



THE HAWKEYE



Library renovations to begin at BP

Is there a reason for the dress code anymore?

Marvel comics come to life on the big screen

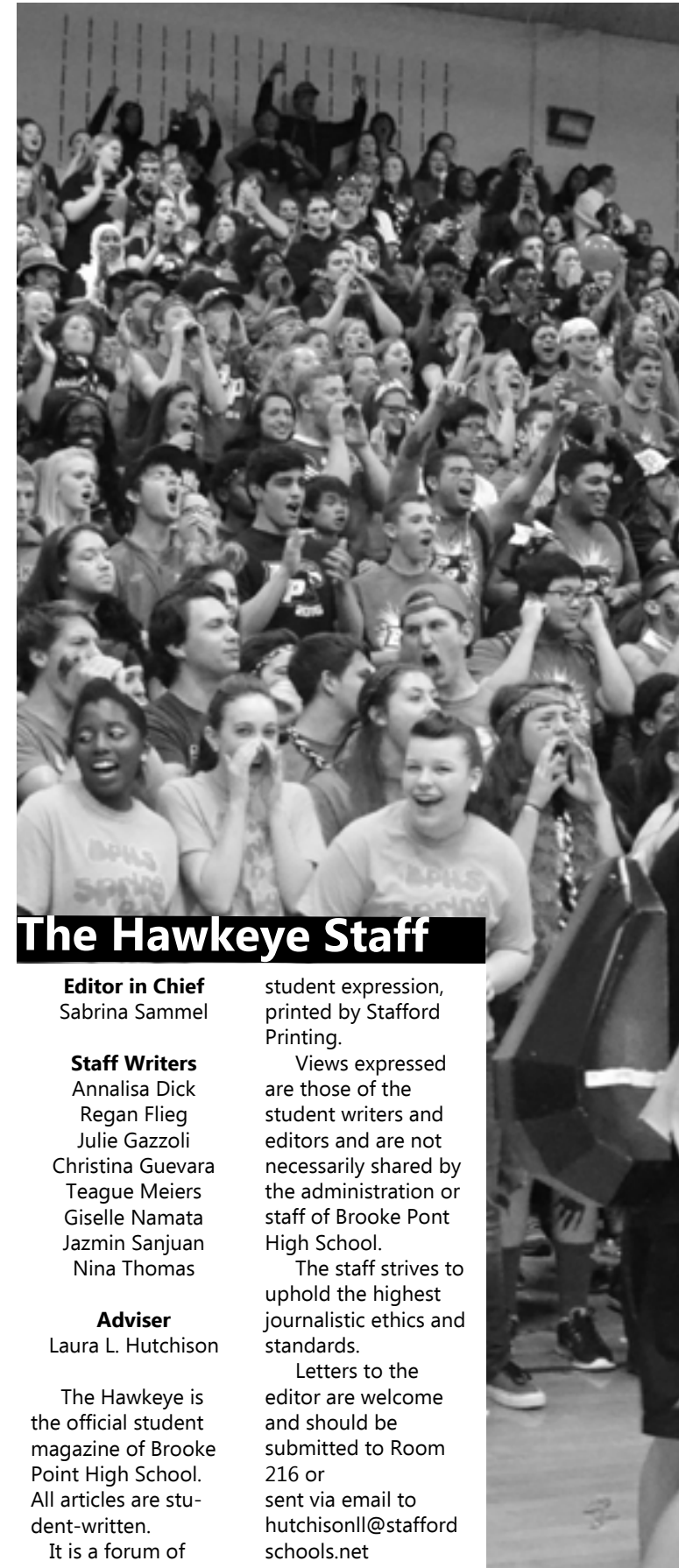
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Letters to the editor are welcome and should be submitted to Room 216 or sent via email to hutchisonll@staffordschools.net

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*Cover photo is an artistic representation of library renovations and does not reflect actual outcome.

Seniors tip their caps to a new proposition

BY NINA THOMAS

PHOTOS COURTESY OF PINTREST

Word on the street is this year's senior class is allowed to decorate their graduation caps. After years of requesting it, Principal Scott McClellan confirms that it is true.

"Yes, we are allowing the decoration of graduation caps this year," he said. "I tweeted that out. The graduation letter is going out soon that will outline what the guidelines are."

Those guidelines include: "No 3D objects, like you can't glue a rubber duck to the top of your cap," McClellan said. "It's just simply painting the cap. The only numbers we want on the cap are the graduation year. You can give shout outs to parents, or the college you're going to. We don't want anything dangling. We want to stay within the confines of this being a formal event."

Although the seniors have gained this privilege, it can still be revoked if the seniors don't perform in the ways expected of them or if the guidelines aren't met. McClellan says,

"Just meet the expectations," he said. "It's a new privilege, and this is the first class that's able to do it, and we want every other senior class

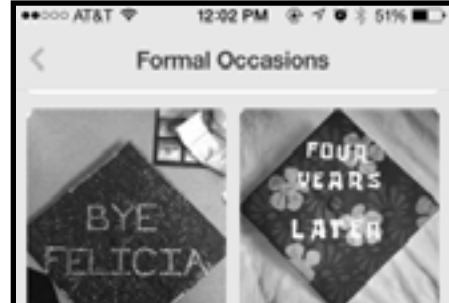
to have that opportunity. This isn't the first class that's asked until now for 22 years has just been black cap, black gowns. I'll reserve the right to revoke the cap-decorating privilege."

So what happens if a senior shows up on graduation day with a cap decorated outside the rules?

