

# THE CORRESPONDENT

## BY DISPATCH

VOLUME 52, ISSUE 3. JOHN HERSEY HIGH SCHOOL, DEC. 20, 2019

## 50th Annual Food Drive Showcases School's Impact on Community

BY AMELIA ZOLLNER



Students package rice during second period in preparation for Service Over Self's trip to three local food pantries.

PHOTOS BY AMELIA ZOLLNER

On Nov. 22, Service Over Self hosted its 50th annual food drive, providing food to both local food pantries and Hersey families in need of assistance. In honor of the food drive's 50th year, SOS used the slogan "50 for 50" in promotional materials, reflecting their goal of donating 50,000 cans. Although the total number of cans fell just short of 50,000, the 46,845 cans that students raised made a tremendous impact on the community.

After over a month of planning logistics, organizing classes, and collecting cans, hundreds of students came together to help organize boxes in the cafeteria during second period on Nov. 22. "I was able to stand up on a table and watch everyone, which was so amazing to me because I was able to see everyone working together for one amazing cause," senior Mia Petri, who coordinated the food drive, said.

Once boxes were packed, SOS students efficiently loaded them into three U-Haul trucks, all of which were completely filled in

an hour. "It was so organized; the students in the SOS class worked really hard behind the scenes," SOS teacher Mark Gunther said. "There were so many things going on, from bag n' tag to family food boxes to getting bags made, and everybody that chipped in was supremely organized and efficient."

From there, the U-Haul trucks went to three food pantries: St. Alphonsus, Harvest Bible Chapel, and Willow Creek. At each food pantry, SOS members helped unload the trucks, forming human chains to get the boxes into the pantries. "When everybody was handing box to box, you just get to see the best in high school students when you create opportunities like that and involve people who really want to be a part of it," science teacher Dawn Barry said.

At all three food pantries, employees spoke to SOS students about the impact that the Hersey food drive has on the community. "I think it's hard for people to walk in here asking to receive food," Willow Creek food pantry coordinator John Smith said. "It's hard



Seniors Mary Renner and Jasmine Sewell carry a box of cans to St. Alphonsus' food pantry.



The school's mascot poses with cans as students organize and package food.

for people to do that, but at the same time, it's seeing and meeting people for who they are and what they're going through. Just having that connection gives them a sense of hope that there are people who care."

Perry and Renee Morelli, two food pantry coordinators at St. Alphonsus, felt that Hersey's food drive had an especially large impact on those who benefit from the St. Alphonsus food pantry. "I just gave away the last of it about a couple weeks ago," Perry Morelli said.

Although the food drive has the biggest impact on St. Alphonsus' pantry and gave it enough food to last nearly a year, each food pantry relies on Hersey's food drive, showcasing the immense impact that the food drive has on the community. "They [food pantries] circle the date every year and can't wait until we touch base and say we're doing it again," Gunther said. "I think it's fair to say they rely on the hersey students and community."

## Josh Methner Shatters Cross Country Record

BY MICHAEL SOMARY

As we all know, senior Josh Methner has had a tremendous 2019 Cross-Country season. Methner broke an Illinois record that lasted 42 years to cement his back-to-back individual state title feat.

When comparing last year's individual victory to this year's, Methner said, "Last year was very special because I also got to celebrate our team's success finishing second, so there was happiness on everyone's face the rest of the week. And this year was awesome because I received tons of congrats and thank you's for just my individual race. All my interactions after the race felt humbling."

Methner's time at Detweiller Park of 13:49.86 surpasses all times ran by the many future Olympians, who also won this important race. In fact, every Summer Olympics since 1976 has included at least one alumnus of this event. "An ultimate goal of mine would be getting to the Olympics. The Olympics only occurs once every four years and it's very difficult to be at your peak fitness form at the same exact time as the most prestigious meet in the world," Methner said.

To make it seem more plausible for Methner, Craig Virgin, who previously held the record, was a 3-time Olympian and the only American who has ever won the World Cross Country Championship.

However, Methner doesn't experience pressure from his success. "I don't feel added pressure on my shoulder. I just look at my

performances as benchmarks that can point towards good or bad progression," Methner said.

As if his state accomplishments weren't enough, Methner went on to achieve even more success. Methner ran at the Nike Cross Regionals (NXR) and won the race by a landslide. This race included the top runners from Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, and Missouri, and Methner topped all of them.

This qualified Methner for Nike Cross Nationals (NXN), held in Portland, Oregon. This contest includes the highest level of competition one can find in high school. Only the top five individuals and top two teams from each of the eight regionals qualify for the event. Methner placed 2nd against the top 203 runners in the entire country.

This accomplishment, along with his many past accomplishments, has set Methner up for a bright future. Methner had a choice of continuing his athletic and academic career at virtually any college he wanted. However, long before this race, Methner had already elected to continue his career at the University of Notre Dame, a school widely known for its prestigious athletic and academic programs.

"Notre Dame felt like the best choice for me for many reasons, the top reason being that the entire team there are great people both during and after practice, and they were the most ambitious guys I got to talk to, compared



Methner runs at the Boys XC Sectionals at Busse Woods, one of the first events leading up to his historic win at State.

PHOTO BY JASON DURAY

to the other places I visited," Methner said.

Methner looks to build on his high school cross-country success next year. "I'm most excited for having a hand in Notre Dame's team run for a national championship next year," Methner said. "With a lot of good recruits and veteran guys on the team heading into next year, it could be a special one."

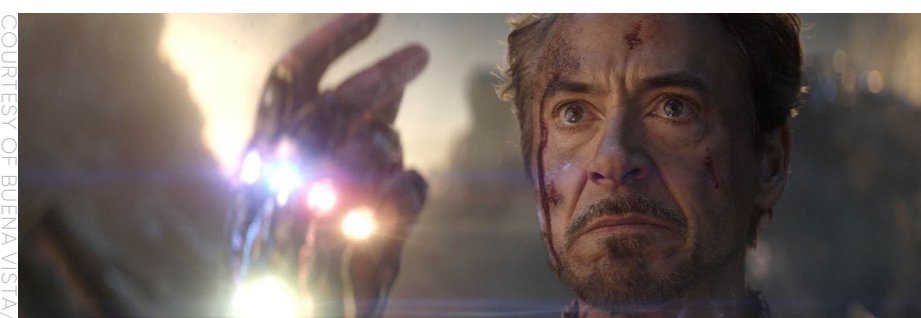
# ENTERTAINMENT

## The Best of the Decade

### Josh's Top 10 Films BY JOSH HO

Having grown up with movies their whole lives, people often forget that film has only been around for a little more than 100 years. With film being such a new medium for storytelling, artists have only begun to scratch the surface of what is possible on screen. Each decade is defined by a small group of artists and films that radically change and redefine the artform. Charlie Chaplin and Buster Keaton laid the foundation for physical comedy in the '30s and '40s. Steven Spielberg's *Jaws* launched the Hollywood blockbuster in the 1970s and, since then, the film industry has never been the same.

The 2010s were no different. In an era of technological abundance, filmmaking became more accessible and the boundaries of what was possible were pushed immensely. As the decade comes to a close, here are the top ten movies of the 2010s. These are not necessarily the ten most well-made movies or my ten personal favorites, but rather ten influential movies that I believe defined the decade and will be revisited for years to come.



#### 9 Her (2013)

Few films capture relationships as well as Spike Jonze's sci-fi romantic drama. The film follows Theodore Twombly (Joaquin Phoenix) as he falls in love with an operating system named Samantha (Scarlett Johansson). The film tells a succinct tale of love and loss, but somehow feels bigger than itself. It tackles such complex themes not only about human nature but society as a whole. It makes the audience question what love is and how to move on from pain. As humans become increasingly dependent on technology and more isolated, the movie explores what connection looks like in the 21st century and how our relationship with technology could evolve. These philosophical musings are packed into a gorgeously-shot melancholic masterpiece.



