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December
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GENTLES

Art Showcase



GENESIS

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On Friday, Dec. 2, the Central cheering section dominates Memorial's in the Memorial v. Central basketball game. See the editorial on page 15 to see why we are highlighting Central.
Madison Ward/GENESIS

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Club Spotlight: ACS Chem Club



*Is **Chemistry Club** the club that will quench your **science addiction**? Read this **Q & A** with the sponsor of the club, **Heather Fellows**, to find out.*

Genesis: What is ACS Chem Club?

Fellows: Our Chem Club is one of only seven Indiana student chapters of the American Chemical Society.

G: How does Chem Club educate students while keeping the environment interesting?

F: There is no prior knowledge needed. As a result, we use demos and simple, fun labs to teach basic science concepts, data collection, and evidence of chemical reactions such as fire, heat, and color change.

G: What is the focus of the club?

F: The most important goal is for students to be supported and get involved in expressing themselves with Chemistry. We do a lot of outreach for younger kids, doing awesome demos and getting them excited about science. Some students also develop their own demos, such as smoke bombs or "burning" their own hands safely by using chemicals.

G: Why did you decide to help/lead Chem Club?

F: A group of freshmen came to my room after school one day and told me they loved Chemistry. They asked if they could mix chemicals and learn more. How am I going to turn THAT down? I love chemistry, too!

G: How do students join?

F: Stop by A201 or see Emilee Dunn for a pass. We understand

that academics must come first, but we want our members to get involved and come when they are able.

G: What is your most interesting/favorite memory from Chem Club?

F: As a teacher, my favorite memories involve watching students come out of their shell and grow as people. I have the best job on earth. In my 15 years of teaching, I can honestly say that Chem Club is what I am most proud of. Students from all backgrounds, cliques, and interests come together-- they grow substantially and develop into strong leaders, while staying true to themselves.

G: How often do you guys meet?

F: Usually twice a month.

G: Is it too late to still join?

F: NO! Students who are interested in trying out for Chem Club are welcome any time. The club is very open and friendly.

G: What is something you would tell a student that is interested in joining, but isn't sure they should?

F: This club is for ALL students, not just for the top ten or certain high school cliques. ALL students from any grade are welcome, wanted, and find a way to get involved and follow their interests. I encourage students to give it a try if they think they might be interested. You have nothing to lose!

Hollie Erikson, Staff Writer

A Club For Anyone

*The **Gay Straight Alliance (GSA) club**, provides a **safe space** for students to express personal feelings and emotions regarding the **LGBTQ+ community**.*

When walking into a Gay Straight Alliance (GSA) meeting, one is immediately enticed by the sounds of everyone talking and laughing. The GSA club has served as a way for many students to be themselves and feel safe about being who they are.

According to GSA leader junior Tristyn Cataldo, former Memorial student, junior Jennifer Chaves, originally brought up the idea of a LGBTQ+ club to school administrator, Dennis Trigg when she saw a need for support among the Memorial LGBTQ+ community.

When he approved, she asked freshmen English teacher, Megan Lewis if she would host the club in her classroom.

However, with Chaves' recent move, she was

given no choice but to leave her idea to personal friend, Cataldo.

Cataldo was shocked when around 40 people showed up to the call-out meeting, and he was pleased to see that the second meeting went just as well.

"It's a good place for people to go and be themselves," junior Crystal Miller said. "I enjoy going to the meetings."

So far the GSA club meetings have been centered around positive body image, mental illnesses and gender issues. "I do enjoy the topics we talk about in Gay Straight Alliance, because I feel that the topics are important," Miller said.

Miller hopes that GSA can accomplish a gay pride parade in downtown Elkhart, which

has been mentioned in previous meetings. She thinks that the event would help all LGBTQ+ individuals in the community feel that there are people who support and care about them.

"I think it is a very distinguished group where we can talk about the daily meaning of being yourself and coming out to people about what you feel while feeling safe and trusting the people who are in there," junior Kevin Churro said. "The GSA



Juniors Kevin Churro (left) and Crystal Miller (right), discuss GSA topics in the library, on Friday, Dec. 2. Morgan Gonsoski/GENESIS

is a family that actually hears what people have to say. Even I, as a straight man, still support the cause and believe it can lead to the future of all states supporting gay cause and gay marriage."

Students with qualities similar to Churros may be what Memorial needs to further transform

the school into a place where everyone feels accepted.

"We are all the same human species," Churro said. "The LGBTQ+ community deserves to have the same equal rights as any other person."

Anyone is welcome to join GSA, and it is a safe place for any students seeking support or a place to be themselves. The GSA is judgement free zone.

Meetings are held in room A117 on Tuesdays. If you're interested in joining, see Ms. Lewis for more information.

"I just really hope people realize that love is love and no one should be treated differently because of it," Cataldo said.

Jordan Simpson, Staff Writer

Need A Job?

For those searching to make some **extra money**, check on the board next to the Guidance Office frequently for **new job opportunities**.

Department Stores:

- Kohls
(Seasonal help needed)
<http://kohls Careers.com/search-and-apply/>
- Sears
<http://jobs.sears.com/>
- Big R
3501 S Main St, Elkhart, IN 46517
<http://www.bigr.com/careers/careerselect.htm>
- University Park Mall
(Seasonal help needed)
6501 N Grape Rd, Mishawaka, IN 46545
<http://www.simon.com/mall/university-park-mall>

Supermarkets:

- Martin's Super Market
<https://martins-supermarkets.com/employment>

Restaurants:

- King Gyros
1532 Cassopolis St # A, Elkhart, IN 46514
<http://www.kingyro.com/>
- Boomerelli's Pizza
(Evenings)
30178 Co Rd 12, Elkhart, IN 46514

Other Food & Drink:

- Starbucks
28054 CR-4, Elkhart, IN 46514
<http://www.starbucks.com/careers>

Other:

- Drive & Shine
2714 Cassopolis St, Elkhart, IN 46514
<http://www.driveandshine.com/component/>

Keiana Bowie, Copy Editor

Survive 2 Change

Move2Stand travels to Illinois to become tour guides for the traveling "Anne Frank Museum" coming soon to Elkhart.

