



THE ROAR

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Page Editor: Madeline Crowley and Courtney Kirby

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Border disputes cause controversy across U.S.

By Marisa Kelley
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People from Central America have been attempting to seek refuge in both Mexico and the United States for many weeks now. Throughout the past two decades, mmigration has been a controversial topic with the U.S. Ever since the War on Terror began, immigration has become one of the most “hotly” debated topics in the entire country. One concurrent issue was when, during this past November, Donald Trump issued the U.S. military to go to the border. According to *National Public Radio, Inc.* (NPR), “U.S. agents closed a major border crossing and fired tear gas at migrants attempting to cross into the U.S. from Tijuana, Mexico.” The news outlets further states, “The migrants, many of whom had been part of a caravan of Central American asylum-seekers, were protesting the slow pace with which the U.S. has been processing asylum claims.” Although there have been rumors that the entire border shut down, those are proven to be false. Only one port of entry, San Ysidro, was closed and it was then reopened after a few hours. The port was considered to be the busiest land border crossing in the entire Western Hemisphere. Around 90,000 people crossed it daily--70,000 by car, 20,000 by foot. Although these borders were busy with migration, there was quite a possibility that it could all shut down.

Donald Trump does, in fact, have the

power to shut down the border. However, it is difficult to completely secure a border more than 1,900 miles long, *USA Today* explained. However, by doing this, the U.S. wouldn’t entirely stop immigration; it would just slow the process of accepting asylum claims even further. To clarify, seeking asylum is a phrase that is used when someone asks for political protection from another country because they cannot return to their own country.

Around November 25th, more than 5,000 migrants reached the U.S.-Mexico border in hopes to request asylum. *NPR* states that most are from Honduras, “where gang violence is widespread and a 2009 coup triggered an ongoing political crisis.” These Central American people showed up at the border--some traveling as far as 3,000 miles--to protest. This was not illegal. Rather, the right to seek asylum is protected by both the United States and international law. Regardless, troops were still sent to the border to try and limit the number of protesters. According to *CNN*, roughly 500 of these migrants were attempting to cross the border when U.S. officials fired tear gas into the crowds. Most of the migrants were families with children present. Tear gas can cause, according to *Forbes*, “Effects to the eye include excessive tearing (lacrimation), blurred vision, redness, and intense eye burning. [...] Effects on your lungs include wheezing, coughing, choking sensation, and difficulty catching your breath.” The mayor of Tijuana--the city that this occurred in--is pleading for help from the

rest of Mexico and even other international countries. He claims that the camps on the border are “unsanitary.” One of the numerous problems is a lack of space--with lice infestations and respiratory problems becoming rampant, this is extremely harmful to the migrants. *CNN* even states that the camps on the border have more than three times the holding limit of people in them, which may be why some are starting to close down entirely.

As of late November, only 40-100 people may request asylum each day. These limits cause backups at the border--especially since the government encourages these people to show up at entry ports as opposed to anywhere else--which can make it difficult for these people to receive the care that they may require in the U.S. Earlier in November, Donald Trump proposed measures denying asylum to migrants who enter the country illegally. “People in the caravan who want to request asylum, they’re looking at months to even be heard first by U.S. authorities, and then for that claim to be processed can take months or even years,” Jame Fredrick, a reporter for *NPR*, states.

The U.S. officials from Tijuana have defended their actions. Most say that the migrants were threatening their safety, but *CNN* reports that a select few migrants began to throw things at the officials *after* they started to fire tear gas. These people that are only hoping to get better opportunities have been prevented from getting the help they requested.

New congress creates new changes

By Maddi Saunders
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The 115th United States Congress is coming to an end to be replaced by the 116th Congress on January 3rd, 2019. Congress is composed of the House of Representatives and the US Senate; the two groups work to make new laws, change existing laws, and make sure the needs of the U.S. people are heard.

The 115th Congress, which began January 3rd, 2017 will end January 3rd, 2019. In 2017, Congress was able to make 97bills into laws including passing an act allowing the Department of Veterans Affairs to increase the rates of veteran’s disability compensation. This allows more money to be allocated toward veterans who have disabilities which includes providing clothing for them, and giving money to their spouses and children, according to *congress.gov*. Each congressional session lasts one year, leading to two sessions per congressional term. By voting for House of Representatives every two years, and one-third of the Senate every six years, it encourages those who work in the House and Senate to continue working diligently. This also encourages them to be aware of the public opinion of the people in order to gain supporters and give people a say in how the government functions.

As of right now, the speaker of the House of Representatives is Paul Ryan,

a Republican from Wisconsin. He is the 54th speaker of the House, who has served 10 years in Congress. Ryan and President Trump have been known to clash when it comes to certain issues, such as Trump’s less conservative ideas that Republicans do not tend to favor. Ryan announced earlier this year that once the 116th Congress begins, he is planning to retire.

Due to Ryan’s expected retirement, democrat Nancy Pelosi of California is now in the running to become speaker of the House of Representatives. Both candidates will go head to head around noon on January 3rd, when the House will vote on their new speaker.

In the Senate, Vice President Mike Pence is the current president of the Senate along with Orrin G. Hatch, a Republican from Utah as president pro tempore. Simply said, when Pence is unable to attend meetings, Hatch is the presiding officer in the Senate. Pence will continue to be the Senate’s President in the upcoming Congress. Hatch is planning on retiring this year, and Chuck Grassley, a Republican from Iowa, is likely to become the next president pro tempore, according to *grassley.senate.gov*. There is no Democratic nomination,as the Republicans have the majority in the Senate.

This is the most diverse Congress yet, with 23 people of different races and ethnicities representing white-majority districts. This includes the first Korean-

American in 20 years to serve in The House of Representatives, as well as the first ever Native American, Democrat Debra Haaland from New Mexico. The Michigan representative, Rashida Tlaib is the first Palestinian-American elected. *The New York Times* believes that the Congress freshman house is ideologically diverse with 22 members who had originally worked for the C.I.A or served in the military, and groups of people who could potentially help moderate the Senate and House of Representatives.