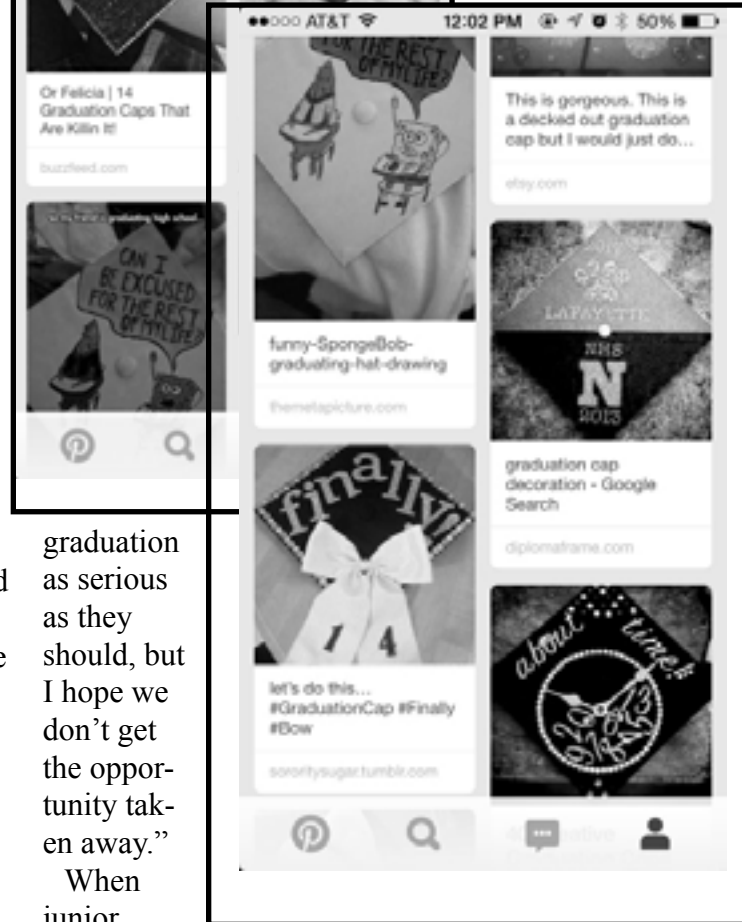
"If guidelines aren't followed, students will have their caps taken away and will wear a spare one," senior class sponsor Jeanne Mills said. "Graduation has always been a formal ceremony with a dignified front. Having caps not decorated was always one last way of showing the graduates as one."

Many seniors said they feel very honored and privileged to be the first class to decorate their graduation caps. But with such privilege comes responsibility, and some seniors don't have the confidence that their class will follow the guidelines set.

"YES! I would love to decorate my graduation cap," senior Christina Fumbanks said. "With lots of glitter and really sparkly! The problem is we have a lot of graduating juniors and immature seniors who aren't taking



Check out these awesome grad cap ideas from Pinterest! Which one is your favorite?



graduation as serious as they should, but I hope we don't get the opportunity taken away."

When junior Josette Vers heard the news of the senior class being allowed to decorate their caps, she was more than excited.

"OMG I would love that," she said. "Are we even allowed to do that now? [Yes] Oh my gosh I've wanted to do that for so long! I'm gonna put glitter and sparkles and rainbows and unicorns and stuff like that on it."

Vers said.

Vers worries whether the privilege will still be available when she graduates next year. She worries the Class of 2015 might ruin her chance to decorate her cap.

"I'm pretty sure they will," she said. "I'll be so [angry] if we can't decorate them next year because the seniors wanna mess it up."

BP library opens up a new chapter

BY GISELLE NAMATA

PHOTO COURTESY OF STANTEC

Not too long from now, the library at Brooke Point will be closing to prepare for renovations.

A hired crew will slowly begin packing up everything in May, hoping for the renovations to start immediately after the 2014-2015 school year ends.

Students should expect to see the library for functional use by next fall. Renovations will include café style seating, a maker space, more computer areas, and "bump-outs" as well as windows that incorporate the natural light from surrounding

hallways.

The new area will have different kinds of lounge seating for students to enjoy. There will be a combination of tables for collaborations, seating for relaxing, and plenty of room to use and charge your electronic devices.

Brooke Point librarian Dee Ryan has been to all of the meetings concerning the new library and is excited to see the "fun and unique space" as it comes to life. The theme will bring in a spring vibe with colors such as green, blue, and yellow.

Several schools in Charlottesville had partnered with the University of Virginia

to create maker spaces in order to "utilize new technologies and open up spaces in their libraries that would foster student creativity". Ryan is currently planning a trip for May with librarians from Mountain View high school and Stafford County high school to Monitcello HS; they want to "bring back some innovative ideas" and incorporate them into the libraries here in Stafford County.

Maker spaces include a secluded area for groups or classes to be creative while using a wide variety of materials. Ryan is hoping to implement a 3-D Printer into the space soon.

Because of the extensive addition to the technological resources that will be found in the library next year, the library loses a lot of shelf space as a result. Ryan says, "We are sorting through all the books by section and equipment will be recycled or auctioned."

The library had previously ordered 30 Amazon Kindle Fires and Ryan hopes to order even more for next year. "There will be plenty of access to technology... We're moving more and more to digital," Ryan adds "It won't be completely digital, it'll be a good mix".



The BP library renovations are inspired by this photo illustration. This artist rendition is not a true representation of the final product.

Athlete of the moment: Cecil Hayes

BY TEAGUE MEIERS

Which sports do you play over the school year?

I play football and track and field.

Which sport would you say is your favorite?

