years to come.

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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.

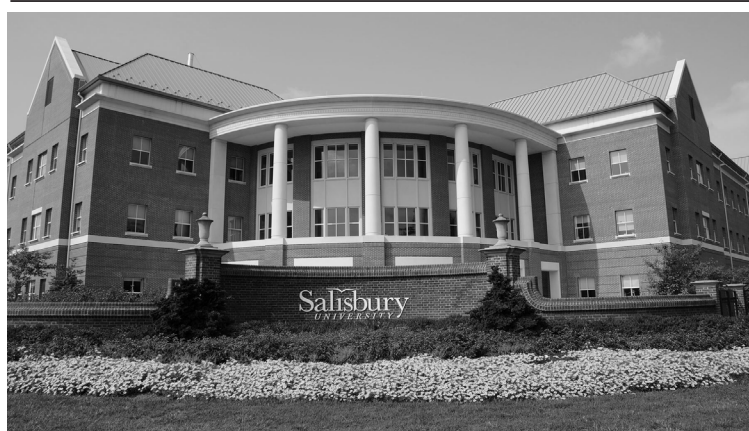
The editorial opinions are those of the *Magruder Messenger* staff.

The purpose of the *Magruder Messenger* is to inform and express views the student body.

College corner

A LOOK AT SALISBURY UNIVERSITY

BY BETH KAMUYU



Teacher Education and Technology Center (Photo: Permission from Salisbury University)

Salisbury University is located on the historic eastern shore; it's as about thirty miles from ocean city. It started out as two year old college in 1935. Today Salisbury is a four year university which offers fifty-four distinct undergraduate and graduate degree programs.

The university says, "Our mission is to enhance students learning academic success and student's growth through strategic use of resource and improve graduation rates." The universities main goals are to increase student's ability to be more independent and raise academic success by improving ways of learning leading to higher graduation rates. They have a program known as the non-partisan institute that helps undergraduate learners who

are interested in public affairs and civic engagement. It provides students with learning experience through interactive seminars and sponsors lectures that bring the nation's top political leaders to campus.

The school offers paid internship programs with business media companies nationwide in areas of advertising sales, business/finance co-operate communications, custom media entertainment, and political science.

Salisbury University's goals, academic, and enrollment plans reflect the schools values. They embrace the long honored tradition of honesty and mutual regard that value higher education.

National Honors Society Induction

BY MARIA AMARO

The National Honors Society inducted their two new members, Mara Erb and Reagan Robb this month.

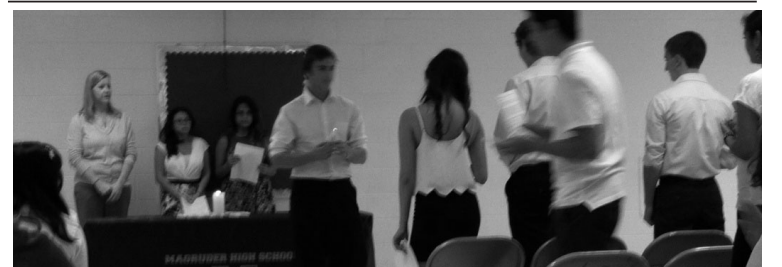
The ceremony was short with each officer lighting a candle at the start of the ceremony and reciting their pledge. They read their four main purposes which are "To create enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote leadership, and to develop

character in the students of secondary schools". After the pledge, Erb and Robb were brought to the front and given candles to signify their induction.

After the ceremony, cookies and punch was served while the members mingled. President Stephanie Chill said "The ceremony was enjoyable and it's fun being with the best people in school".

Spanish Honors Society Induction

BY EMILY GOO



Language Honors Society Induction (Photo: Emily Goo)

On Thursday, October 10, 2013, the Spanish and French Honors Society held that introduction ceremony for the new member that have been accepted. The introduction ceremony started off with Ms. Hodge, the supervisor of Spanish Honors Society, introducing everyone to the societies that were there that afternoon.

The Spanish Honors Society started off the ceremony with the members citing the honor pledge in Spanish and then collecting their candles that symbol-

ize their promise. By blowing the candle afterwards, the members have been officially inducted into the society. The same process applied to French Honors Society that followed Spanish Honors Society. Each inductee received a certificate in being accepted into the society. Many current members like secretary of the Spanish Honors Society, Azevedo Evantanto said that the purpose of all of this is to "expand the amount of members in our society and spread the Spanish culture."