Along with diversity, the 116th Congress has been dubbed “the year of the women” by *The New York Times* given that there are 42 women joining Congress. Of those 42 women, 60 percent are Democrats, contributing to the Democratic majority in the House of Representatives. Meanwhile, Republicans continue to remain the majority in the Senate. The 116th Congress is expected to bring about a lot of change in the House of Representatives and Senate, as well as the U.S. as a whole.



Photo courtesy of Brookings Institution

Ivanka Trump: “Lock Her Up”?

By Courtney Kirby
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In mid-November, *Washington Post* reporters Carol Lenning and Josh Dawsey revealed that Ivanka Trump, daughter and official White House aide of current President Donald Trump, sent hundreds of emails regarding White House business on her personal computer. These emails were sent to aides, Cabinet officials, and her assistant off of the account that she and husband Jared Kushner share. Kushner has also reportedly sent emails regarding White House business off of his personal email. While this was a problem for Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton, Trump and Kushner’s wrongs have already been forgotten about. Why are the two not being held to the same standard?

Simply put, Ivanka Trump is presenting her email scandal as entirely different, saying in an interview with *Good Morning America* that “there really is no equivalent” between her and Hillary Clinton’s situations. She claims that she was not trying to hide things from the public record and that all the emails were about her trying to manage the fact that she has both a work and a home life. However, even some of Donald Trump’s other aides were worried when they looked into her emails and questioned Ivanka about it personally.

Even if Trump claims that her emails were unassociated to anything bad and that she was simply not aware of the federal rules relating to emails, which is what she told White House Aids, according to *Vox.com*, what she did was still the same thing Clinton received backlash for. Can you imagine the hate Hillary Clinton would’ve received



Photo courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

had claimed that she just wasn’t aware of the rule?

Trump based a large part of his campaign on trying to criminalize Hillary Clinton for her emails. It was common to hear chants from Trump supporters calling to “Lock Her Up.” Although early on in the campaign, the FBI determined that Clinton did not commit criminal activity

through the use of her private server, the phrase was still one of the Republican party’s favorites. *The New York Times* ran as many cover pieces about Hillary Clinton’s emails as they did her policy in the 69 days leading up to the 2016 election.

So the real question is, have the more aggressive members of the Republican party grown as people, or are they simply lending some relief to a member of their own party? The likelier of the two is the latter, and it’s a common occurrence in politics. Whether you look at the Republican party or the Democratic party, they all tend to attack members of the other party while supporting their members who do the exact same thing.

To me, the hypocrisy in politics is one of it’s most pressing problems. Just like in every situation, there are some exceptions, however, the majority of politicians in America only act in their own personal interests. They only call out other politicians for doing corrupt things when it’s beneficial for them or their party. The newest Trump family revelation is just the latest example of this. While it’s hard for me to say this, Democrats have been guilty of acting similarly in alike situations.

The main thing that you have to remember when dealing with politics and politicians is that you really have to look at everything they have done to get an accurate depiction of their character and morals. Know that nothing is ever as they make it appear and in order to form your own opinions, you must do your own research. While we will likely never get away from the two party system in America, we can at least start holding the parties and the individual politicians accountable.

Hot dogs: unassuming sandwich or sustenance of its own design?

By Claire Wallace
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With a plethora of internet debates, ranging from the color of dresses to how a dog wear pants, there is one debate that has stood out for quite some time to people of all ages. It connects both the old and young and has been debated on platforms ranging from Facebook to Twitter to Instagram. What exactly causes the need to have different categories of entrees? What about a hot dog makes people think that it can be categorized as a sandwich? Personally, I believe that in no way, shape or form that a hot dog is a sandwich.

This topic of discussion can get both heated and messy, much like a small child who devours a hot dog that is both hot and overflowing with ketchup. What exactly defines a sandwich? What set of rules decides that a grilled cheese is a sandwich but a burrito from Chipotle isn’t? A burrito is definitely more filling than a measly grilled cheese sandwich. “A sandwich is a meat or poultry filling between two slices of bread, a bun, or a biscuit,” said Mark Wheeler, who works in the U.S. Department of Agriculture.


While a hot dog definitely fits this description because it is on a bun, it is not a sandwich because the hot dog is not placed on a traditional bun that would be used for hamburgers or barbecue sandwiches. It is placed on a hot dog bun, if you were to simply google bun without adding the words “hot dog” in front of it you would get sandwich buns. A hot dog bun is different because of the hinge in the bread. Other popular foods that are eaten in an edible U-shaped holder include tacos and gyros.

Tacos and gyros would never be considered as a sandwich because they don’t fall into that category. Now, you might be thinking, what about sub sandwiches? They are most definitely sandwiches because of how you hold them while eating them. The most typical way to eat a hot dog, taco, or gyro is by holding them up and down (so you see the U-shape) and turning your head to take a bite. Also, the sub sandwich includes sandwich in the name.

Sandwiches also typically include a sauce, such as butter or mayonnaise, vegetables, and cheese. Depending upon who you are and how you top hot dogs, you might feel that it fits better in the sandwich category of food options. In Cincinnati, we top hot dogs with chili, cheese, mustard, and onions, which check off the vegetables and cheese categories. In Chicago, hot dogs are topped with so many vegetables and seasonings that they needed a different type of bun, the poppy seed bun. However, Chicago style dogs still fall into the category of hot dog because they have a hinge in the bread and are eaten sideways compared to regular sandwiches.

I do not understand how anyone would even want to categorize a hot dog as a sandwich. The one point from the side that believes hot dogs are sandwiches is that the two popular foods have about the same effectiveness at how full you feel after eating one. However, according to *12News.com*, the state of Colorado has written a law that declares a hot dog, along with many other food types, to be sandwiches.


While this debate is one of the more bizarre ones in the world, but it remains to be one of the seemingly more pressing topics in the internet world and one where I will insist that hot dogs are not sandwiches.




