

the BULLDOG BARKER

Williams Bay High School • 500 W. Geneva St. • Williams Bay, WI 53191

What is One Thing Teachers Would Tell Their High School Selves?

By Leeza Patterson

- Mrs. Rowbotham:** You don't know everything; you will make mistakes. Learn from them and move forward. Avoid mean people. Life is too short to waste your time and energy on them.
- Mr. Cullian:** I would tell a younger, more naive, Mr. Cullian to not be afraid of rejection and apply to Notre Dame. . . also to not be a bum and play all four years of football.
- Mr. Weirick:** You're going to make some mistakes in the next few years. Instead of telling you how to avoid them, I'm going to tell you to embrace them as they will take you on your own unexpected journey. Maybe spend a little less money. Good luck!
- Mr. Dowden:** Quit stressing. Life is great, but nothing like you expected.
- Ms. Majercik:** Challenge yourself and take more risks. You will learn more from fear than from comfort.
- Ms. Evans:** I guess I would want to make sure that my younger self knew just how much more being kind and compassionate to everyone mattered than just trying to be liked. Classmates will probably not remember all of the small things you did each day, but they will forever remember how you made them feel. If you have the opportunity to help someone or make someone's day brighter, just do it.
- Mr. Tomaszewski:** There is this thing called BitCoin, and it costs about \$1. Take your graduation money and buy a thousand. Then enjoy retirement at 30.
- Mr. Welch:** Challenge yourself and push yourself outside your comfort zone as much as possible, whether that is in the classes you choose to take, the sports you play, the clubs you are involved with, or the jobs you have. There is tremendous value in learning through failure and persevering through things that initially seem too much to handle. Our mind is a powerful thing: YOU CAN DO IT!
- Mrs. Kavanagh:** Be true to yourself because what other people do or think shouldn't matter so much.

Williams Bay Senior Atop Leader Board in Wisconsin Stock Market Game

By Owen King

- An online stock market game has been introduced to Williams Bay students this year and has quickly become a hit. Over twenty teams signed up to compete against students from all over the state of Wisconsin.
- Here is how it works.**
- Each team (composed of at least four players) gets an imaginary \$100,000 to invest in the stock market however they please over a certain period of time.
 - Each member of the team that has the account with the highest value at the end of the time period wins \$500 in REAL money.
 - The goal of the game is to provide interested students with experience in dealing with the stock market as well as a basic understanding of how it works.

Stock Market Game (continued)

The game has garnered plenty of attention from students at Williams Bay as many of them have been glued to a rather volatile market as of late, in hopes of striking a big profit. Few have been successful, but one student in particular stands out. Despite a tanking market due to a Russian invasion of Ukraine, Williams Bay senior Connor Pecht of CLB Industries has found a way to climb the leader board up to second place in the state of Wisconsin. Connor has combated the falling stock prices by closely monitoring the market and short selling stocks with high volatility. Within a week, Connor has already been able to generate an 11% increase on the funds in his portfolio, which puts him and his team in second place for the state.

While Connor and his team are off to a great start, other Williams Bay teams will look to capitalize on a very volatile market to rise up the leader board in the coming weeks. The first week of the stock market game has had its fair share of drama and controversy, but the game is only getting started.

Leeza, the State-Bound Gymnast

By Alex Reynolds

- Recently, one of our very own bulldogs did the unthinkable: she made it into the state gymnastics competition. As a result, I am here today to have a short interview with this amazing athlete.
- Q: Do you practice outside of set practice times?*
A: Yes, I go to open gyms on Saturday nights when I get the chance.
- Q: Do you see yourself continuing on the path of gymnastics beyond high school?*
A: I wish I could, but I honestly don't think I'm good enough to.
- Q: What is your favorite thing about the sport?*
A: My favorite thing about gymnastics is the challenge - pushing yourself enough to be able to do well in competitions is very rewarding.
- Q: What is one of the greatest challenges you have faced in gymnastics?*
A: The greatest challenge I've had with gymnastics has been stress-fracturing my back. I never fully healed from it and it still hurts me pretty often.
- Q: On a scale of 1 to 10, how much do you enjoy your sport and why?*
A: 10, because I really love the challenge of every single event - all 4 events are completely different from one another.
- Q: And, finally, how do you feel about going to state?*
A: I'm super excited! I'm feeling very confident in my gymnastics and am looking forward to it!



Senioritis

By Evelyn Hamberg

With the start of spring and the end of the school year just around the corner, motivation is naturally going to start running low for a lot of students. One group in particular that is plagued with this lack of motivation is the senior class. Senioritis is defined as a phenomenon in the last semester of senior year that affects a student by increasing apathy and decreasing motivation and performance, and although it is not classified as a real mental disorder, many seniors agree that it is real. The symptoms of senioritis can be quite serious, ranging from total indifference towards upcoming assignments and exams, to out-of-character decisions and actions.

Why does senioritis happen? Many pressures and events contribute to it, like the pressure of leaving high school. Students who are on track to go to college have been expected to maintain a certain level of achievement throughout their high school career, and this comes to a head at the beginning of senior year. Seniors are expected to maintain their GPA even after already being accepted into college, the goal they had been working towards and kept them motivated in the first place. This makes assignments and tests seem useless in contrast to the stress they create. Seniors are also expected to keep up with their friendships and relationships, extra-curricular activities, jobs or internships, scholarship opportunities, and sleep schedules. All of these factors pile onto the fact that after they leave high school, they will usually be seen as independent adults, a large step from the identity that is held in high school. The routine of the last four years will be uprooted completely and some will have to move away from friends and family. Senior year is one of the biggest transitional years in a person's life.

