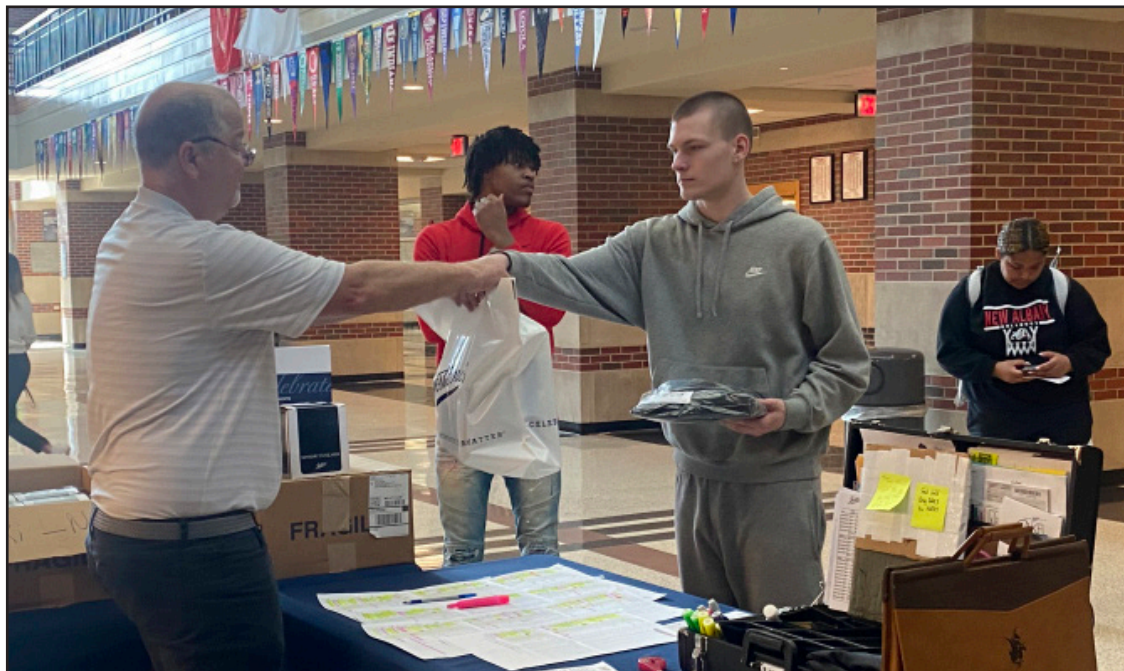


# THE BLOTTER



Senior Charles Baus receives his graduation order from Jostens. "Definitely the ring [is what I'm most excited about]," Baus said. "There were so many different things I could personalize on it. Those things were expensive." Baus plans to attend IUB and major in either art or design.

## The cost of senior year

Graduation is almost here - keep your credit card very near

By// ABBY MOUTARDIER

Senior year. A time of celebrations and future planning. Neither of these things come cheap.

In October, senior students are handed a Jostens catalog to sell them a few graduation essentials - their cap, gown, and tassel, and a few non-essentials such as class rings and Class of 2022 exclusive merchandise. These items range from \$31.50 for just the cap, gown, and tassel, to hundreds of dollars for packages including a cap, gown,

tassels, invitations, commemorative sweats, jewelry, and shirts.

"[My favorite thing ordered is] the hoodie," senior Nichole Van-Wanning said.

"I don't think it's worth it," senior Jasmine Pantoja said. "It's not specific to our school, like with our mascot or anything."

Another senior expense that typically occurs early in the year is senior pictures, with many photo-shoots occurring in summer or fall.

The average cost for senior pictures is anywhere from \$125 to \$350, according to *Fash*. As the duration of the session or amount of outfits increase, so does the cost.

"I would recommend senior photos a lot," senior Cheyenne Ham-baugh said. "It was a very big confidence booster; if anything, it allowed me to see myself in my element and come to a very big realization that it is happening."

*Continued on page 2*

## What you need to know

### Final Exams

Dates: May 27 - June 2

Place: New Albany High School

Information:

May 27 -- 7th period (seniors only)

May 31 -- 2nd & 5th period

June 1 -- 3rd & 6th period

June 2 -- 1st & 4th period; 7th (grades 9-11)

### Summer School

Date: June 6 - July 11

Place: New Albany High School

Information: Registration has opened up for summer school. Students can either make up credits or take a class to make room for an elective. Classes will be online through Engenuity, however students are encouraged to attend, with attendance being required for assessments. Transportation will be provided.

### Ivy Tech Take a Class on Us

Date: Summer

Place: Ivy Tech

Information: For high school students working on their AGS or Indiana College Core, Ivy Tech Community College is offering free courses over the summer. Contact your counselor for more information.

## Celebrations

Senior Chelsie Glover, junior Ryan Schraer, senior Santana Pepper and sophomore Chance Phillipy have qualified for the Rifle Junior Olympics in May at Hillsdale College in Michigan.

NAHS Theatre Arts will be performing at the International Thespian Festival at IU in June.

The boys volleyball team is undefeated as of press time, and is ranked ninth in the state.

Visual art students have their work for show at the Floyd County Secondary Art Show. Work can be seen through May 7 at the Carnegie Center.

# The cost of senior year

BY// ABBY MOUTARDIER

*Cont. from page 1*

No matter how expensive it was, it was honestly such a joy to be able to go out and be myself.”

Senior students also may have college-related costs looming over them. Admissions exams and application fees add up. One SAT test costs \$55, according to *The College Board*, and the average college costs \$43 to apply for, according to *Edmit*. Many students apply to 8-12 schools, according to College Vine, though not every school has an application fee.

“I am not a fan of application fees at all because it just seems like another way to get more money for an already expensive process,” counselor and senior parent Natalie McGarvey said. “I am a big proponent for students to only apply to schools they are generally interested in and not apply just to get the yeses and raise their scholarship money totals.”

Senior Madison Masterson paid six application fees, with Georgia Tech costing the most at \$75.

“I don’t think they should cost as much as they do,” Masterson said. “I could understand maybe \$20 because they have to be able to pay people who work in ad-

missions, but any more than that is unfair. These colleges charge their students tens of thousands of dollars every year and these schools get huge amounts of donations and endowments every year. They should be able to cover the most of the cost of running admissions without application fees

with events like Senior Dinner Dance, Class Night, Graduation, and more require nicer attire. Some students opt to wear what they have, while others, including senior Aidan Schultz, are choosing to buy something new for each event.

“[I got a different outfit for every event] just to spice things up,” Schultz said. “It’s for fun.”

“I hate [the new dress for every event mentality],” McGarvey said. “Over the years, you have different events you wear dresses to and I feel like a lot of those dresses can be reworn to different things. We do not do a separate dress for different events. We did buy a special one for graduation.”

For future seniors, McGarvey gives advice relating to saving.

“Save now,” McGarvey said. “Start saving now. We built a budget line called senior activities. I put a bunch of money in there and we just kept setting money aside because it adds up. Be smart, price shop, with the cap and gown package it can be really tempting to buy all the things because it’s really cool but you only need the cap gown and tassel.”

**Senior Expenses**

- Standardized tests// \$55+\*
- Cap and Gown// \$31.50
- Application fees// \$43\*
- Prom// ~\$700\*
- Other event attire// ~\$50+\*
- Senior Photos// \$100+\*
- College Deposits// \$100+
- Graduation Party// ~\$1,100\*\*

\*According to BookHQ  
\*\*According to FinanceBuzz  
\*\*\*According to BestColleges

After paying to apply to a college, and hopefully get accepted, students are met with their next fee: deposits to seal their spot.

“I’m okay with paying a deposit to officially accept your spot,” McGarvey said. “I get that and have no problem with that because it goes towards your future fees, and ideally, you’re only paying that for one school.”

The end of the year potentially is filled with lots of expenses-

## An expensive night to remember

Though not exclusive to seniors, prom can be a costly event

While prom isn’t exclusive to seniors, students are more likely to go “all out” for senior prom.

The average high schooler spends \$919 on prom attire, tickets, hair, tans, transportation, and more, according to *The Hustle*.

“Prom has been the most expensive,” senior Cheyenne Hambaugh said. “Trying to get everything, specifically transportation and anything I might need the day of [has been expensive].”

For NAHS students, prom tickets run \$35. Senior Nate Wood says this price is fair.

“[The \$35] gets you three hours of having fun, with drinks and some food included,” Wood said. “The extra \$10 to \$15 for After Prom gets you a bunch of food and fun.”

There’s also After Prom, which costs \$10, and includes food and giveaways. Wood says he came home from the event with a PlayStation, though he says the event would have still been worth it.