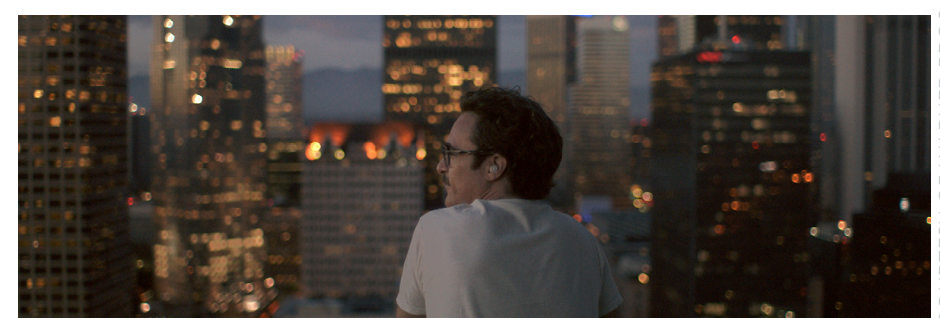
#### 7 Boyhood (2014)

Richard Linklater has always been obsessed with time. His debut film *Slacker* and his big break *Dazed and Confused* managed to capture distinct moments in time, like little dioramas of Austin, Texas. His widely acclaimed *Before Trilogy* explored a singular relationship in three separate instances nine years apart. In *Boyhood*, it seems as if Linklater finally was able to fully express his thoughts on time in one film. The movie, which was shot over the course of 12 years, manages to capture a boy growing up in real time. The film is raw and honest, at times feeling more like a documentary than a narrative feature. The experimental structure is a testament to the power of collaboration and dedication, and results in one of the best movies on adolescence.



#### 10 Avengers: Endgame (2019)

The 2010s saw an explosion in the popularity of comic books, thanks to the popularity of 2008's *Iron Man*. The film's success resulted in 21 other superhero movies that all co-existed within a cinematic universe. This serialized form of storytelling reminiscent of TV took the film industry by storm and dominated pop culture as a whole. *Avengers: Endgame* served as the culmination of a decade of storytelling and became the highest-grossing film of all time with \$2.8 billion worldwide. The film's three-hour runtime is packed with fan-service and ties up loose ends that had been built up for over a decade. The result is an extremely wild ride and an operatic conclusion to a chapter of the biggest franchise in history.



#### 8 Into the Spider-Verse (2018)

Disney/Pixar has been owning animation for the past three decades with hits like *The Lion King*, *Toy Story*, and *Frozen*. However, the only animated movie I placed on this list is actually Sony's 2018 superhero smash hit. *Into the Spider-Verse* takes full advantage of all animation has to offer, with hundreds of visual and auditory meta-references to comic books, movies, and pop culture as a whole. The way the film seamlessly blends different art styles is a feast for the eyes. The film's soundtrack and stellar voice acting combine with a wholly original plot to create an overwhelming sensory experience. I'm comfortable saying that this is one of the best animated movies ever made.

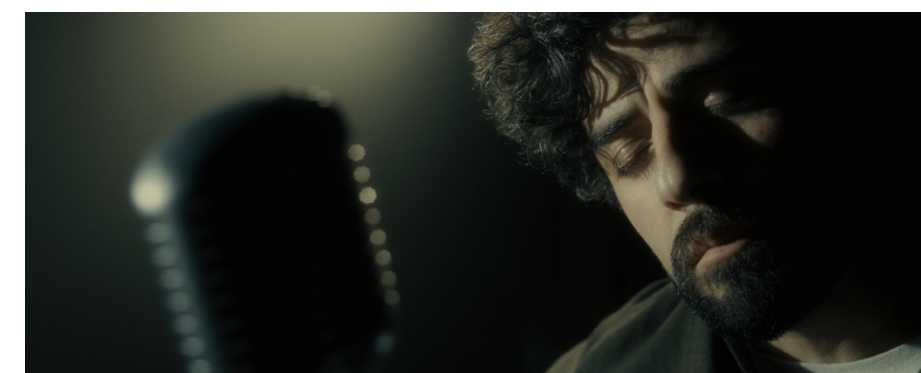


#### 6 The Social Network (2010)

Perhaps no film has aged as well as David Fincher's *The Social Network*. The film's dramatic retelling of the creation of Facebook paints Mark Zuckerberg as a jerk who exploits others for personal gain. Given all the recent Facebook scandals, the movie seems more topical than ever. Aaron Sorkin's razor-sharp script gives the talented cast plenty of room to shine. Jesse Eisenberg as Zuckerberg is assuredly one of the most iconic roles of the decade, and Justin Timberlake demonstrates a surprising amount of acting talent. Trent Reznor and Atticus Ross' haunting score accentuates the foreboding tone of the movie and has inspired dozens of movie soundtracks since then. *The Social Network* is the perfect example of what can happen when every aspect of the film is firing on all cylinders.

#### 5 Inside Llewyn Davis (2013)

Few directors possess the ability to balance comedy and drama the way the Coen brothers have been doing for decades. They are undoubtedly some of the most prolific American filmmakers, with hits like *Fargo*, *The Big Lebowski*, and *True Grit*. However, *Inside Llewyn Davis* might very well be their best work. The film follows the titular character's life as a folk singer in Greenwich Village pre-Bob Dylan. Oscar Isaac's show-stopping performance as Llewyn essentially launched his career. His subtle acting coupled with powerful singing ability carries the entire film. The movie borrows heavily from Homer's *Odyssey*, which also mirrors the circular structure of a traditional folk song. The rich metaphors and symbolism give an insightful look into the mind of an artist. In a decade where people hide behind masks and cultivate appearances, *Inside Llewyn Davis* shows the struggle of a man trying to live authentically.



#### 4 Baby Driver (2017)

Car chase and heist movies are nothing new. These action blockbusters have entertained the masses for decades. However, there's never been anything quite like *Baby Driver*. There's something exhilarating about seeing Ansel Elgort flee from cops down the Atlanta freeway set to the tune of "Bellbottoms" by The Jon Spencer Blues Explosion. Acclaimed director Edgar Wright's hyper-stylized sensibilities are all over the film. Every shot and action is perfectly timed to the beat of the killer soundtrack. This film could be considered a musical given that so much of the plot is revealed through song. *Baby Driver* is a delight and one of the most entertaining films of the decade.



#### 3 Lady Bird (2017)

The 2010s saw a major shift in the film industry. Typical independent dramas started becoming more and more mainstream thanks to a small film distributor named A24. No distribution company has created so many hit movies in such a short amount of time. From movies like *Hereditary* to the Best Picture winner *Moonlight*, A24 has quickly asserted itself within the cultural conversation. Out of all of the films in A24's vast filmography, Greta Gerwig's debut *Lady Bird* is the best representation of the 2010s indie-film trend. The coming of age tale is influenced heavily by Gerwig's upbringing and feels achingly personal. While the story on its surface has been told many times before, Gerwig's fresh personal take gives the film an enchanting energy. The cast boasts many rising stars like Saoirse Ronan, Lucas Hedges, and Timothee Chalamet. Much like *The Breakfast Club* in the 1980s, I believe that *Lady Bird* will be viewed as one of the defining films of the decade that launched the careers of its cast.



#### 2 Whiplash (2014)

The premise of *Whiplash* seems innocuous enough: a young jazz drummer attempts to climb the ranks while dealing with an intense instructor. However, that doesn't even scratch the surface of what the film really is. *Whiplash* is a cerebral experience; every scene builds on the frenetic tension reminiscent of jazz music itself. The movie ensures that the audience is on the edge of its seat until the crescendo of a finale that can be viewed as either a triumph or tragedy. The movie is so solidly crafted and honed in its themes, which is hard to do in a sub-2 hour movie. Miles Teller gives the performance of his career as Andrew, the talented drum prodigy. J.K. Simmons' Fletcher will surely be one of the most iconic film villains for years to come. *Whiplash* is an expertly-made study of dreams and whether or not they're worth the cost.

