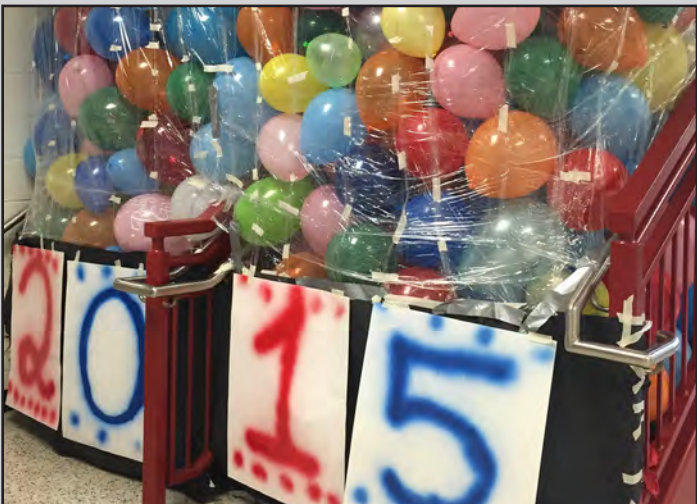




CAYLIN ELKINS/RANK&FILE



PAULINA FARLEY-KUZMINA/RANK&FILE

Out with a bang

The class of 2015 did not go out quietly, leaving their mark with a series of pranks and celebrations that lasted from Friday to Wednesday.

Beginning with a wedding held in the front lobby, the seniors went on to sell the school, fill a stairwell with balloons and finish up with a Senior Stomp throughout the school.

newsflash Junior Achievement inspires next generation

Members of the Future Business Leaders of America club, in partnership with Junior Achievement, visited Shreveewood Elementary school on Monday to teach kindergarteners through sixth graders about topics of business and civics, such as finance and immigration.

"I was just hoping to have a relaxing day teaching kids about our community and also see what it's like to run a class," junior Felix Ruble said. "The kids really enjoyed it and it was interesting to break down somewhat complex concepts in a way that kids would understand."

Group leaders taught different lessons, such as the kindergarten lesson called "Ourselves," and the sixth grade lesson called "Global Marketplace."

"I worked with kindergarteners, and what we really focused on during our lesson plan was that they can accomplish so much if they work together," junior Caroline Mubiru said. "I think that we really hit home with that point and I felt really good about what they took away from our lesson."

Junior Achievement usually visits elementary schools in both the fall and the spring; however, since IB Business and Management teacher Rebekah Glassbrenner was absent for the first semester of the school year, FBLA held two Junior Achievement days in the spring. The last visit occurred on March 27.

"We do this so as many elementary schools can learn and benefit from this program as possible," said Glassbrenner.

—paulina farley-kuzmina

Budget overhauls loom as FCPS approaches \$100 million deficit

by claire heiden

For the upcoming 2015-2016 school year, there is a projected budget shortfall of \$8 million. Fairfax County Public Schools predicts that the 2016-2017 school year will see a \$100 million deficit. To properly operate schools with this deficit, the FCPS website suggests that programs will need to be cut.

According to the FCPS website, teachers have not received a pay raise since the 2007-2008 school year. Considering inflation, this means that their pay has decreased relatively in the economy.

The FCPS School Board and Superintendent Karen Garza asked the Board of Supervisors for a 3.9 percent budget increase, yet they only allowed a 3.2 percent increase, creating a \$7.6 million deficit.

According to principal Jeffrey Litz, the county has cut over \$500 million and let over 2100 employees from FCPS go since 2008.

This deficit will amplify inconsistencies among teacher salary in FCPS.

Before the 2008 fiscal year, teacher salaries in FCPS were among the highest in the nation. Since then, however, without their salary adjusted to remain competitive, the salaries comparatively decrease among certain stages of a teacher's career.

"FCPS starts towards the top in terms of beginning teachers, about ten years in we end up in the middle, and towards the end of a teachers career, we now end up at the bottom, which in the last 7 years has been unprecedented. And now, for the fiscal year 2017, with the over \$100 million deficit forecasted, I don't know how things are going to turn out really at

this point. We're going to have to take a serious look at programs," Litz said.

Litz also stated that the concept of a six-period day has been introduced. This would reduce the amount of classes that each high school student would be allowed to take during school hours.

"I've heard things floated about going to a six period day instead of a seven period day. This would save a considerable amount of money, but it would not be good for the student's well being. It could cut the arts," Litz said.

On Twitter, the #SaveFCPS spread, originally tweeted by McLean High School student Emily Robison with several teachers expressing their angst against this budget deficit.

>> see online for extended version

fcps budget by the numbers

\$500 million

spending decreased since 2008

2100

fcps jobs cut since 2008

75%

of fcps residents do not have
school-aged children

Guide

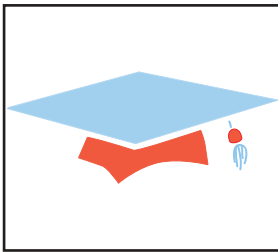
Features: 4,5



CAROLINA MCCABE/COLUMBIAN

First year principal Jeffrey Litz balances his transition from teacher to administration roles as he plans his future and the upcoming year.

Centerspread: 6,7



CAYLIN ELKINS/RANK&FILE

Discover where our seniors are headed next year as the class of 2015 spreads out across around the state, country and world.

Opinion: 8,9



SAMANTH VAN HEEST/NAHS

Find out what it is like to endure the prejudices of being a redhead in a culture that discriminates against anything different.

Sports: 11,12



HEATHER ADLER

Varsity boys lacrosse completes most successful season in a decade with conference championship and girls take home regionals.

this year statesmen:

by patrick mccabe

Broke the 25-game losing streak



THEO TESTA/COLUMBIAN

After losing their previous two nail-biters by a combined four points, varsity finally defeated Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, varsity 28-14 to snap their three year losing streak.

