



“The MHS Homecoming Game”



On Friday, January 25th, Manchester High School held their annual basketball homecoming ceremonies and game. Even with the loss, our Junior Varsity and Varsity Boys’ teams put up a strong fight. The MHS band performed a series of songs and did a magnificent job! Their hard work was evident and appreciated. During the break between the games, our homecoming candidates were able to finally take the floor and represent Manchester High School. The following students were candidates for this event: ninth grader, Miss Xena Crummie; tenth grader, Kayleigh Robinson; eleventh grader, Brook Henley; and eleventh grade CTC rep. Brooke Butcher. Running for queen of the senior class was Brett Himes, Savannah Tucker, Kari Foster, and Hannah Rideout. Congratulations to Miss Hannah Rideout for receiving queen and to all of the other senior girls and candidates. A special thank you goes out to Mrs. Applegate, Mrs. Swango, and the prom committee for all of their hard work on the beautiful decorations.

Delaney Young

“Homecoming Week at MHS”



In order to celebrate homecoming, the BETA club organized an entire week dedicated to the homecoming game and dance. Every day a student was able to dress up in a certain type of attire; for example, on Tuesday every student was able to dress up with a friend or friends by wearing the same outfit in order to look like twins. However, due to bad weather, school was closed. So if the students wanted to dress up like a twin, they did on Wednesday. Wednesday was “Nerd Day”, which meant that the students were supposed to come to school dressed in their geekiest clothes. Thursday was a great day for all the hunters and *Duck Dynasty* fans at Manchester High. It was *Duck Dynasty* Day, which entails the students dressing up in any type of camouflage and/or anything related to the T.V. show *Duck Dynasty*. The last day of the week was “Spirit Day”, which was dedicated to having pride and spirit in our school. For example, students were permitted wear the school colors of blue and gold or anything that was related to our school colors, symbols, and mascot that stood out and showed their confidence in the team. There was also a pep rally at the end of the day, in which Mrs. Lovejoy was awarded queen and Mr. Fegley was awarded king of the MHS faculty. There was also inspirational music played by the band and an inspiring speech from the basketball team.

Kristen Darnell

“Seventh Grade Profiles”



The first seventh grade profile is Mr. Trenton Denning. Trenton was born on January fourteenth of 2001, making him thirteen years of age. Trenton is neither taken nor single apparently, since he couldn't answer that question. He did not make a New Year's resolution for the year 2014. Ladies, if you want to win him over, Trenton's favorite food is tacos, and his favorite color is blue, so keep that in mind. In his free time, Trenton likes to watch *The Walking Dead*, when he's not hanging out with his best friends Chase Blankenship and Skylar Little. Trenton's favorite class is his first class of the day, social studies, which is taught by his favorite teacher, Mr. Mantell. He would like to end by saying nothing.



The second seventh grade profile for this month is Miss McKenzie Smith, otherwise known as Kenzie. Kenzie was born on June 18, 2001; therefore, she is currently twelve years old. When asked if she was in a relationship, her response was, “Not yet.” So whoever is trying to win her over, you better work quick before someone else gets to her! Kenzie is a very family oriented person, considering one of her New Year's resolutions was to have dinner at the table with her family more often and enjoy her favorite food, deer meat. Her other resolution was to cut down on drinking pop. In her free time, you could find Kenzie hunting with her daddy; hanging out with her best friend, Bella Paul; or watching her favorite movie, *Despicable Me 2*. Kenzie starts her weekday off in her favorite class, social studies, which just happens to be taught by her favorite teacher, Mr. Mantell. Her favorite senior is Tiffany Ricketts, and her favorite color is orange. She would like to end by saying, “FYI, follow me on Instagram.”

Tiffany Ricketts

“Ninth Grade Profiles”



Lydia Lopez is the first of our freshman profile. She was brought into this world on June 14, 1999. This girl is currently single! Lydia enjoys spending her time watching her favorite television show, *Teen Wolf*, and eating her favorite food (tacos). She loves anything the color lime green. Lydia can't wait for her favorite class every day, which is lunch, where she talks with her best friends Leah Dryden and Kelsey Friend. She looks up to Sierra Farley as her favorite senior. Lydia would like to end by saying, “When life gives you lemons, throw them at people.”