Move2Stand, the student led, anti-bully group, was given the opportunity of a lifetime and a trip to Skokie, Illinois, just outside of Chicago, to visit the Illinois Holocaust Museum.

There, student leaders from Memorial and Central's chapter of Move2Stand toured the museum in preparation to become docent's (tour guides) for the Anne Frank museum that is coming to the Elkhart Central Media Center from Jan. 23 thru Feb. 16.

"We were chosen because our group advocates against discrimination and segregation, and also other things we talk about in Move2Stand can relate to the Holocaust," Sophomore Cadence Lee said.

Through their trip, Move2Stand leaders gained more knowledge than any history book could give, seeing things such as the uniforms prisoners wore, an actual box train that was used, and a blanket one of the survivors donated to the museum, all which provided a real-life connection unattainable in the average classroom setting.

Eve Perkal, an actual Holocaust survivor met the students at the

end of the tour and gave her testimony.

"The coolest part for me was seeing the actual train that they rode in; however, the most memorable was hearing an actual survivor give her story of how her life was back then," Freshman Kaitlin Presswood said.

When the Anne Frank exhibit comes to Elkhart in the late winter, it will not only be open to the students of Elkhart Community Schools, but the whole community.

In addition, on Feb. 23 Memorial students can expect a visit from Holocaust survivor Eva Mozes Kor who will be sharing her testimony with students at 11:30 am.

If you do not get the opportunity to attend the event at school, then she will also be sharing a meal with



The Move2Stand members pose for a picture in Memorial's student center on Wednesday, Sept. 14. Move2Stand is training to become docent's at the traveling "Anne Frank Museum" coming soon to Elkhart.

Photo Courtesy of Cary Anderson

community members and giving her testimony once more at the Lerner Theater at 6:30 pm. This event is open to the public.

"We are very excited to be apart of this and to be given the opportunity to educate others," Presswood said, "We're hoping that kids don't take this opportunity for granted and actually learn from it."

Kami Miller, Staff Writer

Holiday Helpers

*The Intense Interventions class holds their annual **Holiday Bazaar** to teach skills, raise funds, and have fun!*

The annual Bazaar Holiday Craft Show put on by the Intense Intervention special education classes took place on Dec. 8 and 9 in the guidance conference room.

"All of the money goes toward the equipment and fundraisers for this class," teacher Don Knowlton said.

The class has spent a couple months preparing for the bake sale with their teachers, baking and crafting everything from chocolate dipped pretzels to hot cocoa jars.



Don Knowlton's class poses for a picture on Thursday, Dec. 1. The class hosted the annual Christmas Bazaar in the guidance conference room on Dec. 8 and 9. Kami Miller/GENESIS

"I really liked making the pretzels sticks. It was fun dipping them in the frosting and adding the sprinkles," junior Santos Manriquez said.

The sale consisted of more than just food. Also available for purchase were jewelry, candles, and toys. The show is a must have event that started over a decade ago and has been successful ever since.

"As always the sale was a success. We are very happy with how everything turned out," Knowlton said.

Kami Miller, Staff Writer

Getting *Inked*

Staff writer Jordan Simpson lays out the pros and cons of getting a tattoo in high school.

I know there are plenty of teens who want a tattoo. However, right now, many of their parents will not allow them to ink their skin, not yet anyway. There are plenty of pros for getting a tattoo and there are just as many cons. Hopefully, this list of pros and cons will help:

Pros:

1. It is a way for people to express themselves.
2. Having a tattoo can open up opportunities of diversity within cultures that you may have never known existed.
3. With a tattoo, a person can cover up scars and birthmarks.
4. One can preserve memories or show others what their hobbies are.
5. It is personal. You chose the tattoo, and it is on your body. It is something that is completely yours.

Cons:

1. A tattoo can limit your career path if put somewhere that is hard to cover up.
2. Tattoos can put a person's body on display for the rest of the world. People will ask to see your tattoo. Be aware of this.
3. Getting a tattoo can be risky because it can get infected if not taken care of properly.
4. It could be a pricey regret.
5. In a few years, the meaning you had for the tattoo can change or not mean anything to you anymore.

So before you make that choice of getting a permanent tattoo on your body, make sure that you plan ahead. Think about it...because there are just as many pros to getting a tattoo as there are cons.

Jordan Simpson, Staff Writer

A Blast Into the Past

A sneak peak into the next issue of GENESIS. Opinion Editor, Wheaton Webb, takes an in-depth look into the unique history and past events of the city of Elkhart.

Did you know...?

Band Instrument Capital

Not so long ago, Elkhart was known as the band instrument capital of the world. Instrument making has been a part of the economy here for over a century, and at one time, there were 60 companies that called Elkhart their home. While the big ones, Conn-Selmer, E.K. Blessing and Gemeinhardt, are still around, the other ones have slowly faded away due to a changing economy and the lack of a music budget in many public schools.

While it can be difficult to observe the sheer importance of this industry today, there is a remnant that was left behind. The Conn Mansion, located in the 700 block of Strong Avenue is an elaborate house owned by the Strong and later the Conn

Palm Sunday Tornadoes

On the other hand, an event most people would like to forget but unfortunately cannot was the twin tornadoes in 1965. Also known as the Palm Sunday tornadoes, they ripped through Elkhart on April 11 and caused widespread devastation.

The day began like any other day, but as it went along, the sky became melancholic and hazy, what would come next was an explosive weather situation. There was a storm epidemic across the area, but all paled in comparison to the destruction created by the twisters.