“Other than the giveaways, all the free food probably [was my favorite part],” Wood said.

For students looking to save money when shopping for prom next year, shops like Mariposa can be a good option for a cheaper dress. The school run Prom Shop also provides cheaper dress alternatives.

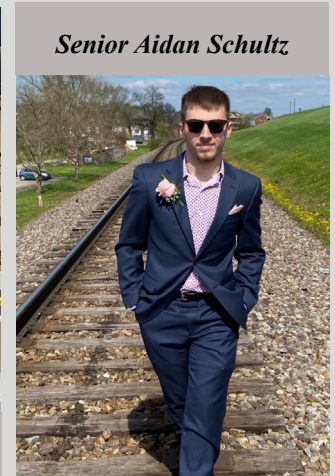
“I went down to The Prom Shop because my teacher runs it and I looked at all of the dresses and they were gorgeous,” junior Hayle Moberly said. “The dress I picked out still had a price tag on it that said \$500.”

Other costs that add up include hair, makeup, corsages and photography- all of which can be done by yourself or a friend.

“One of our friends [took pictures],” senior Jenna Lynn said. “We just felt like it was an unneeded cost. We had already collectively spent so much money that we were apprehensive to do anything extra.”



Senior Cheyenne Hambaugh & her date



Senior Aidan Schultz



# Gas gallops up

Inflation, global conflicts cause gas prices to increase

BY// JOY ROBINSON

Looking through the car window, all you can see is gas that's over \$4 per gallon. All people wonder is when it will go down.

Gas prices have been on the incline ever since the Coronavirus inflation crisis, according to the *US Energy Information Administration*. Gas prices increased during the pandemic because of the supply and demand shifts.

Sophomore Brayden Springler believes it makes sense that gas went up because nobody was traveling.

"When it was raised it felt a little ridiculous," Sprinkler said. "Even though I wasn't using my car as much, when I would need to fill it up it would hit my bank account hard and sometimes I would need to ask my parents for a little extra money."

The highest gas price recorded in Indiana is \$4.25 and diesel was \$4.98 that occurred in March 2022 according to *AAA*.

Derek Kost says he spent a total of \$200

per month after the rise of gas prices.

"It's really annoying actually," Kost said. "My truck is really a gas eater."

Gas prices have gone on the rise because of the conflict between Russia and Ukraine and subsequent sanctions the US and other countries have placed on Russia, according to *IndyStar*.

**"My truck is really a gas eater."**  
Senior Derek Kost

Senior Anna Lane thinks that the United States pulling away from Russia was a good thing.

"I think that it is very tragic and sad

what is happening," Lane said. "I enjoy seeing the solidarity that the United States has with Ukraine."

Russia is the second largest-exporter of oil and natural gas in the world, according to Tom Kloza, chief global analyst. Although, the US is dependent on Russian oil, the supply chain has affected the US by higher prices.

"They are obligated to because Russia is declaring war on other countries," Kost

said.

Joe Biden announced on March 31 that the US will ban the import of Russian oil in regards to the aggression that is occurring against Ukraine.

"I've seen multiple interviews of Ukrainians pleading for it to stop, that they never wanted this and they are truly peaceful people," Sprigler said. "The war should have never taken place and it should stop as soon as possible."

To deal with this problem, Joe Biden announced on March 31 that he would release roughly 1 million barrels of oil a day from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve for about six months in hopes of driving down oil prices.

The Strategic Petroleum Reserve is the United States emergency crude oil, according to *Energy*.

Gas prices are affecting everyone and can even cost people more to travel. This may even cause people to switch their jobs.

Senior Chelsey Elswick works at PF Chang's in Louisville.

"I have a car payment and so that takes



Senior My'Asia Earsery snapped a photo when she saw someone getting gas last month.

most of my paycheck," Elswick said. "This doesn't really leave me enough to afford gas all the time."

Gas prices will not be expected to decrease until months possibly. Avoiding idling, combining short trips, cutting down A/C, and lightening your load can help save gas, according to *National Public Radio*.

"I take less longer drives around," Lane said.

Gas prices are being effected right now but soon they have already started to decrease.

"Even though it might cause problems for us in the future, it's the right thing to do," Springler said. "Not using their gas could also continue to hurt Russia as well."

## Indiana Average Gas Prices Throughout the Years



Accredited to Energy Information Administration



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*Byrne's Garage LLC has been serving Southern Indiana since 1973. We offer professional automotive service specializing in all makes and models.*

# War in Ukraine

## Russia's alleged war-crimes alarm people across the globe

BY // ABBY SEKULA

It has been almost three months since the full scale military invasion on Ukraine, resulting in more than 3,000 civilian deaths, according to the last update *Global Conflict Tracker*.

### Background

There is a long history of tension between Russia and Ukraine.

Ukraine began as a part of Russian territory in the late 1700's. After an attempt to become a sovereign nation Ukraine was absorbed into the USSR.

The USSR is the United Socialist Soviet Republic, which consisted of 15 republics: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Estonia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan.

The USSR collapsed on December 26, 1991 and Ukraine declared itself independent.

The USSR housed the majority of their nuclear weapons in Ukraine and Ukraine agreed to transfer many of those weapons to Russia.

Ukraine adopted a more western, pro-democracy government set-up, angering Russia.

Russia first invaded Ukraine in 2014 in retaliation for setting up a western government.

As an independent nation, Ukraine has made a movement to join NATO, meaning NATO troops would be allowed close to the Russian border. Russia is strongly opposed to that.

NATO is the North Atlantic Treaty Organization which is an intergovernmental military alliance.

Russian president Valdimir Putin has been vocal on his distaste for NATO on his

borders.

This led up to the military invasion of Ukraine on February 24.

### Humanitarian violations

President Putin is often characterized as ruthless and violent and that attitude has been embraced by his troops. Labeled as an Humanitarian Crisis, the destruction brought by Russian Troops on cities in Ukraine such as Bucha, has been featured by international media.

Junior Pierson Scott follows the attacks on Ukraine.

"Russia goes out of their way to target civilians," Scott said.

Human Rights Watch has identified several instances where Russian forces have committed laws-of-war violations. The accusations include repeated rape, execution, violence and threats.

According to the Geneva Convention, war crimes consist of harm brought onto those not actively participating in war. Specific violations can be found in a variety of humanitarian law and international criminal law treaties, there is no specific list of violations.

The Geneva Convention is a group of international treaties on the standards of treatment for civilians, and soldiers who are unable to fight or are missing.

President Joe Biden and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, have both accused Russia of genocide. The Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court classifies genocide as a crime against humanity.

Accusations of genocide in war crimes continue to emerge in areas of Ukraine where Russia has left. Many of those cities are located just outside of the capital Kyiv.

For the majority of the war the city of Mariupol, a Ukrainian port city, has been without gas, water or electricity according to *BBC*.

**"Russia has basically said surrender or die."**

Melissa Badger,  
Spanish Teacher

Spanish teacher Melissa Badger runs Model United Nations, and stays up to date on world affairs. Model United Nations is an educational simulation in which students become ambassadors for UN countries and tackle issues presented to them.

"Mariupol has been under siege almost since the war began," Badger said. "It's starvation mode because they can't get supplies in, they can't get stuff out."

Mariupol is located on the Sea of Azov, and humanitarian aid has not been able to get into the city.

"Russia has basically said surrender or die," Badger said.

### Global Impact

The war has had an impact globally, as millions attempt to flee the country, creating one of the largest war-related migrations since the 1990's.

Since the beginning of the war, over 10 million people have been displaced, according to the *UN Refugee Agency*.

Around 10 percent of Ukraine's population have fled to neighboring countries including Poland and Romania. This has placed pressure on the US and other leading countries to step up.

"I am always open to helping people," Badger said. Recently, President Biden released a plan to quicken the process to allow Ukrainian Refugees into the country.

This worldwide event has been taken to the classroom.

Badger says she finds it important to talk about what's going on in the world with her students.

Badger says that this event relates to her world language and international curriculum. As a Spanish teacher Badger plans to take this war to her classroom through her AP Spanish, Language and Culture class.

"We will talk about some of the events that have occurred in Latin America," Badger said, "and how those events compare to this conflict."

Badger says she wants students to keep in mind the sources they are using.

"When you have an event folding minute by minute you have to be careful when you are looking at things that are coming out in real time," Badger said. "You don't always know where your information is coming from, what the perspective is, is it verified? Is it not?"

Scott says they utilize live coverage updates and sites.

"That no matter how much you say 'what about when America did this' or 'what about when America did that' will change the fact that Russia is in the wrong," Scott said.