"It feels amazing to finally have the win that we have been working so hard towards," head coach George Masten said after the game.

Despite it being an away game, the Marshall Mob came out in full force to witness and celebrate the hisotric moment.

Defied the pep rally cancellation

A spirited school-wide student protest broke out after the homecoming pep rally was cancelled due to forecasted rain.

Soon after the cancellation, students from all grade levels stood up and left their classrooms en masse. The mob of students walked throughout the school, protesting what they saw as an unjust cancellation.

"I guess it just shows how much spirit Marshall has and how fond everyone is of the school events," freshman Maria Timina said.



NICOLE MCCARTIN/COLUMBIAN

Completed the renovation era



CAROLINA MCCABE/COLUMBIAN

Faculty, students and FCPS officials gathered to mark the celebratorial end of the renovation which reshaped Marshall.

"Although brick and mortar is not what the school is all about, we know when we have a beautiful facility that's conducive to support learning, then this wonderful school community can thrive and can flourish," Superintendent Karen Garza said at the event.

Currently, only minor construction jobs remain.

Placed first in the world at ICDC

Sophomores Claire Heiden, Logan Murtha and Kevin Fogarty were the first Marshall DECA team to place first at the International Career Development Conference in the club's history.

Seniors Kate Bock, Morgan Stahl and Owen Crizer placed in the events's top ten as a team in the Sports and Entertainment Promotion category, while freshman Noah Daniel also placed in the top ten in the Principles of Business Management event.



COURTESY OF ANGIE ROGERS

Young Republicans set the stage for the upcoming year

by janan iranbomy

The Young Republican club was reestablished as the year drew to an end, with Social Studies teacher Kevin Curtin as its sponsor.

"We had 33 people show up the very first meeting which I thought was astounding. We thought maybe at most 15," said sophomore Noah Adler, who reinstated the club with sophomores Jack Button, Paul Plawin, and Nicholas Gariepy.

The club hosted a debate between the Young Democrats yesterday during Learn on the issues of the Israel and Palestine conflict and gun control.

The club also plans to host guest speakers and keep the members up to date about the Republican party and politicians.

Young Republican club member and senior Michael Gracia joined because he felt that the Republican party deserves more attention.

"I don't think that the conservative Republicans have a voice in this school," Gracia said.

The club will try to establish roles,

elect officers, organize events and appoint someone who could contact politicians. Officer elections will happen at the beginning of next year.

"I like the attention that it brings to the Republicans that it otherwise would not come to the attention of the students," Gracia said.

The club aims to help students find a personal ideology as well as bring awareness to different viewpoints.

"In high school, people are more susceptible to what they believe. It's a great time to scout out new beliefs."

Noah Adler
sophomore

"We just want to make individuals here at Marshall aware of what they believe in. A lot of times when they go to college they don't know what to believe in and what kind of ideologies are out there. And here, especially in high school, people are more susceptible to what they believe in. It's a great time to explore," Adler said.

The club also wants to discard the stereotypes around being Republican and bring diversity, to the group

"I think that people see Republicans as stereotypically white and rich people and we just want to make sure that this is not always the case and to bring diversity to the club," Adler said.

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RANA ATTIA/RANK&FILE

Chef Ciaran Devlin prepares a spinach salad in the class kitchen for Marshall’s Five Star Cafe. In the Five Star Cafe, the food is hand prepared and costs \$8 per meal.

Chef Devlin shares wisdom and experience beyond the kitchen

by rana attia

Culinary teacher Chef Ciaran Devlin has always loved cooking. After going through a rigorous career in cooking, he decided to become a teacher due to his passion for teaching young culinarians. Students benefit from hearing about all the different places that Devlin has worked at and the stories that come along with that experience. “He teaches me more about the culinary world and he gives great advice,” senior Becca Hodges said. Devlin has had a good deal of experience to in the food industry to draw from while in the classroom. “I have worked on a ship as a head chef for seven years where I oversaw two different kitchens and a cafeteria and officers mess and crew mess,” Devlin said. “I also worked in hotels where I served a five-year apprenticeship as part of my culinary training and later on I completed the ship’s cook and chef’s cook certificates of training.” Even though he has influenced student’s

aspirations of becoming young culinarians, Devlin is aware that not all students will pursue this career path. “You realize that this is high school and not everyone is going to make this their career; which is fine as this is demanding and not for everyone,” Devlin said. But even if students do not pursue culinary arts as a career they still learn valuable life skills from Devlin and the class itself. “I learned patience because of the work environment that he puts me in,” Hodges said. As a Marshall Academy teacher, Devlin also teaches academy students and provides them with the same encouragement and advice. “I have learned many techniques and skills that will be very useful in my life, and I also learned how to handle stress and pressure,” McLean High School junior Carla Rodriguez said. While Devlin acknowledges that a culinary career isn’t fitting for everyone, he still goes beyond teaching his students how to cook meats by providing inspiring words and anecdotes in addition to his regular curriculum.

TA’s earn vocational experience with staff

by kristen ziccarelli and maggie mcaden

Not all high school students get to double up as teachers. As teacher’s assistants, juniors and seniors get the unique opportunity to teach before graduation, exploring their passions and possible career paths. Senior Ranya Endar has been able to experience this first hand as a teacher’s assistant for English teacher Mathew Horne during his first period English class. “They really care and put a lot of thoughts into their lesson plan,” Endar said. Although Endar works formally for Horne, doing jobs like hole-punching and entering grades, she helps other teachers, too. Endar also said that the intellectual aspect of working with students fits in well with her personality and passions. Not only has Endar been able to see first hand what a teacher does, but she has also built a bond with Horne, whom she considers a mentor.