President Lyndon Johnson visited the destruction. It was said that he mournfully walked among the wreckage, speechless by what he observed. When reporters pursued a statement from him, he simply shook his head slowly.

Flooding on Rice Field

While not nearly as destructive, a common occurrence would be for Elkhart River to flood Central's Rice Field. It would be so bad that students would be incapable of using the parking lot and it would take days to drain.

Teen Hang Outs

Even with all the destruction Elkhart still managed to be a place of enjoyment. When Elkhart High School was in use, the campus was downtown and teens made the place lively; kids liked to "cruise the drag" or drive up and down Main Street.

Downtown was home to three movie theaters and one drive-in root beer stand, it even had a teen nightclub called "The Electric Circuit." It did not serve alcohol and was painted black inside, featured loud music and used black lights for effect.

Wheaton Webb, Opinion Editor

How To: React to a Bad Gift

1. *Once you see what the gift is, don't take it out too slowly.*

Taking it out too slowly could be a sign of hesitation and dislike.

2. *Smile and think of a happier time.*

Plastic smiles are not fooling anyone; push down the disappointment with a good memory, unlike this one.

3. *Look them in the eyes, not in their general direction.*

They are not a predator. You can look them in the eye without them pouncing. If you do not confront them with your gaze, they will assume you are hiding unease in your expression.

4. *Talk excitedly, but not too excitedly.*

This one is a given. You have to sound surprised and happily overwhelmed even when you are upset, but don't make your voice so sugary that it sounds sarcastic.

5. *Thank them profusely and then you can put it down slowly.*

Putting it down slowly shows them that you are reluctant to set down such a glorious gift.

If you are confused and need more tips or practice, go to YouTube and look up "It's an Avocado!"

Madison Ward, EIC

Parting Ways

What if your best friend told you they were moving away? How should you react?

The young adults at our school face problems everyday, whether those issues are related to drama or school work, one's best friend is always there for them. But what would happen if they moved?

After asking a wide variety of people, I got many of the same answers. They all went along the lines of "I would be sad" and "I would cry."

Nothing against those answers, but there were more that stood out to me, ones that I think are safe to say, were from the heart.

Junior Caleb Miller told me, "Like anybody else, I would be sad and upset, but I would also be happy for them. It is a new start, a new beginning for him."

Sophomore, Maddy Wheeler

said "I would be really upset, but I would want to spend as much time with them as I could before they left."

Along the same lines of Wheeler and Miller, Junior Brandon Swank said, "I would be really sad but happy for him. I would want to hangout with them as much as I could before they left."

Even though not all of us would react the same way, many of us would react quite similar.

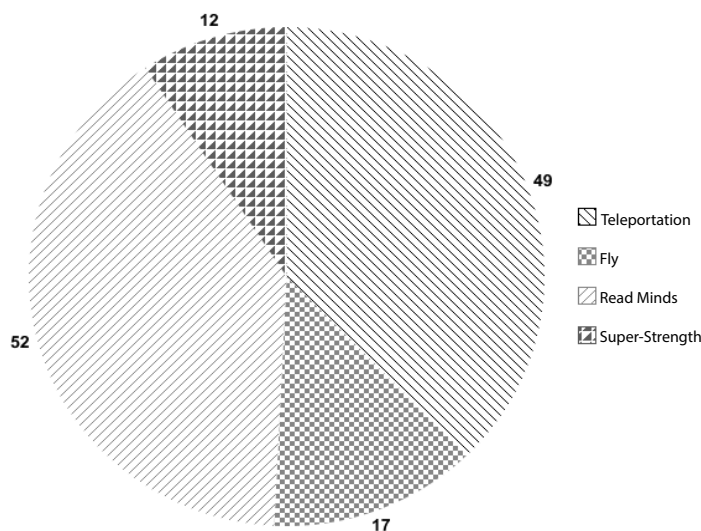
There is nothing wrong with crying and being sad, just make sure they know that you are there for them. A move can be hard.

Use the rest of the time you have have together wisely and make the most of it.

Dylan Pressler, Sports Editor

If You Could Have Any Superpower...

130 students voted on what they thought were the best superhero powers.



Alex Richards, Entertainment Editor

Art Showcase

“The emotional appeal comes from the relaxed language, showing a sense of calmness and serenity.”

-Maleah Todd, 11

Special thanks to the teachers of the art department: Matthew Hartman, Kevin Hartman, Alia Munley, and Whitney Goeglein, for nominating the following students:



Name- Esmeralda Bucio, 12

Art Class- Jewelry I

Name of artwork- Jewelry I Pieces

About- These jewelry pieces are abstract and non-objective figures with basically various tones of copper and brass metals. The form of art that was used as inspiration were the elements of shape and form.

“The feelings I had for these pieces were more toward amusement and fascination due to my curiosity. One thing that inspired me to create these pieces was nature. These pieces represent my own reflection of nature.”



Name- Travis Culp, 12

Art Class- AP Studio

About- It is a non-objective oil painting. I only used the colors green and yellow because I wanted the painting to be simple.

“This was the first painting I had ever done using oil colors, so the medium was very unfamiliar. I went into this art work not knowing what I was going to create. I just started applying brush strokes very slowly, and it turned out to be an interesting painting.”



Name- Morgan Clement, 12

Art Class- Ceramics

Name of artwork- Pancakes

About- Realistic plate of pancakes, eggs, and strawberries. White and brown resin for the syrup. Stoneware.

"I feel like I just really wanted to try to make something new. I wanted to make something realistic but also with a modern twist by keeping it monochromatic."