#### 1 La La Land (2016)

If *Whiplash* is Damien Chazelle's tragic study of dreams mixed with hope, *La La Land* is the exact opposite. Chazelle's 2016 follow-up fully embodies the romanticism of goals and aspirations. The film's tagline reads "Here's to the fools who dream". The film seamlessly combines elements of classic Hollywood musicals with modern sensibilities. Ryan Gosling and Emma Stone's performances carry the film with absolutely dynamic chemistry, especially during the musical numbers. The original songs are filled with joy and shot with copious amounts of energy by cinematographer Linus Sandgren. Some view *La La Land* as a love story, and I would agree to some extent. However, the movie is a love letter to Hollywood rather than a relationship; a dazzling ode to a city full of dreamers. *La La Land* is proof that musicals can still be entertaining, and is perfect escapism for a decade defined by turmoil.



## Best of the Decade: Amelia's Top 10 Albums

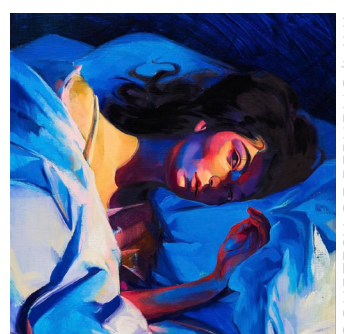
BY AMELIA ZOLLNER

As a fan of indie and alternative music, I constantly find myself pushing to discover new artists with tiny fanbases. However, once in a while, it's refreshing to stop and take a listen to the larger indie bands and artists that have shaped the face of indie music. Over the past ten years, indie and alternative music have both grown considerably, largely due to the breakout of several large artists that are at the forefront of reshaping these genres. In honor of the decade coming to a close this month, I decided to make a list of ten indie and alternative albums from the 2010s that I hold close to my heart and feel contributed significantly to changes within the genre.

### 10. *Melodrama* by Lorde (2017)

It's hard to talk about this decade without mentioning Lorde, the New Zealand-born singer who skyrocketed to fame after her 2013 single "Royals" went viral. Following the release of her debut album *Pure Heroine*, the singer released *Melodrama* in 2017, revealing an entirely different side of herself. *Pure Heroine* was angsty and dealt with adolescence while *Melodrama* was fiery and passionate, seen best in pop anthems "Green Light," "Perfect Places," and "Dynamite."

Best song: "Green Light"

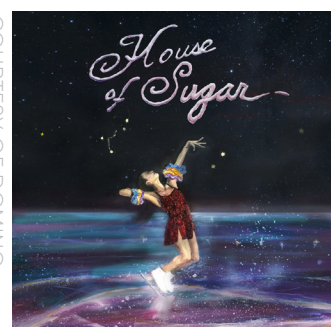


COURTESY OF REPUBLIC/LAVA

### 9. *House of Sugar* by (Sandy) Alex G (2019)

Indie artist (Sandy) Alex G was one of this decade's biggest breakthrough artists, releasing eight albums this decade, most of which received vast critical acclaim. However, his most recent album, *House of Sugar*, truly showcases his widespread abilities as an instrumentalist and lyricist, drawing from the fairytale of "Hansel and Gretel" to produce a variety of tracks. "Near" is daringly experimental and trancelike, "Taking" takes guitar notes and plays them backwards, and the rock song "Gretel," serving as the album's centerpiece, ties *House of Sugar* together as its most powerful track.

Best songs: "Gretel" and "In My Arms"

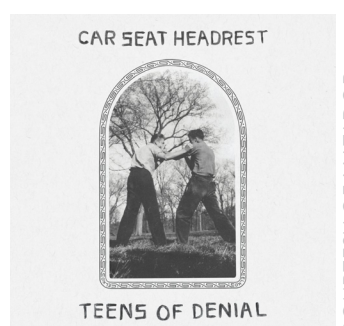


COURTESY OF DOMINO

### 8. *Teens of Denial* by Car Seat Headrest (2016)

Car Seat Headrest, the musical endeavor of Will Toledo, amassed a large number of fans from its record *Teens of Denial*. It's easy to see why; the album radiates head-banging potential. Toledo's aggressive vocals and the lo-fi instrumentals create a solid rock album that sounds amazing live. Since then, Car Seat Headrest has been a staple for lovers of indie rock,

Best song: "Vincent"



COURTESY OF MATADOR

### 7. *Depression Cherry* by Beach House (2015)

Beach House's 2015 album *Depression Cherry* is undeniably their best. Although their style doesn't waver much between albums, *Depression Cherry* boasts a hefty number of dreamy indie anthems perfect for listening to while driving late at night. Songs like "PPP" and "Space Song" are sure to pop up on any indie music lover's playlist, showcasing the prominence of this album in the indie industry.

Best song: "Space Song"

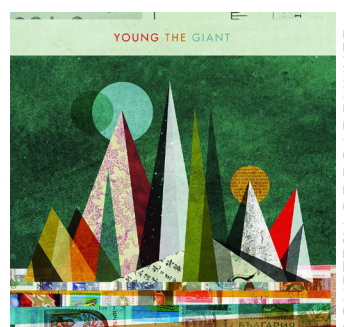


COURTESY OF BELLA UNION/ MISTLETOE/SUB POP

### 6. *Young the Giant* by Young the Giant (2011)

Young the Giant's eponymous album, released in 2011, pushed the band into the spotlight after the success of their single "Cough Syrup." Since then, Young the Giant has released three albums, but none of these match the passion they put into their debut. Throughout the album, warm guitar tones perfectly play off of frontman Sameer Gadhia's smooth vocals, creating a relaxing indie rock album that aged flawlessly throughout the decade.

Best song: "Apartment" and "My Body"



COURTESY OF ROADRUNNER

### 5. *Lush* by Snail Mail (2018)

Released when singer Lindsey Jordan was just 18, Snail Mail's debut album, *Lush*, is a stunning portrait of adolescence and growing up. *Lush* features warm guitar melodies, powerful drums, and, best of all, Jordan's stunning vocals, effectively creating a great, slightly angsty, album that translates flawlessly into live shows.

Best song: "Heat Wave"



COURTESY OF MATADOR

### 4. *Bon Iver* by Bon Iver (2011)

Bon Iver's self-titled album put them into the center of the indie industry. This forty-minute folk album inspired by cities in the Midwest features singer Justin Vernon's unmistakable vocals mixed with his signature folk sound, a sound he's now strayed from as he pursues more electronic projects. *Bon Iver* is a melancholy album perfect for listening to late at night and, despite the popularity of their recent albums, shouldn't be ignored.

Best song: "Holocone"



COURTESY OF JAGJAGU-WAR/4AD



COURTESY OF INTERSCOPE/ DIRTY HIT

### 3. *I like it when you sleep, for you are so beautiful yet so unaware of it* by The 1975 (2016)

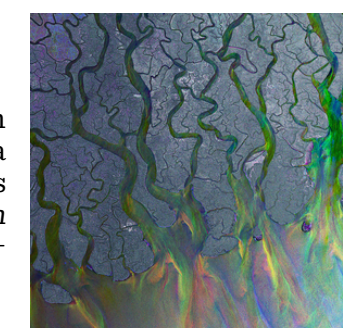
Although their most recent album has been their most critically acclaimed, The 1975's *I like it when you sleep, for you are so beautiful yet so unaware of it* cemented The 1975's place as one of the most popular bands of the decade with this incredibly versatile album that represented a major step out of their comfort zone and a step into other genres and styles that would reappear on their next album. Although its most popular songs are pop-rock anthems like "The Sound" and "Somebody Else," both of which received worldwide radio time, some of its best songs are "If I Believe You," a neo-jazz song that details singer Matty Healy's struggle with faith, "UGH!," an upbeat song with surprisingly sad lyrics about addiction, and "She Lays Down," a story about Healy's mother's battle with postpartum depression. *ILIWAYS* reveals what their debut album failed to do, making it their best.