How does one prevent or even cure senioritis? It is important to remember why the motivation was there in the first place. Even if it is hard to keep the same pace as before, apply consistent effort to not lose steam before college or the workforce. Taking time to work through mental health and processes will clean up the mental and physical clutter that has accumulated through the last four years. Most importantly, do not stop having fun and making memories. Make time for relaxation as well as friends, take advantage of school sponsored events, and move forward with an open mind.

The Current State of Affairs

By Ian McClenathan

What do the Williams Bay student investors think about the U.S. stock market and international relations dealing with the economy?

Emmett Clair- It’s pretty bad, definitely not good. If you are not in the market now, it is a good time to buy. Don’t buy oil right now. If you are in the market, wait it out and it should go up.

Jesse Robison- Buy in now if you have capital. Emmett said it all.

Owen King- Wait for the bottom. I don’t think it is here yet. I don’t know how to do it, but short selling is the game right now. Those are the people in the green state.

Bradley Galvin- Invest in cyber security. All of the cyber attacks around the globe can be stopped by cybersecurity companies and we are never going to have fewer attacks as technology advances. I think when Russia gets further into Ukraine and takes over, the stock market will crash. I think that Putin will team up with China and a large war will start because the U.S. will place more sanctions on them. This will cause international economies to collapse and the stock market to crash.

Eoin Henry- All things considered, the market isn’t doing that bad. Although Russia invaded Ukraine, the DOW is coming back and is even positive. The American natural gas prices are doing well and oil is doing okay. It will also be interesting to see what happens with the Semiconductor market because Japan and Taiwan are considering placing heavy sanctions on Russia. What will happen to Russia’s economy? Will it be similar to what happened during Covid 19 and the chip shortage? It also has the possibility of increasing the number of chips the rest of the world gets by cutting Russia off.

LaCrosse Isn’t Just a City

By Emmett Clair

Lacrosse dates back to 1100 A.D. when it was played by a group of Native Americans, the Iroquois. This game was often used as a ritual to encourage unity within a community, or sometimes it was played to settle disputes. It is sometimes referred to as the medicine game due to its use to heal communities and bring them together.

Games of lacrosse were very large, on fields that could span for miles. Anywhere from 100 to 1,000 men would play the game using a wooden ball. This makes the modern adaptation seem insignificant in comparison with only 10 players on a 110-yard field using a rubber ball.

Lacrosse first started to shift into the sport it is today when European settlers discovered the game and gave it more stringent rules. George Beers, a dentist in Canada, published the first rule book for the sport. The sport then began to spread at a steady pace, particularly in Canada where it was made the national sport in 1859. One man that is credited for spreading the game of lacrosse from Canada to the U.S. is John Flannery who founded the U.S. National Amateur Lacrosse Association after ending up in Brooklyn due to having to move for his work. This new-found enjoyment of lacrosse in the U.S., along with the mass-produced more modern metal and plastic sticks, allowed for the game’s popularity to soar.

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The Brief History of Cheerios

By Cheyenne Billings

On May 1st, 1941, Cheerios were first presented to the world by Lester Borchardt and General Mills. In the beginning, Lester had trouble building the perfect machine to create his cereal, and as a result, the company wasted a significant amount of money. Borchardt’s boss tried to call off their project, but he insisted on continuing (History). About two months later, the machine they created was a success and they were able to make Cheerios. The company had originally called the cereal Cheerio Oat; however, in 1945, it was changed to Cheerio due to another company already owning that name (History). General Mills created this new type of breakfast food “to replace the boring landscape of post-depression era oatmeal and morning mush” (Kane).

Through the years, Cheerios had an abundance of mascots. Their first mascot, from 1942 to 1943, was called Cheerio O’Leary. This mascot was portrayed as a cheerful young girl. She appeared in magazine ads and in the Sunday newspaper’s comic sections (Cheerios). In the 1950s, their mascot was The Cheerios Kid and he appeared in Cheerios commercials. He went away for a while and reappeared in the 1980s, along with his sidekick, Sue. Their most recent mascot we know and love is Buzz the Bee. Sadly the bee was removed in order to raise awareness for the honey bees dwindling population (Cheerios).

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Band and Choir New York Trip (and Fun Facts About the City)

By Anna Lock

From Thursday, April 7th to Tuesday, April 12, 2022, the Williams Bay High School choir and band students will embark on a trip to the fourth most populous state, New York, and tour New York City. The trip will include a Broadway classroom, a performance by the students (location TBD), a tour of Chinatown, a Broadway performance (TBD), a guided tour of Radio City Music Hall, a Central Park walking tour, a shopping excursion in Times Square, and a visit to the Statue of Liberty. The packed agenda also boasts a trip to Ellis Island, Wall Street, the Wall Street Bull, Battery Park, the Financial District, the Stock Exchange, the 9/11 Memorial, the World Trade Center Observation Deck, and various restaurants throughout New York. Students will be staying just outside of the city in New Jersey.

The Broadway workshop on the third day of the trip will be taught by Broadway performers. Students will get a chance to experience a Broadway rehearsal, as well as learn choreography, staging, and music from the production that they will be seeing. Also on the agenda for the third day, there is a visit to Chinatown, home of the largest Chinese population in the Western Hemisphere. Another important aspect of the trip and of New York is Broadway. Although the students do not know what show they will see, it is sure to be a hit! The longest-running Broadway show is *The Phantom of the Opera*, but New York’s longest-running show is *The Fantasticks*. All in all, the trip is loaded with fun and historical stops that are sure to make it unforgettable!