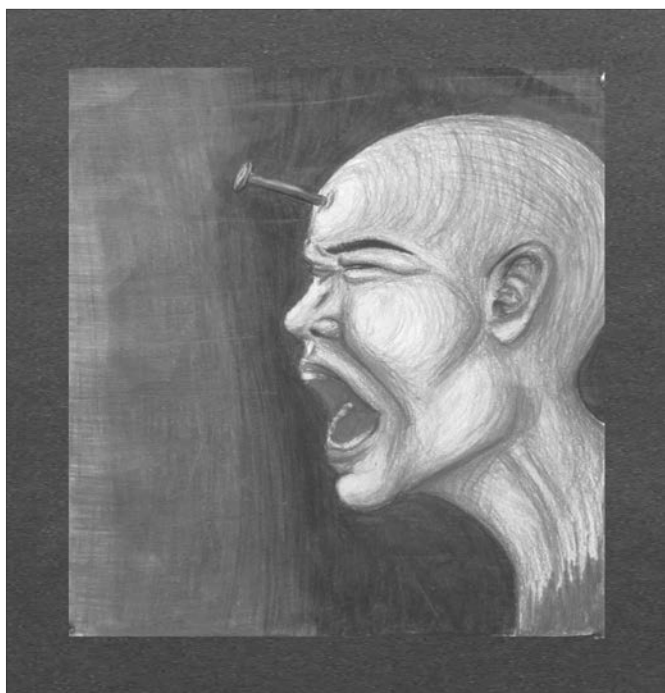
Name- Magdalene Dickerson, 12

Art Class- Photography 4

Name of artwork- Katherine

About- The art piece is a photograph of my older sister, Katherine. It is a black and white portrait. It was an inspiration from Richard Avedon's portraits.

"I would not say this photograph has a larger meaning to me personally, but a viewer might look at this photograph and might be able to relate to the emotions she gives off."



Name- Shianne Harrison, 12

Art Class- AP Studio

Name of artwork- Hit The Nail On The Head

About- Red-ish orange with a green/gold background. It is a drawing of a man yelling with a nail on top of his head.

"I was inspired by the idiom: 'hit the nail on the head' then chose to go with a literal meaning."



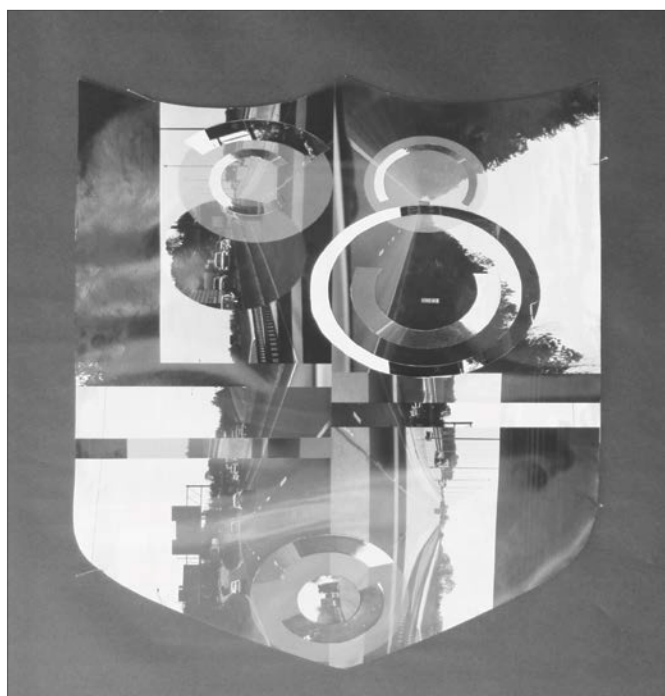
Name- Madison Karre, 12

Art Class- AP Art

Name of artwork- He Liked It: When My Hair Was Long

About- This is made of my own hair that was donated.

"This piece was inspired by a guy who I dated. I was known for having really long, red hair and I wanted a change. When I asked what he thought, he told me that I should not cut my hair because he liked it long. This piece was my rebellion of sort for girls to understand that we do not have to follow what others expect us to. Be yourself. You won't regret it."



Name- Abby Doncilovic, 11

Art Class- Photo 4

About- This piece is a multi-colored photography piece that uses only four photos that are repeated several times and cut into different shapes.

"I was inspired to recreate and improve a previous piece I had done. I wanted to create something complex and interesting that people enjoyed looking at. The assignment was to incorporate photos in a shield design, and I wanted to take a step further and make my own geometric design within the shield shape. I'm very happy with how it came together."



Name- Skylar Forseman, 11

Art Class- Photo 3

About- My art piece is a black and white photo, which I layered on top of a scratch board that I designed.

"Personally, this art piece doesn't have a larger meaning. It was made to fit the assignment that we were given."



Name- Abbie Krider, 11

Name of artwork- Behind the Mask

About- I took the photo so that my green eyes intensified behind my gold and white mask and that the picture was balanced.

"When I look at this picture, I was trying to depict how almost everyone wears a mask to hide behind, some are visible and some aren't."