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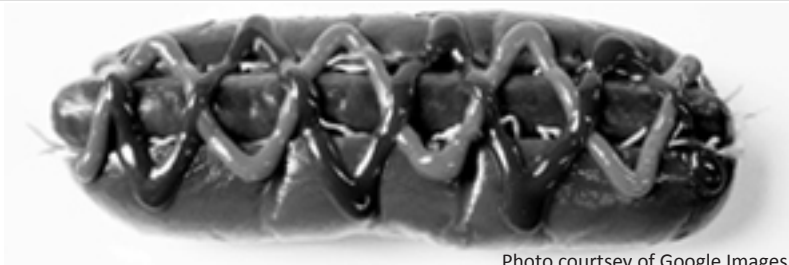


Photo courtesy of Google Images

Frosty the Snowman is another “jolly happy” Christmas character bringing magic through song, dance, and a top hat. Frosty came to life and brought happiness and joy along with him to share with the children.

Disney’s the *Lion King* has come to life

By Olivia Piziali
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Twenty-five years after the original film, Disney will reinvent *The Lion King* into a live action adaptation. Following the same plot and characters, Simba and his friends will be brought to life with the help of CGI. Fans are confused on what exactly live action is and how this film will have realistic looking animals singing and speaking.

The film will have a very well-known cast for one of Disney’s most successful films. In November of 2017, Disney announced the film’s synopsis and cast. According to *Collider*, “Simba will be played by Donald Glover, Nala will be played by Beyoncé, Seth Rogen and Billy Eichner will be playing the dynamic duo of Pumbaa and Timon, and John Oliver will be playing Zazu. Additionally, James Earl

Jones will be reprising his role of Mufasa.” Furthermore, *Collider* also reported the synopsis stating, “from Disney Live Action, director Jon Favreau’s all-new *The Lion King* journeys to the African savanna where a future king is born. Simba idolizes his father, King Mufasa, and takes to heart his own royal destiny.” Scar feels a sense of jealousy due to the arrival of Simba. With the help of his new friends along his journey, he must learn to be brave and become the Lion King that he was meant to become.

When the first teaser trailer for the remake was released on Thanksgiving, many fans were confused on what exactly is live action because the animals shown in the trailer recreated the opening of the original film perfectly. Rob Legato, *The Lion King*’s VFX supervisor, told *The Hollywood Reporter* that he “didn’t consider the remake an animated movie because of how Favreau (the director of

the remake) incorporates VR tools into the rules of traditional live action filmmaking.” In the past, Disney has reimagined many of their classic animated films such as *The Jungle Book*, *Cinderella*, and *Beauty and the Beast*. *Cinderella* felt more like a live-action film since the main character is a human, along with the new *Beauty and the Beast*. Although the princess films have characters and “magic” that would still need CGI like the Beast and Cogsworth, the audience still felt that the movie was more realistic. *The Jungle Book* is similar to *The Lion King* as the whole movie revolves around animals. “I am excited to see how they make the animals speak,” said **Maria Eha (12)**. Fans alike will be curious to see as well.

In addition to *The Lion King*, there are some other Disney films being brought to life in 2018. *Aladdin* and *Dumbo* will both have live action adaptations. The synopsis of the film is, “A young elephant who can’t

fly due to his large ears must help save the circus with the help of his friends,” said *ImDb*. The film is set to release March 29th, 2019 and will star Colin Farrell, Danny DeVito, and Michael Keaton, just to name a few. *Aladdin* is set to release on May 24th, 2019 and will star Naomi Scott, who is best known for her role in the Disney Channel Original movie, *Lemonade Mouth*, as Jasmine, while Will Smith, the Fresh Prince, will take on Robin William’s role of the Genie. Newcomer Mena Massoud will be playing the title role of Aladdin.

Based on the response to the trailer, fans are very excited for *The Lion King* remake. According to *Variety*, “the trailer set a new record for Disney becoming Disney’s most watched movie trailer within twenty-four hours. The movie accumulated 224.6 million views globally beating *Avengers: Infinity War*.” You can expect to see *The Lion King* in July 2019 coming to a theater near you.

America’s favorite novel, now hitting the stage

By Allison Kiehl
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Since it was published in 1960, Harper Lee’s classic novel, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, has been a cultural obsession and has proven to be one of America’s favorite stories. Now, almost sixty years later, the book makes a return to the public eye as it moves to the Broadway stage. Although the play has been in preview since early November, December 13th was the opening night at the Shubert Theater stage in New York.

To Kill a Mockingbird is centered around civil rights issues and racism within a small town in Alabama. Lawyer Atticus Finch finds himself at the center of all the racial tension when he takes on Tom Robinson’s court case. Tom, an African American man, has been charged with a crime he didn’t commit against a white woman. Atticus seeks to battle the racism head-on and attempts to win the case for Tom. The book’s message is at the core of societal issues. According to *USA Today*, it won the title of “America’s most loved book” in 2018. The general public loves this story and now they are able to see it performed in the closest thing to real life.

To Kill a Mockingbird is being brought to the stage by playwright, Aaron Sorkin, a highly recognized name in the business of writing for plays and movies. He has written for the Broadway production of *A Few Good Men*, the movie *Steve Jobs*, and is the creator of *The West Wing*, just to name a few. Director Bartlett Sher is a famous director who is also working with *To Kill A Mockingbird*. On Broadway, he has directed *The King and I*, and *Fiddler on The Roof*, along with countless other shows, movies, and television series. The combination of these two artists is making *To Kill a Mockingbird* just that much more anticipated.