The second of the freshman profiles is Chase Darnell. He was born on May 5, 1999. Chase is currently in a relationship with Kayla Wagoner. He enjoys eating his favorite food, steak, and watching *Coach Carter*. Chase's favorite teacher is Mr. Mantel, and he loves participating in his favorite class, gym. His best friends would be Colton Thornburg and Bryan Young. Chase would like to end by letting Mrs. Lovejoy know that he doesn't owe her anything, but we all know this isn't true!

June Frost

“Eleventh Grade Profiles”



Our first profile for the Manchester juniors is Miss Brook Henley. Brook was brought into this world on the greatest day of her life, August 17th, 1996, making her seventeen years old. Sorry guys, but this young lady is taken by senior football player Billy Streetman. This year, Brook made it her New Year's resolution to be a better softball player. You can more than likely find Brook hanging out with her two best friends, Kristin Darnell and Courtney Shirey, or her boyfriend, Billy, while watching her favorite television shows, *The Breakfast Club* or *Say Yes to the Dress*, and eating her favorite food, Philly cheesesteak. She could not choose just one teacher to be her favorite, but Mr. Nelson and Mrs. Lovejoy were tied for the running. Her favorite class just so happens to be World Geography/Economics. Her favorite senior, of course, would be Mr. Billy Streetman, and her favorite colors are blush pink and silver. When asked what she would like to wrap up her profile interview by saying, she responded, “See ya’ later, alligator ;).”



Our next junior profile just so happens to be Mr. Ryan Palmer. Ryan was born on May 9th, 1997, making him sixteen years young! Ryan is single and likes to mingle, ladies! He did not make a New Year's resolution because he is very happy with the way his life is now. You can more than likely find Ryan watching his favorite movie, *Street Outlaws*, while eating deer steak. You can also find him enjoying his favorite class, AG. Science; hanging out with his best friends, Jordan Franklin and Nick Hoskins; or talking to his favorite teacher, Mr. David Knauff. Ryan's favorite color is blue, and his favorite senior just so happens to be Miss Delaney Young. He would like to end by saying, “Nothing.”

Delaney Young

“Girls Basketball”



The Varsity Lady Hounds have held a very strong record of 12-8, hoping to pick up another win this upcoming week. JV and Varsity teams played North Adams last week; despite both teams falling short, the Varsity girls kept the game tight with a final score of 44-52. The JV has maintained a record of 8-10 to finish their season. The Varsity has won their first round of tournament by defeating Portsmouth East, with a final score of 65-36. Great job, Lady Hounds! Their next tournament game will be held on Saturday, February 15th against North Adams at Northwest High School. The Lady Hounds would love to see a huge crowd to support them in the tournaments!

Jay Boyd

“Baseball/Softball”



The 2013 baseball/softball season has begun with the sign-up sheets and open gyms. The baseball team has carried on the tradition of pre-season weight lifting, and the softball team has picked up the trend for the first time this season. Both teams will continue weight lifting and holding open gyms until all winter sports are over with, at which point the teams will begin conditioning. The baseball team does not hold a tryout; however, the softball team does. To the upcoming freshman, or just anyone wanting to try these sports, your GPA is taken into consideration when deciding on who will make the team and who won't. It takes a lot of hard work and time commitment, practicing every day, rain or shine; the chaos of games being canceled and getting rescheduled; it's sometimes cold, but at other times, it's really hot; and you have to be 100% dedicated. Good luck to everyone trying out and/or playing this season!

Tiffany Ricketts

“Pee Wee Volleyball Camp”



Recently, Coach Erin Reed has started a pee wee volleyball camp for third, fourth, fifth, and sixth graders here at Manchester Local School District. The camp started on January 11th and is being held from 2 P.M. to 4 P.M. every Sunday. The volleyball players are working on fundamentals, such as passing, serving, and setting. To make everything possible, Erin Reed, Mark Johnson, Morgan Johnson, Shawn Palmer, and Keisha Palmer are all coming together and working hard to get the players ready for junior high volleyball. Thirty or more girls showed up at the camp on the first day.