FUN FACTS:

- Did you know that the Statue of Liberty, originally copper in color, has seven spikes on the crown representing the seven oceans and seven continents of the world, showing the universal concept of liberty?
- Another fun fact is that the New York Stock Exchange is one of the world’s largest stock exchanges by total market capitalization!
- New York is also home to one of the most visited art museums in the world, the Metropolitan, and is the inventor of toilet paper.
- Another fun stop, Times Square, was named after the New York Times. In addition, Central Park attracts more than forty million visitors annually and is the largest and most important public park in Manhattan.

Sources:

Staff, Editorial, et al. “52 Interesting Facts about New York State - Page 2 of 4.” The Fact File, 21 Dec. 2021, thefactfile.org/new-york-state-facts/2/.

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Is it Fair to Require the SAT/ACT After COVID?

By Ethan West

It is certain that the controversy of standardized testing has risen since the recent COVID pandemic. A big question has surfaced: is it fair to require standardized tests on college admissions for COVID-era students? Deciding whether they believe that standardized testing can accurately distinguish extraordinary students from casual students, plenty of schools have started to take mental health factors and the effects of quarantine into consideration. As a matter of fact, the University of South California “has permanently eliminated standardized tests like the SAT and ACT as admission requirements” (DeMatthews). USC isn’t the only prestigious school to make this change; in fact, schools like UT-Austin, UW-Madison, Cornell, Yale, and Harvard are making their admissions test-optional for 2022 applicants, too. There is an all-time high statistic that more than 1,815 colleges and universities now practice test-optional and test-blind admissions, which is around 75% of four-year institutions in the United States.

However, some schools are just generally opposing the idea of standardized testing. Dozens of schools believe that standardized tests try to perpetuate socioeconomic disparities and that they limit the schools’ ability to admit a diverse group of students. This is due to the fact that those who are Black or Hispanic, non-native English speakers, or low-income students, typically score lower than others (Soika). Amidst the current pandemic (and other factors), standardized testing seems to be getting a bad rep. In recent news, the SAT will also go completely digital in 2024, raising more questions for what the future of college admissions will look like.

Despite the negative remarks on standardized tests, I can assure you that they are still utterly important and can provide numerous benefits in your application process. Standardized test scores may even determine who receives merit scholarships (Moody). Some schools give out guaranteed scholarships to students whose scores meet a minimum threshold. Furthermore, even though some schools may not require test scores, if you submit a good test score, that may be a deciding factor between you and another student.

I predict there will be a decline in the requirement of standardized tests in the future. With the current circumstances, I think that they are too controversial and create more of a burden than provide benefits. By and large, standardized testing has been a hot topic within the United States, and it has seen a lot of skepticism. We’ll just have to see what the future holds; in the meantime, you better start studying!

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The Major League Baseball Lockout

By Nicholas Schnobel

At the time this is being written, the MLB is currently in its ninth work stoppage ever. The last time this happened was twenty-six years ago. This comes as a result of a disagreement between the MLB and the MLBPA, the players association. The disagreement is happening because the league’s CBA, or collective bargaining agreement, expired on December 2 without a new agreement in place. The CBA is made to cover things like salary, travel protocols, drug testing, and more. Though the league can operate without a new agreement in place, all thirty team owners unanimously voted to lock the players out until a new CBA was signed because the league is “vulnerable” without it since the players could go on strike. The league is also afraid of violating federal labor laws because work would be done by the players, but they would receive no compensation in return.

The players association and the league have only talked a handful of times since the start of the lockout, with their last bargaining session lasting only fifteen minutes. The league decided to delay the start of spring training to March 5, which many think will inevitably lead to the delay of opening day.

But a lockout doesn’t just mean that games can’t be played and players won’t get paid. It also means that teams can’t sign or trade players, and players aren’t allowed to go to team facilities or even talk to their coaches. Dante Bichette, an advisor and former player for the Toronto Blue Jays, even resigned from the organization so that he would be allowed to work with his son, Bo, who is a player on the Blue Jays. One MLB spokesperson said that if a new CBA is not signed by February 28, then the 2022 regular season will be canceled, player pay will not be recouped, and games will not be rescheduled.

Some reasons a new CBA wasn’t agreed upon in time include the issue of teams tanking for draft picks, player pay, and younger players being taken advantage of. The PA says that the industry has grown, but the average player salary has not, which suggests that owners are being greedy. They aren’t trying to make their teams better by spending more money, but instead are keeping the money for themselves.

Hopefully the lockout ends soon because the league could lose a significant amount of money, but more importantly, they’ll start to lose fans, too.

Source:
Wagner, James. “M.L.B.'s Lockout: What Is It? How Does It Work? What's next?” The New York Times, The New York Times, 3 Dec. 2021, <https://www.nytimes.com/article/mlb-lockout.html>.

T Time

By Grace Brown and Kacey Pietrowiak

Featuring Mr. T

What is the meaning of life?
According to Merriam-Webster, life is "the ability to grow, change, etc., that separates plants and animals from things like water or rocks." So I guess life is to grow and change but not into water nor rock, which ironically goes against everything Bruce Lee taught me.

What harsh truths do people choose to ignore?
Most people tend to ignore the truth if it is harsh like General Custer. Others just re-shake the Magic-8 Ball.