In any new adaptation, the goal is to make the changes that are necessary so that the new version of the story makes sense, yet still has the heart of the original work. The stage production of *To Kill a Mockingbird* is no exception with a slight alteration to the storyline. According to a *60 Minutes* interview, one of these changes is that the trial, which doesn’t begin until

late in the book, will occur in the first few minutes of the play, and is at the center of the plot. Another change is that the children in the novel, Scout, Jem, and Dill, were all cast as adults. These are all very large roles in the storyline, especially because they are more innocent to any given situation than an adult would be. Therefore, this is a more extreme change in the adaptation. In Harper Lee’s original novel, the story is actually a reflection of childhood, from the perspective of a grown-up Scout. Another discrepancy between the novel and play affects the two African American characters in Lee’s classic novel, Tom and Calpurnia. According to *60 Minutes*, in the Broadway production, they both have a voice. In this interview, playwright Aaron Sorkin comments this about the most prominent changes to Tom and Calpurnia: “The play allows Tom Robinson, played by Gbenga Akinnagbe, to do more than just beg for his life...and the part of Calpurnia, Atticus’ longtime cook, maid and surrogate mother to his children has been expanded to a member of the family.” Social standards are very different now than when the book was first published and this new adaptation reflects that well.



Harper Lee’s novel, *To Kill A Mockingbird* is a fabulous work of literature that captures and embodies social justice issues, and still stands at the core of a movement looking to make positive change. The timeless story of Maycomb, Alabama coming to the stage promises *To Kill a Mockingbird* many more years to come.

In the movie adaptation of *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Atticus Finch sits in the courtroom. The stage production will follow the same premise but the story line will be altered.



Image courtesy of Parkwiz.com

The Shubert Theater is located in New York City and is the new home of the stage production of *To Kill a Mockingbird*.



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Photo courtesy of Google Images.

“Thank U, Next” Equals Success

Ariana Grande achieves major success after whirlwind of traumatic experiences

By Madeline Crowley

@madscrowley | Editor in Chief

Ariana Grande has quickly achieved the title as the internet’s favorite pop star, with *Time Magazine* even dubbing her as “the biggest pop stars in the world.” Many have recognized the star qualities in Grande throughout her career, yet this time the focus is different. Her fans, and even those who, in the past, were not fond of her have come to know her on a personal level, as she has become more vulnerable than ever, sharing her deepest thoughts and feelings with an audience of millions.

Ariana released her hit single, “No Tears Left To Cry”, in regards to her traumatic experience during her concert in Manchester, England in May 2017. 23 lives were lost that night, as an Islamic terrorist detonated a bomb as people were exiting Manchester Arena. One of Grande’s most noticeable attributes is her huge heart for others, despite her celebrity status, and when her concert, filled with thousands of young fans, was destroyed by the tremendously evil and terroristic act, it nearly tore her apart. The song title is misleading in that it suggests a more ballad-like tune, however, it is quite the opposite. Grande created a light, energetic rhythm that emphasizes her ambition to move forward, showcasing her immense strength. Following the attack on Manchester, Ariana struggled to get back on her feet and come to terms with what happened. Her manager, Scooter Braun, asked her to put out a concert in honor of those affected by the attack. Grande initially denied his request out of fear, however, days later she agreed with him, deciding to put on a concert to benefit the families, who had lost their loved ones in Manchester. The concert was a success with over 50,000 people in the crowd, while stars such as Katy Perry, Justin Bieber, and Coldplay performed to show their support. The concert was filled with overwhelming emotion, including Grande closing the concert with tears streaming down her face as she sang “Somewhere Over The Rainbow”. The city of Manchester recognized Grande’s efforts to restore peace by naming her an honorary citizen. The Manchester attack was an extremely difficult time for Grande as she battled anxiety and emotional trauma, but she persevered and expressed her feelings through her music.

Little did she know that the next year would be just as difficult as before, with the loss of her ex-boyfriend,

Mac Miller, from an accidental drug overdose. The two singers had dated for two years from 2016 until 2018, but it was unclear why the two split. In an interview with *Entertainment Tonight* in July 2018, Miller denied any rumors about a negative breakup stating, “I am happy for her and moving forward with her life just as sure as I’m sure she is with me.” After the loss of Miller, a major influence in her life, it took a toll on her emotional well-being. Grande honored the rapper by posting photos of him on *Instagram* and even took to *Twitter* to address questioning fans.

As if the loss of her ex-boyfriend was not enough, Grande split from *Saturday Night Live* cast member, Pete Davidson, who she started dating shortly after splitting from Miller. Their romance had the internet in shock due to Grande’s recent breakup with Miller, not to mention Davidson was the last person fans expected her to be joined with. The two had a fleeting romance, dating just merely a couple months until they were engaged and eventually leading to a breakup after that. There were speculations that the split was a result of the passing of Miller, however this assertion was never confirmed. Many stated that they foresaw the breakup from the beginning. Davidson made a statement during the news segment of *SNL* affirming, “[Ariana’s] a wonderful, strong person and I genuinely wish her all the happiness in the world.” It is no doubt that Pete and Ariana had a passionate yet short-lived romance, only adding to her seemingly never ending list of trials and tribulations.

After the amount of trauma Grande endured throughout the past couple years, she decided to channel her emotions into an unexpected single called, “Thank U, Next”. Grande is known for her powerful vocals, although this year was different for her. “Thank U, Next” is about embracing the past but moving on to better things. She sings this deeper meaning effortlessly, pouring out her heart and soul, as a result of her past devastating experiences. The catchy, upbeat tune represents Grande’s effort to move forward, while also acknowledging the impact her exes had on her life. The music video for the hit single is set to debut on November 30. It includes throwbacks from well-known movies such as *Mean Girls*, *13 Going on 30*, *Bring It On*, and *Legally Blonde*. The song is the end of a troublesome era in Grande’s life but it also symbolizes beautiful beginnings.



Photo Courtesy of wikipedia.com

At this time, Ariana Grande is working on her next studio album. Recently, Grande was named Billboard’s “Woman of the Year,” celebrating her success with rising above her hardships while continuing to make hit music.

Environmental Hypebeasts: Nicole McLaughlin

By Mihaela Manova

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In the world of new sneaker wear and hypebeast culture, Nicole McLaughlin decided to make new designs out of the old. When she’s not working for *Reebok Classics*, McLaughlin takes various objects and crafts them into her own DIY shoes, which she then later shares with her twenty-five thousand Instagram followers. With the use of sustainable materials like tennis balls, balloons, and green *Gatorade* bottles, she creates slides, slippers, and even chairs. In 2018, she revealed multiple creations, the most famous being a slipper made out of *Ralph Lauren* “Polo” shirt pockets.

