

Volume XXVII Issue 7 February 2014

"FFA Week"



National FFA week for 2014 was February 17-21. Manchester High School's FFA chapter took part in this week by participating in different activities. They started the week off by hosting a "Dress in Ag. Day" at the high school. This is when students wear their "farmer" clothes. This year there was a variety of different outfits, from plaid shirts, to overalls, to camouflage and cowboy boots. There was also a variety of hats, such as those made from straw or caps that had some sort of advertisement for major farm companies. Unlike past years, there were prizes for those that wore the most creative outfits and the top three were Ryan Palmer, Raeanna Stamm, and Angel Rigdon. It was a very interesting day, to say the least. Later in the week, the FFA chapter also hosted a staff appreciation dinner where they served pork tenderloin and other good food to all the staff here at Manchester High School. The staff really enjoyed the meal! To finish out the week, FFA members brought in their pets and held a petting zoo for the students that attend Manchester Elementary school. At this petting zoo, students were likely to find all kinds of different animals. The petting zoo included dogs, cats, birds, pigs, horses, and even a hedgehog! Along with all these different, fun activities that the club does, they also participate in different speaking contests. Good luck to all participants! MHS truly appreciates all of your hard work and dedication.

Tiffany Ricketts

"MHS Basketball Ends"



The 2013-2014 varsity boys' basketball team finished their season Monday, February 24, at home against the Ripley Blue Jays. The hounds had the lead at half time, but their energy ran out and the guys fell short in the second half. The blue jays went home with a victory of 61-47. They also played the Whiteoak Wildcats the Friday before, which ended in victory for the greyhounds! The final record for the boys was 4-19, which is pretty good considering at the beginning of the season professionals had them predicted to not win a game all season. The boys played the North Adams Green Devils in their first round of tournaments on Tuesday, February 18. The hounds had an exceptional lead of 21-12 over the Devils at half time; however, they were not able to maintain that lead through the second half. The boys left the court with great disappointment that night as their tournament run had quickly come to an end. Senior Tyler Brummett played to the best of his abilities and scored six points for the greyhounds. Senior Timmy Jones did not play in his last tournament game, due to illness and being unable to practice. This left the game up to the underclassmen, which wasn't an easy task considering the fact that it was their first time on the floor for a



varsity tournament game. The five starters for the game consisted of rather young players: juniors Phillip Thomas and Austin Smith, sophomores Jordan Freeman and Sean Frost, and freshman Colton Thornburg. These boys held their own and stuck with the opposing team, but unfortunately they fell short in the second half. Good luck to the underclassmen next year, and best wishes to the seniors!

The reserve lady hounds ended their season on the home floor against Ripley on February 13th. Although they fought hard, they couldn't come out on top. This was Senior Night for four varsity players. As they took the floor for the last time, they came out and led the girls with a win. The Manchester Varsity Lady Hounds ended their season with an outstanding record of 14-10. They defeated Portsmouth East in the first round of the sectional tournament without a struggle. They came back February 15th to play in the championship game of the Sectional tournament where they took a fall to the North Adams Lady Devils. The Lady Hounds said goodbye to four seniors: Jaylynd Boyd, Hannah Rideout, Haylee Adams, and Rainelle Casey.

"Softball Starts Again!"



Softball is making its way through the season and is firing up with open gyms. At open gyms, the players are gearing up and working on many fundamentals, such as pitching, catching, hitting, grounders, and many more to get them ready for the starting season.. The varsity team is welcoming four new freshman this year and we are all looking forward to seeing the ability they possess to contribute to the team's success. The first scrimmage was held at home against Huntington Ross on March 26th and the first game was held at home against Portsmouth Clay on March 31st. The team will be playing a total of twenty games this season, if all goes as planned. The girls are ready to get out on the field and have fun with a winning season.

"Baseball Season Begins!"



As spring quickly approaches, so does our spring sports here at MHS! One such sport is varsity Baseball. Practice for baseball began with weight lifting that started in January; in the month of March, the practices developed into full, structured practices, where team members worked on passing, batting, and infield/outfield maneuvers. The first scrimmage was set for March 11th at Huntington Ross. Be sure to wish our greyhounds good luck and even go watch them, if at all possible!