What is the difference between living and existing?
Being a plant/animal or water/rock.

Can money buy happiness?
It all depends on your ratio of expense to happiness. If your happiness is Mc-Chickens, then around \$1,000 dollars will make you happy for a year.

What comes first: the chicken or the egg?
I talked to Mr. Cullian, and he said the amoeba.

What is the meaning of happiness to you and do you think anyone can find it?
Not sure what will bring you happiness, but if you found it, would you really share it? For me, I find it daily in the collective sigh of disgust when I tell my AP students there is reading homework. It’s the little things.

T Time (continued)

- How do I decide on a career?*
Very good question. I believe that you should not only choose your career but also post-high school plans in the following fashion:
- Come up with your favorite thirteen careers and thirteen least favorite careers.
 - Place each career on an individual sheet of paper.
 - Place each sheet of paper in its own aluminum briefcase.
 - Get a group of people to hold each briefcase.
 - Select one case. That is now your case.
 - Slowly eliminate the remaining cases.
 - After eliminating a few cases, have your parents call you with an offer on how much they will pay you to move out of the house.
 - When your case and one other remain, you can choose to keep or swap cases.
 - Your decision is made when you have accepted your parents’ deal to move out or with the career that is in the last case.
 - (Bonus) Hire Howie Mandel to host.

Is there destiny and fate or do we create our own paths?
I knew a girl in high school named Destiny, so I know she is real. Never met anyone named Fate, but Kanye will probably name a kid that, once he is over Kim. If you are looking to create a path, I suggest you go into landscaping.

Is it wrong to steal a loaf of bread to feed your starving family?
I suggest you aim a little higher; your family is still probably starving after eating the loaf of bread, and now the baker is on to you.

What Fears do Some Williams Bay High Schoolers Have?

By Samantha Thompson

- Leeza Patterson:** Not making myself proud
- Henry Kwiatkowski:** Heights
- Meeks Perez:** Spiders
- Karsen Cox:** Someone in my vent
- Ethan West:** Waking up every morning
- Nicholas Schnobel:** Failure
- Owen King:** God
- EV Duvall:** Being contaminated
- Anna Lock:** Having regrets
- Grace Brown:** Spiders
- Kacey Pietrowiak:** Drowning
- Keileen Weberpal:** Clowns
- Hannah Abram:** Stink Bugs
- Rosa Jimenez:** Disappointing my parents
- Elizabeth Lothian:** Ocean
- Evelyn Hamberg:** People knowing my worst fear
- Stella Bushey:** Not getting the Wordle

Interview with Alumni - Claire Heckert

By Keileen Weberpal

What is something you wished you knew before applying to colleges?
A: I wish I applied for more scholarships. As low as you think your chances of getting that certain scholarship is, it is still worth a shot to apply. You’ll be proud of yourself that you made the effort in the long run.

Was it difficult for you to decide on a major? What would you say to those who are “undecided?”
A: Yes, definitely. I think everyone should go in undecided unless you already know your purpose in life. I was a Nutritional Science major, and then I switched to Personal Finance and Risk Management. Anything can happen. I don’t know a single person that stuck with their major since freshman year other than my Accounting TA and my freshman year roommate. Freshman year should be a time to adjust to your new surroundings and get a feel of what works for you and what your interests are. So, if you have absolutely no idea what you want to do in college or in life, just know you are going to be more than ok!

What do you like the most about the college you attend?
A: Where do I start? I love going to school in Madison. I think it is one of the best decisions I made. I initially thought that going to UW would feel too familiar, but that was definitely not the case. When you’re away from home, you’re away and that’s all that matters. The best part about school is meeting people from all over the world. It is so diverse in that there is an opportunity to learn something new in every conversation.

Were you able to earn any scholarships or grants to assist with college expenses?
A: I wasn’t able to get any, but that is one of the reasons I went in-state!

What is something you didn’t realize about college after arriving/attending?
A: Be prepared to be pushed like you’ve never been before. School is difficult. Balancing your school work, social life, and exercise routine can be very challenging at first. It will get easier. My best advice for this is to start planning out your weeks. That way, you can stick to a schedule more easily and reward yourself when you stay focused and on track.

Have you found any new interests or extracurricular activities while attending college?
A: Yes! Once you get to college, this is one of the biggest things I recommend doing. I joined Club Tennis and that was one of the best decisions I have ever made. You meet new people who all share a similar interest and it becomes another social outlet in college. I would also recommend getting out of your comfort zone and trying something new like a different sport or hobby you’ve always wanted to try. You don’t like it? There is no pressure to go back. Don’t be afraid to try new things!

What do you miss from high school?
A: That’s a good question. I always looked forward to Homecoming and Prom Week because of the activities. I played sports in high school, so I really miss hanging out with my teammates and goofing off during practices.

What do you think about sororities and fraternities? Are you in one or interested in these?
A: I personally did not join Greek life, but I have a bunch of friends in them and they love it. I think it’s a great way to meet people in the first semester, but not necessary at all. If you’re on the fence about it, go for it. If not, Greek life is such a small portion of people on campus that you’ll make tons of friends in other ways.

What did your college look the most at towards your admittance process? (GPA, ACT, extracurriculars, recommendation letters, admissions letter, etc.)
A: UW was very heavy on GPA and extracurriculars in my graduation year. They also take into account if you’re in-state and financial aid you may qualify for. It really depends on the pool of applicants they have that year. It seems like standardized test scores aren’t as important as they used to be. I am not sure how much pull recommendation letters/admissions letters have now, but it is a good idea to have them in your application.