“I find myself being really creative and I like helping people because my mom is a teacher for McLean Pre-school,” Endar said. A surprising experience for Endar was the uniqueness of each individual grade and class, an aspect of teaching that she did not anticipate. “One of the benefits is that you become really close with the teacher you’re ‘TA-ing’ with,” Endar said. Horne believes that teacher’s assistants do not only help lessen a teacher’s workload, but demonstrate a dedication to academics. “I think it’s great to have TAs; it shows they care about you and care about the subject and that they want to help out the department,” Horne said. “...If papers need to be handed back, those minor things allow me to use the time to focus myself and recharge.” Senior John Michael Gatti chose to work as a teacher’s assistant solely to prepare him for a career in

“You never really see how much your teachers work for their students.”
Ranya Endar
senior



KRISTEN ZICCARELLI/RANK&FILE

Senior John Michael Gatti works with junior Mohammed Al Dosari during gym class in the main gym during third block. The class participated in activities such as basketball. teaching. As a teacher’s assistant for a class called Adaptive Gym, Gatti works with Special Education students. From the experience, Gatti has gleaned important skills that will carry over into the workplace. “You need a lot of patience to work with people with disabilities, with special needs disabilities, and it has helped me in that,” Gatti said.




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IN ONE WEEK

Through a color therapy lens

by chloe pignano

My love for the red-glasses-bearing comic book characters Daredevil and Cyclops led me to make a very interesting purchase. I ended up buying a pair of red chromotherapy (also known as color therapy) glasses.

What is color therapy?

According to a 2005 study on color therapy done by the National Center for Biotech Information, chromotherapy is a method of treatment that uses the visible spectrum (colors) of electromagnetic radiation to cure diseases.

The study also states that this practice is a centuries-old concept that has been used successfully over the years to cure various diseases.

Also, according to this study, each color affects a certain set of organs. Red is supposed to affect the kidney, bladder, and hips.

I am skeptical about this experiment and if it will help me at all, especially because the Wikipedia page for chromotherapy has related pages such as, "List of ineffective cancer treatments" and "List of topics characterized as pseudoscience."

The experience

I only wore the glasses on weeknights at around 9 or 10 p.m. for about 20 minutes. I found myself feeling tired before and after wearing the glasses.

I also found it very hard to do homework on a computer because the colors on the screen mixed together. It's no easy task to do homework when you can't see the dashed red line

underneath misspelled words.

On top of all this, by the time I wore the glasses my eyes were already tired from looking at a computer screen, and the glasses only intensified this effect.

Contrary to this discovery, I found it easier to read and complete worksheets.

My eyes tend to wander when I work on an assignment for a long time, but with the glasses the paper that I was looking at seemed much brighter and helped me focus a lot more.

On one of the nights, I decided to not do homework and instead look at comic book art.

The art that was once beautiful to me looked like a seven year old's coloring book. The colors were all indistinguishable and the faces lost their sense of detail.

Besides the physical downfalls, I didn't experience any mood changes or changes in my behavior. I still felt the same as always, both before and after wearing the glasses.

What I learned

Almost nothing changed. Sure, the glasses are nerdily awesome in that they make me feel like a comic book character, but the actual effects the glasses and the studies surrounding them promised, never actually came. I didn't notice any mood changes or health benefits and the glasses brought me more negative side-effects then positive ones.

The only thing these glasses changed for me was my ability to focus on physical sheets of paper.

If you want to try something that is spiritual or whatever, try meditating.



Principal Litz reflects on first year



CAROLINA MCCABE/COLUMBIAN

Principal Jeffrey Litz speaks at the grand opening ceremony, which marked the end of the four year construction project. Superintendent Karen Garza and Fairfax County School Board member Ryan McElveen were among those in attendance. The event featured tours led by Marshall students, a preview of the Marshall museum and a reception.

by anna thillairajah

Most people would be consumed by just working on a doctorate. After a year as principal, Jeffrey Litz has proved his ability to multi-task by working towards his doctorate, learning and executing the responsibilities of a new job and even subbing in an IB Biology class.

While the job title was new for him, Principal Litz was prepared to tackle a the venture.

"I sort of knew what I was getting myself into because I had been here seven years before," Litz said.

Despite moving further up the administrative ladder, Litz continues to maintain a strong connection to the teaching staff.

"I'll always be a teacher," Litz said. "I think even though I'm a principal, I must always put myself in the shoes of a teacher because in a lot of ways teachers are some of the most important [individuals] in this building, because they are the ones that spend the most time with our kids and have the biggest impact on them."

Litz's experience as a teacher is an important part of his role as principal.

"I hope I never get to the point where I forget what its like to be a teacher and I will always consider myself a teacher," Litz said.

During his first year as principal, Litz got to see the Marshall community accomplish what hadn't been accomplished in years or ever before.

"[It's fun] to see see our kids thrive

as much as they have in athletics, in the arts, certainly what our sports teams are doing this spring, and how well our kids are doing with SOLs so far," Litz said.

Having a full plate seems to suit Litz as he expressed his contentment with the present.

"My future plans are to stay where I am," Litz said. "One of my goals was to not make a lot of changes and I don't think a lot of changes need to be made."

Despite what he claims, Litz wanted to make a change in starting a conversation on ways to improve access to honors and IB courses for the kids who wouldn't otherwise consider taking them.

Even throughout this year, Litz continues to learn new things.

"I've learned more about the interworking of the central office, how they work, how they support schools, and that being in a principal position it's easier to pick up the phone and ask for help than it is if you're an assistant principal," Litz said.

Though renovation is just coming to a close, overpopulation will continue to be a problem that Litz and the rest of the administration will have to work creatively to combat.

"Certainly one of our challenges is our continued growth ... We're already going to be a little bit over capacity," Litz said. "I think we'll be fine next year, but after next year I think one of the challenges is going to be to continue to be as student-friendly as we are, with several hundred more kids."