This is a tough choice. I would have to say football, but only by a tiny bit. The reason I say this is because I have been playing football since I was 5, while I have only been playing track and field since I was in middle school.

How did you get started playing football?

When I was 5, my dad had me play. At first, I misunderstood what the sport was. I didn't understand what rows and positions were, nor did I know any plays, as I was at first just told what to do. I was given a playbook at the time, but I wasn't taught how to understand it.

If you could be the coach of football for one day, what would you do and why?

I would take all the players out on a one-week vacation. We would take the time to study film of

other teams. I would do this because the players work so hard during the season that they deserve a break.

Would you say participation in multiple sports has helped you grow as a player?

Yes, it has. It has also helped teach me more about friendship because of the required team effort, and it has helped me to learn more about leadership.

What tips do you have for aspiring athletes?

Listen to the coach, work hard, stay determined, never give up, and always



Photo by Teague Meiers

practice, because without practice you can't play as well as you might be able to when it comes to game day.

BP's baseball team is swinging into spring

BY SABRINA SAMMEL

For Brooke Point's varsity baseball team the 2015 season got off to a muddy start. Inclement weather in early March caused delayed tryouts and practices for all spring sports, baseball included.

Varsity Coach TJ Abounader didn't see the weather as a deterrent from a great season. He was "happy with where we're at" and found the team had met his expectations for wins and continually moved on the right path.

"I would say the start of our season was exactly how I would see it, if you told me what we would start with," Abounader said. "I do not see us losing many games. I see us being very competitive."

Abounader has been coaching baseball at Brooke

Point for two years and finds it's the team's variety of players that makes them unique for winning.

"We don't just have a ton of tall kids or a ton of big, strong kids we got three or four of every different type of player." Abounader said.

He stated that because he has a strong and diverse team, he finds his biggest challenge in deciding the order of the game lineup.

"I have 13-14 guys on the team and I think every single one of them can play," Abounader said. "The hardest thing with that is making sure everyone understands their role... Just figuring out what's going to work best for team chemistry and work with us on the field."

Junior and varsity/junior varsity cross-over Ryan Maher believes that, like Abounader, the biggest

difficulty came with teamwork, as opposed to weather.

"We try to get some practice time in the gym," Maher said. "It hasn't really affected us too much. I guess teamwork [is difficult]. Normally, some of us kind of like to be independent."

Senior Tony Caliri found that while the team has a "family atmosphere," he finds "there's some ups and downs with the weather" that does affect the team's ability.

"As the season goes on, I think with all the more practice we can get, the weather's going to get a little better, we'll get more games in and win more," he said.

Junior Luke Wilson Wilson described the team's development as evident both on and off the field. He

stated his team's relationship as "strong" as many teammates hang out before and after practice.

"It's a good relationship," Wilson said. "Even outside of baseball, we're all friends. It's hard not to have a good relationship with your teammates."

Abounader has high hopes for the rest of the season as he and the team prepare to meet their goal of going to championships.

"[I want to] hopefully, compete for the conference championship and move on to regionals and hopefully win a game or two there," Abounader said. "But just say that we were better than we were a year ago. Not just as a team but individually as well, that someone got better in some aspect of the game."

Soccer kicks off with a great start

BY GISELLE NAMATA

Both boys' and girls' soccer teams are off to a good start.

Boys' coach Aaron Plummer says that compared the last season "they're very different teams. Last year's team was almost all seniors. But we're stronger this year."

The players have exceeded Plummer's expectations, although they've "had to work through some problems."

In regards to conference soccer games, Plummer is expecting "some good stuff" and hoping that his team will "hit [its] stride".

Plummer describes his team as competitive and encourages fans to come out and watch the games because they are "exciting games- very physical". Plummer likes that his team is fun to be around.

The snow days in March have affected everyone's schedule. The boys' soccer team's first game was played with minimal preparation.

"We only had one outdoor practice before our first game," Plummer said.

Matthew Cox, Matt Garlington, and Jordan

Kolb are the boys' soccer captains. The seniors hope to continue their love for soccer after high school and play club, but they're unsure of the future as of right now.

Kolb, Cox, and Garlington all have high regards for coach Plummer.

"He participates and acts like a high schooler," Garlington said.

They all confirm that coach Plummer has a good relationship with all of the players.

The three seniors believe the funniest moments are when junior Tim Gawor brings full tubs of food- "all for himself and doesn't share.... he mixes weird food and combinations like that," Cox said.

Come out and support the boys' soccer team on May 12.

Girls' coach Emily Petersohn says that this season "we've gotten a better start".

"We lost some games that we really shouldn't have but I'm optimistic for the rest of the season," she said.

The girls have met Petersohn's expectations.

"They're right on par with where I expected them to be," she said. "There

Photos by Giselle Namata



are moments where they surprise me and other times when they're not at their fullest potential."

Petersohn expects her team to do well at districts and beyond.

"The second half of our season really depends on how we do. But I'm anticipating that we finish in the top three in our conference."

Petersohn describes her team dynamic as good mix of freshmen and seniors; despite their differences they work together well, Petersohn said.

Petersohn's favorite aspect of this specific group of girls is that she "likes seeing them succeed. Those after-game talks are important, where I can watch them grow as players."

Petersohn often tells her players, "you don't have to like me but you have to

work hard for me".

Captains Lauren Harrison, Hannah Infanti, Brittany Morse, Samantha Hablas, and Miranda Rupp all have a visible passion for their team.

"I like seeing the new talent that has come," Harrison said.

Rupp admires "noticing growth" in the other players.

The girls' captains can say Petersohn has turned the team around for the better.