Clare Heckert Interview (continued)

What is your most memorable experience from college yet?
A: This is a tough question to answer because I can’t pinpoint the most memorable experience because there are so many. One that I will never forget was Southeast dorm lockdown in September 2020 because our COVID cases were so high. We weren’t able to leave our building unless we were going to the dining hall. Before we all got COVID, my friend Jake tried to go on a run outside. He soon figured out that there were people outside the doors hired to track down anyone who tried to leave the building. Pretty crazy, right? I’ll never forget that feeling of being a prisoner in college.

What is a piece of advice you would give to high school students who are starting to apply for colleges?
A: The ACT test does not define you! This is my biggest piece of advice. I know it seems like the end of the world and your future is in the hands of one exam, but that could not be more wrong. I remember being so anxious during the weeks leading up to the test and I wish I would’ve looked at the big picture. An ACT score is such a small representation of who you are as a student, so don’t let yourself stress too much about it. You’re going to do great no matter where you end up applying or attending.

Is there anything else you would like students to know?
A: Hopefully after reading this you can take away something about college admissions and what to expect. College can be uncomfortable at first, but that’s how you grow into a better version of yourself. Be the conversation starter and listen to others. You’re going to learn so much. Soak it all in. It’s an amazing experience.

Interview with Alumni - Braiya Nolan

By Keileen Weberpal

What is something you wished you knew before applying to colleges?
A: Getting the balance between match, safety, and reach schools. If you apply to somewhere with Early Action, I would recommend waiting to submit your other applications until after you hear back from your Early Action school, if possible. I wasted a lot of money on applications that I was not even considering after I got into my top choices.

Was it difficult for you to decide on a major? What would you say to those who are “undecided?”
A: Look to your natural gifts and skills. I think far too often people try to force themselves into a career path that doesn’t fit their personality and talents. On that same token, it is okay for it to change! As you take more classes and experience more topics, your ideas can adjust or shift.

I started out as biomedical engineering and pre-med. Through classes and experiences with coding, I realized that I did not even want to become a biomedical engineer. With my outgoing personality and the subject areas that I am best at (Biology, writing, and public speaking) being a biomedical engineer was no longer my first option.

Did you get any scholarships or grants when selecting a college?
A: The best way to get scholarships is from local organizations. It is much more difficult to get scholarships at a national level.

What do you like the most about the college you attend?
A: I have absolutely exceptional friends. I also really love being in a city and having the east coast train system to be able to go to different places.

Braiya Nolan Interview (continued)

What is something you didn't realize about college after arriving/attending?

A: I felt like I had to learn how to learn upon coming to college. I was going to class, doing the homework, but still not understanding. Learning in college takes so much more effort than just completing assignments and showing up. It takes hours of studying outside of class to master concepts.

Have you found any new interests or extracurricular activities while attending college?

A: I joined the ski team! I now ski race in Vermont, New Hampshire, and New York during weekends in January and February.

What do you miss from high school?

A: The pace of life between high school and college are completely different. At college, life moves at light speed - in the best way possible. I love college and Yale is the best thing that ever happened to me, but there is virtually no ‘down time.’

What do you think about sororities and fraternities? Are you in one or interested in these?

A: I am not in a sorority, but some of my friends are. I like the frats at Yale, and Greek Life is definitely a part of student culture, but it is not as intense as other schools.

What did your college look the most at towards your admittance process? (GPA, ACT, extracurriculars, recommendation letters, admissions letter, etc.)

A: Extracurriculars! Do things you’re passionate about and the rest will follow.

What is your most memorable experience from college yet?

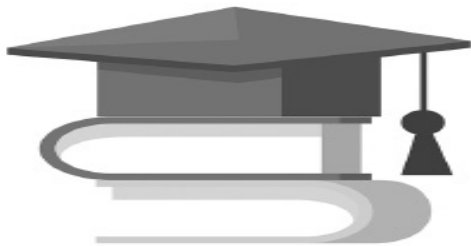
A: On December 4 of 2021, Yale hosted an incredibly beautiful and extravagant formal dinner for my entire class. Sushi, ice sculptures, and towers of cake lined the walls. It was the most surreal experience. I waltzed through a great hall in my favorite dress, conversing with all of my classmates for hours on end. Then afterwards, my friends and I rented out the student kitchen and cooked ‘Latkes’ a Jewish potato pancake and celebrated Hanukkah (I am not Jewish but a few of my friends are). We were all dancing, singing, and cooking, and as I looked around the room, I had this overwhelming feeling that these people were going to be in my life for a long, long time - if not forever.

What is a piece of advice you would give to high school students who are starting to apply for colleges?

A: Distance is a double edged sword. On one hand, getting to and from college is tricky, and I often have to take multiple planes, trains, and ubers. On the other hand, it has forced me to become extremely independent. When things get tough, I can’t go home for a weekend or see my dogs. Still, I have become a master public transport user and light packer!

Is there anything else you would like students to know?

A: One grade or one test does not define you as a student and your capability. It will all work out.