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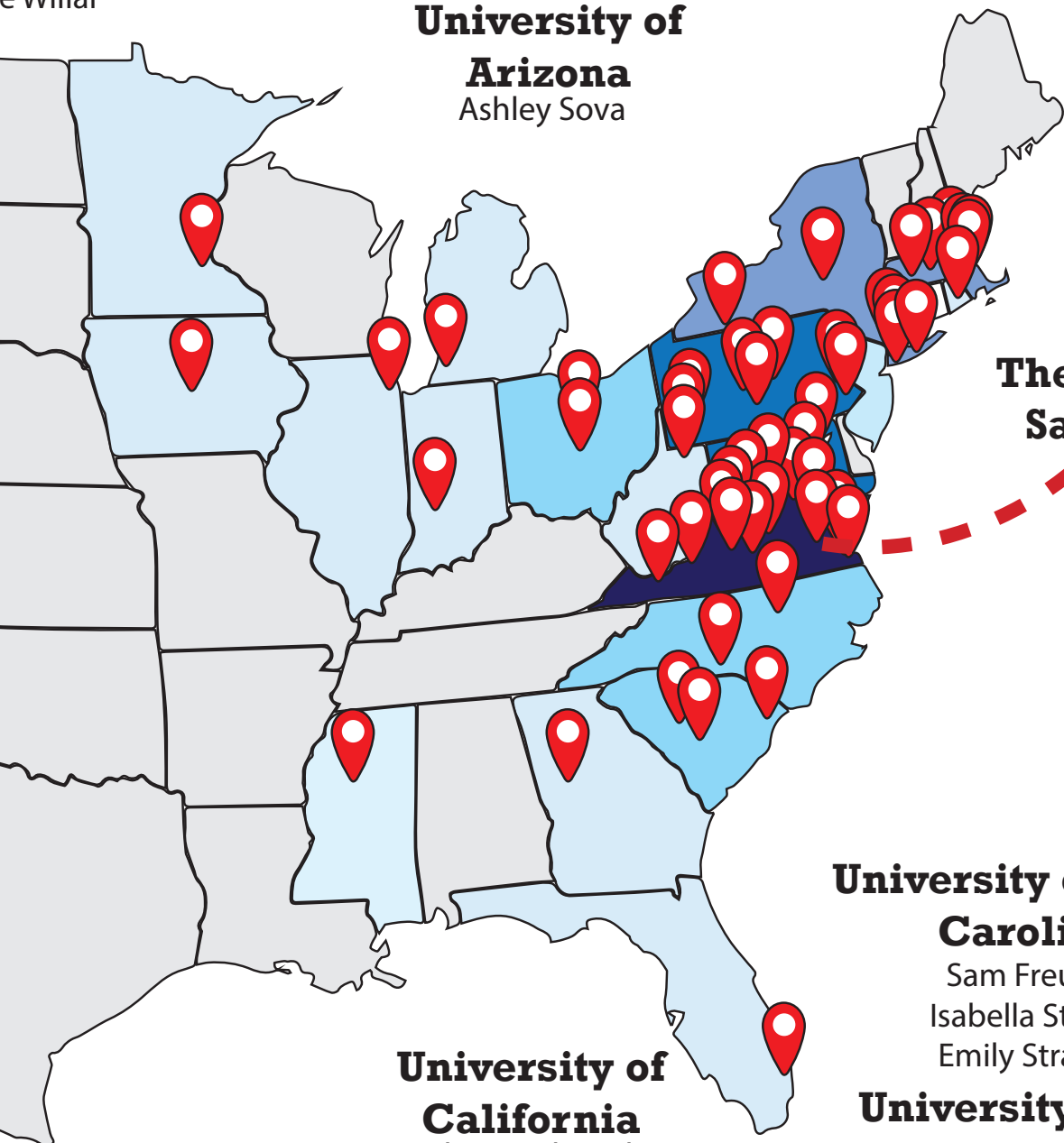
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Light pollution foreshadows a dimmer future

With hundreds of summer nights to look forward to after school gets out, one should be able to look up into the night sky and be awestruck by the sight of constellations. However, as we are located just outside of D.C. and in the bustling suburbs, the night sky is obscured by light from houses, buildings, and cars.

This is what scientists refer to as light pollution, the obtrusive artificial light that comes in three forms: glare, light trespass, and skyglow. The most common is skyglow, which is the accumulation of reflected light that shines into the sky, and is most obviously seen in highly populated areas.

An overwhelming one-fifth of the globe can't see the Milky Way in our sky on any given night. Half of Europe can't see the unaltered night sky, and even worse, two-thirds of the United States drowns the sky with light, according to Pierantonio Cinzano of The World Atlas of the Artificial Night Sky Brightness.

There is even a scale to determine how artificial light affects

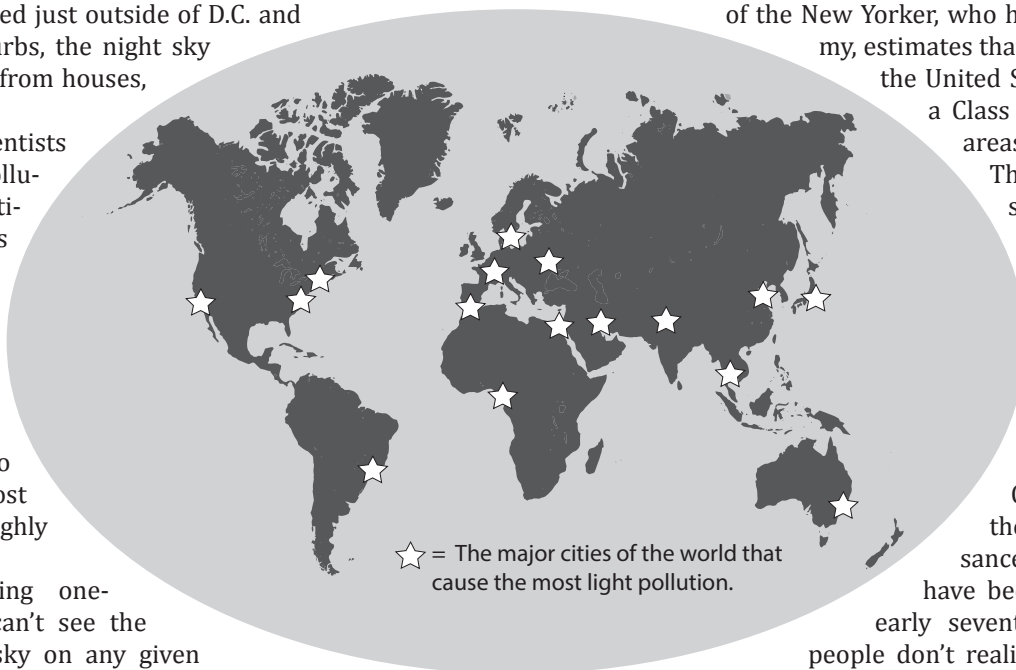
certain areas of sky called the Bortle Scale. Areas of sky are ranked from Class One, the darkest skies, to Class Nine, which are the most light polluted night skies such as New York City. David Owen of the New Yorker, who has a Ph.D. in astronomy, estimates that the darkest places in