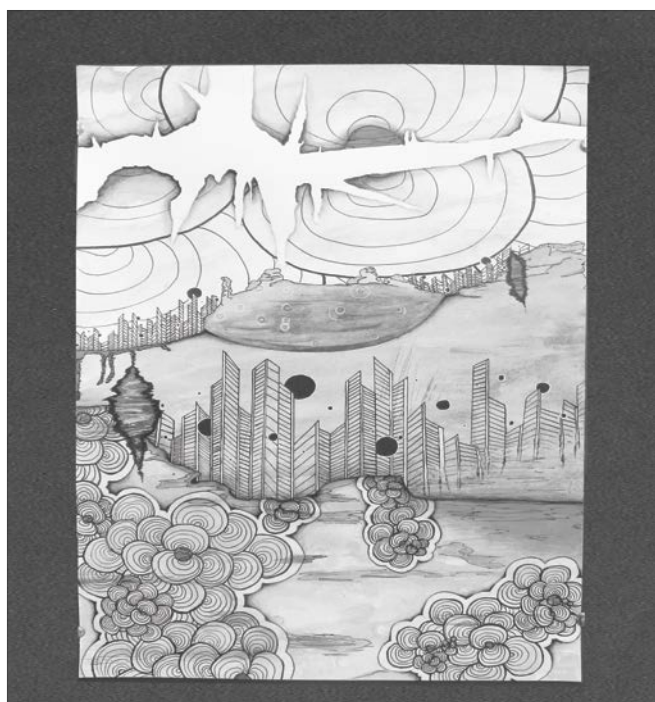


Name- Sydney Mais, 11

Art Class- Photo 3

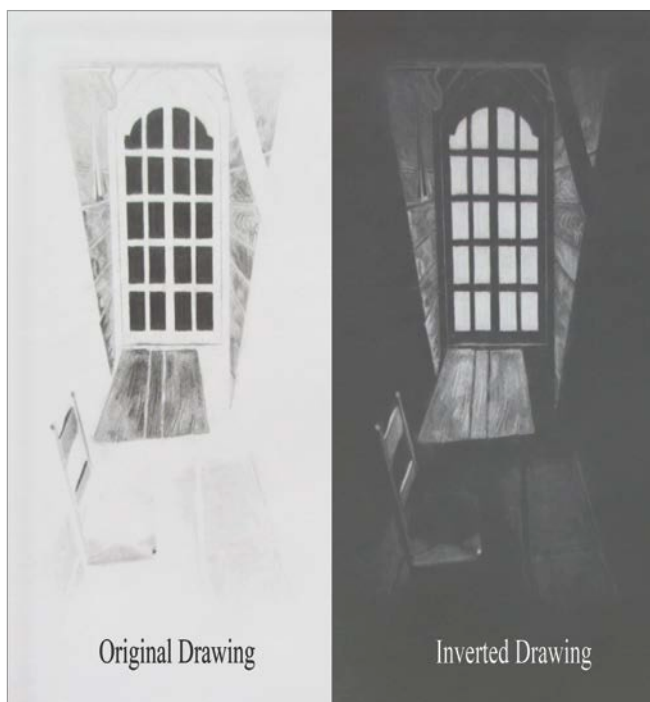
About- The painting is very color "segregated," it's a value-based painting of black, white, and grey. It's a very eye-catching piece that shows the trees and power lines from the original photo.

"I based this painting off of the black and white value of a picture I took while in Arizona. Painting a picture of something I love made me feel relaxed and determined. I have a passion for photography and painting; this piece combined them and was very appealing to me as an artist."



Name- Brianna Morris,11
Art Class- Painting 3
Name of artwork- Eluded

About- “Eluded” is a watercolor that has an otherworldly vibe going on. It’s blue and orange, used to contrast two of my favorite complementary colors. *“I wanted to create something much more exciting than just some colors and a few patterns, something to spark my creativity. The project was non-objective, but somehow I managed to get my wish for it to look like a strange, exciting and electric new world. Making “Eluded” surely made my love for painting come back alive.*



Name- Hugo Padilla, 12
Art Class- Drawing 3
Name of artwork- Lodge

About- It looks just like it looks on this page. It is a drawing for my sketchbook.
“I was inspired by an art piece done by an artist who created an inverted work of art.”



Name- Benji Robles, 11
Art Class- Drawing 3

About- A 50 objects drawing, done in colored pencil.
“What mainly inspired me were things that I liked and what would bring a smile to whoever looked at my drawing.”



Name- Maleah Todd, 11
Art Class- Photography 2
Name of artwork- Repose

About- Mimicking the style of Cindy Sherman Photography, black and white, brick wall background, tousled hair, profile shot.
“The objective was to become a different person in front of the camera than what one would see behind. The emotional appeal comes from the relaxed language, showing a sense of calmness and serenity which is what the art of photography brings me in my busy, stressful life.”

The Splash Brothers

Brothers, Joe and Hank Smith, work together to leave behind a legacy of hard work, family and basketball.

One family and a ball. Brothers, senior Joe Smith and sophomore Hank Smith left behind a family legacy at Northridge only to begin a new one here at Memorial.

"Watching my two older brothers play at Northridge was really fun. It really shaped my love for the game," Hank said.

Although the two watched their brothers shine, it was different when their turn came along.

"I just was not having much fun anymore playing basketball [at Northridge]. I knew my passion for the game was still there, and I thought this was my

best option," Joe said.

With the arrival of the Smith brothers on the Memorial court, came the anticipation of having not one, but two new powerful athletes. Much of this build-up sprang off of older brother Pete Smith, who in the 2014-2015 sectional championship shot a game winning three pointer leaving his legacy up for his younger brothers.

"We were excited to come here. We knew Coach Sears, and we knew that we would be a competitive team," Joe said.

"The transition was not that



Sophomore, Hank Smith, plays against Elkhart Christian Academy on Wednesday, Nov. 29. Memorial basketball won the game 61-46.

Sydnie Schultheis/GENESIS

hard honestly," Joe continued, "Last year's seniors Jon [Bailey] and Michael [O'Toole] made me feel right at home. They treated me like family."

Family support and encouragement is something that the Smith brothers are no strangers to.

As a matter of fact, Hank and Joe are just two members of the nine person Smith family. They have three brothers and two sisters, not including themselves.

"My dad played a huge part in my love for the game," Joe said. "He taught me that I always have to set goals and work hard for what I want."

Unarguably, the brothers receive the most support while they are on the court from their younger brother, Sam.

"Sam is so crazy. My parents have to keep him under control and try to keep him off of the court most games," Hank said.

With the closeness of the family, the Smiths are destined to bring that bond to the court time-and-time again.

"I see him like I see every other guy on the court, as a teammate, but I also know his play style really well, and if he is open, I am giving the ball to him," Hank said.

Joe feels the same way.

"I am going to find the open man, but Hank is one of the best shooters on the floor, and if I can get the ball to him on the perimeter, I am going to get it to him," Joe said.

Many people live a family first life style. As fans may come to believe, it is especially true with the Smith brothers.