In an interview with *Vogue*, McLaughlin told them about her career in fashion. *Vogue* reporter Liana Satentein wrote, “[She] got her start in sportswear while she was in college. She first majored in speech pathology and later went into digital design, and eventually scored a yearlong internship at Reebok before getting hired full-time.” At this moment she is working at the fairly secret Adidas Brooklyn Creator Farm, which *HighSnobiety* calls the “Disneyland for designers.” Equipped with machinery, products, and prints to inspire the designers, their job is to make the consumer want the product, not just need it. This is where McLaughlin prospers,

creating pieces with scrap material to upcycle clothing.

On the other hand, *Vogue* tells, “When a design does not quite go as planned, she turns it into another piece, like furniture. ‘You have to be willing to explore and fail,’

contribute McLaughlin’s designs to be the start of many. Her sandals that were made from the straps of *Ikea*’s notable blue bags could be said to be the precursor to the viral *Ikea* designs. On Instagram, similar people like @brucehatoo made *Yeezy* inspired



Photo Courtesy of: @nicolemcLaughlin

Above are examples of McLaughlin’s shoe designs made from recycled materials like tennis balls and camera straps. Among them, brands like Ralph Lauren and Patagonia (not pictured) appear on her Instagram feed.

she says. ‘And if you have an idea that you think is going to work, and it starts failing halfway through, change it.’”

When it comes to trends, we can

sneakers with the *Ikea* logo placed in the center of the shoe. During fashion week we can see another iconic *Ikea* product walk the *Balenciaga* runway, as the big brand

went to make the blue tote worth \$2,145.

When it comes to the industry, McLaughlin resents the waste that has been made from numerous companies, who discard their unsold clothes or burn them. One of whom was *Burberry*, who “very much regrets its decision to burn \$38 million of unsold stocks rather than let it fall into the wrong hands.” *Huffington Post* reports. “It was embarrassing. The *Burberry* burn - #burnberry on social media- broke as a huge story in July, just two months after the brand announced it was a core signatory to Making Fashion Circular.” The main goal of the Making Fashion Circular initiative is to keep resources in circulation and to limit waste. This movement was proven to contradict *Burberry*’s statement and in turn, was not received well. McLaughlin makes her opinion clear, “I think [recycling] needs to be done in an authentic way, not just, ‘oh recycle’ and find something that is recycled and jack the price up on it because it says ‘sustainable.’”

During this age of fashion and technology, one can observe the variety of ways fashion can be expressed and valued. Creativity is propelled now more than ever, with social media giving a voice to creators around the world. With this said, in the future, McLaughlin’s followers will expect great additions to her platform.

Blueprinting Reds’ tournaround season

By Kyle Faessler
@kylejf_10 | Staff Writer

After five straight seasons of losing baseball, the Cincinnati Reds appear to have their sights set on winning. This would be quite newsworthy, but we’ve heard this proclamation each of the past five seasons, so it’s understandably difficult to believe there’s hope for change in the coming year.. However, there are a couple differences between this upcoming season and the previous few. For one, the Reds brought in a new manager in David Bell, a Cincinnati native who graduated from Moeller High School. This is the club’s second manager hiring since letting go of Dusty Baker after the 2013 season, and although it’s no guarantee for a better on-field product, it’s certainly a step in the right direction. What’s truly captured the imaginations of fans and pundits were the comments made by the team’s owners and front-office management saying that, “We have the ability to spend more....Not incrementally, it should be significantly more [than in recent years].” With confirmation from the guys up top, it’s time for the Reds to put the money where their mouths are, and the team back where it belongs as a Championship-caliber competitor.

That’s much easier said than done, believe me, I realize that, but the goal of this article is to provide a blueprint for how the Reds might be able to compete this next season, so we have to be optimistic. With that said, let’s dive into what exactly needs to be fixed: a new coaching staff should bring some refreshing changes to a locker-room that’s had to accept failure over the last few years, so a culture change is the

first step toward turning the team around. Following the examples in Philadelphia and Atlanta, who each made huge strides last year after a number of losing seasons, there’s legitimate hope that changes in the clubhouse could be the first step toward a winning mentality. If Bell can get the players on board, there’s hope that Joey Votto’s preaching of “bringing winning baseball back to a baseball city” might actually become a reality.

The clubhouse attitude isn’t the only thing in need of a makeover though. Cincinnati had the second-worse collective ERA in the National League last year, and anyone who followed the 2018 Redlegs can tell you why. Injuries were a factor, but inconsistencies in the starting rotation paired with the lack of a go-to starter have caused major problems ever since the Reds traded Johnny Cueto in 2015. The publicly-stated priority from the Reds’ front-office all winter has been finding a new anchor for the rotation. Cincinnati was heavily reported to have made offers for Seattle’s James Paxton, but ended up getting outbid by (no surprise here) the New York Yankees. Since then, they’ve been heavily linked to free-agent and former Astros’ ace Dallas Keuchel. I’ve always admired his command and mentality, but there’s a lot of risk in paying him a nine-figure contract to pitch in a hitter-friendly ballpark.

The best solution here would be to do one of two things: Sign multiple cost-efficient but quality starting pitchers who hopefully can outperform their value—Guys like Nathan Eovaldi, Drew Pomeranz, and Derek Holland come to mind as players who could fit that description; The second option, (and the more exciting one) would

be to trade for a starting pitcher who is on a team-friendly contract. That’s what the Reds were doing while trying to get Paxton, so it’s clear that they consider this an option. Of course, trading for a starter who’s being paid under his value is going to cost the Reds in prospects, but with a top-10 ranked farm-system, the Reds have the prospects to spare. Players to look out for as potential trade targets for the Reds, in my opinion, would be Cleveland’s Carlos Carrasco, Los Angeles’ Ross Stripling, and Detroit’s Michael Fulmer.