the United States only rank up to a Class Two, and even those areas are slowly fading.

The only places to truly see a Class One dark sky would be in the Australian outback or along a Peruvian mountain range.

Owen also states that we are able to see less than one percent of what Galileo Galilei, one of the most famous Renaissance astronomers, would have been able to see in the early seventeenth century. Most

people don't realize how much beauty they're giving up due to this unnaturally intense amount of light. People that look up into the sky now are looking into an entirely different sky than the people who looked at it 150 years ago.



>> see online for extended version

Summer jobs offer vital experiences

As our 10 months of intensive schooling draw to a close, for many of us there is little more we dream of than binge watching Netflix for a week straight. However, for others, summer is anything but a relaxation period, and that is a good thing.

The older we get, the more pressure there is to find meaningful ways to spend our summers, whether it is by working, participating in one of the countless university summer programs or training year round for school sports. While the pressure to stay busy during the summer might take away from much needed opportunities to relax, summer activities are integral components of the high school experience that are incredibly important in order for students to develop as well rounded individuals.

Although summer jobs are a transitional experiences, according to a 2014 Department of Labor study, youth participation in the workforce has actually been steadily decreasing over time. Since

1989, the rate of youth participation has dropped 15 percent for women and 20 percent for men.

Of course there are an array of factors that can explain these drops, one of the largest being that with the current state of the economy. There are now more adults occupying jobs that teenagers previously held, but the fact of the matter is that there are millions of American students missing out on this essential experience.

Beyond the fact that summer jobs allow people to develop a strong work ethic, it also allows them to gain work skills that are simply impossible to get in school.

While jobs can be transformative experiences, this is not to suggest that they are the only valuable summer experiences. Regardless of whether someone is practicing a spring sport, participating in a summer program or working an internship, the point is: relaxation is not the only thing that summer should be about in high school.

youth employment during the summer

20.1 million people ages 16-24 were employed in July 2014

17% below peak employment in 1989

63.2% of men ages 16 to 24 were employed in July 2014

57.8% of women ages 16 to 24 were employed in July 2014

SOURCE: BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

Editor-in-chief reminisces on four years of *Rank & File*

I've rewritten the first sentence of this about 15 times. Proof that being an editor has infiltrated my very being. It's difficult to put four years into words.

Newspaper has helped to define my experience here. And now, something that has been a constant in my life for four years, which has brought my countless laughs, smiles, triumphs and admittedly a few breakdowns, has come to an end.

This year we had the unique challenge of having a large staff (aka more than one male). With so many freshmen and inexperienced staffers, we devoted much of our time to teaching, which meant that we sometimes (all the time) struggled to put together a publishable product. Working after school during production was no longer a peaceful time, but rather an attempt to focus amongst the loud din.

Late nights of production week are the epitome of the *Rank & File* experience. Nothing says newspaper like being the last

people in the school, eating junk food instead of dinner and the pure delirium that sets in after staring at a page on InDesign for hours.

It sounds torturous when I describe it, but I wouldn't change it for anything. More

letter from the editor

than anything, newspaper is not your typical high school class. We don't learn about a subject so much as how to work with others, how to coexist, how to do a job. It has taught me invaluable people skills that I will take with me through life.

I've grown impossibly close to Camille and Isabelle as we've braved nights at school until 10 p.m., ignoring our other homework in favor of copy-editing and drawing iPhones on Illustrator. I don't

know what I will do without Isabelle's forgetfulness to make fun of or Camille's blunt comments to keep me in line. We went through years of friendship in a matter of months.

Newspaper inevitably brings people together and I've loved seeing our staff grow into a family throughout the year. While letting go has been difficult, I'm confident leaving the paper in the hands of Heather, Patrick, Paulina, and Caylin. I know with their ambition and leadership, they will transform and improve the *Rank & File*.

I'd like to thank the ever-wise Mr. Reinish for four years of advice, Adobe tricks, and friendship as well as our dedicated readers, supportive administration and my wonderful staff for helping make Volume 52 a success.

Anna Thillairajah
Editor-In-Chief

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Rank & File is a member of the National Scholastic Press Association, the Columbia Scholastic Press Association, and the Virginia High School League.

Freshman examines first year of high school

by ethan zack

As this final semester comes to a close, I constantly find myself reflecting on my time as a freshman and the changes that have occurred along the way.

I have come to learn that high school really is nothing like middle school, especially for both a new freshman and a transfer student. On my first day, I knew no one, save for a couple of fellow transfer students that had attended middle school with me. Within the span of the very first period, teachers were beginning their slew

of year-long lessons. Practically alone and thrust into a new environment, I'll admit that I was confused and a little bit frightened.

Fast forward to the end of the year and everything has changed. I am constantly amazed by the contrast between the person I started this year as and the person I have become throughout it. I know these hallways now, as well as the people that walk them.