Best song: "If I Believe You"

### 2. *An Awesome Wave* by alt-J (2012)

Throughout alt-J's debut album, *An Awesome Wave*, singer Joe Newman's strange, nasally voice combines with lackluster, unintelligible lyrics that tell odd stories; throughout the course of the album, a girl obsessively paces, a man loses his leg in the war, and a love triangle persists. The sheer abstraction of these lyrics caused many critics to slap negative reviews onto the album and forget about it entirely, but at its heart, the instrumentals of alt-J's *An Awesome Wave*, comprised of crisp drums, complex piano melodies, and upbeat acoustic guitars, effectively intertwine with Newman's poetic lyrics, making the album one of the most well-thought-out of the decade.

Best song: "Bloodflood"

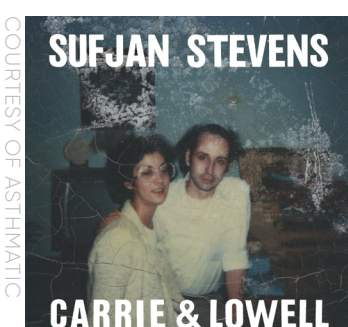


COURTESY OF CANVASBACK

### 1. *Carrie & Lowell* by Sufjan Stevens (2015)

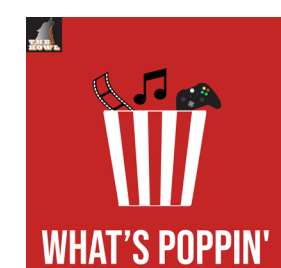
Singer Sufjan Stevens first emerged in the 2000s, but it's safe to say that his album *Carrie & Lowell* put him at the forefront of the indie-folk and indie-rock scenes. Semi-affectionately named after Stevens' mother and stepfather, *Carrie & Lowell* serves as an autobiographical album, revealing detail after detail of Stevens' childhood against backdrops of beautifully finger-picked guitars. Stevens weaves in his own existential thoughts in his signature whispery voice, singing lyrics like "We're all gonna die" on the album's highlight "Fourth of July." On *Carrie & Lowell*, Stevens manages to create an incredibly vulnerable atmosphere without losing any of his instrumental ability, making it my favorite album of the decade.

Best song: "Fourth of July"



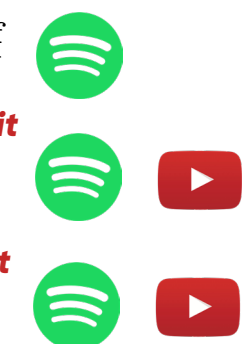
COURTESY OF ASTHMATIC KITTY

## PODCAST



- 1. Intro**  
Josh and Max detail the goal of What's Poppin' and foreshadow what's to come.
- 2. Film Review: Jojo Rabbit**  
Josh and Max are joined by special guests to discuss Taika Waititi's new film *Jojo Rabbit*.
- 3. Film Review: Knives Out**  
Josh and Max go over Rian Johnson's whodunnit *Knives Out*.

What's Poppin' is the official entertainment podcast of The Howl Network, hosted by senior Josh Ho and sophomore Max Garcia. They discuss everything pop culture from movies to tv and music.



This month marks the launch of The Howl Network, Hersey's official podcast network. This new format allows for better organization and more opportunities for us to provide quality content!

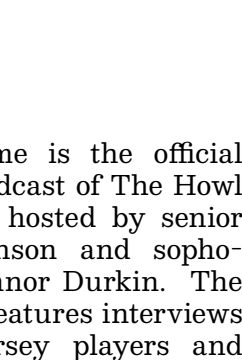


- 1. Intro**  
Grace and Natalie give an introduction and discuss the goal of the podcast and what to expect in the future.
- 2. Christmas Podcast**  
Grace and Natalie sit down to chat with guests Joanna Malec and Lucas Irwin about the holidays.

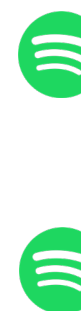
Chit and Chat is the official lifestyle podcast of The Howl Network, hosted by senior Grace Meister and junior Natalie Wozny.



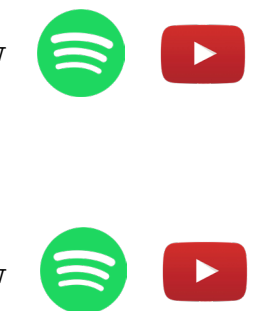
Overtime is the official sports podcast of The Howl Network, hosted by senior Max Hanson and sophomore Connor Durkin. The podcast features interviews with Hersey players and coaches, as well as discussion about pro sports.



- 1. Intro**  
Connor explains the goal of the podcast and what to look forward to in the future.
- 2. Hersey Hoops Ep. 1 feat. Alec Naumowicz**  
Join Connor and Max on the first episode of the weekly Hersey Hoops podcast, feat. Coach Austin Scott and Alec Naumowicz.



- 3. Hersey Hoops Ep. 2 feat. James Nolan**  
Connor and Max interview Coach Austin Scott and James Nolan.



- 4. Hersey Hoops Ep. 3 feat. Luke Martin**  
Connor and Max interview Coach Austin Scott and Luke Martin.

# ENTERTAINMENT

## It's Christmastime in the City: How to Spend a Winter Day in Chicago

BY NATALIE WOZNY



The holidays are arguably the best part of the year. The month of December has a way of bringing everyone together, because there are so many traditions specific to this season. Although there are plenty of festivities that can be done at home and around the community, luckily the gorgeous city of Chicago is nearby. Chicago looks the best it does all year during the winter due to all the displays and lights. Going to the city during the holidays is an absolute must! However, planning the trip can sometimes be tricky because there are so many options. A group of Hersey Dispatch staff members made the most of a day in the city. They had a perfect and eventful winter day in Chicago that anyone can use as a model.

The day started pretty early. By taking the 9:30 a.m. train from the Arlington Heights station, we arrived downtown at around 10:30 a.m. There are multiple train stations within the Hersey area and train schedules can be found online. By showing a student ID when purchasing Metra tickets, a discounted price is offered. It is also important to dress for the weather because much of the day was spent outside. Once we arrived at Ogilvie Transportation Center, we spent a few minutes going over the plan inside the station. There is a huge food court, so when in need of a last-minute snack or some coffee, anyone is covered.

Our first stop was a coffee shop about a ten-minute walk from the station. Sawada coffee doesn't look like much from the outside, but indoors one is greeted by rows upon rows of strung lights. There is tons of seating, a fair amount of coffee options, matcha, and a few baked goods. The wait for drinks was a little bit longer than usual, but that can only be expected in a city like Chicago. Everything was fairly priced, and everyone was satisfied with their purchases. The whole place is definitely something someone cannot find around here, and worth the walk. Not only is the coffee enjoyable, but

the place itself is also aesthetically pleasing. Sawada's urban and cozy feel makes it the perfect way to start the day downtown.

Coffee in hand, we walked for about thirty minutes to Pizza Parlor Bar's River North location. On the outside of the restaurant, a mural of two pizza angel wings reaches across the wall. Pizza is always a crowd-pleaser and is perfect for a cold day when it comes straight out of a wood-fired oven. The restaurant had many different pizza options, as well as a few non-pizza items to choose from. The inside also includes many unique graphics and photographable neon light signs. Authentic pizza was served and was around the same portion as popular local restaurant Mod Pizza. Pizza Parlor Bar has multiple locations, but the River North site was the best fit for the day. Not like anything in the suburbs, this restaurant really captured the feeling of the city.

After we were full from lunch, we decided it was time to do a bit of shopping and walked over to the heart of Chicago. The walk to the Magnificent Mile was about twenty minutes but very amusing since Sawada and Pizza Parlor Bar were in less busy neighborhoods. The sidewalks started to get more crowded and more oddities could be seen down the streets. There were occasional street performers and tons of stores to shop at. The holiday-themed window displays were gorgeous, some more extravagant than others. There were lights strung through the trees, which added to the spirit of the city. We ended up shopping in Water Tower Place and going to Free People and Altar'd State. These two stores are very feminine, but there are plenty of other options. Shopping in the city beats shopping in the area because it makes purchases memorable.