Cincinnati absolutely requires pitching help in order to have any hopes of competing this year. Whoever they choose to bring in will have the privilege of working with new pitching coach Derek Johnson. Last year, Johnson converted a relatively mediocre Milwaukee Brewers staff into a top-five team in ERA, wins, and opponent batting average. The hope is that Johnson can take a once-promising group of young pitchers like Cody Reed, Robert Stephenson, and (maybe, just maybe) Brandon Finnegan and unlock some of the potential that has eluded their productivity in the big leagues. He’ll have his hands full, but with a reliable addition and increased production from Castillo, DeSclafani, and Mahle, then there’s reason for excitement.

The last step is going to be getting healthy. Jesse Winker will be coming back from shoulder surgery that cut short his breakout season, and top-prospect Nick Senzel might’ve made it to the big league team had it not been for a hand-injury that cut short his 2018 year. If these two can bounce back, the Reds will gain quality depth, but likely also some capable, high-upside every-day players for 2019. Utility

man Alex Blandino will miss a good portion of the upcoming season continuing his ACL rehab, so the Reds will need to look into finding some middle infield depth. Dilon Herrera took over Blandino’s role after he went down last season, but expect the Reds to sign a player or two to fill in the empty bench roles. Proven veterans such as Logan Forsythe and Andrew Romine are current free-agents who would seem to be potential fits.

It’s going to take a lot to pull off the turn-around that the fans here have been waiting on for years now. Many of the same questions that have haunted Cincinnati for the past two years remain unanswered. With a new coaching staff, the Reds have already established the willingness to make the jump to contention, but it will take some spending to turn the page from this seemingly endless “rebuild.” I was hoping to make it through this whole article without having to mention Homer Bailey, but as the Reds look to potentially commit hundreds of millions to a lucky pitcher I can’t help but feel a little wary. Just as the Reds finally appear close to escaping the inescapable contract of Homer, it will be vital that they avoid making a similarly poor investment. It’s tough being a small market team having to worry about these types of things, but that’s what makes it so fun to root for them. It’s going to be difficult to jump aboard another year of Reds’ hype, but I’m going to side with Joey here. We’re a baseball town, and we deserve better than what we’ve gotten. So in an era when it appears baseball is “dying,” get ready to renew your season-tickets because baseball is about to be back in the Queen City.

College Football Playoffs set for new year

By Grisha Tackett
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On Sunday, December 2, the College Football Playoff committee released its top four teams that will be competing to win the national championship. The teams were Alabama, Clemson, Notre Dame, and Oklahoma. The top three teams were pretty much guaranteed a bid, according to many analysts, but most of the buzz around the announcement stemmed from who would get that number 4 seed. Georgia, Oklahoma, Ohio State, and UCF were all in contention to claim the spot, but Oklahoma ultimately secured it.

There are only four teams that get to compete in the playoffs and they are decided upon by the College Football Playoff Committee, a carefully selected group of 13 people. The four teams play in a rotation of six bowl games, the Rose, Orange, Cotton, Fiesta, Sugar, and Peach bowls.

This year, the number one seed went to the Alabama Crimson Tide. The team finished with thirteen wins and zero losses, clinching a conference title. The Crimson Tide showed early promise blowing out conference competitors such as Ole Miss, Vanderbilt, and Texas A&M. Their quarterback, Tua Tagovailoa, and coach Nick Saban, led the team to their perfect season. Tagovailoa threw for over three-thousand yards and thirty-six touchdowns in the regular season.

Alabama’s toughest game this season came against the Georgia Bulldogs in the SEC Championship on December 1. This

was Bama’s only top ten team on their schedule, and the best competition they would play all year. The Bulldogs, the number 5 seed in the CFB rankings, took an early lead and kept it up through the third

quarter. The score was 28-14 at the end of the third quarter and many felt an upset brewing. After Tagovailoa was sidelined with an ankle injury, backup Jalen Hurts led Alabama to a 35-28 win.

The number 2 seed in the playoffs is the Clemson Tigers. The Tigers finished the year undefeated as well, placing first in the ACC. Their biggest competition was Texas A&M, who barely lost by 2.. Last

week, the Tigers blew out Pittsburgh 41-10 to clinch the ACC Championship and a perfect season. After three games, Clemson switched from Kelly Bryant to Trevor Lawrence as their starting QB. Lawrence

threw for over 2,500 yards and 24 touchdowns with only four interceptions.

The Notre Dame Fighting Irish were then announced as the number 3 seed in the tournament. The Irish finished their season at a perfect 12-0 as well. Their best win was against the Michigan Wolverines in their first game. The Irish outscored the Wolverines by one touchdown and then continued to win the rest of the season.

Their two top QBs, Ian Book and Brandon Winbush led the explosive offense. Both quarterbacks combined to throw for over 3000 yards and 23 touchdowns.

The Irish were a controversial team due to the fact that they don’t play in a conference, meaning that they control their schedule. Many fans think that they should be left out because it is unfair to Power 5 conference teams. Notre Dame fanatic **Kyle Becker (12)** said, “They played 10 power five conference teams. Bama and Clemson didn’t. This shouldn’t be a question.”

The last team to make it was the Oklahoma Sooners. The Sooners clinched the playoffs with their Big 12 Conference Championship win against the number 14 Texas Longhorns. Earlier in the season, the Longhorns beat the rival Sooners 48-45. Oklahoma won the rest of their games and finished 12-1. Many credit their successes to their stud quarterback, Kyler Murray. Murray finished off the regular season with over 3,600 passing yards, 37 touchdowns, 7 interceptions, and 862 rushing yards. Murray was also drafted in the first round of the MLB draft to the Oakland A’s organization. He told reporters that he planned on pursuing baseball instead of football after college.

Number 1 seed Alabama will play Oklahoma in the Orange Bowl on December 29. Clemson will play Notre Dame on the same day in the Cotton Bowl. ESPN analysts predict that both Bama and Clemson will win their first games. Overall, they envision a Crimson Tide national championship.