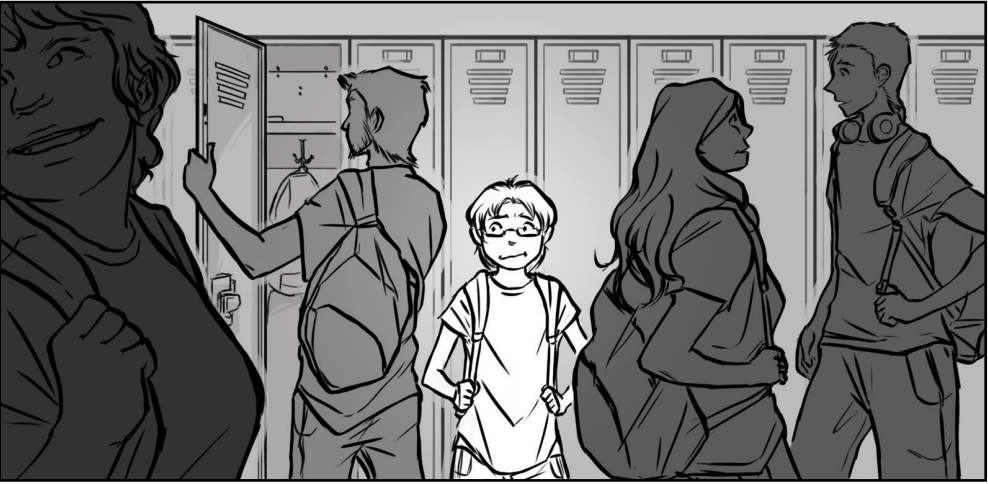
Making friends in an unfamiliar environment was decidedly difficult. It wasn't until well into the school year that I finally

found a comfortable group of friends and even then, it was nowhere near as large as the ones that existed in middle school. Friendships were much closer and more personal.

Freshman year makes a big deal out of discovering your niche and finding a role in the community. For some people, that niche may be sports, creative writing, artistry or any of the other numerous activities available here. For me, it was my journalism class. By tracking and reporting on events in the community, I became a member of the community.

With such a large focus on specialized activities, I didn't even have time to react to a much more rigorous workload. I was forced to adapt at a very quick pace and suddenly found myself under the constant worry that I wasn't as smart as I used to think I was. Perhaps the most difficult task I had to overcome this year was accepting that I can't be the best at everything I do. Knowing my limits and giving myself some slack was incredibly liberating and I'm much better off for it.

Freshman year was equal parts exciting and terrifying and I can only begin to imagine what awaits me in the next three years of my life.



ADRIANA AMREIN/NAHS

Hair-based discrimination indicates societal issues

by maggie mcaden

Even Anne of Green Gables suffered under unfair stereotyping. Redheads have been the target of derogatory jokes and ridiculous generalizations for generations, in both literature and real life.

I remember a particularly infuriating occasion in which a boy stuck his head out of the bus window as I was walking home, screaming, "You don't have a soul!"

Every time I get angry, my feelings are invalidated and I am written off as an "angry redhead." Don't get me wrong, I'm angry, but my current demeanor has nothing to do with my "carrot top," but rather the way I'm treated in modern culture.

According to a survey conducted by the University College Cork, based on 1,742 red-heads scattered across 20 countries, 60 percent of males and 47.3 percent of females said that they had experienced some form of discrimination as a result of their hair color.

Many times, redheads are subject to cruel jokes that do not only attack them, but their identities as well.

Slapstick humor targeting women and minorities is looked down upon. Redheads are one of the remaining groups of people that suffer from socially accepted stereotypes.

In 2010, three middle-school boys were detained in California for ganging up on a red-headed boy on what they deemed "National Kick a Ginger Day," created as a result of the show South Park. The police began an investigation after a concerned

nurse alerted the principal as she treated the boy for bruises and bloody injuries, according to the LA Times.

After multiple episodes criticizing redheads, South Park has only contributed to society's demeaning attitude, even inspiring its fans to violently attack other people.

Disturbingly, the only reason these boys attacked another student was for the color of his hair. Race, gender, age and sexual orientation are all factors for which people have faced discrimination and persecution. Hair-based discrimination, although not as serious as other forms, still deserves attention and consideration.

YouTuber Michael Kittrel rose to YouTube fame after posting a video entitled "GINGERS DO HAVE SOULS!!" The video depicted Kittrell ranting about the way that South Park made fun of redheads, suggesting they were soulless. With 37 million views, Kittrell's justified anger became trivialized and ignored, and he became known as the "angry ginger kid." He ended up using it as a marketing strategy, appealing to the very stereotypes that angered him to begin with by releasing his own single, "Gingerbread."

However, Kittrell touches upon many valid points, saying: "Gingers, why do gingers get put down so much? What's so different about us besides our hair color?"

Actually, there's a lot of things that make redheads different. We compose 0.4 percent of the population, according to BBC, and our hair comes with all kinds of fascinating biological differences: we have the ability to produce our own vitamin D