"When I say family first, I mean it. In my life, family comes first over anything, and I would not want to have it any other way," Hank said.



Brothers, senior Joe (left) and sophomore Hank (right) stand opposite each other in order to defend a free throw versus Elkhart Christian Academy on Tuesday, Nov. 29
Sydnie Schultheis/GENESIS

Dylan Pressler, Sports Editor

Hoosier Daddy?

Staff Writer, Nate Brown, previews college basketball teams in Indiana and how they stack up this upcoming season.

It is safe to say that Indiana is primarily a basketball state. Several times in the past, Indiana has had the most teams in the March Madness Tournament. Hoping for more success like it this year, here are the outlooks for every team this year:

Ball State University- The Cardinals have an easy schedule, ranking 152 in schedule strength. With this being said, there is still a very slim chance that they will make it to the March Madness Bracket though because they are not very good themselves. With Tayler Persons leading the way, the Cardinals are looking to make a deep push into MAC tournament.

Butler University- The Bulldogs have a difficult schedule with IU, the reigning champs Villanova, and Xavier as just some of their difficult opponents. Butler is going to have some level of difficulty this season. However, they have shocked fans several times in the past, and they are looking to do it again behind returning starters Roosevelt Jones, Kellen Dunham and Andrew Chrabaszcz.

Indiana University- The Hoosiers have a difficult schedule ahead of them. The Big 10 is always a competitive conference with Ohio State and Michigan State always being good. IU will probably be in the Top 10 at the end of the season and have a really good chance of making it to at least the Final Four. James Blackmon Jr. leads the team into this season as a Junior Guard

supplying assists and points the entire game. Having already beat Kansas, IU is in good position to make a name for themselves.

Indiana State University- Going in behind 6 foot 1 inch guard, Everett Clemons, averaging 9.5 rebounds a game, the Sycamores hope to beat the odds and pull out a winning season this year. They have an easy conference, but they are not good either so a March Madness appearance would be a shocker.

University of Notre Dame- For the last few years, the Irish have had semi-successful seasons. Considering that they are arguably the most difficult conference in men's college basketball, the ACC, they had a really good season last year. The beginning of their season is filled with easy opponents, but the second half is riddled with competitive ACC teams. With Junior Forward Colson Bonzie and Senior Forward VJ Beachem both averaging over 19 points a game, they have plenty of offensive fire power to make it deep into the March Madness Tournament.

Purdue University- The Boilermakers have always been an average team that normally makes the March Madness Bracket. They have a 7 foot 2, 290 pound behemoth on the roster named Isaac Haas. He is averaging just over 20 points and just under five rebounds a game. A presence like his though can really make a huge difference in a game. The Boilermakers will

need all the help they can get given that they have the toughest schedule this year. They have a really good shot of making it into the March Madness Bracket as long as they stick to their dinosaur.

Valparaiso University- The Crusaders are in the Horizon League. They have been to the March Madness Bracket a few

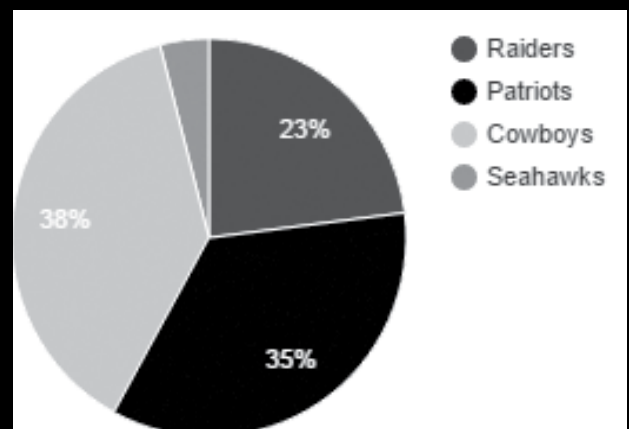
times but with no success losing all three that they have been in the last 15 years. Their last win in March Madness was in 1998, but that streak might end this year as they are off to an extremely hot start. With Alec Peters almost averaging a double-double this year, the Crusaders hope to make another appearance in the March Madness Bracket.

Nate Brown, Staff Writer

Super Bowl Poll

With the NFL being one of the most popular sports in America, many people are awaiting the playoffs and the subsequent Super Bowl and all want their team to be the one that hoists the Lombardi Trophy

in February. With that being said, only one can realize that dream and some simply have a better chance. We ran a poll on Twitter with selections based off of NFL predictions and the results were as follows:



Wheaton Webb, Opinion Editor

Wi Do We Even Try?

EIC, Morgan Gonsoski, discusses her lack of approval for our school WiFi.



The wifi here is useless, hopeless, just plain pointless.

You can't use Twitter, you can't use Safari, and for a while, you couldn't even successfully connect, rendering all worthwhile pastimes on my phone, null, and any possibility (though miniscule) of finding a site that actually helps me with further research for schoolwork, completely void.

On top of this, monthly, I end up using my precious and costly data, in favor of wasting a solid twenty minutes during every forty-five minute class period, trying to get my phone to connect, only to singularly have access to Snapchat.

It sucks, especially when I need an internet connection to

genuinely search a topic or question concerning school related things.

What's going to happen when we begin integrating Chromebooks into every classroom on a daily basis? The daily troubles will soon consist of a crashed internet, privy to the few hundred students, all attempting to hop on the same server simultaneously, resulting in only one thing, universal annoyance and tension spread throughout the entire school body.

"I have no use for the wifi. It's kind of pointless to even have it since most of the students here aren't able to use it either," Junior Evelyn Simms said.

So what's the point of paying for a network that's unusable?

Come on Memorial. You can do much better than this.

Morgan Gonsoski, EIC

Purely Pressured

Do you really need to be accepted by your peers?
Staff Writer Duncan Learman tells what can happen if teens just learn to think for themselves



Whether positively or negatively, it is a fact that high school students are motivated by their peers.