Volleyball team digs deep

BY YZELLA VIDAURRE

Seconds left on the clock, Magruder is about the serve. Teammates are in position waiting for the server to spike the ball. A terrible silence falls upon the crowd as they watch the scene in front of them. The server takes a deep breath and spikes the ball. The opposite team tries and fails to get to the ball in time, making Magruder the victors.

The Magruder Colonels Girls Volleyball teams have put in an incredible amount of work ethic in the season. They make every effort to become a united team that works together efficiently. It's one of their primary reasons for the suc-

cess against the various trials that they have faced.

Their head Coach Scott Zanni has had an overall record of 324 wins and 90 losses. Under his guidance, Magruder has been ranked #1 in Montgomery County twice in 2005 and 2009. He has consistently been ranked among the top teams in the county. Most impressive, Magruder has been ranked in the Washington Post Top Ten four times in the past decade.

Coach Zanni says, "I think you have to challenge them to get better. You have to try to push kids outside of what they are comfortable doing and do things they may not think they can do. The rest of it I think is just better communication." The group's constant increase in effort throughout the season is evident by their sportsmanship.

The teams have faced many tough opponents to which they prevail



Lizzi Walsh ('13) prepares to spike the ball into the opposition (Photo: David Luc)

in some, lose in others. Yet, after every game win or lose, they are even more determined to overcome the odds to succeed and to achieve their goal.

JV player Alexandria Camargo said, "The team's overall goal this season is to play the best that they

can. They are actually very determined to achieve this goal and are on their way to getting there."

Their determination to work hard and practice bring these girls together to complete a goal. But, that doesn't mean that they do not have fun accomplishing

their objective in the process.

Coach Zanni states, "I think we got a really good group of kids that work hard. The girls are very focused, talented, and team oriented. They treat each other well and it's been a fun group to coach this year."

Cross Country sprints to finish

BY COLLIN RIVIELLO

The Magruder cross country team finished the season strong at the County Championship meet on October 19th. The girls finished 2nd in their division with a 4-1 record.

The 12th grade senior captain believes the team worked hard this season. She says, "They have a chance to make it to the state meet this year." Top finishers at the meet included Senior Mara Erb, Junior Susanna Yeh and Sophomore Paola Silva.

Seniors Lucas Almeida, Michael Nguyen, Garret Wong, Alex Fusenko, and Steven Hong led the boys'



Junior Ruhi Perez (Right)

(Photo Collin Riviello)

team and secured their place in the top 7 going to race at the 4A West Regional Meet.

Breakout underclassmen Sophomore Jonathan Cornelly and Freshmen Jimmy Hasemann placed in the top with the senior boys. Avid runner coach John-

son says, "The boys know what they need to do. The team is young, but I hope to have a regional title soon."

The Colonels will compete in the Regional meet on Halloween.

Football team positive despite critics

BY BETHANY WHITE

With the football season only having four games left, the colonels have had a rough and rocky season. Even though their record speaks for itself, the team still works hard and keeps a positive mind-set.

The colonels fight hard on and off the field. The team needs reassurance and a positive mindset. As the season comes to a close, the colonels still continue to strive at improving. "Majority of the players have equal

talent," Senior Chris McKoy says. The team as a whole demonstrates equality. Regardless of the fans' negative attitude, the team continues to work on what they need to. "I love my team there is nothing I would change about them", says Junior Emmanuel Kyei-baffour.

With the continuous losses, the Colonels feel motivated, as if they have something to prove. The negative comments and opinions do not faze the Colonels. The players show much dedication and heart, but fail to stay positive during the games. "There is always room for improvement," says Kyei-baffour.

The positive attitudes the colonels continue to demonstrate describes their work ethic and sportsmanship. They work well together and embrace the plays.

The team sticks to the plays and follows through with them regardless of the scoreboard. The colonels continue to strive and hope to do great things in the upcoming seasons. The season has not been successful, but no one knows what is to come in the next few years.