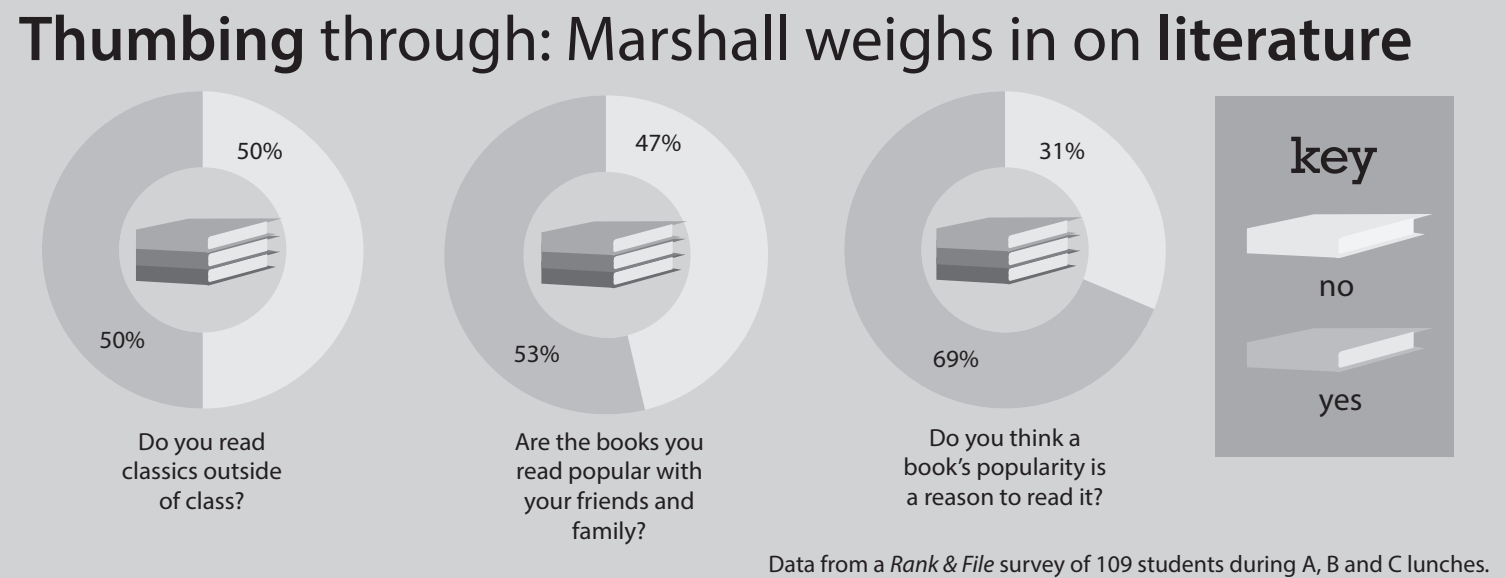


SAMANTHA VAN HEEST/NAHS

and are more sensitive to thermal pain, according to the Huffington Post.

However, it is the way that people react to a simple genetic mutation that speaks of a culture that is unaccepting and stifling.

It doesn't matter if it is intended as a joke; something sinister lies underneath. Bullies do not need further ammunition, and no group of people deserves humiliation based on a fundamental component of who they are. The world has a habit of stomping out the light of anything different, redheads included.



tweets

It's nice to say that I'm a part of a team going to states #GCMRISING



Triem Truong
Sophomore
@TriemT

So blown I couldn't play but I couldn't be more proud to be a Statesmen #6for6 #GCMRISING



David Tecala
Junior
@_tecala

Marshall spring sports is making its name for themselves this year. 3 huge wins for high placement in Regionals! #MARSHALLPRIDE #GCMRISING



Caleb Fletcher
Sophomore
@_CalebFletcher

letters

Involvement in independent groups increases political awareness

Everyone has something planned for summer. Big or small, we all have plans. Some people go to the beach or camping with their friends, but some of us are doing things most don't consider "normal". I'm planning on interning for the Green Party, and preparing for the upcoming 2016 election. The Green Party doesn't get a lot of press in America, but it's a political group that runs candidates every year, and is active in most of the US. I think people should really be more involved politically in smaller parties, as it helps get more attention out. Most current juniors and seniors get to vote in the next election, and that's scary, but it also means we get to help decide the next 4 years of our country. And regardless of who you are, you'd probably look good in green.

Tom Freebairn
Junior

Send your signed letters (50 to 125 words) to room D211, or tweet at us @GCMranknfile. Letters can also be submitted to letters@rank-n-file.com, but will only be considered upon in-person verification. Letters and tweets will be published at the editors' discretion. Published letters and tweets do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the paper.

WMZQ unites country music fans across region

by eve grill

Country music fans across the region once again flocked to Jiffy Lube Live on June 6th for the semi-annual WMZQ Fest which is sponsored by Washington’s country music station, 98.7.

Every summer, various country music stars perform at the highly anticipated concert, allowing suburban Northern Virginia residents to feel as if they live in the South for one night. This year, well-known country stars such as Hunter Hays, Lady Antebellum, and Sam Hunt were featured as the main performers for the evening.

Motives for attending the concert range from fan’s love for country music to just tagging along with friends.

“I’ve always like country music, so going to WMZQ was an easy choice,” sophomore Timothy Nayak said.

In addition to the names featured at the concert, the laid-back and vibrant atmosphere of such a reputable show lured those who have previously been back, and brought new-comers to the lively lawns of the Jiffy Lube Live stage.

“I had gone last fall for the Fall Fest, and remembered how energetic the atmosphere was and knew

that it would be just as fun this year,” sophomore Alyx Dela Rosa said, “The atmosphere of the festival in itself is enough to enjoy the concert.”

According to Dela Rosa, the concert’s ambiance lived up to her high expectations from previous experiences.

“The overall environment was so uplifting and fun. Being able to experience the concert with my friends made it all the more enjoyable,” Dela Rosa said.

The dynamic atmosphere carried over into the lawns of Jiffy Lube Live as the country music stars belted out hit songs while audience members joined in, singing and dancing along with the acts.

“My favorite part had to be dancing badly and singing horribly out of tune with my friends. Everyone was just having so much fun,” sophomore Margaret Lister said, “Hearing the songs in person that I normally listen to on the radio was extremely cool.”

The combination of the social experience and the upbeat classic country music proved to make for an unforgettable night for all the attendees.

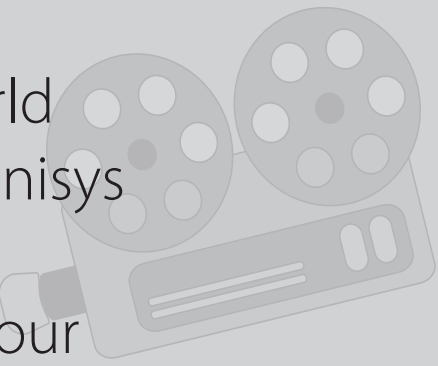
“My experience this year more than lived up to last year,” Lister said, “Every time I go, it just keeps getting better and better.”