"She has made the girls' soccer program more serious," Morse said.

"She has helped us respect the sport," she added.

The girls are close knit and share a family dynamic all around.

"We're like a sisterhood," Infanti said.

The girls' soccer senior night is on May 8.



Hawk in the Nest: Kalah Branch

BY JAZMIN SANJUAN

Please state your first and last name.

"Kalah Branch, but my pals call me Kales."

Now a senior, can you describe your high school experience in the past four years?

"My high school experience has definitely been a rollercoaster ride... I won't lie I absolutely hated my freshmen and sophomore year with a passion... [the] older I became the more opportunities opened up for me. Senior year will definitely throw one through a loop considering the 83939 college applications one must fill out plus taking the SAT over and over such to see your only a point or so higher and then on top of that trying to stay active in school activities while suffering through hours of homework."

What extracurricular activities or sports do you

participate in?

"I'm super excited to be returning back to girls' lacrosse as a varsity player. I absolute adore my teammates, and am looking forward to yet another action packed season. I am also a member of the Academic team, and for the first time this year participated in a Brooke Point production, 1984. I'm also holding down a job but still seem to make time to focus on my passions in food and photography."

Could you elaborate what a Blackhawk Scholar is for those who are not familiar with the IB Program?

"A Blackhawk Scholar is an IB student who takes at least 3 IB classes including theory of knowledge. Currently I am enrolled in IB English, IB Chemistry, IB History, IB Psychology and Theory of knowledge. If I were also taking an IB Math and language then I would be considered a Full IB

Diploma Candidate."

What is your big CAS project for the year of 2015?

"When I found out the IB Program had an actual film class in which schools could offer my mind raced and I questioned 'Why don't we offer that here'. M Sizzle (Mr. Montez) mentioned the idea of wanting to teach IB Film... I knew there was my opportunity. With the help of my lovely amiga, Laura Yang, we came up with an idea to host a Brooke Point movie night on March 28 to help raise awareness of what IB Film is. Not only are students invited to enjoy some of their favorite films but we hope that fellow black hawks leave the "theater" with a whole new outlook on how they view such media."

Do you have in mind what you want to pursue in college and where you would want to attend?

"My dream is to pursue film and production in college, and luckily I have the opportunity



Photo by Jazmin Sanjuan

as a future Nittany Lion at Penn State. Films have always held a large significance in my life. Whether it was watching the crafts created by others or myself, or scribbling down screenplay ideas, this art of storytelling consistently peaks my interest. Each story that I view becomes part of me."

BP theatre presents 'CLUE' . . . in the auditorium, with the stage

BY REGAN FLIEG

"CLUE: The Musical" is coming soon to BP. This is a theatrical take on the classic boardgame "CLUE."

Students and teachers are putting a lot of time into the production of this play. Rehearsals are held for two hours after school from Monday to Thursday, with Friday rehearsals only when necessary.

Drama teacher Lisa Cover-Tucci said she hasn't been concerned with snow days and said "They auditioned for this one early so they could get the script early."

Eva Wehrle, the director, isn't concerned either. She said this was because they hadn't really gotten started until after the snow days stopped.

"CLUE: The Musical" will be Wehrle's last production with Brooke Point since she'll be retiring.

"I'll miss the people a lot... my drama students... my colleagues," she said, and her colleagues will be sad to see her leave.

Cover-Tucci said: "I have

only taught with her [Wehrle] as the other drama teacher here... so I'm sad to see her go... I know she's worked hard for her retirement, so she deserves to rest and relax."

Wehrle is hoping that the person to take her place "has a good time, enjoys working with the performing arts department."

Wehrle said the reason she picked "CLUE: The Musical" for this year's spring play was that she wanted to do it before she left.

This musical will also be the last production of The BP Theatre Company for a number of students.

"It's hard to think that this'll be the last," senior Sierra Gutierrez, who will be playing Mrs. Peacock, said. "It's gonna be hard saying goodbye."

Gutierrez said what she'll miss most about working on plays at Brooke Point is "spending time with... friends and having a sense of community."

Her favorite BP production was "'The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee'... definitely the most fun to be a part of."

Senior Caplan Halaey is the publicity manager for "CLUE: The Musical." His favorite Brooke Point production was "Grease," and this will be his last. He said this was strange and that he didn't know how to feel about this being the last play he'll be a part of at BP. He said the thing he'll miss most is "definitely closing night... the whole nostalgia of the play being over."

For Senior Teagan Hughes, who will be playing Mrs. White, leaving BP is "bittersweet."

Her favorite Brooke Point play she's been a part of is "probably this one because this is my first major role and it's fun."

What Hughes will miss most about being a part of plays at BP is "the people because we're a giant family."

Senior Michael Lundy will be playing Mr. Boddy, and this is his last BP production as well.

"I wish I did more [because] I really started picking it up this year, but I'm happy I get to be involved," Lundy said.

He too will miss "the other people involved, the cast and crew."

Mr. Green will be played by Calvin Mann, another Brooke Point senior.

"Rather than thinking of it as my last play, I just appreciate the opportunity to have fun and work with a lot of great people," Mann said. "I like being able to be somebody else and interact with your friends while they're being someone else."

Anyone planning to attend the spring play can expect some technology is new to the BP Theatre Company.

"It's [the play is] interactive, just like the game," Wehrle said. "There are 216 possible endings."

Similar to the game, the ending is decided based on the cards that the audience picks.

Using their smart phones, viewers can also make predictions on who committed the murder, where it happened, and what weapon was used.