"Eighth Grade Profiles"



Our first eighth grade profile is Jailynn Hodge. She was born July 20th, 2000. This makes her thirteen years old. She attends MJHS, and Miss Jai--Lynn is happily taken by Mr. Ryan Dryden, so back off, boys! Her favorite color just happens to be blue. Her favorite movie is Safe Haven and her favorite show is Pretty Little Liars. While watching those programs, she will eat her favorite food, four cheese pasta. Her favorite teacher is Mr. Mantel. Her favorite class is AG. Her best friends are Katie Sandlin, Brooklyn Freeman, Abby Henschen, and Sebra Jones. Her favorite seniors are Haylee Adams and Sierra Farley. Jai-Lynn would like to end by saying, "Bye!"



Mr. Dalton Thacker is an eighth grader at Manchester Jr. High School. He was born on May 16th, 2013; that makes him thirteen years old. He happens to be single at this moment. Dalton's favorite teacher is Mr. Mantel, and his favorite class would be social studies. His favorite movie is *The Dictator*. While chilling and watching his movie, he'll be snacking on his favorite food, tacos, or he will be hanging out with his best friends: Jacob Stamper, Nic Shiveley, and James Arias. Dalton's favorite color is blue. His favorite senior is the one and only Noah Gaffin. Dalton would like to end his profile by saying, "Duces!"

"Senior Profiles"



Our first senior profile is Trey Brooks. Trey was born on July 11, 1996, making him seventeen years old. Trey is in a relationship with Megan Scolf. His favorite food is pizza and his favorite television show is *The Walking Dead*. Trey's favorite teacher would happen to be Mr. Jeff Crask, and his favorite class is P.E. His best friends are Cole Pribble, Zachary Slatton, Billy Streetman, Brian Hilderbrand, Ryan Day, and Daniel Brinker. Trey's favorite underclassmen is Cole Pribble, and his favorite color is blue. Trey would like to end by saying, "Stay classy, Manchester!"



Our second senior profile is Tiffany Ricketts. Tiffany was born on November 28, 1995, making her eighteen years old. Tiffany is currently in a relationship with Jordan Freeman. Her favorite food is chili spaghetti, and her favorite television shows are Pretty Little Liars and Full House. Tiffany doesn't have a favorite teacher; she likes all of them, and she doesn't have a favorite class. Tiffany's best friends happen to be Rainelle Casey, Delaney Young, Haylee Adams, Mckayla Smith, and Jordan Freeman. Her two favorite underclassmen are Jordan Freeman and Mckayla Smith, and her favorite color is lime green. Tiffany would like to end by saying, "Is it May yet?"

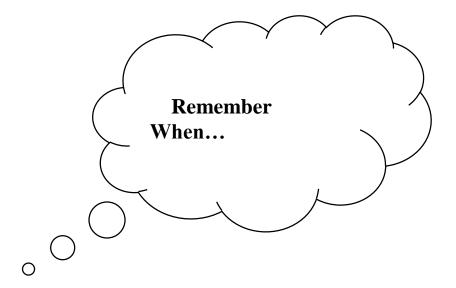
"Sophomore Profiles"



The first tenth grade profile is Gabe Horsley. Gabe was born August 5th, 1998, making him fifteen years in age. Better snatch him up ladies, because Mr. Horsley is currently single. In his spare time, you could find Gabe watching his favorite movie, Lord of the Rings, while chowing down on his favorite food, "zhong quo fan." He also enjoys spending time with his best friend Hunter Reese. His favorite senior is Billy Streetman, and his favorite color is blue. Gabe's favorite class is history, but his favorite teacher teaches language arts, which is Mrs. Lovejoy. He would like to end by saying, "I am a proud member of the M.V.A. and I love M.L.P."



The second tenth grade profile page is Bethany Sweeney. Bethany was born February 11th, 1998, making her sixteen years old. Bethany is currently single and ready to mingle. Bethany enjoys eating her favorite food, French fries, while watching her favorite television show, *The Following*. Her favorite class is study hall, and her favorite teacher is Mr. Nelson. Her best friends are her cats, and her favorite senior is Hannah Rideout. She also loves the color purple. She would like to end by saying, "Bye!"



- -Light-up sneakers were cool?
- -"I know you are but what am I?" was used as an insult?
- -We use to buy gel pens almost every day?
- -Decisions were made by "eeny meeny miney moe?"
- -We use to have class field trips?
- -The purses that had a stuffed animal in them were cool?
- -We use to buy scented pencils?
- -We use to think prank calling people was fun?
- -We use to say "talk to the hand" when we didn't want to talk to someone?
- -Heads Up 7 Up was fun?