Trivia
By Morgan Bronson

Questions

- 1. What is the rarest M&M color?
- 2. In a website browser address bar, what does “www” stand for?
- 3. In what year were the first Air Jordan sneakers released?
- 4. Which singer’s real name is Stefani Joanne Angelina Germanotta?
- 5. Which country consumes the most chocolate per capita?
- 6. What is the tallest breed of dog in the world?
- 7. What is the world’s biggest island?
- 8. When Michael Jordan played for the Chicago Bulls, how many NBA Championships did he win?
- 9. Which country produces the most coffee in the world?
- 10. How many hearts does an octopus have?
- 11. Which chess piece can only move diagonally?
- 12. What famous horse won the Triple Crown in 1973?
- 13. What is the only state that borders just one other state?
- 14. What is the only fruit that has its seeds on the outside?
- 15. What is the biggest technology company in South Korea?

Source: <https://www.fatherly.com/play/best-trivia-questions-for-kids/>

Favorite Class
By Kaeden Weberpal

As the second semester has approached, it is natural to wonder what students are liking about their year and specifically what classes they like. According to a brief, but insightful, survey, there was a lot of variety regarding classes each student took interest in. It appears as though A.P. Government, Study Hall, and Band are the most liked classes so far this year.

Listed below are the percentage of votes designated to each class:

- A.P. Government - 17.65%
- Study Hall - 17.65%
- Band - 17.65%
- Pre-Calculus- 11.76%
- Physics - 11.76%
- Spanish - 5.88%
- Team Sports - 5.88%
- Junior Seminar - 5.88%
- A.P. Psych - 5.88%

- 15. Samsung
 - 14. Strawberry
 - 13. Maine
 - 12. Secretariat
 - 11. A bishop
 - 10. Three
 - 9. Brazil
 - 8. Six
 - 7. Greenland
 - 6. The Great Dane
 - 5. Switzerland
 - 4. Lady Gaga
 - 3. 1984
 - 2. World Wide Web
 - 1. Brown
- Trivia Answers

The Evolution of COVID-19

By Henry Kwiatkowski

The COVID-19 pandemic started in late 2019 and it is still a part of our “new normal” in 2022. Over the past two years, the Coronavirus has evolved to take on many forms due to various adaptations and mutations. Although new variants which originate from virus mutations are to be expected, monitoring every variant that appears on our radar is essential to ensure that we are prepared to deal with another potential outbreak. With each new variant of the Coronavirus, the virus strand can be more contagious, causing stronger symptoms, more resistant to vaccine or treatment, and so on. Here is a short list of some of the variants that scientists have studied so far.

Omicron

The Omicron variant was first identified in Botswana and South Africa in late November in 2021. Omicron has already become a prevalent virus within the U.S. and across the globe. Omicron is more transmissible than Delta, and is easily transferred between individuals. Most cases identified within individuals result in only mild symptoms.

Delta

The Delta variant was first identified within India in late 2020. Before the COVID Omicron variant, the Delta variant was the most prevalent COVID-19 variant within the U.S., with more than twice as many infections then its predecessors. The Delta variant is more likely to cause hospitalization for individuals, especially those who are unvaccinated.

Alpha

The Alpha variant was first identified in Great Britain in November 2020. Before the Delta variant, the Alpha variant made up 66% of cases within the U.S. Now, following the rise of Omicron and Delta, the Alpha variant has become less common within the U.S. The Alpha variant is deadly enough to land many individuals hospitalized, especially those with preexisting conditions.

Beta

The Beta variant was first identified in South Africa at the end of 2020. The Beta variant was not very common within the U.S. and slowly became less prevalent across the globe. Beta is about 50% more contagious than the original COVID-19 strain. The Beta variant of Coronavirus is more likely to lead to hospitalization and death than the original strain of COVID-19.

Source:
Katella, Kathy. “Omicron, Delta, Alpha, and More: What to Know about the Coronavirus Variants.” Yale Medicine, Yale Medicine, 20 Dec. 2021, <https://www.yalemedicine.org/news/covid-19-variants-of-concern-omicron>.

Olympic Sport Criteria

By Elizabeth Lothian

Have you ever wondered how sports like curling and skeleton are in the Olympics, and others like chess and motor boating are not? While the 2022 Winter Olympics are over, the criteria for an Olympic sport is still being discussed and is extensive to say the least.

For a sport to be considered for the Olympics, it must meet a set of thirty-five standards.

These are just a few:

- Recognized as a sport from the International Olympic Committee (IOC)
- Enforces the The Olympic Anti-Doping Code
- Is classified as a sport, a discipline, or an event
- Practiced by men in seventy-five countries and four continents
- Practiced by women in forty countries and three continents
- Increases value and appeal of the Olympics
- Is not a sport of the mind (i.e. chess)
- Does not depend on manual propulsions (i.e. motor boating)
- Host country/city is able to supply appropriate facilities and/or stadiums. (For instance, baseball and softball were taken out for several years because the host cities did not have room for multiple fields.)