Once the sun started to set, we headed in the direction of the Maggie Daley Park Skating Ribbon. This was another thirty-minute walk, but it went by quickly because it is down Michigan Avenue the ma-

jority of the time. There are two ice skating rinks near each other, a ribbon like path and a rink. We chose to skate at the ribbon. Both rinks are free but the rental for skates at the ribbon costs thirteen dollars Monday through Thursday and fifteen dollars Friday through Sunday. I would highly recommend bringing skates from home or borrowing them from a friend from home instead of renting. The line for rentals could take over an hour depending on the day, which can feel like forever, especially in the cold. Skating itself is free and anyone can immediately step onto the ice, as long as they have their own skates. Either way, once we got on the ice, it was the highlight of the day. There was Christmas music playing from speakers around the rink and we chose to skate at night so all the buildings were lit up. Even if the whole day is not spent in the city, consider coming down just to skate because it really is magical and something that only feels right in the winter.

We were worn out and hungry after skating, which we wrapped up at around eight. A short ways away was Christkindlmarket, only a fifteen-minute walk. Christkindlmarket is a German holiday-themed market, to learn more about it, watch Hersey Dispatch's Budget Bites Video. Once we arrived there, we spent a bit of time looking around the many booths and shops. There are also a few food options, where everyone found something they liked. Once we made the most of Christkindlmarket, we headed back toward Ogilvie Transportation Center Station. This was only a thirteen-minute walk and we took the 9:30 train back home. We arrived safely in Arlington Heights at around 10:30, drained from our perfect winter city day.

# ENTERTAINMENT

## Hit or Miss 2019 Christmas Movies

BY NATALIE WOZNY & GRACE MEISTER

### Let It Snow

**Grace's Review** Netflix's *Let It Snow* brings us on a timeline of three stories, each story being well-balanced by rising and falling at the same time. Julie, questioning whether to go to college or to take care of her ailing mother, runs into Stuart, a pop star, and sticks by his side throughout. Meanwhile, there is Tobin who is too nervous to tell his best friend, the Duke, that he is in love with her because of his growing jealousy of college boy, JP. Dorrie and Addie are best friends who fight over each other's relationships. All these stories start out disjointed, but then every character eventually ends up at Waffle Town. *Let It Snow* is comforting through its cheesiness, wit, and warmth and is the movie to watch when looking for a cute holiday movie.

8/10

**Natalie's Review** I would definitely recommend Netflix's *Let It Snow* when in the mood to watch a cheesy, yet heart-warming holiday tale. It does not have the most mind-blowing plotline, but I was totally okay with it. The movie follows multiple relationships and connects them in the end by having all the characters come together at a party in a local food joint, Waffle Town. Each story has a different message and a positive ending. It is a feel-good movie and does a good job of blending all the different stories together. The characters are lovable and the casting seems to be done just right. *Let It Snow* has a touch of corny teen movie in it, but I appreciate the fact that there were more storylines in it than just romantic ones. This movie cannot be overcriticized in over to be enjoyed.

8/10

### Last Christmas

**Grace's Review** *Last Christmas* offers a recognizable cast and portrays a sweet story. Emilia Clarke, playing Kate, is suffering from depression and has lost her direction. She is nearing rock bottom until she encounters a mystery man, Tom, who is played by Henry Golding. She is drawn to his positive outlook and he helps Kate down her new path to self-redemption and restoration of damaged relationships. *Last Christmas* offers messages beyond romance – it shows us how doing service work and unplugging from our phones allows us to enjoy the world that surrounds us. Kate comes to the conclusion that to be happy is to help others.

8/10

**Natalie's Review** When I first saw the trailer for *Last Christmas*, I was expecting I basic love story. I do not want this to contain any spoilers, but it was far from that. The movie was still sentimental and had a really important message, that doing things for others is what really makes you happy in the end. I have to admit I teared up during the movie and felt inspired walking out of the theatre. It just wasn't what I expected. I did really like the meaning of the movie, but if you think about the actual story it's very unrealistic. This is okay in some cases, but it just didn't work for me. I think I just got so attached to the original story and thought it was going in one direction, and didn't like the reality that was presented in the end. It just didn't make sense and I know that that wasn't the main point of the movie, but it still threw me off.

7/10

### The Knight Before Christmas

**Grace's Review** Christmas movies are often filled with romance, joy, and happiness, but *The Knight Before Christmas* lacks these qualities. The movie takes us on the journey with a medieval knight, Sir Cole, who travels to Ohio, where he meets Brooke. The plot is full of potential but the script does not impress. The film lacks detail and connection to its audience. Most romance movies are too cliché, but this film took it too far when Brooke conveniently had a spare guest house and eagerness to house this stranger.

2/10

**Natalie's Review** One of main reasons I wanted to watch this movie was because it starred Vanessa Hudgens, which turned out to be one of the only reasons I could get through this movie. The plot had a little bit of potential and I saw where they were trying to go with a fairytale Christmas story, but they made everything so predictable. I couldn't help but zone out and sit on my phone. It just seemed as if a child thought of this story. It was really sappy, and honestly a bit cringy. This was mainly because it was so unrealistic. No one would let a stranger who believes they are a knight stay at their house for free so willingly. There also weren't enough eyebrows raised due to the fact that he disappeared in a cloud of smoke. Movies such as this one usually work because they are at least somewhat believable or good enough to make you want to believe in them. *The Knight Before Christmas* was neither of these.

3/10

## Shane Dawson's Content Makeover

BY ALEXIS SANTIAGO

Over the years, YouTube creators have changed their content in order to maintain their subscriber count and keep up with the current trends. One particular YouTuber that has had a noticeable change on their channel is Shane Dawson. Shane Dawson was known for making food reactions and talking about conspiracy theories, but decided to move away from this content and started to make a docu-series based on YouTube controversies like Tana Mongeau's *Tanacon* issue and Jake Paul with his *The Mind of Jake Paul* series. In October, Shane Dawson released another docuseries based on the famous makeup entrepreneur, Jeffree Star.

*The Beautiful World of Jeffree Star* is a seven-part docuseries that follows Jeffree Star to reveal how he runs his multi-million dollar company, Jeffree Star Cosmetics. In the series, Shane was given the offer to collaborate with Morphe Makeup and Jeffree Star Cosmetics to create the now infamous and fast-selling makeup collection *The Conspiracy Collection*. The collection consists of two eyeshadow palettes, a collection of lipsticks and lipglosses, and merch products like jackets and bags. After asking a Morphe worker at the store in Schaumburg she stated that *The Conspiracy Collection* won't be restocked in stores until 2020.

After the series released its last episode on November 22, his subscribers were able to see the aftermath of the collection being released. The collections were shown to receive positive reactions from the beauty industry and his subscribers. With the help of Jeffree Star, Shane Dawson entered the beauty industry as an underdog, not knowing anything about makeup. The duo became an anticipated collab, making us wonder what's in store for the future of Shane Dawson.

## Dickens Carolers Sing Holiday Tunes Throughout the Community

BY NATALIE WOZNY

A guaranteed way to get into the holiday spirit is to listen to holiday music. Lots of people love listening to these tunes months before the actual holiday. There are countless songs written about this season and even more covers and variations of these songs. What's even better than listening to the music through your headphones is listening to it live or performing it. Hersey's Dickens Carolers bring the holiday spirit each year with a set of performances around the area.

The group consists of eighteen members: eight boys and ten girls. The group is auditioned in the spring of the previous year and meets every day because they are also Hersey's Chamber Singers. On top of preparing around twenty carols, they are working on other pieces for a variety of other concerts and events. The students who are a part of Dickens have very busy lives, so they received the music in the summer to get ahead of the game.