A mass of country fans bring their lawn chairs and blankets to WMZQ Fest at Jiffy Lube Live in order to enjoy a relaxing day of sunshine and country music.

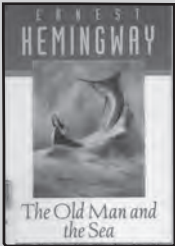
hot summer flicks

- June 12 - Jurassic World
- July 1 - Terminator Genisys
- July 24 - Paper Towns
- August 7 - Fantastic Four



summer page turners

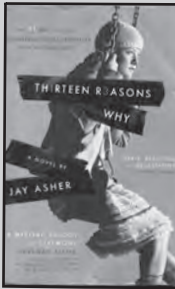
Rank & File recommends novels for summer reading



CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS. REPRODUCED UNDER FAIR USE

1. *Old Man and the Sea* by Ernest Hemingway

A short and simple read, Hemingway’s classic novel chronicles the three day adventure of fisherman Santiago and his battle with a large fish at sea. Although the book is barely over 100 pages long, its complex themes and deeper meaning have made it a highly referenced classic and a must-read.



RAZORBILL. REPRODUCED UNDER FAIR USE

3. *Thirteen Reasons Why* by Jay Asher

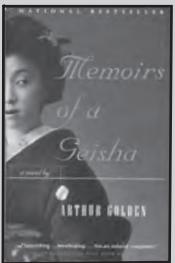
Jay Asher’s *Thirteen Reasons Why* tells the story of teenager Clay Jensen. One day, he discovers a package on his porch containing thirteen tapes Hannah Baker made shortly before her suicide, chronicling each reason she killed herself. Stunningly mysterious, the novel provides a window into the teenage mind, conveying the devastation that comes with the death of someone so young.

4. *Memoirs of a Geisha* by Arthur Golden

A great historical fiction novel, *Memoirs of a Geisha* opens a door into the geisha district of Kyoto, Japan; Gion, before and after World War I. The story centers around a young girl, Chiyo, as she is sold from a fishing village to an okiya (a geisha boarding house) and tries to make a life for herself. The novel encompasses a fascinating taste of history.



HUTCHINSON. REPRODUCED UNDER FAIR USE



RANDOM HOUSE. REPRODUCED UNDER FAIR USE

Modern CGI replaces dangerous film sets

by johann young

Many people have the dream of becoming a famous actor or actress, but they’re not aware of how dangerous acting can be.

Stars like Sylvester Stallone, Jackie Chan, Jim Caviezel and George Clooney have all almost died on the set of their films due to poor conditions on set and accidents during filming.

While filming an action scene for the *Armour of God* released in 1986, Jackie Chan jumped from a roof of a building and grabbed onto a branch which snapped causing him to fall twenty five feet, hitting his head on a rock. The action star fractured his skull and had a piece of bone shot into his brain. He was then rushed to the closest hospital where they inserted a plastic cap to prevent further injury.

The Passion of the Christ was released in 2004, and starred Jim Caviezel as Jesus Christ, who was struck by lightning during the mounting of the cross scene. He walked away without any major injuries, but throughout the rest of

production he reportedly suffered from a separated shoulder, hypothermia, pneumonia and lung infections.

Practical effects can be seen as the main source of these problems. A good example of this is in the 1981 movie *Roar*, which used live lions and tigers in its film without any safety precautions. This lead to over 70 cast and crew members being attacked and seriously injured during production. Due to limitations in technology, the use of computer generated imagery was impractical as animals would have looked unrealistic. This lead to director Noel Marshall and cinematographer Jan De Bont having to take a more dangerous approach.

However, now that producers have access to CGI, many practical effects can be replaced with anything that the director feels is necessary. Because of the use of this technology, what happened during the filming of *Roar* won’t happen again. Anything from action scenes to scenes involving large animals is not as dangerous now thanks to CGI.



DRAFTHOUSE FILMS. REPRODUCED UNDER FAIR USE

A lion used for the 1981 film *Roar* confronts a fearful actor inside a water barrel. The movie has an infamous reputation due to the staggering quantity of set injuries that took place during its production and serves as one of the best examples of the negative consequences of employing dangerous effects and props instead of CGI.

—maggie mcaden and kristen ziccarelli

<<< view the accompaniment to this article on page 9

spring sports highlights

by caylin elkins



PATRICKMCCABE/RANK&FILE

“It was crazy with the noise and support of the Marshall community. Definitely my favorite experience playing on the baseball team.”

Justin Han

varsity **baseball**
20-6
semi-final regional
champions

varsity **softball**
21-5
semi-final regional
champions

“We worked hard in practice and on the field. We all played for each other not just ourselves.”

Celestina Dunavant



ANNATHILLAIRAJAH/RANK&FILE



COURTESY OF HEATHER ADLER

“It was our coaching staff that allowed us to go so far, as they always pushed us to get better as individuals and as a team.”

Jackson Lee

boys varsity **lacrosse**
10-3
regional
champions

girls varsity **lacrosse**
12-7
conference
champions

“We all felt pretty accomplished making it to the regional semi-finals. It meant that all of our hard work paid off. We knew that our last game could be at any moment.”

Peggy Coppola



ANNATHILLAIRAJAH/RANK&FILE



ANNATHILLAIRAJAH/RANK&FILE

“I think we got to this point by the dedication a lot of the girls put into their team along with their natural talents.”

Lorena Beltran

girls varsity **soccer**
10-4-2
conference
champions

boys varsity **soccer**
8-7-2
conference
champions

“It was amazing winning districts, but what made it even more special was knowing that we were the first Marshall boys soccer team to do so.”

Ioannis Tsourekas



PATRICKMCCABE/RANK&FILE

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