A lot of progress and improvement has been made just within the few days of the camp, and the players are even working at home to better themselves for the next day of practice. At the end of practice on every Sunday, the players gather around in the middle of the gym floor and one player is awarded the “Player of the Day”. This volleyball player receives a framed certificate and two head bands. Coach Reed was interviewed and she commented by saying, “I am glad we are having such a good turnout for this being the first annual pee wee clinic.” The camp is extremely beneficial to every volleyball player and will prepare them for the near future.

Brook Henley

“Troops Update”



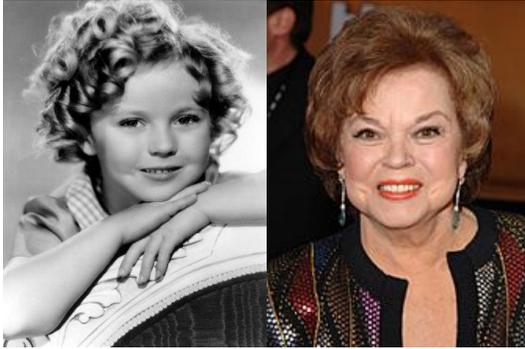
In the *New York Times*, there was a report from an official stating that President Obama is considering withdrawing all United States troops from Afghanistan in 2014. A senior administration official told CNN that the administration was looking at speeding up the troop withdrawal to “zero option”, leaving no troops in Afghanistan. Until now, the United States and Afghan officials were planning to leave a small group of troops behind to fight insurgents and to train Afghan security personnel. The reason why Obama is sending troops home is because, in recent months, he has become increasingly frustrated with Afghan President Hamid Karzai. Obama and Karzai’s relationship soured further last month after the United States and Taliban planned peace talks. After the peace talks, Karzai cut off all negotiations with the United States.

“Bieber Deportation”



How does everyone feel about Justin getting into all this trouble? He was arrested for driving without a valid license after police saw the pop star street racing, while driving drunk. So many people have their own opinion about this whole ordeal. Everyone got caught up in the news of his arrest and didn’t know assault charges were filed against him on Dec. 29, when he apparently assaulted a limo driver. The White House website has a petition, called “We the People of the United States Feel that we are being Wrongly Represented in the World of Pop Culture”, to deport the Canadian teen pop star. The petition had amassed over 111,000 signatures by Wednesday afternoon. The White House responds to petitions once they’ve collected 100,000 signatures. The petition said, “We would like to see the dangerous, reckless, destructive, and drug abusing Justin Bieber deported and his green card revoked. He is not only threatening the safety of our people, but he is also a terrible influence on our nation's youth.”

“Actress Shirley Temple Dies at Age 85”



Born April 23, 1928, in Santa Monica, California, Shirley Temple was an American film actress, television actress, singer, and dancer that entertained America for years. Starring in many popular movies, such as: *A Little Princess*, *Curly Top* and *The Little Colonial*, she lifted America's spirits during the Great Depression. Years later, she became an American diplomat. Her acting career lasted for an amazing thirty-three years, from 1932-1965. Sadly, on February 10, 2014, the famous actress died at the age of 85; thankfully, a family spokeswoman said that Temple had “peacefully passed away” in her California home from natural causes at 10:57 P.M. local time. Temple was surrounded by her loving family and caregivers.

Kristen Darnell

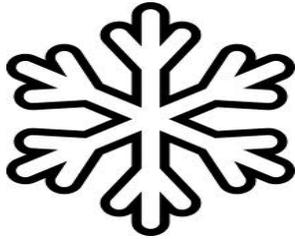
“The 56th Annual Grammys”

The 56th annual Grammy Awards aired Sunday, January 26th with LL Cool J as the host. Beyoncé opened with her performance of “Drunk in Love”, with her husband Jay Z. There were many great performances of the night, but there were a few who stuck out the most. Kendrick Lamar and Imagine Dragons mashed up “Radioactive” and “M.A.A.D City”. Coming from two different genres of music, I thought the mash up did quite well, and I really enjoyed it, as did a lot of people. They also released a studio version of it on iTunes.