The season for the carolers started this year at the Arlington Heights tree lighting ceremony on November 29. Once December begins, the group is booked pretty much every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, sometimes multiple times a day. The locations the singers perform at vary from country clubs to car dealerships. "My favorite memory from Dickens is when we went to the Kohl

Children's Museum. The kids were so engaged in our performance and it was really special seeing their faces light up. I loved it when we would start a song they knew and they'd start dancing or even singing along. It was really sweet seeing how they reacted with some of the carols," junior Joanna Malec said.

Lots of work goes into making the carolers look as authentic as possible, a big part of this being the costumes. They are handled with lots of care and are many students' favorite part of being in the group. Each singer has a special outfit of their own with a unique design. Every girl has a bonnet and every boy has a top hat. "My favorite part about Dickens would probably be the costumes that we get! The costumes represent the era of Charles Dickens and wearing the costume really gets everyone performing and watching our show in the holiday spirit," junior Ellie Muglia said.

Dickens Carolers is a highlight in the holiday season for the singers who are a part of the group and anyone who has the chance to see them perform. They keep the tradition of caroling alive. "Dickens is special because of the music we sing. No matter who the audience is, they're guaranteed to know most of our pieces. In some cases, the arrangement puts a spin on the original, which is always a fun way to change up a classic carol. No

matter the song, the music brings people together with genuine smiles," Malec said.

"The holiday season is meant to be spent with loved ones, and I believe our music really brings communities and family members closer together for the season," Muglia says.



Hersey's Dickens Carolers group together based on voice parts and spread holiday cheer at the Arlington heights tree lighting.

COURTESY OF CHOIR DEPARTMENT

To watch them perform  
**CLICK HERE**  
VIDEO BY MAX GARCIA

## Making Spirits Bright: Holiday Concert Spreads Cheer

BY ANGELIKI VITOGIANNIS

The choir department held its 19th annual Holiday Concert this December 14 and 15. Director Sara Michael has worked with the choirs since the end of October to put on this show. Chamber Singers, Dickens Carolers, Women's Choral, Concert Choir, and Treble Choir will each perform several pieces to showcase their talents along with five mass numbers. "I love that we do the mass numbers and get everyone performing together. It's an opportunity for the students to get to know everyone in the choir department and to do some different types of challenging music," Michael said. Many of the choir students are also involved in a-cappella ensembles such as Heart and Soul, Pulse, and Commercial Break as well as the competitive show choir groups, LadiesFirst and OnStage who will also be performing.

After taking a break from their competition shows to perform in the Holiday Concert, LadiesFirst, directed by Erin Wilhelmi, will be performing Mariah Carey's "All I Want for Christmas Is You", featuring freshman Malory Leno and junior Christina Calderone as the opening soloists.

Leno explained just how thrilled she is to perform. "I am really excited to be singing a solo at a concert this big! I am a little nervous but I will try my best. I love making songs my own and show what I can bring to the piece," Leno said. Christina Calderone describes what this performance means to her.

"I am excited for this solo because it's my first year in show choir as a junior. I think this performance makes it fun for the per-

formers and the audience because it is catchy, fun, and almost everyone has heard around the holidays," Calderone said.

This is Wilhelmi's first year directing with LadiesFirst and her first Holiday Concert. "I am so excited! I have seen the Holiday Show before, but I am just excited to be a part of it in this way and to watch LadiesFirst take the stage in an exciting, supportive atmosphere, where they can just have fun," Wilhelmi said.

OnStage, directed by Sara Michael, will be performing "Be A Santa." OnStage President senior Megan Derbick explained just how memorable this number is to her. "This song is so much fun to perform because it's not like anything we normally do. It's a perfect time for all of us to let loose and have a good time with each other on stage. There are so many elements that go into it vocally, choreographically, and musically that make it such a fun number to perform. I think that the fact that we are generally having a good time makes it very enjoyable and humorous for the audience because they know we love it!" Derbick said.

The show concludes with the traditional "O Holy Night," sung by the entire choir. Many of the seniors are moved by it. "O Holy Night/Silent Night' is such a beautiful piece that's perfect to close the show. I will greatly miss performing in this concert because it's so meaningful to perform with all of the people I am close with," senior Stefania Nowak said. Senior Claire Babikan describes what this concert means to her.

"I think the biggest takeaway is seeing all of our hard work pay off. I will miss being on stage with my friends. We always have so much fun in between concerts. I will also miss the adrenaline rush when the curtains first open because you can feel everyone on the stage and in the crowd get so excited," senior Claire Babikan said.



The Hersey choir stands in mass formation on a festive stage, changing into white robes to conclude the concert with songs such as "Silent Night" and "O Holy Night" while holding candles.

COURTESY OF CHOIR DEPARTMENT

## Paper Straws Stir Up a Debate

BY JENNY AN



For the first time since its opening, the school's coffee stand, Brewed Awakening, has taken steps towards decreasing global warming as of November by replacing plastic straws with paper alternatives. The intention behind replacing these straws is obviously well-meant, but there may be a better solution.

Although the paper straws Brewed Awakening uses are indeed better for the environment, they often become more cumbersome and a burden when being used. The straws, since used for coffee, become soggy and tear, making it difficult to actually drink the coffee. Along with inconvenience for the drinkers, the paper straws are also more expensive compared to the plastic straws.

Additionally, single-use straws as a whole are causing environmental detriments. Sustainability Victoria, an environmentalist group, has found that due to the size of straws, it is difficult for the straws to be recycled because they often fall out of cracks in

machinery, resulting in them being found in landfills and bodies of water.

An alternative to straws would be lids. Starbucks has been a prime example of making the change from plastic straws to nitro lids. The nitro lids are used for the cold brew drinks and use nine percent less plastic than the previously given lid and straw according to Starbucks News.

Brewed Awakening already has cups with lids that are used primarily for hot drinks, but if all drinks were served in these cups, it would have a greater impact on helping reduce global warming.

Although some lids do use more plastic, they are more easily recyclable because of the larger size, since there are fewer situations where it falls out of the machine as straws do. But whether Brewed Awakening continues to use single-use straws or begins to use another alternative, it is very exciting to see its seeking of more environmentally-friendly materials.

## Are the School's Lunch Policies Effective?

BY JENNY AN

Leaving the building is getting harder and harder each year due to the new lunch policies that are being implemented. The first lunch policy put in place was during 2017, restricting all freshmen from leaving the building for lunch. In 2018, the policy additionally included the requirements of a 2.8 GPA, no out of school suspensions, and no Fs. Eighteen months ago, it was announced that the lunch policies would additionally restrict all sophomores in District 214 from leaving the building for lunch until second semester.

"It [lunch regulations] was created by the school board and the superintendent as a motivation for students to achieve higher academic behavioral success," Dean Matt Norris said.

Judging by the lunch policy requirements and the said mindset behind creating them, it is clearly shown that the district is trying to push students to do their best academically. But does Hersey actually know if these regulations are improving students' "academic behavioral success?"

The goal of the administrators is to make sure students are performing at their best, so it is to be expected that the school board would be keeping track of academic behavior this semester to see

the impact the policies have. There should be data observing the rises and/or drops in GPAs, the number of students who are going to be able to leave for lunch this semester compared to last semester, or, at the least, the comparison of the total number of students who will have access to leave for lunch.

When a number of administrators were asked for these statistics, they did not have the specific numbers and would divert the questions to another administrator. The administrators were not able to answer any of the questions that involved proof of the lunch policies having benefits.

If the policies were to improve the academic success of students, then there should be evidence showing that the policies are doing just that to back it up, yet there is no evidence whatsoever. It cannot be said whether the policies are benefiting or harming students' education. It also cannot be said that the policies are actively influencing students' decisions for leaving campus. The administration is not tracking the effects of the policies, making the actual reasoning behind the policy unclear.