Photo courtesy of Wikipedia

Fred Cranford steps down as Tiger head football coach

By Sam Greenberg

@samhgreenberg | Sports Editor

On November 28, **Fred Cranford** stepped down as head football coach of the Tigers. The resignation comes after a five year stint with the football program.

Despite the relative lack of success in his last two years of coaching, the high points in Cranford's time with Loveland Football are truly remarkable. In 2013, Cranford led the Tigers to a magical undefeated season in which the Tigers defeated high school football powerhouse Cleveland Glenville 41-23 to capture the OHSAA Division II State Title.

Cranford wanted to step away from coaching to spend more time with family, telling the *Cincinnati Enquirer*, "I'm super-excited about this next chapter. I never wanted to compromise family over football. The kids are at a critical age and to be able to spend more time with them, I've got no regrets." Throughout his coaching career, Cranford has maintained a pledge that he would never compromise family for football.

In his six seasons as head coach of the Tigers, Cranford went a cumulative 34-32. While doing so, he made a significant personal impact on his players. **Connor Wasmund (12)** spoke very highly of his former coach, saying, "Coach Cranford wasn't just a coach, he was a role model—always doing what was right and never giving



Photo courtesy of cleveland.com

Cranford celebrates winning the 2013 state championship. He went a combined 34-32 in six seasons with the Tigers

in—he always put his players before anyone else."

"[Coach] Cranford is a great guy, he always asked me about my brother Cole when he was injured during the summer," **Carter Schlesner (12)** said. "Even if we struggled he still loved us no matter the results."

Cranford said he learned a lot during his coaching experience. "Everyone in front of you is more important than yourself," he told *The Roar*. "I will miss building relationships on and off the field with my players, the 'Friday night lights,' [and] the office camaraderie with my

coaches."

In 1997, Cranford spent time at Otterbein College, where he obtained a bachelor's degree in physical education, health and sport management. He continued his education at Xavier University, where in 2005 he earned a master's degree in educational administration. Starting in 1999, Cranford began working as a physical education teacher at Bishop Fenwick High School in Franklin, Ohio. Subsequently, he began coaching football as a defensive coordinator for Bishop Fenwick, and in 2005, he was promoted to head coach.

Cranford came to Loveland in 2013 after 15 years of coaching and teaching at Bishop Fenwick. He replaced Coach Andrew Marlatt, who accepted the position of special teams coordinator at Miami University.

Cranford released a statement on November 28, in which he said, "I am very thankful for having been around so many great coaches and players that have cared so much about each other. For this Tiger Nation, I want to say thank you for all of your support, conversation, and love throughout my coaching episode at Loveland."

Cranford, who is 45 years old, expects he will coach again, although it will likely not be in the near-future. There is no word as to who will be the head coach for the Tigers next season, but on behalf of all of Tiger Nation, *The Roar* wishes Cranford luck as he enters this new stage in life.

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Top 5 most popular memes of 2018

By Erik Dullaert
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As 2018 comes to a close, people tend to look back on everything that happened this year. One of the things people might choose to reflect on are the memes this year. While there were plenty of bad and overused memes, there was also a fair share of good ones. In no specific order, this list will include some of the best memes that popped up in everyone’s *Instagram* feed this year, including memes not covered in the meme review. Note: this won’t include any memes from December, as this article was written beforehand.

1. Surprised Pikachu

This reaction meme of Pikachu has become quite popular over recent weeks, having gotten its start on *Tumblr* and spreading from there. The original image is from season 1, episode 10 of the original

Pokemon cartoon. The meme is used to show someone surprised that something occurred when in reality the person knew an action was going to happen. Due to the open style of the meme template, almost every group online has a Pikachu meme relating to that group.

2. Full Names

In this meme, someone would google a person’s full name. For example, googling, “Elon Musk full name” would return the result “Elongated Muskrat.” The meme originated on the subreddit *r/me_irl* with a google search of Lil’ Pump’s full name returning the result Lilliam Pumpernickel. It spread to parody the names of many other celebrities and famous people.

3. Crab Rave

This is a more obscure pick, but still a great meme. The original video comes from an Irish music producer called Noisestorm and was released earlier this

year, according to *Know Your Meme*. The original video is nothing special, just crabs dancing to an electronic beat. Eventually, people put captions over the video, with the first one to start the meme being “Obama is gone!!” It went on to inspire other captions over the same video.

4. Bongo Cat

Continuing with another musical meme, Bongo Cat is a meme that requires more editing skills than the Crab Rave meme. Bongo Cat originated on *Twitter*, with the cat playing the bongos to the “Athletic” theme from *Super Mario World*. Bongo Cat spread across the internet, playing many different instruments, and even “singing” in a few songs.

5. Change My Mind

Last but not least is Change My Mind. The image comes from the podcaster Steven Crowder’s sign at Texas Christian University. The sign reads, “Male Privilege

is a myth / Change My Mind.” Naturally, people photoshopped the image to change the text or even the person behind the table.

Those were the top 5 memes of 2018 in my opinion. There are plenty more great memes out on the internet, so others will certainly have other opinions. I hope you enjoyed and have a great winter break!



Photo courtesy of dailydot.com

Diving into departments: Social Studies

By Sam Aldrich
@SamAldrich7 | Editorials / Columns Editor

As LHS continuously prepares its students for a bright future, it provides them with ample opportunities to learn about the past. In addition to Social Studies classes, LHS students are able to pursue a variety of other courses within the Social Studies Department including Economics and Psychology.

From freshman to junior year, students are required to take some version of World History, United States History, and American Government. These courses provide students with enough knowledge to have a thorough understanding of the past as well as an active perspective on the country they currently live in. These help to create active citizens upon graduation and ensure that students go into the world with a comprehensive understanding of the world around them. Both United States History and American Government are offered at the AP level for those students

who wish to challenge themselves in their Social Studies classes.