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HOME COMING COURT

KING: CHRIS MCKOY
 QUEEN: CHRISTINA MARTIN



Chris McKoy and Christina Martin embrace each other after winning homecoming king and queen. (photo: John Su)

HOMECOMING

Oh The Places

BOTC

1st: JUNIORS 940



2nd: SENIORS 860



3rd: SOPHOMORES 770



4th: FRESHMAN 670



(Photos: Eric Helgesen)

MONDAY: PJ DAY



Students pose in their comfy pjs on pj day (photo: Mike Smith)

TUESDAY: TWIN DAY



Principal Evans and Leroy Hyson ('15) looking spiffy on twin day. (Photo: Mike Smith)

SPIRIT WEEK

Continued from page 1

crazy on Wacky Wednesday. Everyone showed off their creative spirit in mismatched or gaudy clothing. On this day that everyone goes all out and expresses their creative side.

People dress up in outfits from old movies or back when they were children on Throwback Thursday. Some outfits got a few laughs, and in the end they all took us back in time.

Class Spirit Day ended spirit week. In support of their grade, students wore their grade shirts/colors.

The freshmen wear pink; sophomores, neon yellow; the juniors, blue; and the seniors, black and red.

To end the week the school holds a pep rally. In fourth place the freshmen, in third place the sophomores, in second place the juniors and in first place are the seniors.

In the end, we remain winners. Leroy Hyson stated, "Spirit week is great because it contradicts the culture of needing to look a certain way to fit in."

THURSDAY: THROWBACK



Baby Tao throwing it back for throwback thursday. (Photo: John Su)

WEDNESDAY: WACKY DAY

Stripes, patterns, and polka-dots galore on wacky day. (Photo: John Su)



ING 2013-2014

ce's You'll Go

DANCE



Students posing in their nice attire. (Photo: John Su)



The junior class princes & princesses. (Photo: John Su)



Students dancing. (Photo: John Su)



King, Chris McKay, and queen Christina Martin pose together (Photo: John Su)

FLOAT

1st: SENIORS

Photos Mike Smith



2nd : JUNIORS



3rd: SOPHOMORES



4th: FRESHMAN



FOOBALL GAME



Pom seniors take a bow after performing in their final performance. (Photo: Mike Smith)



Players from both teams gather after the whistle is blown. (Photo: John Su)

By: Hannah Reed

The Magruder High School Varsity football team went all out for the school's Homecoming game against Rockville. Even though it was very cold, a good majority of the students came to support their team and to celebrate homecoming week.

For the first time this season, the team scored five touchdowns in the first half. They led Rockville 35-14 at half time. Sadly the team could not hold on to their lead, giving up 50

unanswered points in the second half and leaving Rockville with a 64-41 win.

It was reported that Rockville quarterback Chuck Reese threw 480 yards and 8 touchdowns, beating the previous Maryland state record.

During half time, this year's homecoming court was introduced. The nominees were escorted down the track by either their friends or family. Real life couple, Christina Martin and Chris McKay won

homecoming king and queen titles. The 2013 Hall of Fame inductees were also announced and bought onto the track with the person that nominated them.

The Poms team honored their seniors during their performance, as it was their last time dancing for a home football game. The seniors were introduced, and took a bow to a round of applause.

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Jazz Band steals show at fall sampler

BY EMILY GOO

A crowd of encouraging parents, students, and teachers gathered at Magruder High School to support its students in the performing arts.

The fall sampler started off with the concert band performing who was then followed by the concert orchestra. This year, the orchestra group is separated into two different sub-groups, concert orchestra and symphonic orchestra. Ms. Khron is a new teacher this year who teaches concert orchestra. Followed by the concert

orchestra, symphonic orchestra opens with a harmonized piece. Concert and Chamber chorus collaborated in singing a couple songs. Mr. Schmidt defined the distinct talents in each chorus group with solos which captured the ears of the audience.

Finally, the show ended with the Jazz band, who "stole the show" says anonymous. Saxophone player in Jazz band pointed out that "the stage was a bit hot, but the band had a really good time."



Jazz band performs at the pep rally (Photo John Su)

No drama for drama club

BY CHRIS MARTIN



Drama club members rehearsing for upcoming production "Y Bother" (Photo: Eric Helgesen)

The Magruder Drama Club is bringing students together to create a production once again. Students from many different lifestyles, viewpoints, and experiences come to join in on the Magruder Drama experience.