You can keep up with the war in Ukraine through reputable sources and the Global Conflict Tracker, news provided by the United Nations, and Human Rights Watch.

The best way to provide aid to Ukrainian people is to donate money to trusted organizations, as physical donations may not be received due to no fly zones.



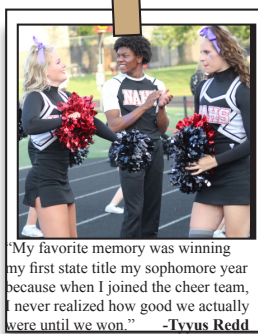


# Moments on a wall

The Class of 2022 reminisce of their years in high school

By// HALEY SHOCK & JONA CARPER

With the end of the school year approaching and schedules getting busier by the day with exams, graduation preparation and future planning, our 395 graduating seniors take time to reflect on these last four years, soon-to-be moments and memories on a wall. With the senior class already earning \$13.5 million in scholarships as of March 1, 235 of our seniors have committed to attending college and three will be enlisting in the military.



## Senior Staff Advice

**Joy Robinson**  
"Take Mrs. Mack's bio class more seriously and think about what college you want to go to."

**Abby Moutardier**  
"Always wear a jacket, never wear shorts, you will be freezing every single day."

**Clara Weedman**  
"Let some things go, it always gets better no matter what is going on."

**Abby Sekula**  
"Make sure that you surround yourself with people who don't view you as competition."

**Abigail Knoop**  
"Don't pick one thing and think you have to stick with it, be open for trying more things."

**Emily Gilkes**  
"Don't take things as seriously, they're really not that important."

**Kassidy Fox**  
"Don't let other people get in the way of what you want to do with your life."

**Samantha Haub**  
"Don't let anybody change how you view your own self."

**Jona Carper**  
"Don't get caught up the social status as much and more so focus on the academic part of things."

**Ally Landgraf**  
"Take one day at a time and don't let one negative thing ruin your day."

**Olivia Head**  
"Learn to let things go, don't push."

# To be a \_\_\_\_\_ kid at NA

Students explore a variety of paths that lead to lifelong memories and a place to call “home” in the building

By // ALLY LANDGRAF



## ART KID



The fine arts offers classes throughout the school day such as drawing, painting, ceramics, jewelry, media arts, and graphic design, among many others. Many art pieces that the students create during and outside of school go up for awards, get displayed in the art hallway, or are even put on display at the public library. Junior Kayleigha Johnson involves herself with the visual arts at school.

“Being a visual arts student opens up a lot of new ideas and creativity and ways to express yourself in your own way,” Johnson said.

“Unlike sports and performing arts, fine arts doesn’t contain large crowds or extremely flashy awards,” Johnson said. “Instead it’s more like going to a place and seeing yourself featured for the world to see.”

“If you do want to do art, just remember it’s not talent but a skill and skills can be learned by anyone,” Johnson said. “All you have to do is practice, we all started somewhere.”



## THEATRE KID



Theatre arts is a performance art program that offers classes in acting, singing, dancing and tech throughout the school day, two musical productions a year, and opportunities such as theatre camp during the summer and group trips to Floyd Central to see their theatre productions. Senior Erik Martinez joined theatre his freshman year.

“Being a student in theatre is actually pretty challenging, but also very fun because of the relationships you build with everyone,” Martinez said.

“I joined theatre because at the time I didn’t have any friends, but once I did *Wizard of Oz* I met so many talented people that are very welcoming and can make you feel like one of them,” Martinez said.

“Theatre might seem a little scary because you might have stage fright or you’re a little anti-social,” Martinez said. “Trust me I was that antisocial kid with a little bit of stage fright but I overcame my fear and made so many amazing friendships.”



## BAND KID



Band is one of the many extensive performance art programs at school that offers classes during the school day, concerts throughout the academic year, and marching band among many other extracurriculars. Junior Wesley Omerso has participated in band as a percussionist since he was in fifth grade.

“Being a band kid is really fun, it makes me feel like I’m part of a family,” Omerso said. “I get to help kids learn and help organize exciting new parts of the band program.”

“My favorite part of being a band kid is being able to perform,” Omerso said. “Band kids like myself are able to show off all the work we put in all the time.”

“Band can be intimidating at first, but I’d recommend to not let anything anyone says get to you, it’s such a fun experience to have,” Omerso said.



## ORCHESTRA KID



Orchestra is a performing arts program that focuses on bowed string instruments such as violin, viola, cello, double bass and sometimes can involve percussion instruments. Senior Elivia Addison has been in orchestra for eight years and has played violin for almost ten years.

“My favorite part would be having Ms. Thomas every single year,” Addison said. “If you need love and affection or even a cookie, she’s there for you.”

“I get a chance to work one-on-one with other students while being able to actually put in my own input with music,” Addison said.

“Orchestra is as fun as you make it.”





## NJROTC KID

NJROTC, or Naval Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps, is a leadership program that develops personal responsibilities and teaches respect for both themselves and their peers and self-discipline. Senior Chelsie Glover joined the program with the sentiment that the uniforms were cool and her family history.

“My favorite part of being an NJROTC student is forming close bonds with those around me,” Glover said. “We all share common interests, given that we are all very motivated to do well in the program.”

“We travel a lot and visit states such as Arizona, Florida, Alabama, Hawaii, and so many more,” Glover said. “Traveling in our program gives us the opportunity to explore the country and find new opportunities.”

“NJROTC doesn’t require you to join the military,” Glover said. “Just try it out, you can always drop out if you don’t like it.”



## WAIT! THERE'S MORE!



CHOIR CLASS

ACADEMIC TEAM



ANCHOR CLUB



STUDENT COUNCIL



## PUBLICATIONS KID

Publications includes both yearbook and newspaper. Students work on stories, photography, layouts, and ensuring that the students are represented through the school yearbook, *Vista* and the school newspaper, *The Blotter*.

“Being a student in publications allows me to be creative and to truly express myself through journalism,” senior yearbook Editor-in-Chief Emily Headley said.

“The design aspect of publications has always been my favorite part because I can make an organized and aesthetically pleasing thing that can be the backbone for an amazing story and picture,” Headley said.

“I would recommend that anyone should try a publications class,” Headley said. “My biggest piece of advice would be to take journalism before taking yearbook or newspaper; it will truly help you in the future. These aren’t easy classes and you have to be willing to put effort into making an amazing product.”



## ATHLETIC KID

Being involved in a sport at NA can be rewarding, challenging, and fun, whether it’s a fall, winter or spring sport. Sports teams compete both at home and at other schools. Senior Ahmon Givens has participated in sports throughout high school including cheerleading, track, football, volleyball and wrestling.

“It’s a lot of practicing, but it’s typically not hard to balance if you keep up with it,” Givens said.

“I love competing, it’s the reason I’m at school most of the time, I’d rather compete than anything else,” Givens said. “I don’t know what I’d do without sports.”

“You get to travel a lot as an athlete,” Givens said. “Traveling a lot helps you to see new places and be in different environments.”

“Go for it, because you’re only in high school once and you’d rather try it than regret and wish you had been a part of something,” Givens said.





# Summer Fashion

As warm air moves in, so do new trends

By // Alysia Bailey & Katelyn Higgins

## Omar Cole // 10

**What is your go-to summer outfit?** "Probably some shorts and a white tee with some slides, kind of like graphic shorts with some Yeezy slides."  
**What is your favorite clothing / accessory item during summer?** "[A] chain - like



a pearl necklace. Those are tough"  
**Do you feel that summer fashion is overrated or underrated?** "Overrated, because I don't like summer I like to wear jeans"  
**What is your favorite place to get accessories?** "Probably the internet, like people's brands like Innocents."  
**How much money do you spend during summer on clothes?** "Probably like 2,000 nothing major"  
**Do you wear more basic clothes or do you have your own style?** "I just wear like basic clothes"

**What is your go-to summer outfit?** "When I think of summer I think of basics like classic jean shorts, and tank tops and if you add accessories to it it makes it even cuter."

**What trends do you expect to come back?** "I feel like VSCO is 100% gonna be back and the anklets, I've seen a lot."

**What is your favorite clothing / accessory item during summer?** "Claw clips are one, jewelry, and I think tote bags are so cute to accessorize an outfit."

**How would you describe summer trends/fashion?** "I think it's a lot more colorful than other seasons and it's a lot more fun."

**Do you feel that summer fashion is overrated or underrated?** "I think it's underrated because it's so fun and it's easy to customize for your own style."

**What is your favorite store to get summer clothes?** "Urban Outfitters and Target."

**Do you wear more basic clothes or do you have your own style?** "I wear more basic clothes but, if you accessorize it makes it a million times better."