Ex-Beatles Paul McCartney and Ringo Starr reunited on the Grammy stage and were honored with the 2014 Recording Academy Lifetime Achievement Award. McCartney was in the running for two Grammys, for best rock song for "Cut Me Some Slack" and best music film for "Live Kisses". A new artist, named Lorde, made it big in 2013 with her first hit “Royals”, also performed; she was only seventeen and won song of the year.

The biggest performance of the night and a huge step for America was Macklemore and Ryan Lewis' hit “Same Love”, about gay rights and marriage being equal for all. In the performance, Queen Latifah came on stage and married twenty same-sex and straight couples who were lined up in the crowd. They protested that we, as Americans, need to be equal, no matter the sex, race, religion or sexual preference. This, to me, was a breath taking moment and a huge step for us all in being equal and having the same rights. Macklemore and Lewis also won the Grammy for best rap album and best new artist. Daft Punk, the hit duo from France who wear robot-like suits, won album and record of the year. Led Zepplin won best rock album. Rihanna won best urban contemporary album.

“January’s Weather”



In Toledo, Ohio, January is now known as the snowiest month in recorded history. On January first and second, the snow left 9.4 inches on the ground and then, on the fifth and sixth, Toledo received thirteen inches, leaving a total of 30.9 inches of snow on the ground, which is one-tenth higher than the record 30.8 from January, 1978. Then, on the sixth, the temperatures took an icy plunge to the single digits and the wind joined in, causing the air to feel well below zero. On Tuesday, the National Weather Service predicted that the high would be ten degrees and the low to be around negative seven degrees, which marked the city’s seventh subzero morning so far this winter and made it the most below-zero days in one winter locally since the winter of 2008-2009. Adams County also felt the effects of this winter, with many below zero days and record snowfalls.

Adreana Spires

“XXX3: The Return of Xander Cage”



Twelve years after the release of the original XXX and nine years after the release of the not- as -widely accepted sequel XXX: *State of the Union*, it has been recently announced that a third installment is in the works. Vin Diesel, the starring actor of the first, has reported on social media news saying, “I read a treatment over the weekend to a new gritty XXX that was sent by my friend Joe Roth...” The news was originally released through a very strange video of Vin Diesel dancing and lip synching to a Katy Perry song. There is some speculation that this is hinting that Katy Perry might be a supporting actor in the third installment; this is being given some thought because Vin Diesel has said before that he would enjoy to have Katy Perry as a supporting actor. Despite being early, I know that my brothers and I are all excited and are looking forward to the third installment of this franchise. We cannot wait to reenter “The Xander Zone”!

Zach Slatton

“Prom Dresses in the 1980’s vs. Prom Dresses Now”

As you all know, prom dress styles have changed so much over the past twenty years, from dresses that covered 90% of your body to dresses that cover about 50% or less of your body. Back in the 1980’s, the “popular” dresses were the ones with big or long sleeves. Many of you now would think they were “ugly” or wonder why anyone would want to wear that. Even though you may think that, kids back then thought they were pretty dresses that everyone wore. I guess you could say that was the “style” then. Dresses weren’t sheer like they are now and didn’t have lace with nothing under it. Now, the prom dresses are more jeweled and show some skin. It makes you wonder what the prom dresses will look like in another twenty years!