"Winter Olympics Overview"



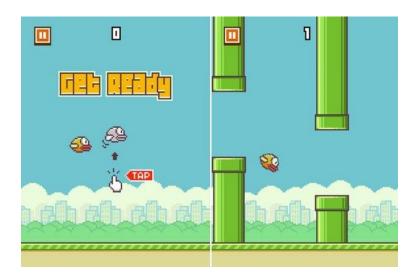
The 2014 Winter Olympics was held in Sochi, Russia. The opening ceremony was not only beautiful but definitely represented the Russian culture. This was the first time that Sochi had ever held the Olympic Games. The medal count stayed at a close race between Russia and our home country of The United States. Though at the end, Russia won the medals race with thirty three medals, thirteen gold, and The United States came in second with twenty eight, nine of those were gold. Once the games started, a lot of buzz was centered on hockey. In the end, the Canadians took home the gold after fighting off the Americans, who received the silver. The match was anticipated to be a tough one, but for some reason, the Americans didn't show up with the defense we all know they have. Hockey wasn't the only game that had people talking; figure skating had many great moments! This year was only the third time in Olympic history that The United States had ever medaled in ice dance skating and the first time we have ever won gold. Skiing also was very popular again this year. The United States took home four medals in total, with two gold, one silver and one bronze.

"Discriminatory Legislation?"



On February 27th, a bill was proposed in the state of Arizona that would have allowed business owners to refuse service to gays and others on the basis of religious beliefs. The Governor, Jan Brewer, said this would only create more problems than it solved. I have to agree with her because not only is this being discriminatory, it also just down right wrong. To not serve someone because of their sexual orientation is like not serving someone because of their race, and I thought we got that issue resolved decades ago? Arizona is not the only state with bills like these being proposed, but they are one of the first to shoot it down the minute it was proposed. Similar proposals have stalled or failed in Indiana, Kansas, Maine, Ohio, South Dakota and Tennessee. Similar legislation is still percolating in at least five other states, such as Georgia, Idaho, Mississippi, Missouri, and Oklahoma. Some of these states stated that people have "misinterpreted the intent to be a sword for discrimination", according to an Idaho Statesman. Turning away people because of their sexual orientation, race, and religious beliefs sounds like discrimination to me; there are a lot of others who feel the same way about this issue. How do you feel about it?

"Flappy Bird gets the Ax in App Stores"



It can be fun, it can be frustrating, but overall it's addicting. This very simple but hard to play game, called *Flappy Bird*, has been the most talked about game recently. The game was originally made in May 2013 and was put on Google Play and the App Store, but it didn't become popular until January of this year. After people started hearing about the game, they had to download it. The point of this game is to make the bird fly through pipes, and to make the bird fly, you just tap the screen with your finger. Sounds easy, right? Well, for very few this is an easy task, but for most it can be a struggle.

As more and more people started to download this addicting game, it started rising on the charts and was heard about everywhere. People began to warn others not to download it because they would become addicted. Once a person got their high score, they would continue to play until they beat it. That's what makes it so addicting. The game actually earned an estimate of \$50,000 a day just from ads. The game was a hit, but it ran into many problems.

When Dong Nguyen developed the game, he didn't mean for people to become frustrated with the game or even for it to become so addicting. After he found out what it was doing to people, he decided to take it down. He posted on Twitter, "I can call *Flappy Bird* a success of mine. But it also ruins my simple life. So now I hate it, I am sorry *Flappy Bird* users, 22 hours from now, I will take *Flappy Bird* down. I cannot take this anymore." As he said, it was taken down off Google Play and the App Store twenty-two hours after his post. People who already downloaded the app are still able to play it, and people are selling their phones that have the app downloaded on it. *Flappy Bird* may have gotten out of hand, but as everyone can agree, you can't go without playing it.

"Baby Born on New York City Sidewalk"



Imagine going into labor and not being able to make it to the hospital! A New York woman, named Polly McCourt, delivered her daughter on a city sidewalk on a Monday, after another woman stole her cab. McCourt had said, "No, that's my cab!" but the lady ignored her and took it anyway. After going into labor inside her family's apartment, while the baby was on the way, McCourt told her doorman, Anton Rudovic, that she was not going to make it to the hospital. She immediately said that she needed to sit down. McCourt then sat down on the sidewalk, while being propped up by Rudovic and strangers who had come to her aid. Many people gathered around her and gave her their scarves in order for her to keep warm in the chilly weather. Paramedics had finally arrived just in time to pull McCourt's baby out and take them both to a nearby hospital. McCourt gave birth to a healthy baby girl, who is the third child of McCourt and her husband, name Ila Isabelle. She had planned on making her middle name "Polly" but instead changed it to Isabelle after a woman who gave McCourt the coat off her back to stay warm.

Kristin Darnell