**When shopping do you always look for clothes that are in season or clothes for future time?** "I look for clothes for the next season. I just bought a couple of new things for summer."

**Do you feel that summer fashion is overrated or underrated?** "I feel like summer fashion is a bit overrated because the outfits are super easy to do."

**Do you wear more basic clothes or do you have your own style?** "I typically wear my own style - oversized tops and fitting bottoms with neutral colors."

**When shopping do you always look for clothes that are in season or clothes for future time?** "I look for clothes that are in season until the season is coming to an end then I prep for the next season."

**How do you think summer fashion affects the dress code?** "I think the dress code can fit with summer fashion but it is harder to plan with outfits because it is warmer outside."

## Kaylin Pearl // 9



**What is your go-to summer outfit?** "My go-to summer outfit is shorts (different colors) and oversized t-shirts or button-ups open."

**What's your favorite summer essential?** "My summer essentials are my Converse and my Ray Bans."

**What is your favorite clothing / accessory item during summer?** "My Converse. They go with every summer outfit and they're easy to slide on and off. Summer fashion is casual and comfy. It is light and easy to throw on and chill for a good time."

## Elliott Quillo // 12

**Do you feel that summer fashion is overrated or underrated?** "I feel like summer fashion is a bit overrated because the outfits are super easy to do."

**Do you wear more basic clothes or do you have your own style?** "I typically wear my own style - oversized tops and fitting bottoms with neutral colors."

**When shopping do you always look for clothes that are in season or clothes for future time?** "I look for clothes that are in season until the season is coming to an end then I prep for the next season."

**How do you think summer fashion affects the dress code?** "I think the dress code can fit with summer fashion but it is harder to plan with outfits because it is warmer outside."

**Do you feel that summer fashion is overrated or underrated?** "I feel like summer fashion is a bit overrated because the outfits are super easy to do."



## Savannah Hensley // 11

**What trends do you expect to come back?** "I think a trend that is starting back are the dad style jean shorts."

**What is your favorite clothing / accessory item during summer?** "My favorite summer accessory would be lots of different pairs of sunglasses!"

**How would you describe summer trends/fashion?** "Bright happy colors, lightweight clothing, more out-there outfits."

**What is your favorite place to get accessories?** "My favorite place to get accessories would be Forever21. They have tons of pretty inexpensive options."

**How much money do you spend during summer on clothes?** "I spend a lot more money on summer clothes than winter. Over the course summer I probably spend near \$500 on clothes and shoes."

**How do you think summer fashion affects the dress code?** "Normally, summer clothes are more revealing because of the warmer weather and that can probably be related to the dress code. If the shorts are too short or if the tops are too revealing, that could cause issues with the dress code."

**Do you feel judged during summer time about your clothing options?** "I feel like most girls feel a little more judged by clothing in summer than the other colder seasons. The outfits can get more revealing, so most girls feel more judged by people than they would in the winter and fall."

**Do you feel judged during summer time about your clothing options?** "I feel like most girls feel a little more judged by clothing in summer than the other colder seasons. The outfits can get more revealing, so most girls feel more judged by people than they would in the winter and fall."



## Summer Essentials

### Sunglasses

"My favorite summer accessory would be lots of different pairs of sunglasses!"

Savannah Hensley

### Shorts

"Probably some shorts and a white tee with some slides, kind of like graphic shorts with some Yeezy slides."

Omar Cole

### Sunscreen

"Sunscreen. Protect your skin."

Mrs. Kiya Stewart

### Accessories

"Claw clips and jewelry; I also think tote bags are so cute to accessorize an outfit."

Kaylin Pearl



## Kiya Stewart // FACS

Check out her Q & A on [nablotter.com](http://nablotter.com).

# SHOW OF THE SEASON

BY // ABIGAIL KNOOP

YOU ARE THE BANE OF MY EXISTENCE... AND THE OBJECT OF MY DESIRES AT ONCE. REMEMBER THAT?

With streaming services taking over what used to be cable and movie theater premieres, it's easy to watch whatever you want, whenever you want, as many times as you want to watch it.

Netflix is the top dog when it comes to notable streaming services.

In January 2022, Netflix announced it had 222 million subscribers worldwide. Around 75 million US and Canadian adults have a Netflix subscription, according to [www.comparitech.com](http://www.comparitech.com).

This dominance is mostly due to Netflix's investment in originals. Netflix originals are shows or movies that Netflix either buys the rights to or produces itself to stream on the service. Netflix has produced over 1,500 original titles since it began producing original content in 2013, according to [www.comparitech.com](http://www.comparitech.com)

Over spring break, on March 25, season two of the much anticipated Netflix original, *Bridgerton* was released. In one day it shot up to being the number one show on Netflix worldwide, just like it did when season one was released.

Originals such as *Bridgerton*, *Stranger Things*, and *You*, seem to have a weird trend of getting insanely popular incredibly fast and then just as quickly dissipating. Not exactly one-hit wonders but more so one hit until the next season wonders.

But, shows such as *The Office* or *The Mandalorian* are frequently talked about weeks, months, even years later. Why is that?

It could be because all eight episodes of *Bridgerton* are released all at once, like most originals, but some shows such as *WandaVision* on Disney+ released one episode weekly and left binge watchers wanting more.

Junior Sarah Chapman says she likes taking the suspenseful route when it comes to shows.

"I like the suspense of waiting weekly for a show," Chapman said. "But I prefer when a show releases an entire season at once so I can binge watch it if I want to."

A favorite of Chapman's is *WandaVision* because it's action-packed and shows a good

character arc for her favorite characters.

But, these weekly shows tend to keep viewers clinging on for a decently long time. Rather than having some big fans all at once that flock to the next show as soon as it airs.

"I think shows do better if they wait to release an episode each week," Chapman said. "Because then people wait for the episode and reviews are automatic."

But a show is almost nothing without its actors, who sometimes slip through the cracks when it comes to the shows that drop all at once. It's hard to get so popular so quickly for one specific role and then focus on anything else even if you get other offers.

When it comes to actors, Netflix tends to work with some of the same people on various projects. Kind of similar to Disney except less traumatic. In non-Netflix movies, people like Adam Sandler are so well-known but can be versatile in roles.

For example, Regé-Jean Page who played The Duke of Hastings in season one of *Bridgerton* refused to come back for season two with the fear he would just be type-cast for the rest of his acting career due to *Bridgerton*'s success.

But Chapman sees the positive side of it, saying the instant popularity is a good thing.

"I think it is good popularity for them," Chapman said. "Now that they've been in such a successful show, they are more likely to get cast in big productions."

While sometimes a watch schedule is a personal preference, other times it's just a habit to prefer the weekly shows because they are on every single week. Leading to a longer-lasting fan base naturally.

Family and Consumer Sciences teacher Sharon Allen says her preference stems from childhood.

"Growing up we didn't have a VCR," Al-

len said. "So every show came on weekly and if you didn't see that episode live you were out of luck."

It's also about time commitment. An average episode of *The Office* is about 23 minutes, while an average episode of *Bridgerton* is about an hour.

"I only have little snippets of time to watch shows," Allen said. "But each week I sit down and watch my favorite show- *Call The Midwife*."

Allen says she doesn't see it as a bad thing, though, that you can watch it all at once. Even having grown up with completely the opposite.

"I think it's wonderful," Allen said. "It's all right there just for you."

But for the people that do have time, they use a lot of it all at once. Usually watching the whole show as soon as it comes out and finishing it just as quick.

"When the first season [of *Bridgerton*] came out I became obsessed with it," senior Isabella Weber said. "I literally watched it all in one sitting."

With some shows it's almost impossible to stop watching once you've started, they're so popular and you don't want it to be spoiled for you via Tik Tok. But for Weber- it's all shows.

"I think shows like *Bridgerton* get so popular because that era of history is really interesting and romantic," Weber said. "But- I tend to binge-watch every show

I watch."

Weber has even begun taking it a step further by reading the *Bridgerton* books. Which most viewers are also finding themselves interested in once they realize the next season hasn't even started filming.

"I just started reading outside of school," Weber said. "I'm really interested in reading all of them now."

So the next time you're obsessed with that new Netflix original, try to slow it down and cherish it before the entire world finds it and throws it away after binge watching it.

Yours Truly, Lady Whistledown.



Lady Whistledown's  
SOCIETY PAPERS

Monday, May 1, 2022

EXTRAORDINARY PEOPLE. EXTRA ORDINARY NEWS

If you liked *Bridgerton* you'll like these shows...