This year's fall production, "Y Bother?" (opening November 8th), features over 30 characters. This is unusual for the Fall play, which usually has a much smaller cast. This gives many more students an opportunity to join in on the production.

Many Drama Club members view themselves as a tightly-knit family. They

support each other through thick and thin, always doing their best to help each other out on and off the stage. When asked what makes

Magruder Drama Unique, Mrs. Harper, the Drama Director, said, "There's three things. Number one is the intimacy. Number two is the best acting in the county. Number three is the variety of shows we put on, from Shakespeare to Charlotte's Web to our Fall Plays. We prepare students for the real world." Magruder's Drama Club is also unique in that next to everything is done by the students themselves. There are

carpentry, costumes, sound, make-up, business, paints, and lights crews, all fully run and operated by students.

The program teaches its members useful skills and creates lasting bonds. Friends work together throughout the whole play process.

Even years after graduating, many alumni return to see the shows put on by the program. The bonds formed in drama can even carry on well past graduation. Several former members have gone on to become roommates in college. Magruder's Drama Club is by the students for the people.

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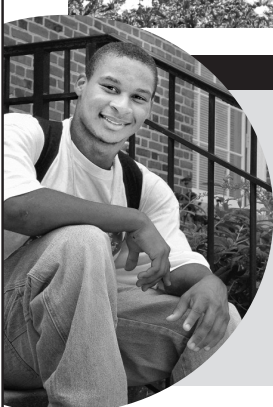


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Too hot to think

WITH THE SUMMER SUN BLAZING DOWN, CAN STUDENTS BE EXPECTED TO READ?

BY BRANDON WITHERSPOON

Summer reading has been around since generation X was in school to prevent nine months of learning from vanishing in three months of free time. However, in our current day and age, is the program still effective?

The summer slide is the loss of academic skills during the three month gap of summer. In 2011, the RAND Corporation published a document named "Making Summer Count" which states that "upon returning to school in the fall students performed, on average, roughly one month behind where they performed in the spring." As a countermeasure to events of this sort the summer reading program was created. "To keep academic skills sharp it's okay to read for school" said Patricia Kuecker, a teacher at Colonel Zadok Magruder High School.

However, some students disagree such as Chris Martin, a student at Colonel Zadok Magruder High School, saying "Honestly, I feel summer reading is kind of a waste of time" and added "it makes me enjoy the book less when I have to overanalyze it". However, over analysis does not seem to be much of an issue, considering that the on-level and honors form for summer reading only requires the title of the text, author,

whether or not the student enjoyed it or not, why the student chose the book, and the identification and definition of three "challenging" words from the text. This makes it according to Chris "really easy to complete the form without actually reading".

On the opposite side of the spectrum, students such as Bethany White say "If a person reads a book which holds their interest they won't feel like it's an assignment." Along with this, Mrs. Kuecker added "I think while all kinds of reading is important, there is a difference between reading for pleasure and for work." Mrs. Kuecker teaches AP English 11 which requires students to pick from a list of books to read and write a memoir echoing the book's themes. However, on part 2 of the assignment they are given the freedom of choosing a columnist to follow and annotate copies of their articles for class.

Ultimately, it seems that the concept of summer reading is still functional in today's society. However, the format in which it is executed is flawed. Scot Ehrhardt, another teacher at Magruder, appears to have said it best "it's not really about how many books you read over the summer, it's about exercising your mind over the summer."

Readers beware: you are in for a scare

BY PETER ROUTSON

For the more casual ghost hunter, there's place right at one's doorstep. But, for the more hardcore thrill seeker, there is a place that is so menacing, so terrifying, that few choose to even drive past the premises.

Glenn Dale Sanatorium

Now if one is in search of a truly creepy but absent the spooks and the phantoms, one needs to look no further than the Glenn Dale Hospital. Perched on 216 acres of land lies a massive complex that formerly was used as a tuberculosis hospital and then as a sanitarium for the criminally insane.

In the 1984 after about 40 years of service the place was shutdown. Rumors persist that after shut down, the mental patients were simply released out onto the streets. But many of the patients whom had little or no knowledge of their families, went back to the place that they knew best, the glen dale hospital.