Prom dresses in the 1980’s:



Prom dresses now



Hannah Rideout

“Super Bowl Halftime Show”



It’s finally the end of football season! And to finish it off was the annual NFL Super Bowl XLVIII. It took place on Sunday, February 2, 2014, and the two teams - the Seattle Seahawks and the Denver Broncos - gave it their all to fight for the win. Many people tune in to watch one of the most exciting events of the year, and they want to have an enjoyable time watching it. That’s why every year companies try their best to make the most memorable commercials, and the Super Bowl puts on a fantastic half time show. This year, some commercials could’ve been better, but most of them were great. Better yet, the halftime show was overall a wonderful performance to see. Last year we saw Beyoncé take center field to put on a fantastic performance. She sang wonderfully and had everyone talking about it afterwards. This year, the Super Bowl asked the very talented Bruno Mars to perform for the halftime show. He accepted the offer and began rehearsing from that point on. Although Bruno has two albums, he was criticized by the *New York Times*, saying he wasn’t ready for the Super Bowl because he isn’t in the tabloids and doesn’t have a fragrance. When the Super Bowl halftime show came, Bruno proved them wrong. To start off the half time show, a group of children sang the chorus line of the song “Billionaire”. The camera then panned to Bruno with a drum set, which led to a drum solo. The stage that he was on moved to the main stage, and he moved up to the mic and immediately started singing his hit song “Locked out of Heaven”, followed by “Treasure” and “Runaway Baby”. He then started to sing “Give it Away”, which was originally by the Red Hot Chili Peppers, and soon after he started singing, they came right up on stage to sing with him. To finish the performance off, Bruno sang one of his songs that made it to the top of the billboards, “Just the Way You Are.” While he was singing, a beautiful firework show was going off in the sky. Bruno very well showed he could take on the Super Bowl and, overall, it was a success!

Courtney Shirey

“Beats Pill”



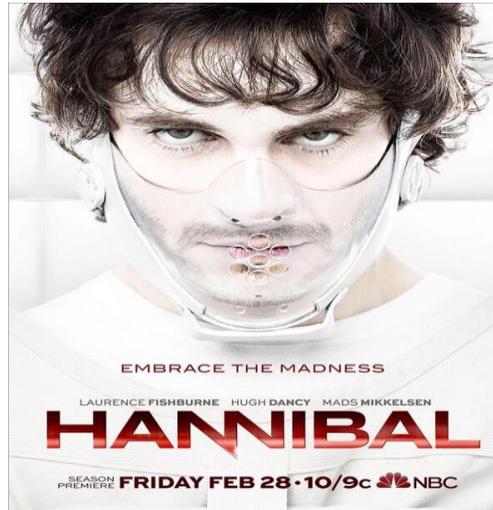
When it comes to listening to music, you want to have the best quality and the best performance of sound that you could possibly have. We've all used generic kinds of headphones and have found that they aren't the best at producing the desirable sound that we want. Luckily, there are many headphones that put out high quality sound, and one that is on the market and is selling very well is the popular brand called Beats. Over the past couple years, Beats has become very popular, due to the sound quality it has been said to have and for how it lives up to it. If the headphones became popular, Beats were sure to expand their performances of their high quality sound.

Ever since the Beats headphones became popular, with their variety of styles and colors, they came out with earphones and speakers. The earphones still have the same clear sound that the headphones have, but they are easier to carry around, and you can wear them anytime, anywhere. Not only did the headphones and earphones become a success, but the Beats speakers became very popular, very quickly. The first set of speakers was the Beatbox Portable, a large portable speaker that has incredibly powerful sound to fill up a whole room. Beats later came out with a smaller, but still a very impressive, speaker. This speaker is called the Beats Pill.

Even though the Beats Pill is smaller than the other speaker, it still produces the same loud, clear sound. The Pill is not only known for its performance but also for its advertisements. The commercials were the most talked about. Everybody loved it when they first saw them. Many celebrities were featured in their own commercials with colored Beats Pills. For instance, Nicki Minaj was featured in her Beats commercial with a pink Pill. As people have bought these and found they are a very impressive speaker to have, you can't go wrong with buying one of these. You will never be displeased with the Beats Pill.