- *Reign* (Netflix)
- *Downton Abbey* (Netflix)
- *The Great* (Hulu)
- *The Crown* (Netflix)
- *Derry Girls* (Netflix)

Some *Period Piece* Movies

- *Little Women*
- *Pride and Prejudice*
- *Barbie: Princess and the Pauper*
- *The Favourite*
- *Marie Antoinette*

The season's most eligible actors...

Keep a close eye on these actors and actresses, they've got big things ahead!

- Jonathan Bailey (*Bridgerton*, *Crashing*, *Broadchurch*)
- Simone Ashley (*Sex Education*, *Bridgerton*)
- Charithra Chandran (*Alex Rider*, *Bridgerton*, *Pillow Talk*)
- Luke Thompson (*Bridgerton*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream at the Globe*)





# "Thanks, I found it on TikTok!"

TikTok allows people to share happy memories associated with literature, movies, and television

**By Abby Lewis**

**bookish besties**

Books, one of the oldest forms of entertainment still proves to bring comfort to people around the world. With three public libraries in the area there is certainly a book or character that resonates with everybody. "[I relate to] Pip from *A Good Girl's Guide to Murder*," sophomore Chloe Fromme said. "I want to be a forensic scientist and solve crimes and that's what she does. She's kind of sassy and sarcastic too."

**take me away**

When books don't comfort people, a student doesn't have to look far to any streaming service to find a great escape. Movies normally have large budgets to create far away worlds that can make you forget about stressors. "[The] *Princess Bride* [comforts me] because it was my sleepover movie as a kid so I've watched it about 50 million times," orchestra teacher Angela Thomas said. "It's ridiculous and insane and it's an escape. There are some great quotes in that movie."

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It is no surprise that TikTok, a place where people go to ignore what is going on around them, has produced a trend where people bond with each other over comforting forms of entertainment.

"I don't have a TikTok account," sophomore Chloe Fromme said. "I don't really do social media, period. [I think Booktok is good] because it gets people to see some newer novels, but it does get really repetitive."

Entertainers on TikTok try to make their pages a safe space for their audiences, which translates to the real world as well. Everybody has different interests and expresses them in different ways.

"[I relate to] Pip from *A Good Girl's Guide to Murder*," Fromme said. "I want to be a forensic scientist and solve crimes and that's what she does. She's kind of sassy and sarcastic too."

Entertainment has been a form of comfort for several generations now so it is no surprise that social media has helped spread the idea.

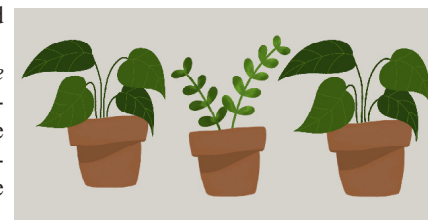
"[When I was younger] *Princess Bride* was my sleepover movie as a kid," Orchestra teacher Angela Thomas said. "I've watched it about 50 million times. It's ridiculous and insane and an escape. There are some great quotes in that movie."

Even though TikTok is known as the "Wild West" of social media platforms, a more wholesome trend has swept across TikTok where people share and bond with each other over characters, books, and movies that comfort them. This trend has evolved so much to where Books-A-Million at the Green Tree Mall has a whole display of books recommended on BookTok.

"I don't think [Books-a-Million's display] will get non-readers to read more, mainly because they don't like to read," Fromme said. "I do think it is a fun way to be trendy and get sales up."

Another popular part of the trend is to make edits or paintings of certain characters or movies. This is in the same vein as covering songs from your favorite singer.

If you would like to participate in this trend either search #comfortcharacters on TikTok and scroll until your heart is content!



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# “Age Appropriate” Pixar’s *Turning Red* sparks controversy among parents

BY// JAMIE SULLIVAN

As Disney and Pixar continue to advance in their filmmaking, some parents are becoming more critical, while others choose to accept the status quo.

Disney and Pixar have been the parents of entertainment for children all over the world since 1938. Recently, the two studios have attempted to be more inclusive, with films such as *Encanto* (2021) and *Luca* (2021) embracing various cultures and themes that differ from the traditional princess film. Pixar’s latest feature not only explores a different culture, but it also incorporates an unique storytelling approach.

With the premiere of *Turning Red*, both parents and critics have seized the opportunity to point out the film’s faults. On Rotten Tomatoes, the picture gets a 94 percent approval rating (Certified Fresh) and a shocking 73 percent audience rating. On IMBD the film holds a seven out of ten star rating with an 86 metascore.

In said feature film, the audience follows a young teenage girl with a strict mother. The film delves beautifully into Chinese culture while also depicting puberty in a way that has never been done before. *Turning Red* contains scenes with pads and puberty discussions, as well as language such as “sexy” and “gyrating.” The film shows the “embarrassing” side of teenage girls—obsessing over cute boys and their music. Parents across all

media platforms have expressed their dissatisfaction with the film, claiming that the themes depicted in *Turning Red* are “too mature” for children. Some critics have gone so far as to say that the film’s content is “completely inappropriate” for younger audiences.

The introduction of this new way of storytelling by Disney was long overdue, but it was not without controversy. Previous Disney and Pixar films focused on the happy side of childhood, with singing and dancing in every frame. While *Turning Red* contains musical elements, it also includes the real deal of adolescence: growing up.

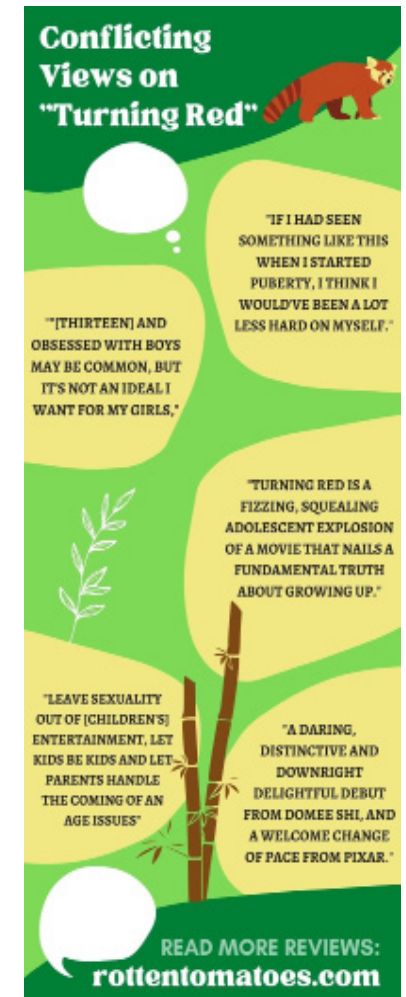
*Turning Red* is not only unique, but it is also accurate. It is critical to recognize that teenagers go through real-life experiences such as puberty and crushes. Regardless of what they see on television, children will grow up and experience these things. If a movie or a parent does not teach them, they will learn through other means. Denying children the opportunity to learn about natural things that happen will only confuse them further and leave them unprepared.

Since media is so influential to younger audiences, it’s important to include things that they can relate to. Crushing on boys and being infatuated with a new pop band is something that most preteens start to experience more often. Many critics

and audience members were surprised to see an accurate representation of puberty on the screen, saying that it “reminded them of their childhood”. Other viewers express how seeing puberty in a film they enjoy would have helped them a lot when they were younger. Puberty is something that many children do not fully comprehend, and parents may struggle to find an appropriate time and place to discuss it with their children. Seeing adolescent hormonal cycles mentioned on film is an excellent way to spark those discussions. Many teenagers, especially teenage girls, get shamed for what they experience. *Turning Red* highlights this and turns that into an inspiring, relatable story.

Needless to say, since 1938, Disney and Pixar have come a long way. *Turning Red* is a significant accomplishment for the studios; the overwhelming praise from critics and audience members appears to cancel out the negative feedback from others. It’s possible that Pixar will continue to explore further important storylines and make an even bigger impact on youth.

Critics portray *Turning Red* as a film about only periods and maxi pads, but this is far from the case. The film explores puberty and the realities of growing up in an honest way with a powerful symbolic meaning that everyone, regardless of age, should watch.



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# Daredevil's villain innovation

## How Marvel subverts the boring antagonist archetype

BY//CLARA WEEDMAN

Marvel's *Daredevil*, especially its excellent first season, is one of the best things to come out of the MCU as a whole; however, not many people are aware of this.

The show initially released in April 2015, subsequently receiving two additional seasons and multiple tie-in shows before ultimately, as of March 2022, being dropped from Netflix altogether and migrating to Disney Plus, all while garnering a cult following in the process. There are numerous assets that come together to form the truly great piece of art the show is (acting, story, tone, etc.), however one of the highlights is how it treats its main antagonist, Wilson Fisk.