# FOOD

## Buona Beef

BY JOSH HO & SAM SOBCZAK

On Dec. 3, the Hersey and Prospect communities gathered to celebrate the grand opening of Buona Beef in Mount Prospect. The restaurant ran a fundraiser in memory of Alyssa Lendino, a Hersey student who sadly passed away two summers ago. Buona Beef donated all profits that night to Hersey and Prospect. To learn more about the fundraiser, click here!

To Learn More  
**CLICK HERE**  
Video by Josh Ho



Beef sandwiches and shakes at Buona Beef.



Guests enjoying food at Buona Beef.

## Budget Bites

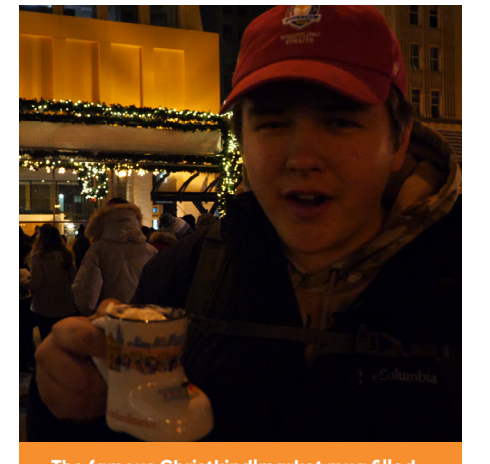
BY JOSH HO & SAM SOBCZAK

This month we went down to the Windy City to take a look at some holiday activities. The Christkindlmarket is a Chicago classic that has tons of great food, beverages and German imports. After the market we walked to the ice skating ribbon in Maggie Daley Park. It is a great place to go skating but make to avoid the skate rental line by bringing your own skates.

For December's Budget Bites  
**CLICK HERE**  
Video by Josh Ho



Skating at the Ribbon in Maggie Daley Park.



The famous Christkindlmarket mug filled with hot chocolate.

# IN DEPTH

## College Ready, Career Ready, Life Ready

### New Classrooms Spark Interest in Career Pathways

BY TEDDY ZHARLINOVA

Hersey has been guiding students towards a career pathway of their choice rather than just general study through improving the career pathway classrooms. It has allowed students to explore different careers until they find the right one. To enhance the student's learning and understanding of the career, the school has redesigned several classrooms to fit better the career pathway. In the past couple of years, different career pathway rooms have been made or redesigned in several different ways.

#### Entrepreneurship

One of those classrooms is the entrepreneurship room, which is also shared with the computer science students. Originally the room was from the 1970s and as an entrepreneurship teacher Daniel Vesper explained it was very unmobile and unpleasant looking. "Our Hersey students deserved way better, and they got it! New carpeting. New ceiling tiles. New paint. New mobile tables and chairs. New lounge area. Six flat screen TVs where students can AirPlay their business/coding ideas, and 30 Apple laptops for our amazing students that needed advanced technology to create their apps and startup businesses," Mr. Vesper said. The room has a very clean look

#### Marketing

Another business room that has been renovated is the marketing room which, until 2016, was an old computer lab with limited space. "I have better technology – a big projector screen and 7 big screen TVs – and awesome furniture. The room is brighter and is set up in a way that makes it easier to move around and get to students who need help. The table height can be adjusted, the chairs are more comfortable and they are on wheels so we can modify the work space arrangement as needed," marketing teacher Becky French said. The room allows students to collaborate better and makes it easier for the teacher to present and to help the students.

#### Law

Another career pathway that has a redesigned room is the law pathway. The room was created last year and has been developing over the past year. "It's so helpful because we do a lot of mock trials and court preparation, so we can practice for our mock trial," law teacher Jodi Blazek said. The room helps students better understand what it would be like to work in court and prepares them for their future as lawyers.

The room recreates a real courtroom, allowing students to get a better feel of the environment they would work in for the rest of their lives. "Just the experience of being in a courtroom everyday for a class

now and is a great space for collaborating on creative projects.

The students that use this classroom have access to any technology needed and have a very convenient room that lets them work better in groups. "This room provides resources technologically and structure wise that make it very easy to present and research. This room is 100% a better working environment than typical classrooms primarily due to the space and allowance for collaboration," senior Claire Fink said. The students can use their iPads, laptops, and TVs as resources to work on business or develop apps.

As both French and her students have pointed out, the TVs in the room have really benefited the learning environment. "The TVs in the room are definitely the best part of the room because our teacher can use them to put up slideshows and material. Also, we can use the TVs in our groups to help with collaborative work," senior Anthony Carlson said. The large, adjustable tables and movable chairs also contribute to the collaborating process and makes moving around easier.

really just helps them buy into the whole concept and topic, whatever we are talking about for the day, and kind of the big picture of law," Blazek said.

The room is used not only by the students that have chosen law as their elective but also for the law club after school. "The room has helped me while practicing for law team and for in class mock trials," senior Kirstin Cook said. The students can practice everything related to law in the classroom to prepare for their future.

#### Media Communications

A very recently modified room is the media communications classroom, which is used by the students who write for the newspaper and produce videos, announcements, and podcasts. "It now resembles an industry-like experience with equipment, space, and function. The room is something you would see at a 4-year university and no one in the area has a space like this," communications teacher Todd Hatfield said. The students have access to a very technologically advanced room, a podcast, and a studio to create whatever their heart desires and to participate in monthly newspaper issues.

The room design is very similar to college and professional settings, preparing students for their future in any field of communications. "The experience is the most important part. Kids are now leaving this program

#### Health

The health career pathway has also grown over the last year. They have taken an old sewing room and turned it into a flexible high school doctor's office. "It's more flexible, we can make it what we want. We also have a sink. Next year all the beds we see, we don't use those, but next year it will be ready for the CNA [Certified Nursing Assistant] to come in from Harper," health teacher Tricia Moore said. The room shows students what their learning environment in college would be like.

The more functional classroom enhances the learning process and helps the students work more efficiently on their projects. "It prepares them because you get the terminology and you get to see the paths you can take, the occupations. If you're going into a medical based po-

sition this has prepared you a lot. Anatomy, Med term, and CNA are all courses you have to take in college," Moore said.

The new health room is much bigger than what they had prior and more convenient for both the teacher and the students. "It is a better working environment because it's bigger and there are more things to do there, and we do interactive activities, and it's easier to work with groups when in tables which is good since in the field we will most likely work with a team," junior Natalia Kubsik said. The class allows students to narrow down their career and helps them be prepared for their future in the health department.

### School Plans Further Design Changes

BY JESSIE CARLQUIST

The school has gone through many changes in the past couple of years to help students flourish academically within their core and elective classes. The feedback from staff and students has proven the changes to be a success. For the future, the school's administration is planning on continuing to develop new classrooms and other, more general alterations to the school.

In the last two years, a few classrooms in the Career Pathway program have been updated to create a better environment for students who are choosing their path. "The Board of Education [BOE] was in awe last spring on a visit to our Health Sciences room and Law room," Associate Principal Joseph Krajacic said. Getting positive feedback from organizations like the BOE helps in allowing Hersey to continue to renovate classrooms so students can get the best education possible.

Renovating the school and improving the career pathway programs is all to benefit the students and is a step towards a better education. "I believe these improvements help students see their own future rather than have the future seem so uncertain," Krajacic said. Being able to see what the students like allows them to concentrate on a path earlier in their lives and have a better understanding of their futures and the directions they could go.

Hersey has plans to continue to renovate over the summer in order to be ready for next year. "We have the initial plans. First and foremost, this summer, we are addressing the need to upgrade sections of our building's roofs.

In addition, we hope to paint our lockers," Krajacic said.

Being able to have these experiences can create a college-like experience, preparing students for the next stage in their lives while also preparing them to make the decision of where they are going to take their career. "We have to be able to address student learning and growth in order to meet the needs of our future. I think all schools in the District are addressing these "pathway" rooms, but not every school will be able to address all pathways," Krajacic said. The administration is always thinking of new ways to create the best learning space for students to blossom, but having everything is unrealistic.