Courtney Shirey

“*Hannibal* Season Two”



The first season of *Hannibal* (based on the book *Red Dragon* by Thomas Harris) was an instant success. Created by Bryan Fuller, it explores the effects of Hannibal Lecter, a psychologist with a penchant for cannibalism, on a man named Will Graham. Will Graham is a consultant for the FBI with an empathy disorder that allows him to put himself in the shoes of a killer. This unique ability helps to catch many killers throughout the season, but it also takes a toll on Will’s mental and physical state, both of which gradually deteriorate throughout the season’s progression (this descent into madness is encouraged by Hannibal, who is Will’s psychologist and is also working with the FBI).

The entire cast gave a brilliant performance. Hugh Dancy, the actor who plays Will Graham, found his claim to fame in the movie adaption of *Ella Enchanted* – among many others - and won the 2012-2013 Golden Europe TV Award for Outstanding Lead Actor. Mads Mikkelsen (Hannibal Lecter) also won an award – Outstanding Supporting Actor. Some might recognize him from the James Bond film *Casino Royale*, in which he played the antagonist. The cast also includes actors Laurence J. Fishburne III (*the Matrix*), Hettienne Park (*Law & Order*), and Caroline Dhavernas (*Devil* and *The Switch*).

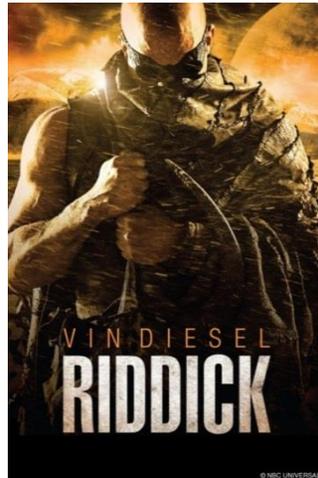
Hannibal was nominated for a total of fifteen awards for their first season; they won six, four excluding the two won by Dancy and Mikkelsen. Those awards were Outstanding Picture Editing for a Drama Series, Outstanding Production Design for a Contemporary Series, Outstanding Sound Editing for a Series, and Outstanding Sound Mixing for a Series.

Season Two begins with Will Graham in jail, framed for crimes that Hannibal Lecter has committed, and the trailers and sneak previews have merely raised more questions rather than

offer any hints about what might happen. It seems we will have to wait until February 28 to find out.

Emerald Proffitt

“*Riddick* Movie Review”



The movie, simply titled *Riddick*, disappointed me from the instant I saw the trailer. Like most, I found my favorite film of the franchise to be the first one (*Pitch Black*), and *Riddick* seemed to be a remake of the original movie - and it ended up being a blatant rip-off with lots of flashy graphics and big names meant to distract from the less-than-original story line.

Riddick starts with the protagonist of sorts, whose name is also the title of the film (since *Pitch Black 2* seemed **too** obvious, I suppose), alone on a completely wild planet where every creature seems intent on killing him. Rather than being restricted to only coming out when the sun(s) goes down, the monsters seem to live by no rhyme or reason. Luckily for us, Riddick has grown even more adept at fighting and surviving impossible odds.

He finds an abandoned camp of some sort, and he turns on the beaconing signal in hopes of luring space travelers onto the planet so he, himself, can get a ride off of it. Two different ships land and, surprise, they are both there to capture Riddick, who has a rather impressive bounty on his head. Rather than working together and splitting the bounty, the two groups initially fight with each other in a competition to see who captures him first.

There was some impressive continuity in the film tying together all of the films, but it - along with any intelligent plot - was lost in the testosterone fest the movie quickly dissolved into. The only female in the film initially seemed strong and independent, but that was a foolish belief on my part; attractive females, in science fiction films, are only meant for objectification, and any exception to that rule is simply a fluke or because the woman is deemed too unappealing.

The final fight was drawn out far too long, and it was laughably predictable. I left the theater more upset than I had entered it, and I couldn't help but point out I hadn't even wanted to see the movie, that my companions were the only reason I had seen it. I would not recommend *Riddick* to anyone with any sort of taste for proper story lines or even decent cinematic experiences. It was an altogether disappointing movie, and it insulted the original films more than anything.

Emerald Proffitt