Immediately, Fisk's place in the world is clear. The first episode follows the fall of Union Allied, a construction company created by Fisk to front his illegal money laundering operations. When proof of these slips through, he begins trying to dampen the damage the information could cause using any method he can - mostly by manipulating others in important positions by either paying them off, blackmailing, or simply killing them. By the end of the first 53 minutes, four people are dead, each with their blood on his hands. Over the next two episodes, it's made apparent the fear the general criminal populous has towards him - No one has seen him, anyone could be on his payroll, and the few who could offer up his name would rather die than utter it (seriously, the guy Daredevil gets his name out of literally impales himself through the head after he tells him). Fisk is also shown to be in business partnerships with the biggest drug traders in New York, collaborating to satisfy each of their own wishes, as well as his own. All of this, and he doesn't once appear himself anywhere - his assistant, Wesley, fills in for and represents him in most cases. It isn't until the end of the third episode when he, who's basically the boogeyman at this point, finally shows up

and starts dealing with things personally.

He first appears pondering a painting in a gallery (art is shown to be among the few hobbies he has, besides murdering and being a generally God-awful person). The gallery director, Vanessa Marianna, notices this, and discusses with him the purpose of art - is it more about how it appears, or about what it means to you and the feeling you get when you see it? Connecting with this idea and Vanessa, Fisk soon develops feelings for her. Later on, he somewhat awkwardly asks her out, and the two start dating. Although his and Vanessa's relationship isn't made truly important until season three, the addition of this side plot deepens his character, and alone allows him to be more dimensional than the rest of the MCU's villains combined.

The show doubles down on this notion when, around the season's midpoint in episode eight, the show halts its usual pace, opting to spend an entire episode to focus solely on Fisk and his upbringing. He grew up with an alcoholic and abusive father, who, unable to fund his campaign for a District Council position independently, sought financial assistance from the Italian mafia. His behavior is at first, although still morally abhorrent, tame (the odd insult here or there), but it escalates after he hears of one of Wilson's classmates badmouthing his character. He finds the classmate and beats him up, bringing Wilson with him aiming to teach a lesson on defending yourself and what it means to be a "man". It only gets worse when, after losing the election and becoming entrenched in a debt he cannot repay, he verbally and physically assaults his wife, Marlene. At a breaking point, Wilson echoes his father's message; beating him to death with a hammer. Marlene saws her deceased husband by the limb, bagging his remains and dumping them at the bottom of the ocean, and sends Wilson away to their extended family's farm.

The decision to include such complete, substantial backstory for its villain allows audiences to, despite his detestable actions, understand Fisk's rationale and, perhaps, feel sympathy for him. Being raised how he was, he's ignorant to alternate ways of accomplishing his goals. In his view, he isn't violent simply to be violent; he does it because it's necessary. He's not the cold-blooded monster his father was, but the hero the city he cares for so much desperately needs.

As the story progresses, his actions become more and more barbaric - he's bombed nearly the entirety of Hell's Kitchen, beat Daredevil to death's doorstep, murdered all but one of the top drug traders, strangled Ben Urich (a reporter who got too close to putting Fisk behind bars and one of Matt, Foggy, and Karen's best friends), and turned almost all of the NYPD to his side. By the final episode, it's been well established that he isn't afraid to pull his punches, no one is safe, and anyone (including the main characters) could die, or worse. It's scary.

In the beginning, you're made aware of this immensely dangerous and powerful omniscient force, but it resides in the shadows, and there's no name or face to put to it to comfort you. Instead of its actions being shown outright, it remains a mystery, and when it does show itself, there's this added weight that otherwise wouldn't be there - it's this 'Oh god, that's really him.' sort of feeling. Although there is now a name and face to put to the force, it doesn't comfort anything - instead, all of that apprehension, fear, and dread is still felt at his mention,

and tenfold when he's actually there - it's this 'Oh god, he's a monster.' sort of feeling. In spite of all of this, he's not inhuman - he's he wasn't taught right from wrong as a child, only to pound his problems to a pulp until they go away. He's socially inept, and he adores New York and Vanessa - wanting the best for them. He's doing the only thing he believes he can - it's this 'Oh god, I get it.' sort of feeling.

The balance between these two sides of his character lets him be more than a mustache-twirling antagonist - it lets him be a person, full of all the complicated nuance that defines us as a species. There aren't a lot of shows that would allow the bad guy to be as fleshed out as the good guy, that would put the message of the story on the line to in any way validate the enemy's actions - but *Daredevil* isn't one of those, and it sets itself, and Fisk, wholly apart from the rest.

SEASON ONE EPISODE RANKING	
1.	"Nelson v. Murdock" (S1EP10)
2.	"Cut Man" (S1EP2)
3.	"Shadows in the Glass" (S1EP8)
4.	"The Path of the Righteous" (S1EP11)
5.	"Condemned" (S1EP6)
6.	"The Ones We Leave Behind" (S1EP12)
7.	"World on Fire" (S1EP5)
8.	"Daredevil" (S1EP13)
9.	"Into the Ring" (S1EP1)
10.	"Rabbit in a Snowstorm" (S1EP3)
11.	"In the Blood" (S1EP4)
12.	"Speak of the Devil" (S1EP9)
13.	"Stick" (S1EP7)

# The great dress code debate

Some restrictions are necessary, but most are overbearing

BY// CARLEE SMITH

New Albany High School, like many other schools has a dress code; however, I've noticed we don't follow it.

Most students at NAHS wear what they want and don't have to worry about getting dress coded. Students can wear crop tops, pajama pants, and shorter than finger length shorts. This could change.

NAFCS's current dress code was last updated April 19, 2010. It's now being revised by central administration with input from teacher representatives. The new dress code was first read at the April 11 school board meeting and will be voted on during the May 9 meeting.

The dress code in the NAHS handbook is vague and only prohibits few things. However, the district-wide dress code is more strict.

The district dress code currently prohibits many items of clothing NAHS students wear daily. That dress code is not strictly enforced at NAHS; however, the new revised one might be.

Although the current dress code says no pajamas or hats, many kids do and don't get in trouble.

Enforcing a strict dress code is just going to make kids break it. According to the National Center for Education Statistics, 42.6 percent of elementary schools, 61.6 percent of middle schools, and 55.9 percent of high schools enforced a stricter

dress code in the 2017-2018 school year and kids fought back. Telling kids they can't do something makes them want to do it. Most teenagers know how to dress appropriately without dress code. So what if a little of their stomach shows?

One major problem with dress codes is they are inherently sexist. Most dress code rules target traditionally female clothing and restrict what they can wear. The reason girls are required to cover up is because their body will distract others from learning. Instead of teaching girls to cover themselves we should teach others to be respectful.



*Restrictions on spaghetti straps have been against the dress code since at least 2010, but some students are not reprimanded for violating this rule.*

The main reason for a dress code is to limit distraction from learning but it does not do that. It causes more disruptions because students will constantly be worried if they're going to get dress coded. It will waste admin's time because they will have to pull kids out of class and dress code them. It will also waste students' time because they will

be missing class.

Implementing a stricter dress code won't stop kids from wearing certain things; they'll just rebel and continue to do it.

Which poses a great question, what is the punishment for getting dress coded?

If the punishment is having to get a change of clothes from the office, not only is that embarrassing, but the school

also has to find out where to supply all these clothes from. If the punishment is wearing one of the oversized dress code T-shirts, that is even more distracting and very embarrassing.

NAHS's current dress code states that the school has the right to remove or change any clothes for safety reasons. The NAFCS dress code suggests a punishment system that consists of a warning, warning and parent contact, detention, on site parent conference, in school suspension, or out of school suspension.

One aspect of the dress code that some students don't agree with is the fact that they can't wear hats but students can wear bonnets and durags. The difference is that hats are just for fashion where bonnets and durags serve a hygienic purpose. This is also similar to the argument about why some students can wear hijabs and others can't wear hoods. The logic is hijabs have religious significance and hoods don't.

Not having a dress code benefits students because it lets them express themselves in different ways. Limiting students' self expression causes students to have a lack of independence or takes down their self confidence.

Coddling students by telling them how to dress will not prepare them to figure out how to dress themselves professionally in the real world. Although it seems like a simple thing, if you tell a kid how to dress their whole life they won't know how to dress themselves later on. This is a pretty important skill in adult life.

Giving students a dress code is more hurtful than helpful in the end. The school should focus on bigger issues rather than controlling what students wear.