"CLUE: The Musical" will be performed in the Brooke Point theater at 7:30 PM on May 7, 8, and 9, and tickets will be \$5 for students with an ID and \$10 for others.

Teen pregnancies are not uncommon

BY JAZMIN SANJAUN

In 2012, 17-year-old Gaby Rodriguez made headlines when she faked her own pregnancy for a total of six months. Rodriguez conducted a social experiment entitled “Stereotypes, Rumors and Statistics” in which she explored stereotypes placed on teen moms. Within the next six month time span Rodriguez went from being known as a straight-A student to an irresponsible person who had completely ruined her life.

Life as a student is hard, let



Photo courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

alone having to attend school while taking care of a baby. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, only 50 percent of teen moms will receive a high school diploma by the age of 22, compared to ninety percent who do not become pregnant during high school. During her pregnancy last year, former Brooke Point student Kayla Clark discovered the difficulties of playing both the roles of student and parent at the same time.

“I absolutely knew that I wasn’t going to drop out,” Clark said. “It was hard to keep up...I kept my grades above a C.”

In addition to struggling to keep up her grades, Clark also faced the hardships of being a new mother at a young age.

“It was a mixture of emotions all at once because I was worried at first... sort of lost because I didn’t know how things were going to work out,” Clark said. “But at the same time I was nervous and excited to find out I was going to be a mother and have a baby.”

While being pregnant with her



Photo courtesy of Amber Hale

now 6-month old son Jackson, Clark faced the same discrimination Rodriguez faced during her social experiment. And just as Rodriguez hoped to achieve, Clark fought back against those who did not believe in her and against the stereotypes placed on young mothers like her.

“How do they know what we’re capable of?” Clark said. “I don’t think people even realize just how much negativity pregnant mothers get from

people like that during pregnancy.”

Today, with the support of her family, friends, and boyfriend, Clark is attending Turning Point, an alternative educational program, where she will be receiving her high school diploma at the end of the school year. Clark plans to attend college within the few years to come.

“I haven’t stopped learning and I still have much of my life to discover,” Clark said

Cabin Fever: More serious than we thought?

BY ANNALISA DICK

“Cabin-Fever” is defined as “an unhappy and impatient feeling that comes from being indoors for too long” according to Merriam Webster. It is usually linked to Seasonal Affective Disorder or S.A.D. S.A.D is a depression caused by the change of the seasons

If students aren’t involved in winter sports or activities, they most likely spend much of their time indoors. Although they may be receiving heat from the computer perched in their lap, it’s doesn’t give of the same effects of sunlight.

The sun gives off vitamin D, which can help prevent depression and strengthen the immune system, along with many other benefits. There are many other ways to get vitamin D according to WebMD; eating foods such as egg yolks, fatty fish, and fortified cereal, taking

supplements and using ultraviolet lamps.

“Students can receive psychotherapy, medication, such as an antidepressants, or use a lightbox. A good one can range from \$200 to \$300 on Amazon, or can be received by a therapist” Dr. Marialena Bridges, the director of counseling, said.

The atmosphere a person is submerged in is important to their mental and physical health. Staying inside for extended periods of time can affect that and can cause a drop in serotonin (a chemical in the brain) levels or the decrease in melatonin levels can cause seasonal depression.

Although many people are affected by S.A.D during the fall and winter, some are affected in the spring and summer time. Weight loss/ gain, fatigue, appetite changes, anxiety, and sleeping problems



Photo by Wikimedia Commons

are some symptoms of S.A.D. These symptoms would occur at the same time every year.

feels sad or upset in their lives, but a constant state of despair is something to consult a doctor or counselor about. Depression in any form is

treatable. Procrastinating to get help can, and will, make the symptoms worse and the suffering prolonged. The National Suicide Prevention Hotline is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. They can be contacted at 800-273-8255.

Marching into reading madness

BY CHRISTINA GUEVARA

March Reading Madness is an activity where students read. Read, read, read and READ!

Students who participate are assigned to a team of two to three people. There are eight teams, each of which will read 16 books. Each team gets two books to read and the favorite of those two books advance to the next round. Michael Bruseau, a student who isn’t in March Reading Madness but is in Brooke Point’s book club, even referred to March Reading Madness as “a personality test for books.”

Dee Ryan is the head sponsor of March Reading Madness.

“It’s like a basketball tournament bracket,” Ryan said, “Sweet sixteen, elite eight, final four, and finals”.

This year, the books are displayed on Kindles instead of paper back or hard cover books. By using the Kindles, students are able to download a certain book on the Kindle. Then when the student is done reading the story, they turn the Kindle in and receive another Kindle with a different book.

Ryan says that this year, like last year, she is aiming towards speaking to an author to come in and talk to the participants but with the snow days, it’s going to be a bit difficult.

At the end of the tournament, when readers have crowned the winning



Photo by Christina Guevara

book, there is a pizza party to celebrate and also a raffle, where students are able to win prizes such as Barnes and Noble gift cards.

Sophomore Rachel Rhett joined March Reading Madness because she loves reading and the books are really good.

“My friends Regan and Rose convinced me to join,” she said.

She says she likes it so far and also plans on joining next year.

Sophomore Rose Ernst joined because it’s really fun and the books are typically good.

“I plan on doing it next year and I recommend it to others to join if they enjoy

reading,” she said.

Sophomore Jeremiah DeAbreu joined because he wanted to be included in something. He says he’s not really good at athletic activities, so joining March Reading Madness was a way to be a part of something.

“If you like reading, then you should definitely join,” DeAbreu said.