When it comes down to it, the people who teens surround themselves with are who they tend to act like. If one has friends who like sports and studying, the chances are they will study and play sports too.

Most teens desire acceptance or to be in a group or circle of friends. That is just a fact.

But, teenagers should realize that they are old enough and wise enough to make their own decisions. They do not need their peers to make decisions for them.

Realize that it is okay if you are the type of person who does not care to have a large crowd of friends or simply does not care

what others think of you.

The effects of this kind of realization can be quiet positive.

For example, if a person is being pressured into drugs or alcohol, and they don't care what others think of them, they may have a much easier time saying "no" than a person who strives for peer acceptance.

After all, one way to get into groups and make friends is to establish common ground with a peer group, and sometimes that might be through risky behaviors.

As a result, those who are not motivated by a desire for peer acceptance will be significantly less affected in comparison to those who do seek acceptance from peers.

Therefore, have confidence that as a high school students we are old enough to make wise decisions on our own. We do not need our peers to make them for us.

Duncan Learman, Staff Writer

Stop the Hate

The internet can be an intimidating place. Staff Writer Jordan Simpson explores the dangers and repercussions of cyberbullying.



You log into Facebook and the first thing you see are mean comments on your new profile

picture. It's not that you care about what they think, it's that someone you thought you could trust joins in on the offensive remarks. It makes you feel horrible and down and then you start to believe what they say is true.

Cyberbullying can happen at any time, on any day. Being mean to someone over the internet is cyberbullying, whether you are just messing around or not.

It's simple. The number one rule of life: treat others the way you want to be treated.

Something that everyone must remember is that when hurtful words are published

on the internet, they stay there forever. You may delete it from your Snapchat story or take down your Twitter post, but no matter how hard you try, you can't unsee it, unsay it, or unpost it. It will always be there, somewhere in existence. So the one being bullied could hurt themselves.

"More than half of adolescents and teens have been bullied online, and about the same number have engaged in cyber bullying," said Guard Child in their article titled "Cyber Bullying Statistics."

Guard Child also reported that only one in six parents know that their child is being bullied. When parents finally do find out their child is being bullied, their child has already resorted to extreme measures.

Schools, however, cannot do anything to make it stop.

Students can go to the principal

and complain all they want, but because cyberbullying takes place online and not physically at the school, the school board or principal cannot do anything.

In fact, recently, a childhood friend of mine committed suicide because he was being bullied. When his family found him, they rushed him to the hospital, but he was already gone...

This proves that bullying is all the same, online or in person. It hurts, and it is a terrible thing to do to another person. Schools should try to help solve the problems rather than just saying

"We can't help you. It is not on

the school's property."

Schools need to suspend students that do or say inappropriate things to others.

Schools should also

provide counseling for those being bullied and the bullies themselves. This includes things that are uncalled for like calling others horrible names and threatening them for no reason, just "because it is funny."

Bullying is no joke. It's not funny and no one should take it lightly. It can lead to lifelong problems.

Schools need to take bullying, online or in the outside world, seriously. They should suspend students and provide counseling to those that make the choice to hurt others. It is the same as fighting and students get suspended if they fight.

Everyone should take bullying, even cyber bullying, seriously because it can affect people for a lifetime, whether the bully knows it or not.

Jordan Simpson, Staff Writer

Greatest Musicians of All Time

Music changes with the times and each period features great artists, this is a list of who they are and why, according to Duncan Learman.

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Each generation is paired with a different genre of music depending on the era, but this usually leads to one question: what generation had the best music?

In my opinion, the best musicians in the rock genre are Jimmy Page, Jimi Hendrix, John Lennon and Paul McCartney. These are my favorites because of the way they changed the world of music.

Jimmy Page, lead guitarist in Led Zeppelin, was introduced to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame twice and also produced several of the songs Led Zeppelin released.

Jimi Hendrix is loved all around the world to this day. He won the Grammy Lifetime Award and went into the Grammy Hall of Fame.

Hendrix learned to play his guitars upside down when he was young because he was left-handed and could only afford right-handed guitars.

I favor **John Lennon** and **Paul McCartney** from the Beatles because of the role they played in classic rock and their ability to play eight instruments each. Paul McCartney won 12 Grammys along with many other awards with the Beatles and solo. John Lennon won Grammy Award for Song of the Year. After taking a break, he came back and was awarded the Grammy Album of the Year.

Though rap is relatively new and still evolving, this one is a little easier to choose. **Christopher Wallace** (Biggie Smalls), **Tupac Shakur**, **Kendrick Lamar** and

Jermaine Cole (J. Cole) are all helping or have supported the development of rap music.

While Biggie and Tupac made music much earlier than J. Cole and Kendrick Lamar, they all had one goal: to spread rap music and inspire others. The lives of Tupac and Biggie even influenced each other because of their great friendship before Tupac was shot by gang members that were connected to Biggie in some way.

Tupac inspires Cole today as he has stated in a number of interviews: "He [Tupac] was my favorite rapper even before I started rapping" pushing Cole to sell two million copies of Forest Hill Drive making the album double platinum. Kendrick Lamar is more inspired by Biggie, his town of Compton, and the need for success.

The pop culture today is ruling, but I find the pop earlier was much better because of names like **David Bowie**, **Michael Jackson**, and **Prince Nelson**.

Jackson sang and danced until the day he died in 2009, but before that he won 13 Grammys and went into the Grammy Hall of Fame.

The same could be said about David Bowie because of his two Grammys, being a member of the Grammy Hall of Fame, and his need to release music even when he was battling cancer.

Finally, going even further back comes the classical era.

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and **Ludwig van Beethoven** changed the flow of how music was played and composed. People today are still challenged by the pieces they wrote and played two hundred years ago.