## District Dress Code (2010)

- Holes that expose skin
- Offensive or vulgar language
- Visible undergarments
- Mesh or see through clothing
- Head coverings
- Chains or items considered unsafe
- Tube tops, halter tops, midriff tops
- Spaghetti straps
- Oversized tops & pants
- Overalls
- Pajamas
- Coats not in lockers or stored in the proper location

*\*Complete list on NAFCS website*

## NAHS Dress Code according to the 2021-2022 Student Handbook

- Holes that show an excess skin
- Offensive or vulgar language
- Head coverings
- Any unsafe piercings
- Chains
- Any items deemed inappropriate by the administration

## Proposed District Dress Code

*\*\*pending May 9 School Board Vote*

- Any clothing with inappropriate content (more details in code)
- Any item deemed inappropriate by administration
- Any item that may cause safety concern
- Pajamas
- Head coverings (unless approved for religious reasons)
- Pants and skirts must be worn at the waist
- Tops without sleeves unless deemed appropriate by administration
- Sunglasses
- Holes that expose excessive skin or private areas

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It is the policy of the New Albany Floyd County School Board of Education that publications are established forums for student expression and as the voice in the free and honest discussion of issues and ideas. For the purpose of this policy, "publications" shall include newspapers, yearbooks, magazines, and/or electronic and/or online media. Each medium is an instructional device for the teaching of writing, communication, design, leadership, and other journalistic skills should provide full opportunity for students to inquire, question, and exchange ideas.

Student Media adhering to the professional standards outlined in the policy are not reviewed by school administration prior to distribution or broadcast or withheld from distribution or broadcast. Therefore, school corporation assumes no liability for the content of these student publications or media.



# Moving up

## Bulldog athletes take the next step in their athletic career by signing with colleges

BY// LILA ENDRES

Around 7% of high school athletes go on to play a varsity sport in college and 2% go on to play NCAA division I, but very few get the opportunity, according to Scholarship Stats.

Senior Tucker Biven has been playing baseball since he was three or four and says he has looked up to Derek Jeter because of the way he played and the way he treated people outside of the game. Biven is moving on to play baseball at the University of Louisville next year.

“Don’t get complacent because there are thousands of kids who would do a lot to be in the same position you are in,” Biven said.

The recruiting process can be stressful for a lot of high school athletes. From the time they get a letter of interest from the colleges, to the time official offers are extended there is a lot the colleges are watching for, from good grades to attitude on and off the field or court.

Senior Myles Johnson has played multiple sports throughout his life, but he said they never outdid football. Now he is con-

tinuing on to play at Kentucky Wesleyan. Johnson added to just be patient throughout the signing process.

“Signing was like a weight off my back, I’ve been working for this since flag football and now I’ve accomplished it,” Johnson said.

Deciding what school to play at for the next four years can be a big decision, especially with lots of offers.

Senior Taylor Treat signed to play with Roosevelt University. Treat has been playing basketball since she was three and started at the YMCA. She says she got some offers to play soccer in college as well, but decided to stick with basketball.

“The best advice I can give is pick the college YOU want to go to. Do not pick a college because your friends are going

there, or your parents want you to go there. Go where you want,” Treat said.

The timeline for committing to colleges for every student is different. Some receive letters as early as freshman year while some have to be a little more patient.

**“The athlete that I look up to is my mom. I have always tried to base my entire game around hers and become the best player that I can be because of her.”**

Taylor Treat // 12

Senior Andrew Clements’ main sport has always been baseball and he is continuing on to play at Mount St. Joseph University. Clements says he has always wanted to play in college and is very happy with how the signing process went for him.

“Stay patient, your time will come. There is a place for everyone,” Clements said.

Although big decisions can lead to a lot of stress after the decision is made, the rewarding part can begin.

“I feel super relieved,” Treat said. “It

is something I do not have to worry about anymore while I know some others are super stressed about it. That is why I am really glad I got it done early.”

Some student athletes go into the recruiting process knowing exactly what they want.

“To me, it wasn’t really stressful because Louisville has always been my dream school and I knew if they offered I’d end up committing there,” Biven said.

Not just the athletes but so many more people are involved in the signing process. Parents, friends, high school coaches, and even the coaches all of the way back in little league have been a part of the journey.

Senior Carson Chandler is continuing on to play baseball at Anderson University. Chandler has played baseball since he was three years old and as soon as he got to high school he knew he wanted to further his baseball career.

“I would like to thank all my coaches and teammates throughout the years but mostly my family,” Chandler said.

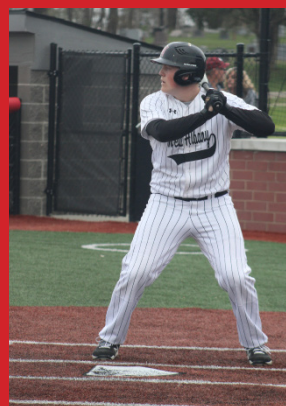
## Next level competition



Taylor Treat //  
Roosevelt University



Tucker Biven //  
University of Louisville



Andrew Clements //  
Mount St. Joseph University

Myles Johnson //  
Kentucky Wesleyan



Carson Chandler //  
Anderson University

# Play Ball!

Every year spots must be filled on baseball team, allowing for hungry freshman looking for a spot

By // JACK MOUTARDIER

For the baseball team, talent has been proven for years now. With a varsity record of 16-5 and finishing ninth in the state last year, the team has proven to hold its own.

However, with every year comes graduating seniors, and holes to fill. Incoming freshman are hungry to prove themselves. The start of this season is nothing short of that, with 11 freshmen on the team, three of which start varsity.

Freshman Kadin Bush plays outfield and catcher for the varsity team; he hits seventh in the batting order. From the start of the season until now, nothing but relentless effort and positivity can be found.

“Our whole team works so hard in practices and on the field,” Bush said. “However, with ultimate goals of college ball and beyond for many of us on the team, there is plenty more hard work needed everyday.”

With success comes treacherous effort and a plethora of challenges.

“The difference of speed of play from middle school and all other levels of ball is very drastic and been something I’ve had to adjust to,” Bush said. “The ball moves a lot faster and the speed of play is completely different.”

All this said, culture and team relations stack towards the top for Bush.

“This team is definitely unlike any other team I’ve ever experienced,” Bush said. “Seeing these guys every day has created bonds beyond baseball and life. High school is definitely more competitive than any other level of ball and having so many guys you trust makes for a life-changing experience.”

Akin to Bush, freshman Gavin Rand plays both catcher and outfield, splitting reps at both spots with Bush. Like Bush, Rand has enjoyed the start of the season immeasurably.

“I loved going to Nashville earlier this year - a lot of fun and a great memory,” Rand said.

But, for the team, culture is what allows for great memories like this.

“Our team gets along great on and off the field,” Rand said. “The team is all on the same page with the tasks at hand. This season has been a learning experience, with the speed of play and ball rising so much, it’s great having so many guys there to help you out.”

With all looking up Rand is looking forward to continuing a great freshman season.

Like Bush and Rand, freshman Landon

Gum earned his spot as a part of the nine starters. “If I had to describe this team in one word it would be brotherhood; this team has a special bond on the field and off,” Gum said. “Ever since a young age I’ve been very

tion weekly, physical health is very important. Every week he rehabs thoroughly for 30 minutes a day.

“On Monday through Thursday, I do extensive and intense yoga for my glutes and legs,” Anderson said. “The key to hitting hard is powerful legs; you can’t have powerful legs if they aren’t healthy.”

Friday through Sunday Anderson’s routine changes.

“Every time you catch a ball or hit a dinger the sting will be felt in your hands. For that reason I always do Dr. Levi Harrison’s finger and wrist exercises,” Anderson said. “It starts with relaxing music and bending of the pinky, then follows with elastic bands around each finger to help stretch the maximum distance of rotation in each finger.”

Freshman Tyler Hubbard has always gone by the motto ‘I hit dingers.’ He has stuck with this for years now and doesn’t plan to stop this year or anytime soon. Hubbard bats fourth in the JV batting order and plays first base. For Hubbard he’s just happy to be back to doing what he loves like the old days.

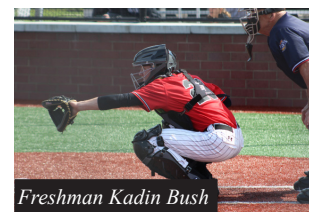
“With COVID going on for three years now, this has been the first year with a sense of normality, in which I’ve been able to really just focus on baseball and baseball only,” Hubbard said. “Being out there with my friends and coaches and not having to be six feet away from them makes for way better conversations and chemistry.”

Hubbard prides himself on clutch hitting and making plays when they are needed the most.