DeAbreu has enjoyed reading the books digitally. “I play on electronics so with the kindles, just like other electronics, you can keep going.”

He refers to this as when you are playing on electronics, when you pause, or stop the game

somewhere, it normally saves and stays were you left off instead of making you start over from the beginning. He says what he likes most about March Reading Madness is you can choose any book, get your own kindle, and bring it with you.

“It’s much more convenient than carrying around a regular book because you have to have a book mark,” he said, “and with a kindle, all you have to do is turn it on and it stays where you left off.”

Junior Megan Rumble joined March Reading Madness is because she did it last year and she said she read really good quality books.

“Last year’s winner was a book called ‘Steelheart,’” Rumble said, “I never heard of the book until March Reading Madness, and I never thought I would read it but when I did, it was an amazing book.” Rumble said that she loves to read, but with taking IB courses, reading is a thing of the past. But with March Reading Madness, that’s a different story.

“One of the things about March Reading Madness is that you’re obligated to read,” Rumble said, “Knowing that I had to turn the Kindle back in and vote on the book helped me find slivers in the day so I can accomplish that.”

She says she is definitely doing it next year and recommends it to everyone who is interested.

Is 12 becoming the new 20?

BY ANNALISA DICK

Seeing teens walk around in booty shorts, crop tops, and sagging shorts is uncomfortable. But seeing children dressed in the same attire is just creepy. Little kids are engaging in activities that teens shouldn't be doing. There are hundreds of videos online of kids "twerking" and dancing in provocative manners.

But now picture a woman doing that. Many would label her a "slut." If a woman isn't allowed to act like that, shouldn't we be concerned when children under the age of 10 are doing it?

Kids are coming out of the womb looking like professional models. Middle school used to be a time when everyone was figuring out their style and what they liked. It often ended in clashing colors and patterns, but it was happening to everyone, so it didn't seem like a problem. Now, sixth graders are looking like they stepped out of a back-to-school ad.

In department stores, the junior section and the girls section have the same exact clothing but in a smaller size. Teens and toddlers are dressing the same. What happened to girls wearing sparkles and tutus? Little boys have traded in superhero shirts for "the high school style". Their look is no longer matching their age.

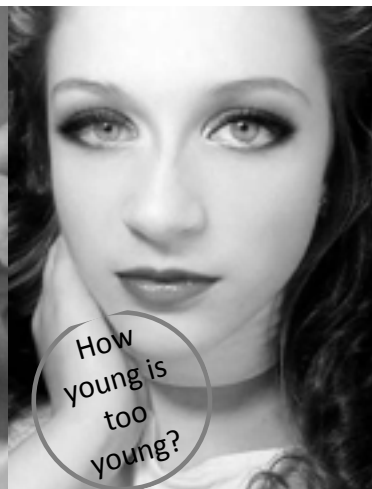
There is a craze on Twitter



PHOTOS BY WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

called "Glowing Up". It refers to freshmen growing out of the awkward braces and glasses phase. It used to be senior year before these kids are done "glowing up", but now it happens much earlier. Middle schoolers already look 18.

The "If she's 13, then I'm 13" trend on Twitter is something we should all be concerned about. Guys at least 17 are finding girls around 12 or 13 attractive. Although these girls are flattered and are loving the attention from these older boys, there is a problem. For some of these guys, there is a four-to-five year age gap, which doesn't seem very major, but these boys are thinking about college while their girlfriends are thinking about what to wear to the eighth grade dance. Men over the age of 18 are



finding a minor attractive. If their kids wear or who they are in a relationship with, there might not be as much of a problem. Granted, parents shouldn't dictate our every move, but they should be making sure we are wearing age appropriate clothing. It's always said that parents should keep an eye on their children's internet usage, and with the "If she's 13, I'm 13" trend, they should definitely be aware. Kids aren't completely at fault for acting this way, but neither are the parents.

Children are growing up in a world too old for them, and they are trying to adapt. Why are we condoning this? Society hasn't stopped to examine how the younger generation isn't young anymore. Parents and teachers have become less strict with dress codes and are allowing these children to parade around half naked. The fact that the media finds topics like these funny is appalling. One day the world might grow wise and change its ways.

finding a minor attractive. If things progress between the two, laws will be broken. These adults should be focusing on people their age.

Onesies for infants are embellished with words such as "Stud" and "Flirt". They are only a few months old and are being put into clothes suggesting romantic interest. Babies want to suck on their thumbs, not somebody's face.

Men and women over the age of 18 are playing adolescents on television. Kids are looking at fully developed adults and wondering why they don't look like that. Girls are piling on make-up and boys are trying to get muscles. They are trying to achieve a look that only puberty will get them.

If parents monitor what

Who wears short shorts? Not BP students.

BY SABRINA SAMMEL

At home, I have this adorable pair of white lace shorts that just grazed my finger tips. The first time I tried wearing them to school, I was red flagged because they were too short. Were they too short according to the dress code? Or were they too short for someone's opinion?

I fully recognize the dress code itself is designed to make school a more professional and productive place to work. It's short and explicit, but carries little depth or validity, much like its enforcement around the school.

As the spring months take over a cold winter, fashion is making its seasonal changes too. Students begin dropping the added layers to the point where it becomes obvious they're not just dressing to say cool and comfortable.

Which means it's also the time when the staff takes a closer look to make sure those hemlines don't rise past regulations.

While I completely agree that necklines shouldn't reveal too much cleavage and that shorts/skirts shouldn't exceed a certain height, it is, however, extremely unfair that these regulations have become so subjective based on what a staff member chooses to acknowledge is inappropriate for each student.

