

The Cougar Chronicle

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Welcome to Barrack – Excerpts from Interviews with Several of JBHA’s Newest Faculty!

By Margot Englander, School News Editor

What is your name, and what is your new role?

Mr. Larry McAfoos
My name is Larry McAfoos (pronounced MACK-a-foos). Over the years, students have called me Mr. McAfoos, Mr. Mac, Mr. Foos, and more. I will be teaching Honors Chemistry, AP Chemistry, and grade-level physics.

Ms. Danae Derby
My name is Danae Derby, and I am a member of the math department.

Mr. Dan Hatfield
My name is Dan Hatfield (Science Department).

Mr. Adam Lovitz
Adam Lovitz, the new art teacher.

Ms. Erin Beser
Erin Beser, 6th grade JST teacher

Ms. Georgia Gobora
Georgia Gobora, Learning Specialist

Mr. Benaya Yehuda
Upper School Jewish Life Coordinator, Hebrew and Jewish Studies Teacher

Where are you from?

Mr. Larry McAfoos
I grew up outside of Pittsburgh, attended Cornell University, and for the last 30 years, have taught Chemistry at Lower Merion High School. For the last 8, I have also taught at The Mesivta and at KTA in the late afternoons.

Ms. Danae Derby
I most recently lived in the suburbs of NY City where I taught at an international day/boarding school called The Master’s School.

Mr. Dan Hatfield
I’m coming from teaching for six years at Chadwick School in Los Angeles, but I’m originally from this area (Conestoga HS alumni).

Mr. Adam Lovitz
I grew up in Havertown(Delco kid), then moved to South Philly after college. Recently, our family moved just outside the city to Wallingford. Prior to joining Barrack, I taught at Temple University, University of the Arts, and Rowan University.

Ms. Erin Beser
Baltimore, MD, but more recently New York City

Ms. Georgia Gobora
I was born in London and grew up in Bucks County, PA.

Mr. Benaya Yehuda
I’m from Israel! Born and raised in a small village near the Sea of Galilee, named Mitzpe Netofa.

What is your favorite part of your new role/what are you looking forward to?

Mr. Larry McAfoos
I’m really excited to be working at only one school (instead of LM, KTA, and Mesivta). I’m thrilled to be working at a school whose calendar matches mine, and I am really excited to teach Physics (which is new for me).

Ms. Danae Derby
I am looking forward to becoming a member of the community at Barrack and to working with my colleagues and students.

Mr. Adam Lovitz
I think it’s pretty amazing to guide students through a range of approaches and philosophies to the creative process, especially in the age range I have taught and will teach in. It’s always so inspiring to watch a student find connection to making art, and building relationships with ideas and life experiences.

Ms. Erin Beser
I look forward to having a lot of fun and learning together!

Ms. Georgia Gobora
I am looking forward to getting to know my students and watching them grow throughout the year!



(Barrack Instagram)

Mr. Benaya Yehuda
I look forward to meeting the students and finding new ways to connect them to themselves and to Israel.

What is something non-academic within the school year that you are looking forward to?

Mr. Larry McAfoos
I’m looking forward to running a nature-focused Shacharit. I spent 13 years as the Teva guy at Camp Ramah in the Poconos, and I have missed sharing my love of the natural world with kids since I left.

Mr. Dan Hatfield
I’m looking forward to attending some JBHA athletic events, so look out for me cheering in the bleachers.

Ms. Danae Derby
One non-academic thing that I am most looking forward to is teaching a baking/cooking elective in the Middle School. I really enjoy spending time in the kitchen and can’t wait to share my passion with the students.

Mr. Adam Lovitz
Excited at the potential for the Phillies to make the playoffs this year! Also excited for seasonal change...weather for camping and hiking, wearing hoodies, Fall gardening, and I’m taking a ceramics class this Fall.

Ms. Erin Beser
Holidays!

Ms. Georgia Gobora
Hopefully getting to chaperon some of the awesome field trips this year!

Mr. Benaya Yehuda
I’m excited to make fun things with the JLIers for Shabbat and the holidays.

What is your favorite topic to teach within your field?

Mr. Larry McAfoos
I love teaching things that we all think we understand but haven’t really thought about. I love teaching gas laws (you don’t suck the liquid up a straw, you don’t pull air into your lungs, you can’t suck in your cheeks, etc,) and inter-molecular forces (oil and water do mix, water is stronger than gravity, geckos stick to ceilings, etc) and quantum theory (how light is produced, how we know light is a wave, how we know light is not a wave, etc)

Ms. Danae Derby
It is difficult for me to choose a favorite math class because I truly enjoy teaching most of them. Geometry is fun for me because proofs are like a puzzle. You need to use logic and think ahead as you plan your proof. For the same reason, I enjoy teaching trigonometric identities. You need to manipulate the equations to have a certain outcome using your knowledge of the identities. Very much like a puzzle.

Ms Erin Beser
History and holidays and the history of holidays!

Mr. Benaya Yehuda
Mitzvot Ben Adaem Le’Chavero - that is the commandments of interpersonal communication.

Do you have any pets? If so, what are their names and a fun fact about them?