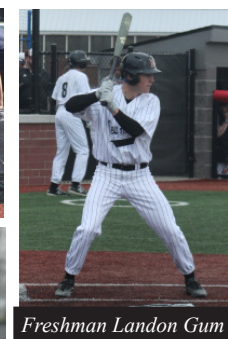
“As a young kid I remember growing up and watching Kobe Bryant always make it when it counted,” Hubbard said. “Since then I’ve always tried to do the same every time I step to the plate.”

For Hubbard the path to achieving this has never changed.

“I always take three deep breaths as I walk up to the plate and picture the ball hitting my bat,” Hubbard said. “Then I dig my front foot into the ground and wait for the balls arrival, then on my swing I always follow all the way through and hope for the best.”



Freshman Kadin Bush



Freshman Landon Gum



Freshman Gavin Rand

## WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE THING ABOUT BASEBALL?

**Cooper Anderson:**  
My favorite thing about baseball is definitely getting a good hit and running bases

**Did you know?**  
Former member of the dogs baseball team Josh Rodgers is now in the MLB as a pitcher for the Washington Nationals previously playing for the Baltimore Orioles.

**Tyler McMillen:**  
By far my favorite thing about baseball is throwing an awesome pitch and getting a strike

**NEW**  
**Tyler Hubbard:**  
My Favorite thing about baseball is hitting dingers and then celebrating with my teammates

**ALBANY**  
**Kadin Bush:**  
My favorite thing is the hardwork we put in to try and win every game and being out on the field doing what I love

inspired by my dad to work hard, and being a part of such a great team has made all that effort worth it,” Gum said. “The next four years are going to be awesome, and I look forward to every bit of it.”

Going into high school means four years of hard work and opportunity, whether it be in school, sports, music, etc. With 11 freshmen on the JV and varsity combined, the baseball team will look different every year.

Freshman Cooper Anderson plays short-stop for the JV squad. Growing up Anderson has been inspired by many people to play hard, but none stands out harder than barber and social media influencer Victor Fontanez, best known as Vic Blends.

“Vic Blends always has such inspiring things to say and for his work alone, he inspired me to get a buzz cut,” Anderson said. “I see so many MLB players who are bald and I believe that having this buzz cut may help me not to go

bald prematurely. Now, whenever I’m out on the field I feel free and play better because of my hairstyle.”

With Anderson cruising into ac-

## WHATS HAPPENED SO FAR?

As of Apr 19  
2021-2022 RECORD

MAR 28	NA vs Montgomery Bell	NA loss 9-4
MAR 29	NA vs Donelson CA	NA loss 13-6
APR 2	NA vs Carroll HS	NA loss 6-4
APR 2	NA vs South Dearborn HS	NA win 10-4
APR 6	NA vs Lanesville Jr-Sr HS	NA win 20-0
APR 7	NA vs Pleasure Ridge Park HS	Cancelled
APR 9	NA vs Silver Creek HS	Postponed
APR 9	NA vs Seymour HS	NA win 4-3
APR 12	NA vs DE SALES	NA win 17-2
APR 13	NA vs Floyd Central	Postponed
APR 15	NA vs Jasper HS	NA loss 11-1
APR 16	NA vs Charlestown HS	NA win 10-0

## A GUIDE TO GEAR

BY: TYLER MCMILLEN



What is the best baseball bat?

THE DEMARINI GOODS

What is the best baseball glove?

THE WILSON BASEBALL A-2000

What are the best baseball cleats

THE NEW BALANCE LOW-CUT 3000 V4

What are the best sunflower seeds?

THE DILL PICKLE FLAVOR

What are the best baseball sunglasses

FOR SURE THE OAKLEY RADAR EV



# Unified & Dignified

## Unified track team is back in action this season

By // SAMANTHA HAUB

The unified track and field team is back in action to prepare for a season of success.

As of last year, 2021, student athletes hadn't competed since 2019.

In 2019, the NAHS team placed third in sectionals, third in regionals, and ninth in state.

In 2014 unified track and field was introduced to Indiana schools by Special Olympics Indiana and IHSA.

Unified track and field consists of student athletes with intellectual disabilities and a partner that helps with the event.

The athletes compete in the 100m dash, 400m dash, 4x100 relay, long jump, and shot put.

Much of their practices focus on socializing and team-building.

"Instead of assigning them what they are going to do they get to choose the events they want to run and then we break off," senior My'Asia Earsery said. "We keep conversation so that things don't get awkward."

Head Coach Adam Togami says that not being able to practice every day can be a challenge for the team. Practices take place every Tuesday and Thursday for approximately 20 minutes.

"Practice is a relatively short affair," Togami said. "We have a great time even though we can't meet every day."

Time is not the only challenge this team faces.

"Getting them comfortable with being around new people [is challenging] because we have a lot of incoming freshmen partners this year and we have a lot of first years, including myself, with this group of kids," Earsery said.

Earsery says that adjusting to a new environment and new sport can be hard for everyone on the team.

"A lot of our athletes tend to give up rather quickly, even at practice," Earsery said. "If they feel like they can't do it, they just stop. Getting them to keep trying would probably be one of the hardest things."

Challenges such as perseverance can be hard but Earsery finds ways to conquer it.

"I know the things that work for them," Earsery said. "One of our athletes was talking to me about how she had all these exes. I [said] 'just use that anger. Imagine your ex is standing right there and throw it at her.' It started to get her laughing and it broke the ice a little bit so she didn't feel so pressured to do something."

While many athletes on the team face challenges along the way, the focus is on the positives.

"It's fun because you get to see a whole lot of

different personalities and a lot of people that aren't afraid to be themselves,"

Earsery said. "They just do whatever and don't care if they are too tall or too big to do certain things. They run events because they want to and they think it's fun. It's so different to see people doing things to have fun rather than to win."

Senior Alex Plaiss and freshman Kurtis Rissler say their favorite part of unified track and field is seeing other teams win and be successful, not just their own team.

"It's about sportsmanship," Rissler said.

The athletes aren't the only ones faced with challenges. Togami explains that being the first year coach for the team can be hard.

"I was hired right before the season started so a lot of my challenges have been logistical—making sure athletes have their physicals, arranging for information to get out to the athletes, parents, and volunteers," Togami said.

Lucky for Togami, he explains that coaching is a passion of his.

"Watching students reach their goals and put in the hard work is one of my favorite parts of my job," Togami said. "I have a passion for the sport and there is nothing better than helping others better themselves."

Earsery and Togami aspire for more recognition for the sport as well as the athletes.



"They are kind of kept away," Earsery said. "They eat lunch separate from us [and] they do a lot of things separately. I think that if they got more attention and praise, if people actually came and had a student section at one of their sporting events it gives them something to make them included. [They are] a group of people that are so used to being secluded and I think it's super important for them to get out of the basement."

"It is an opportunity for athletes to share in the excitement of track and field no matter who they are," Togami said. "It is a huge highlight of each year for many of our athletes and their accomplishments should be celebrated."

Earsery says the experience in unified track and field is unlike any other sport. The athletes don't care about PRs and awards.

"I'm excited to see their faces when they cross the finish line," Earsery said. "The look of accomplishment across their faces is just serotonin, just pure happiness in its purest form. It's just people enjoy doing what they are doing rather than stressing about it."

## Members

Wyatt Jones  
Lane DeMotte  
Pierson Scott  
My'Asia Earsery

Presleigh Gavin  
Riley Sawyer  
Alexis Caldwell  
Nate Wood  
Kendria Watson  
Jacqueline Owens  
Lauren Yowel  
Krissy Fentress  
Kyondre Winford  
Ava Brewer  
California Henderson  
Bailee King  
Samantha Jones

Kaelyn Baker  
Shalandria White  
Jordan Treat  
Sadie Thornton  
Ben Jacobs  
Aaron Lord  
John Fulmer  
Brook Arnold  
Cimara Briggs  
Jerrett Brooks  
Megan Cain  
Cyanne Celestin  
Desiree Hopper  
Stevie Ingle  
A'Kayla Jones  
Alex Plaiss  
Kendall Talbott  
Kurtis Rissler  
Armond Shepherd

## Schedule

Home - Mon May 9 6 PM  
Senior Night

Away - Sat May 21 FCHS Sectional

Away - Sat May 28 TBD Regional

Away - Sat June 4 TBD State



**Words to describe Unified Track and Field**

"Fun. Competitive." Alex Plaiss // 12

"100. 400. Shotput" Armond Shepherd // 10

**Favorite part**

"2nd place in 100m and 18-6 shotput" Kurtis Rissler // 9

## Donation Requests

Donations are appreciated and can be dropped off in the main office:

Applesauce  
Capri suns  
Fruit snacks  
Granola bars