If a taller girl and a shorter girl wore the same technically

inappropriate-length skirt, chances are the taller girl would be called into the office and told to change, just as a girl with a larger chest would get into trouble more quickly, because of her neckline, than a slightly smaller-chested girl.

I find it much harder now to pick outfits for the next school day because I'm forced to think whether a teacher will send me to the office about it. Because I choose to obey the rules, I am unable to wear some of my favorite dresses, simply because the hem is just above my finger-length.

It would be impossible to count on one hand how many students are in violation of the dress code rules, and yet they are allowed to continue on their daily business as though nothing were wrong. The student dress code explicitly states that "pajamas, loungewear and dorm pants" are prohibited, as are "chains, wallet chains, safety pins and spike jewelry." I'm not calling anyone out for embracing their own sense of style. I'm simply pointing out the problems with the way the staff carries out policies. If other students can wear spikes and chains, why can't I show my shoulders?

At the same time, I love dressing comfortably as much as the next person. When I get home after school, I look forward to putting on my leggings and secret pair of Ugg boots. That doesn't mean that I should dress like that



PHOTOS BY WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

anytime or anywhere. No one enjoys seeing every single curvature and lump on my body from wearing yoga pants, and I don't enjoy seeing it on anyone else.

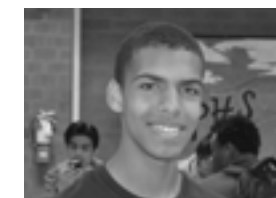
Dress professionally. Please. High school is the closest thing to a real work environment for some students, and it's important to begin acting and dressing like it.

Seniors, within the next year we will be beginning new chapters in our lives as young adults in the workforce. Employers do not want, nor hire, employees who think it's OK to come to work in sweats and pajamas, or pants sagging so much that it's clear what color boxers someone is wearing.

We are how we present ourselves to the world. If we want people to respect us and treat us as adults, we need to be adults. Act like adults. Dress like adults.

Question of the Moment

What would you like to see after the library renovations?



Senior: Michael Guy
"Besides rainbow unicorns? I think a wider variety of books, although the glass windows will be really cool."



Junior: Roger Evans
"More variety of books."



Sophomore: Cynthia Romero
"I think more of an active seating area."



Freshman: Kayli Glauner
"A wider selection [books]."

Guys discuss their ideas of 'style'

BY SABRINA SAMMEL

Senior Calvin Mann always starts his mornings the same way. He chooses his outfit for the day and compares it to the weather outside. He picks out a pair of 'fun socks' to wear and oils his hair.

"I spend as little time as possible getting my hair ready," Mann said. "I use coconut oil instead of any other product because I don't like using chemicals. I believe the less you do with your hair, the better."

Mann, like many other male students at Brooke Point, has developed his own unique style over the course of his life.

Many young men at Brooke Point take varying views on the subject of men and fashion, most embrace

their own ideas of what 'style' is.

Mann has been aware of his approach to clothing preferences since his childhood.

"Since I was little, I always wore nice clothes," Mann said. "I like the feel of suits, so therefore, I wear clothes that feel like suits."

He finds that while he doesn't 'hate' on what others wear, he believes "sagging pants are humorous, and pajama pants too."

Senior Chris Hand also finds pajamas a trend best left out of school.

"I hate seeing people coming to school in sleepwear," Hand said. "That's for home!"

Hand keeps his style simple often opting for "a random shirt and then a hoodie."

His one fashion requirement involves his vast collection of 'fun' socks.

"I remember in middle school, I got a new pair of shoes and I needed a pair of socks, so I got a fun pair and just never stopped," Hand said. "I basically have a collection of fun socks. They're really fun and always mismatched."

Senior Clayton Glauner, like Hand, never leaves the house without his signature hoodie and Chuck Taylors.

"[I wear] my sweatshirt, because it is an every kind of weather thing," Glauner said. "Whether it's 80 degrees or 20 degrees, it'll still keep me however I need to be."

Glauner was first introduced to his favorite shoes after seeing his father wearing them and following his

example.

"I wanted to be kinda like my dad so I picked out my first pair of black Chuck Taylors, and they looked good and I enjoyed them," Glauner said. "Chucks are like the greatest style shoe ever. They're comfortable and come above the ankle, which is really good. They're canvas, they look good, and just very laid back."

Glauner believes "black jeans and a T-shirt" are all a guy needs to dress with style.

The idea of 'style' isn't universal to all students, guys included. While Glauner enjoys his subtle trends, he finds idea being stylish isn't his taste.

"I honestly don't care about my appearance," Glauner said.

BP Recommends: Spring fashion necessities

BY JAZMIN SANJUAN

As the spring months continue to blossom into summer, fashion is heating up. The mittens and snow boots have been exchanged for sandals and sunhats. The warmer weather and brighter colors have come in to clear out the winter blues. In preparation for this incoming weather we asked students and teachers what their number one fashion necessity was.

What is your number one spring necessity?



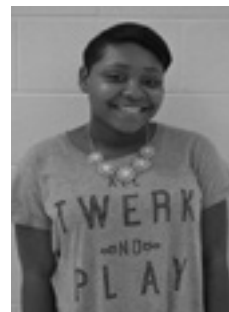
Jordan Delaney
"Nike socks, shorts and Jay."



Milton Martell
"A shirt and shorts"

Nathalie Chao
"Dresses. Anyday, everyday."

Rebecca Luc
"A statement necklace."



'Marvel'ous movies to be expected

BY REGAN FLIEG

As freshman Samantha Moss said, "The whole Marvel universe is just untouchable."