Through the high school’s Economics curriculum, students will gain a broad understanding of microeconomics, macroeconomics, and financial literacy. However, for those students who wish to pursue the AP level, there is an AP Macroeconomics class available that specifically highlights the economic system as a whole.

Finally, any students wishing to look further into the way the brain works would be interested in taking up Psychology at either the regular or the AP level. Social Psychology highlights the main aspects of sociology while covering a wide range of topics in Psychology. AP Psychology looks into psychological principles as well as the history of psychology, in addition to social psychology.

For all students of LHS, there are a wide variety of opportunities to explore the various opportunities available to them through the Social Studies Department.

Dear Gretchen

By Staff Writer
@lovelandroar | Staff Writer

Dear Gretchen,
Winter break means two weeks with no school, but I’m still super stressed because we have finals after break! How am I supposed to relax to prepare myself for the next semester and still remember everything I need to know for finals? Do you have any tips on how I can enjoy my winter break?

From, Stressed Sam
Dear Stressed Sam,
First of all, just know that you are not alone in this. In all likelihood, your fellow classmates will also be plagued by the guilt of not studying and the stress of finals while trying to enjoy their holiday season. Although it would be weird to have class after final exams, it can be quite hard to remember everything you learned after you go into the new year. Luckily with some experience under my belt, I can share some tips and tricks about how to get through it the best.

1) Do a little bit each day. Except for the actual holiday you celebrate, taking your work a day at a time throughout break is a helpful way to stay caught up. Even doing

10 minutes of studying a day can really help you to retain that information.

2) Don’t feel guilty about enjoying yourself. In the wise words of Donna and Tom from *Parks And Rec*, “Treat Yo Self!” You made it this far in the school year, so you deserve it! Most people struggle in school but we’re almost halfway done, so pat yourself on the back and take the break you deserve. If all else fails, you still have a week after we get back to cram for your tests and make up final assignments.

3) Prioritize. This is important throughout the school year, but especially during the break. If you have a class you’ve done better in throughout the year, maybe don’t spend all your time on that class. Use your time to work on the classes you’ve had trouble in or need the extra studying for.

4) And finally, know that whatever happens will not be the end of the world! School is important, but these tests really won’t matter by the time you are 50. I mean, who even uses math, right? Take things one at a time and try your best, because your best is the most anyone can ask of you!

Have a fantastic break! Treat Yo Self!
-Gretchen

Food for thought: hot chocolate reviews

By Kayla Gibbins
@kayla_gibbins | Page Layout Editor

As winter weather abounds with full force, many people seek solace in warm things. While curling up with a blanket or wearing multiple layers are good ways to shut out the cold, nothing warms you from the inside out like a cup of hot chocolate. This month, I tried four versions of hot chocolate from four different venues to compare the quality of each. I paid close attention to the temperature of the drink, quality of chocolate flavor, presence and quality of toppings, cup design, and overall appeal of the drink. If you are looking for a warm drink to lift your spirits, you’ve come to the right place for advice.

Starbucks

Though known for its coffee, Starbucks produces a high quality hot chocolate, which is the perfect alternative for those with aversions to coffee and caffeine and wish to use Starbucks as a study or meeting space. While the drink is well crafted, the chocolate flavor in this sample can be a bit too rich for me at times. I find myself wishing it was slightly lighter, though fans of intense chocolate flavor would be quite happy with this product. However, the temperature is almost perfect, especially if you request your drink to be made at “kid temperature.” This proves to be a sweet spot between warm enough to provide comfort and cool enough to not immediately burn your tongue, which is usually a concern with hot drinks. I have slightly

mixed feelings about their toppings, because, while the whipped cream provides a wonderful creamy effect, this can be hindered by the chocolate drizzle applied to the top, which makes the rich drink even richer. However, this is not unforgivable. Starbucks has very well designed cups, and they should since they charge around \$2.95 for a tall (small) drink. The paper cups are quite sturdy, and the lids are very dependable and easy to drink from. Although I prefer previous holiday patterns, the cups are well designed for the winter season. There are multiple patterns, including stripes and holly leaves, which are sweet touches during the winter season. Overall, Starbucks’ hot chocolate is a quality beverage that comes with the added benefit of a quiet study space.

Swiss Miss

My next sample does not come from a restaurant, but from a tiny packet. Swiss Miss is a common variety of instant hot chocolate that can be made at home with the simple addition of boiling water or milk. Since this is a DIY drink, there are many options for customization. I find that the quality of chocolate can be a bit lacking in this variety, but this problem can be easily adjusted to taste through the use of milk or additional powder. I personally will add french vanilla coffee creamer to my hot chocolate to add some extra flavor and sweetness. I run into problems with the temperature of this drink, because the water must be hot to dissolve the powder, but I often get impatient and

fail to wait for it to cool, and end up with a burned tongue. This option allows you to include any toppings you would like, and is a great opportunity to eat marshmallows that aren’t offered with commercial hot chocolate. In lieu of a paper cup, you can sip this beverage from a fun mug, which is a pleasure in and of itself. Overall, Swiss Miss makes for a great option, especially if you value customization of your drink.

McDonald’s

With the addition of their McCafe beverages, McDonald’s is a strong contender in the area of hot beverages. Their hot chocolate has a well-balanced, sweet chocolate flavor that is very pleasant to drink. The temperature is wonderful given that you resist temptation and allow it to cool for a minute or two. The amount of whipped cream was perfect, and allowed for a nice creamy texture, and their version of the chocolate drizzle is sweeter, so I didn’t feel it took away from the balance of the drink. The design of the cup had a hint of holiday flavor, but was very sweet and simple. The paper cup was sturdy, but the lid felt flimsy and the large opening seemed prone to spilling. Overall, the McDonald’s hot chocolate was a delicious bargain, priced at a reasonable two dollars for a small.

As you navigate the freezing temperatures over the next few months, I hope I have added some insight into your choice of hot chocolate. Stay warm out there, and check back next month for another thoughtful food review!