Mozart played piano and violin by age three and started composing by the age of four. While Beethoven started going deaf at age twenty-six, he was said as mentally ill and depressed. However, he did not let it stop him from composing and playing the piano.

Duncan Learman, Staff Writer

Take It Into Consideration

Staff Writer, Jasmine Curry, gives her take on disruptive classmates and emphasizes the importance of an organized learning environment.



School is challenging enough to get through already, and when there is that one student who sits mindlessly in class doing absolutely nothing...at least nothing conducive to improving their intellectual abilities, distracting my learning time, it makes the day ten times harder.

Kids are throwing away their future because they do not realize how important it is.

The purpose of school is to get

a child ready to become a mature adult; without a fitting mindset, they fail to advance.

For those who fail to realize, your behavior is not just affecting you, the students around you are being negatively impacted

But it is also as simple as this, if you do not care about YOUR learning time, do not waste MINE.

I come to school to learn, not to mess around. Becoming distracted is not on my agenda.

When a student decides to disrupt the classroom

environment, most teachers feel the need to attend to the problem.

When the teacher stops in the middle of teaching and gives all of their attention to that one student, the other students are not getting the education they deserve. The right to an education that this country has promised them.

According to Hill M. Walker, Elizabeth Ramsey and Frank M. Gresham, authors of the book "Antisocial Behavior in School," "Ironically, the teacher's direct effort to stop the student from

engaging in acting-out behavior is the very thing that strengthens and maintains it."

So instead of helping the situation, it is making it worse, which requires even more attention.

So while, students should do their part in minimizing the distractions, teachers should also consider their approach when dealing with disruption.

Honestly, what is the point of a student being in school if they are not using the time to learn?

Jasmine Curry, Staff Writer

All Time Low

GENESIS Staff, argues the importance of the presence of school spirit within our student and athlete community.

A large presence within our building, low school spirit has seemingly become a trend here at Memorial.

The idea that pride in one's school community and student body is no longer "cool" and is no fun at all, is simply untrue.

Not only this, but it affects the motivation and performance of students, athletes and staff.

This lack of pride and drive to participate and support others within one's school serves only to hurt one's peers.

And it hasn't gone unnoticed.

"I do see it a lot [low school spirit]," Tryston Swartz, varsity basketball member, said, "from sitting out [of the basketball game] on Wednesday [Nov. 23], I could see people sporadically spread across the stands, and they just all split up, and weren't really showing a bunch of spirit."

In sporting events, and now even in long-standing traditions, this

deficit is a large one.

"There is definitely low school spirit. I mean I saw it a lot at Class Olympics," senior, swimmer, and student government member, Kim Rezutko said, "especially since there were like four freshmen there. Class Olympics is literally my favorite thing every year, and the fact that there was not even enough people to compete in events, that's really bad."

The lack of support from our student body affects not only the school atmosphere, but our athletes themselves.

"It's harder because we have to provide our own energy and try and get ourselves hyped up, versus last year, at the Memorial v. Central game, we had a lot of school spirit, and that's what helped us in big moments," Swartz said.

At basketball games, the players are not the only ones affected, but also the cheerleaders,

"As a cheerleader, for basketball

games, sometimes there's a student section and sometimes there's not, but seeing people leave early, like if we're losing, they leave early and their school spirit is just gone. It just upsets me that we [Memorial's students] don't stay there the whole time,"

senior, winter cheerleader, Karla Diaz, said.

However, in one of the most obvious examples, the infamous low attendance at Memorial's girls and boys swim meets has left them expecting the worst, when in reality, our supports, would only serve to help in their performance.

"Swimming for me, I've never had much of a crowd, so it doesn't bother me when I don't have one," Rezutko said. "But when I do, it just makes me more 'pumped up' to swim, like I'm not just swimming only for myself, I'm trying to impress other people."

So how can we fix this? In terms of the students, a more personal approach may be the best option:

"I feel like a lot of people want to be the ones to 'lead' the student section, because I see that in a lot of seniors," Swartz said. "So I think that some seniors need to just put their pride aside and combine as a school, for everyone. If you tried to see it from a different perspective, or tried something new out for a change, like going to a swim meet or sitting in the student section and not being a leader for once."

In terms of the staff and/or athletic department, some have attempted a more impersonal method:

"They [Memorial] have tried to 'bribe' before--bringing candy to football games--or saying that if you come you'll get a candy bar, so that sometimes gets more people to come to the games," Diaz said.

But it's not just the athletic events that have low spirit, but the school itself.



Memorial's student section poses for a picture before the start of the Memorial v. Central game, on Friday, Dec. 2.

Photo Courtesy of Jacquie Rost

Students are automatically not going to have all positive things to say about their high school, but the level of disdain for Memorial from some is overwhelming. "I hate the school lunch, I hate the dress code, I hate the bathrooms." After a while, the amount of hated things builds to a completely negative student body.

If we want to improve overall school spirit, we first need to accept that not everything at Memorial completely sucks and put away our pride to support these athletes and just the entire school in general.

Go to sporting events, to swim meets, basketball games, or even the events with little to no attendance: golf and bowling. Sit with the student section. We may not always be winning, but half of the game/meet/match is confidence. Without our unwavering support, Memorial will never achieve the level of competitive greatness that we are more than capable of.

Participate in Charger events and be a part of the Memorial spirit that pushes our school to new heights.

GENESIS Staff



Elkhart Central's student section attendance greatly outnumbers Memorial's at the annual City Championship fight for the Longfellow trophy, on Friday, Dec. 2

Madison Ward/GENESIS

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Happy Holidays from the
GENESIS Staff!



Top- left to right: Kamryn Miller, Sydnie Schultheis, Jordan Simpson, Hollie Erikson, Kennedy Null, Jasmine Curry, Nate Brown

Bottom- left to right: Dylan Pressler, Wheaton Webb, Madison Ward, Morgan Gonsoski, Alex Richards, Duncan Learman