In recent years, Marvel has grown increasingly larger in the world of movies with over 40 movies listed on its website. With two new movies coming out this year, "The Avengers 2: Age of Ultron" and "Ant-Man," Marvel fans have a lot to be excited about.

"The Avengers 2: Age of Ultron" is set for release on May 1, according to ComingSoon.net. With the arrival of another Marvel movie, fans are expressing mixed views about what's in store.

Freshman Kyra Camacho said she's really nervous about Captain America's shield and scared about Ultron, the villain for the new Avengers movie.

Moss said that she is really excited for the new Avengers movie, but that she is scared for the outcome of Iron Man versus Hulk.

Math teacher Edward Samko's favorite favorite Marvel hero is Spider-Man.

"I wanna see what they do with Spider-Man... I want to see how they integrate him back into it," Samko said, as Marvel and Sony, which has been producing the Spider-Man movies, have made a deal to allow Marvel to start using Spider-Man in Marvel's Cinematic Universe, according to marvel.com.

According to Devin Faraci, who has looked over at

least an older version of the "Avengers 2" script, there is a good chance that Marvel may be briefly introducing some new characters at the end of the upcoming film, and one that might have a good chance is Carol Danvers aka Ms. Marvel, a popular female hero. However, Marvel is supposedly worried about dropping a fully formed character into a "team movie." It is still highly likely that she will be a part of the third Avengers movie.

Camacho and Moss are excited about the possibility of an appearance by Ms. Marvel.

Samko said, "I just want to see how they do it," noting the "absurd" long term planning on Marvel's part even since the first Iron-Man movie in 2009.

With the creation of a new Avengers team, there can be hope for new characters joining the Avengers. Camacho, whose favorite hero, Thor, has already been part of the Avengers team for some time, is hoping that Wolverine and Spider-Man will be part of the new Avengers, while Samko said that he wants to see Deadpool enter the Avengers scene. "Deadpool needs to exist somewhere," he said.

However, Black Panther, a lesser-known Marvel hero who will be starring in his own movie in years to come, will not be showing up in "The Avengers 2" even though Wakanda, Panther's home, will be part of the film.

In an article published on hallels.com, an entertainment news website, Noriel Espinueva wrote that new members of the Avengers cast will include Elizabeth Olsen, Aaron Taylor-Johnson and Paul Bettany. The same article mentioned that Robert Downey Jr., the actor playing Iron Man, commented that "The Avengers 2" might be "the best Marvel movie" in an interview with Social Chicago.

"Ant-Man" is another Marvel movie to be released this year. According to IMDb, "Ant-Man" will be released July 17 and will star Paul Rudd as Scott Lang, the Ant-Man.

Samko expressed some concern about the casting of Ant-Man.

"I'm skeptical about Paul Rudd being an action person," he said. "I'm not saying it's a bad idea." According to IMDb, Twentieth Century Fox's "Fantastic Four" will be released Aug. 7. The IMDb page mentioned that the Fantastic Four has been re-imagined. Samko said he liked the last two and hopes they don't butcher it with the new movie.

Camacho has a more positive view and thinks the new Fantastic Four will be better than the old movies. She's hoping for improvement.

However, there seems to be some worry concerning the new movie.

I'm concerned because a lot of remakes aren't as good as the original," Moss said.

Samko, who got into the

Marvel Universe through the old television shows, said that from what he's seen so far, it seems so "opposite" the previous Fantastic Four and that Fox seems to be taking a completely different angle with the new movie.

Rumors have said that the new Fantastic Four movie will be set in the same world as the X-men. Furthermore, the setting has been revised, and the movie has been casted with two actors that do not resemble each other as siblings Johnny and Susan Storm.

Moss is just hoping that "...they'll pull it off," but Samko said, "I know it won't happen, but I want more Silver Surfer."

With the mixture of hope and worry already present among them, Marvel fans have a lot to be excited about with the upcoming releases of several Netflix original shows as well, including "Daredevil," to be released April 10, and "A.K.A. Jessica Jones," set for release in December, according to IMDb.



ILLUSTRATION BY ERICKARCINIEGA



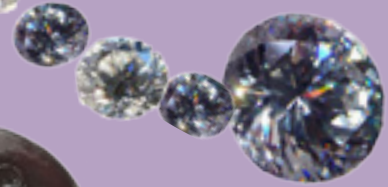
The first day of spring is called the "Vernal Equinox".



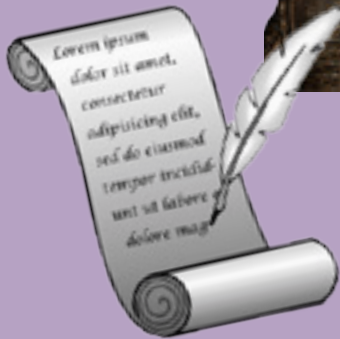
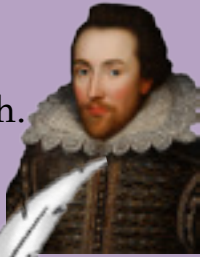
May 4 is Star Wars Day.



April's birthstone is the diamond.



April is National Poetry month.



Spring Fever actually occurs as people settle in to new weather, diet and allergies.



BP by the numbers: Spring Edition

April 24 is National Hair Ball Awareness Day.



April is national Fresh Celery Month.



The average amount of rainfall in Virginia during spring is approximately 11.13 inches



Common spring flowers include lilies, tulips, daffodils, dandelions and lilacs.



Ancient lore said one could stand an egg on its end on the first day of spring.



Information provided by MSN.com