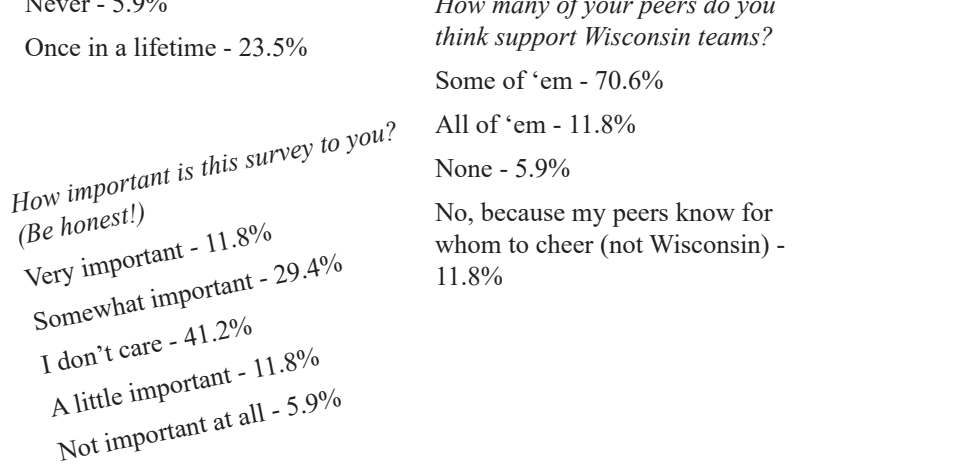
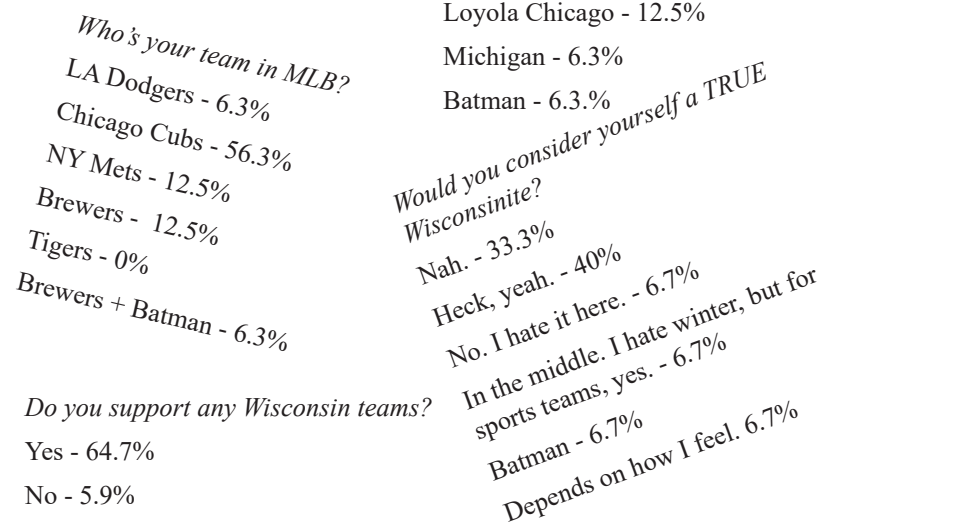
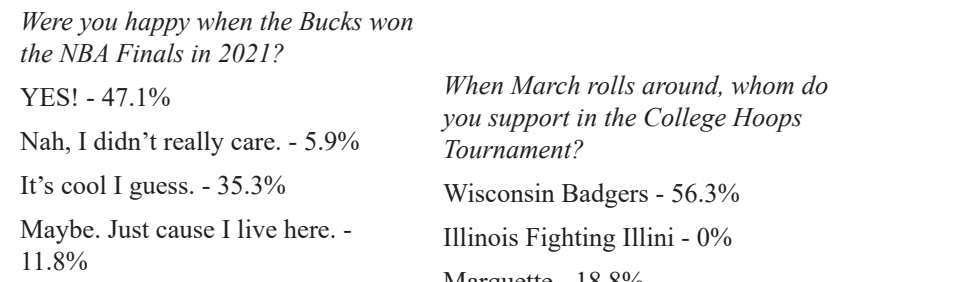
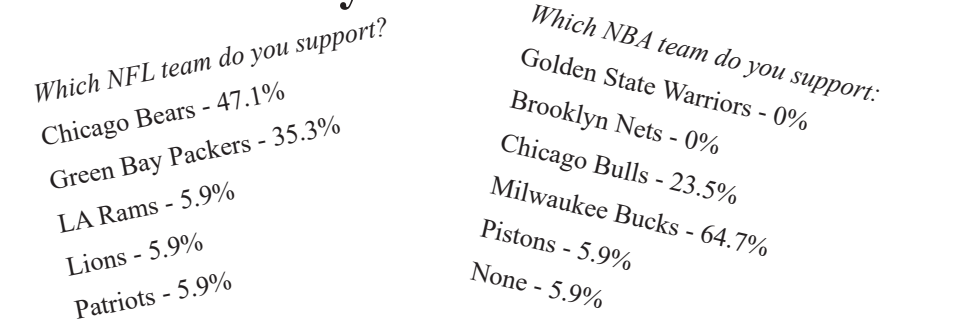
Olympics (continued)

Although these rules seem extensive, it is important to have them. They provide a way to regulate sports that can join the Olympics, as well as evaluate the current sports. These regulations also ensure that there is equality within the sport, such as allowing both men and women to participate.

Source:
<https://www.britannica.com/story/how-are-sports-chosen-for-the-olympics>

Are You a True Wisconsinite?

By Karsen Cox



I have concluded that most students at Williams Bay, from my small sample size, support at least one Wisconsin sports team. This does not seem to be the case, however, when it comes to the NFL and the MLB. In these sports, my peers tended to cheer for Chicago teams. The reason for this is unknown. The majority of students surveyed believed they were true Wisconsinites. The truthness of that is truly uncertain.