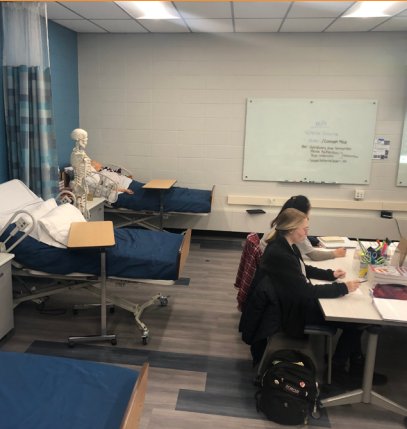
These renovations cost money and need a space in order to be executed. It is difficult to provide every single career with a space in our school, so providing the most popular pathway rooms first is the idea that our administration chooses. "What are the renovation plans for 2020? That all depends on the money. We are presently eyeing a renovation to the manufacturing area," Krajacic said. In the future, it is possible to see more and more renovated rooms pop up as the school is provided with more money and space.

The school is constantly working towards providing the best education for its student body and making it easier for students to think past high school and into their futures. As time goes on, students can expect to see more improvements and renovations within Hersey as long as the school has the time, space and money to do so.

The new media communications room features TVs and whiteboards, allowing students to effectively plan their projects.



The new health room features the addition of hospital beds, which help students prepare for their future careers.



PHOTOS BY LOUIS QUILTER

Eric Wolf takes pictures with his students from Senegal before he returns to the U.S.



Polly Knudsen poses with her volunteer group in Guatemala.



The new law room is laid out like a courtroom, giving students a taste of what working in a courtroom is like.



PHOTOS BY LOUIS QUILTER



Rolling Meadows

#### Agriculture

"The way the room is set up now allows for students to have hands-on access to agricultural settings, such as the greenhouse, a simulated veterinary science exam area, and various lab set ups for Agricultural Biology. As a result, many of the lessons taught in these rooms are hands-on, allowing students to engage in experiential learning and to learn skills in the agricultural field they can use in both careers and higher education," said RMHS agriculture teacher Kendall Wright.



Wheeling

#### 9-Period Day

"The combined schedule changes (period changes and district calendar/schedule change) impacted the length of our school day, classes, staff professional development/preparation model, and average class sizes. WHS's school day changed to 8:00-3:19 with 9-45 minute periods. 35 minutes of staff professional learning and preparation time prior to the school day was allocated each day with two of these being professional learning communities, rather than these groups meeting for a longer period of time once per week," said WHS Assistant Principal Dan Weidner.



Buffalo Grove

#### Geo-Construction

"First and foremost students are learning Geometry in a practical way that makes more sense to them. Besides that students have a dedicated lab area where they can learn and practice their new skills. It is these skills, along with knowing how to use the math, that will allow students to succeed in this pathway," said BGHS Geo-Construction instructor Sean Murrin.

What are other buildings in the district doing for their students with career pathways?

# SPORTS

## Michael's Take: Jackson, Ravens Will Win Superbowl

BY MICHAEL SOMARY

Lamar Jackson and the Baltimore Ravens have taken the NFL by storm in their recent 10 game win streak. With the playoffs looming, the Ravens are the hottest team in football.

Jackson, the leader of the Ravens' high-powered offense, is having a historic season as he broke Michael Vick's single season quarterback rushing record.

Unlike Vick, Jackson has openly stated on many occasions that he does not want to be remembered for his running ability, but rather as a great passer, which he has proved to be true by putting up perfect quarterback ratings in three games this season.

Because of his MVP caliber season, Jackson has received a great deal of attention from the media.

Despite all of the attention, Jackson is stubborn in expressing his sole focus on winning a Super Bowl this year. This focus is a very realistic goal for the Ravens. Basically, the only team standing in the way of the Ravens making it to the Super Bowl are the New England Patriots, who the Ravens already beat this season by a relatively large margin of 37-20.

In addition to an easy road to the Super Bowl, the Ravens are a team that is built for the playoffs. When the weather gets bad late in the sea-

son, many quarterbacks struggle to throw the ball, and the outcome of games relies on a team's success in the run game.

The Ravens have the NFL's best rushing offense, putting up a league best 202.1 rushing yards per game (55 more than the 2nd ranked team), while also putting up a league best 33.7 points per game.

It's impossible for any team to completely shut down this dominant Baltimore Ravens football team. The only hope for any other Super Bowl contender is a Lamar Jackson injury. The Baltimore Ravens will win the Super Bowl LIV.

### HUSKIES' TAKE

"I think the Ravens are going to win the Super Bowl this year because they haven't lost since October, and there is no team in the NFL can beat them right now," junior Julianna Nikolich said. "I believe the Ravens will be Super Bowl contenders this year if they stay healthy. However, I think the New Orleans Saints will beat them if they meet in the Super Bowl, so I would not bet on the Ravens winning it all this year," junior Manny Morales said.

## ATHLETES OF THE MONTH

BY MICHAEL SOMARY



### Emma Hupp

Sophomore Emma Hupp is having a great start to the 2019-2020 gymnastics season.

Hupp brings a great deal of experience to this year's team as she has been doing gymnastics for five years now. Hupp competes for the Huskies as well as for her club team.

Hupp enjoys the team aspect of high school gymnastics more than club gymnastics. "High School is more about being successful for your team and encouraging your teammates, while club is more about meeting your individual goals," Hupp said.

Hupp's positive attitude has allowed her to achieve success so far this season. "My goal is to keep progressing every meet and if I do make it to state, great, but if not then there's always next year," Hupp remarked.

Hupp competes in all-around, but her favorite event is floor. Although hupp has a positive, laid back attitude, don't think she won't be striving to reach new heights.

"In the upcoming years, I want the Hersey Girl's Gymnastics team to make it to state, which would be a huge accomplishment."

**LEARN MORE ABOUT EMMA**

VIDEO BY BLAKE VON DER LIPPE



### Spencer Burkhalter

Senior Spencer Burkhalter is leading the Huskies' Swimming team this year. Leading is not a new thing for Burkhalter, though, as this is his third year as captain. "The coaches expect me to teach the younger guys and bring them up," Burkhalter said.

He looks forward to upcoming meets against Prospect. "Meets against Prospect are really competitive because they are our biggest rival, and it's always fun to compete against them," Burkhalter said.

Burkhalter looks to dominate in his favorite, and best, event: the 100 meter breaststroke. "During the races, you have to pick your head up after each stroke, and as the race goes on, the crowd gets louder and louder, and it's really exciting," he said.

Burkhalter has some lofty goals for his final season as a Huskie. I want to get an MSL Championship. My biggest goal is to get a relay out to state, but I also hope to qualify for breaststroke and make a push for a podium finish," Burkhalter said.

**LEARN MORE ABOUT SPENCER**

VIDEO BY CONNOR DURKIN

Learn more about Hersey's student section: Orange Crush  
[CLICK HERE](#)



Freshman Elizabeth Berk balances on the beam to help her team get 4th place in their first home meet.

PHOTO BY BLAKE VON DER LIPPE

PHOTO BY BLAKE VON DER LIPPE

Senior Scott Rogowski dribbles the ball up the court as Hersey takes on Prospect Friday night.



Junior Brent Wolff hits a huge three to put the Huskies ahead of the Lions in a cross town rivalry game.

PHOTO BY BLAKE VON DER LIPPE

Junior Mary Kate Fahey defends the point guard in a Huskie win over Main South.

PHOTO BY BLAKE VON DER LIPPE



Senior Sidni Sadiku powers up the court as the Huskie special Olympic basketball team defeats Glenbrook South.

PHOTO BY BLAKE VON DER LIPPE

Senior Austin Korba looks to finish on the podium as he finished 3rd in the Barrington tournament.

PHOTO BY BLAKE VON DER LIPPE

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