Currently there have been reports of those same mental and unfortunately sometimes criminally insane people still inhabit this place. One small caveat if you decide to go exploring this place, it is full of asbestos and it is frequently patrolled by Maryland state troopers, so thrill seekers be wary.

Needwood Mansion

Adjacent to the Needwood golf course and located near rock creek Regional Park, lies a mansion of near epic proportions with a more than questionable past. This building while currently the offices of the county archaeologists, has quite a bit of history behind it.

Parts of this mansion date back as far as the mid-1700s. With such a big past, there is bound to be some hidden mysteries of the hulking abode.

There is one such story about the wife of William George Robertson's, owner of the mansion, whom was going to be arrested, but incidentally was saved when she appeared on the front step with a baby in her arms. However, there is some less than happy news about this place and some of its previous occupants.

Apparently, while on his way home, William George Robertson's carriage was struck by a bolt of lightning and both he and his horse were killed instantly. But, it is said that he makes his way back to the residence from beyond the grave before any major storm occurs.

However, the misfortune of the lightning doesn't stop there. In 1913, the log section of the mansion was struck by lightning and severely damaged.

Is tv 2 stoopid?

BY CHRIS MARTIN

Angry gorillas beating me senseless. Being flung from a catapult at terminal velocity. Bathing in porcupines. All of these would be more fun than watching the new Cartoon Network.

Granted, it's not as though this is anything new. Cartoon Network in general has been on a steady downward slide since the mid 2000s. There was a sharp drop-off in late April of 2005. "Megas XLR", a lovingly crafted tribute to anime, video games, cartoons, geek culture, and even rock music, came to an end. With the death of "Megas XLR", Cartoon Network seemingly decided that quantity was better than quality. Thirty-two shows have launched on Cartoon Network's main schedule since the end of "Megas XLR". Four of those shows were quality. Three of these shows were canceled before they could pass forty episodes. If that doesn't display that something's wrong, then I don't know what will.

"Young Justice" and "Green Lantern", the two best shows in the block, have been put on extended hiatus. Meanwhile, "Teen Titans Go!", an absolute mockery of anyone who enjoyed the original "Teen Titans" cartoon, has been renewed for another season.

Coming from the same vein of shows that should end is the latest iteration of the "Ben 10" franchise, where they are once again taking things that aren't broken and trying to fix them. The original "Ben 10" was a great concept with a fantastic writing team. However, ever since the end of the original series' run, the writers have shown their wear and tear.

What has happened to the channel that I grew up enjoying? There used to be "The Powerpuff Girls", a show full of livelihood, action, and endearing characters and plots. In its place is "Uncle Grandpa", a "show" that is composed almost entirely of psychedelic images and "jokes" consisting of whatever the writer can gather from the ramblings he hears from the voice in his shoes.

It certainly breaks my heart to see something I enjoyed so much fall so far. As the years come, I can only hope that they realize just how much they have failed their audience and change for the better.

The Hard Life

BY MARIA AMARO

Coming home from school and going to work may not seem like the ideal afterschool activity for some students, but some find it rewarding. When the school workload is already stressful enough, who would want to add a job on top of that? Well that's the reality for Magruder students Kevin Meza, Bethany White, and Tyler Kossin. Although work and school are difficult, they are manageable and rewarding, but how? Students shared their advice on how to find a balance between school and work. From their experiences, students agreed that time management is the key. "Set priorities," Kossin says, "I just do what needs to be done

first, then I can just relax." Homework should always come first because school is still a priority. This made be hard for some students especially when they have to start making sacrifices. "I have work on the weekends which means sometimes I can't see my friends because I also have to finish my homework," says Meza.

Although work is hard, the rewards are beneficial. Having a job can teach students life skills which can be beneficial later in life. "I learned time management skills and how to be responsible" says Kossin. Learning how to multitask can be helpful to students when they have to balance homework, friends, and work be-

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cause they learn how to set priorities. Having a job can also teach students not to procrastinate. "You can't procrastinate because after work you're going to be too tired to even do your homework," explains White. The best reward of having job is getting paid! That's where responsibil-

ity comes in because students learn when to save and spend money. Balancing school and work can be hectic but once students learn how, they can keep these skills for a lifetime.