14 Questions with 14 Students

By Rosa Jimenez

1. *What has been your best life experience?*

Lali Carbajal: Getting to experience different cultures, but, like, really experience them, not just go on vacation and say I experienced a different culture.
2. *If you had to eat crunchy food or smooth food for the rest of your life, which would you choose?*

Nadia Nateghi: Smooth food because if you are going to be sick, you don't want stale crunchy chips. You want some smooth chicken noodle soup... or maybe crunchy because you can have vegetables.
3. *If the color orange is actually purple, what color was the horse on Friday?*

Anna Lock: 2
4. *What is the best compliment you have ever received?*

Kyra Frederick: When Mr. Kleinhans called me smart, that's a top-tier compliment.
5. *What do you wish you had told your five-year old self?*

Grace Brown: Have fun before you get hit by the train we call life.
6. *What is one color you would never dye your hair?*

Evelyn Hamberg: I would dye my hair any color for a specific amount of money, the most expensive would be pure red. I don't want to be a ginger.
7. *Have you ever left the country and where did you go?*

Stella Bushey: I went to Mexico, and it was good. I liked it a lot, except for people trying to sell me bad things.
8. *Is chartreuse pink or green?*

Kaeden Weberpal: It sounds pink.
9. *What number do you find the most extravagant and why?*

Cheyenne Billings: 777. I just like the number 7. It's pretty and the date of my birth month.
10. *If you could combine two countries' flags, which two would you combine?*

Anonymous: Mexico and Italy.
11. *What do you think is the sole cause of allergies?*

Anonymous: Weakness. If you were stronger, you wouldn't suffer.
12. *Where do you want to go to college and what will you study?*

Kyle Marshall: UW Madison, but I don't know what I want to study.
13. *If you could change our school colors, what would you change them to?*

Addison Vlastnik: Blue and white for no particular reason.
14. *When you make cereal, do you put the milk first or the cereal?*

Anonymous: I don't have milk with my cereal. I don't like milk.

What Does My Dream Mean?

By Hannah Abram

Every night whether you remember them or not you have between three and six dreams. These figments of your imagination can range from meeting your favorite celebrity to having a monster chase after you, and can last from five to twenty minutes. There are several different theories on the functions of dreams. You may get a different response to why we dream based on who you ask. Some neurologists say that your dreams prepare you for possible threats, others say that dreams help with memory processing, while some believe that they help develop cognitive capabilities. There is also a wide range of viewpoints behind dreams and their meanings. Although some neurologists believe that there is no meaning at all, others believe that there are hidden meanings behind dreams. Interprets and analysts have done research behind common dream themes and symbols and have come up with conclusions on what they mean.

Dreams (continued)

- Common dream interpretations include:
- Falling*: sign that something in your life is not going well
 - Taking a test*: fear of failure
 - Naked in public*: afraid of imperfections and shortcomings
 - Losing teeth*: worried about your attractiveness
 - Dying*: anxiety about change or fear of unknown
 - Flying*: desire to flee or escape from the realities of life
 - Being chased*: trying to avoid something in your daily life
 - Chased by animal*: hiding from your own anger
 - Chased by unknown chaser*: hiding from childhood experience
 - Chased by opposite sex*: afraid of love

While most common dream interpretations are often negative, if you dream about finding money, eating delicious food, or discovering a new room it usually correlates with positive dream themes.

Sources:

“Dreams: Causes, Types, Meaning, What They Are, and More.” Medical News Today, MediLexicon International, https://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/284378#_no-HeaderPrefixedContent.

“What Are the Most Common Dream Themes?” Psychology Today, Sussex Publishers, <https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/dream-factory/201411/what-are-the-most-common-dream-themes>.

And the Survey Says...

By Grace Brown and Kacey Petrowiak

<i>What is your favorite gas station?</i>	<i>What is your favorite chocolate candy?</i>
Kwik Trip- 21	KitKat- 8
Mobil- 4	Reese's- 5
Fleet Farm- 1	Twix- 5
Love's Truck Stop- 1	Three Musketeers- 4
	M&Ms- 2
	Rolo- 2
	Snickers- 1
<i>What is your favorite fast food restaurant?</i>	
Culver's- 9	
Chick-fil-a- 8	
Panera- 6	
Wendy's- 1	
Taco Bell- 1	
Burger King- 1	
McDonald's- 1	

Medieval Times

By Jesse Robison

Spoiler alert- If you're going to Medieval Times, consider not reading this.

On March 11th, the History Club is going to Medieval Times for the first time in two years. What used to be an annual thing was shut down by Covid, but now we're back. So, what is Medieval Times? Medieval Times is a chain of "castles " where customers pay to be immersed into the medieval world. Customers sit in a large arena; one of the six knights represents you based on your seat. The queen welcomes everyone and the story begins.

You are a noble invited to the queen's castle to enjoy a lively competition where six different knights battle to be the royal champion, but the show doesn't just include fighting. It includes horses that put on a dance, a falcon master whose falcon flies right over the audience, and even medieval sporting events. The fighting, however, is my favorite part. Each knight begins the battle on horseback. Equipped with lances and shields, they ride at each other attempting to knock each other off. While it is obvious that the fight is scripted, it doesn't take away from the fact that these men are actually hitting each other and jumping off their horses. Eventually both knights get off their horse and continue the battle with different weapons, like swords, maces and axes. The fight on the ground is terrific. Sparks fly from the weapons, and it's sometimes hard to tell if the knight that just got punched in the face isn't actually hurt. Throughout this whole spectacle, you are also enjoying a delicious four course meal consisting of garlic bread, dragon blood (tomato soup), baby dragon (roasted chicken), sweet buttered corn, and herb-basted potato. Finally, the tournament ends, and everyone has to leave, but not before you take a look at the gift shop. (Although you're not allowed to buy any swords. No swords on the bus.)