Mr. Larry McAfoos
I have two little dogs (both about 16 pounds). The older one is Pippin (named for the Hobbit). He’s becoming something of a crochety old man, but he still likes to chase squirrels in the backyard. The younger one is Loki (for the Norse god of mischief). He loves everyone and deserves his name.

Ms. Danae Derby
I have a cat named Tommy and a dog named Mae. Tommy is 13 years old, and Mae is 1.5 years old. Mae loves Tommy more than he loves her and is always trying to get him to play with her. Tommy tolerates her and usually swats at her when she zooms by him. They both have black fur with white crests on their chests.

Mr. Dan Hatfield
I have a small fluffy white dog (we think he’s a cockapoo) named Moe, whose picture will probably pop up from time to time in class.

Mr. Adam Lovitz
Two cats. Boomer is an orange tabby, roughly 13 years old. He is our first baby. Boo loves hunting/stealing human food...favorites include avocado, tuna fish, bagel w/ cream cheese, and ice cream. Beatrice is our little princess cat who does no wrong and is the sweetest thing there ever was.

Ms. Erin Beser
No, I don’t like having pets, but I do have two children, their names are Aldo & Sage and they’re kind of wild and run around a lot, so maybe I do have pets.

Ms. Georgia Gobora
I have two dogs named Chloe and Lulu. Chloe is a fluffy white maltese and Lulu is a miniature-schnauzer yorkie mix.

Mr. Benaya Yehuda
In Israel we had a dog named Mooki, but he was so Zionist he insisted of staying there with a friend.

How are you spending your summer break?

Mr. Larry McAfoos
I’m learning to teach Physics. As I said above, I’ve never taught Physics. I know physics, and I know how to teach, but putting them together is new for me. I’m having a lot of fun putting together labs and activities and trying them out.

Mr. Dan Hatfield
Most of my summer was spent moving from LA to here, but I did get a chance to go up to the Poconos for a weekend.

Mr. Adam Lovitz
Painting in my studio for an upcoming show, gardening, spending a lot of time with family and friends, and visiting a couple National Parks. Just got back from a road trip to the Smoky Mountains in Tennessee.

Ms. Erin Beser
Moving to Philly and getting our house set up.

Ms. Georgia Gobora
Over the summer I was a counselor at Briarwood Day camp for girls going into 1st grade.

Mr. Benaya Yehuda
Finding the best water parks in the area to go with my children.

What are your tv show or movie favorites?

Mr. Larry McAfoos
TV: I love MASH, The West Wing, Monty Python’s Flying Circus, Brooklyn 99 and Game of Thrones (at least the first few seasons), but I think that Breaking Bad is (possibly) the best television ever made. Movies: This one is tough. I am a HUGE movie guy. It would be impossible to list all of the films I love, but The Sting, Young Frankenstein, The Godfather, The Shawshank Redemption, Singing in the Rain, Monty Python and the Holy Grail, and Crossing Delancey are some of the ones at the top.

Mr. Dan Hatfield
Some of my favorite TV shows are Breaking Bad and The Office.

Ms. Erin Beser
Clueless, Don’t Tell Mom the Babysitter’s Dead, Troop Beverly Hills, The 90’s were the best.

Mr. Benaya Yehuda
Actually, I don’t see tv and prefer reading books.. But I love The Matrix and also documentaries.

In which Hogwarts house would you be sorted and why?

Mr. Larry McAfoos
Ravenclaw. The hat wouldn’t even reach my ears before it shouted out Ravenclaw (like Malfoy being put into Slytherin.) Why? That’s easy. I am a huge nerd (heck I majored in Chemistry and then chose to go BACK to high school). I read non-fiction for pleasure. I bird-watch. I discuss the director’s choices for movies. I’m having fun this summer playing with physics labs. I enjoy learning about quantum theory. When I see a beautiful sunset, I think about the dispersion of light due to the Tyndall effect. Need I go on?

Mr. Dan Hatfield
I think I’d be a Ravenclaw, but I’m not certain about that.

Mr. Adam Lovitz
My wife, a Harry Potter aficionado, gave me a “sorting hat” test through the Harry Potter Wizarding world website, and I was sorted into Slytherin! I’m not sure why, maybe a bit mysterious? But I would never use my powers for evil!

Ms. Erin Beser
I’m a certified Potter-world Gryffindor.

Mr. Benaya Yehuda
I’ll probably be in the forest with Hagrid.

Benefits of the Inflation Reduction Act

By Becca Miller, Managing Editor

On Tuesday, August 16, President Biden signed the Inflation Reduction Act into law. This bill is a hugely important piece of legislation that will benefit Americans on multiple fronts, including climate change, healthcare, and tax equality.

The Inflation Reduction Act is the biggest piece of climate legislation ever enacted. It grants massive incentives for clean energy, both for producers and consumers. The bill guarantees \$300 billion in loans for clean energy infrastructure, transmission projects, and technology, giving an additional \$60 billion for manufacturing to the entire US supply chain of clean energy and transportation technologies. Not only will these funds bring environmental benefits, but they will also help keep prices low, combating inflation. There are also incentives for consumers, especially those in the lower-to-middle income brackets, including a \$4,000 tax credit for buying used clean vehicles, a \$7,000 tax credit for buying new clean vehicles, and \$9 billion devoted to programs that make homes more energy efficient. Under the bill, clean energy such as solar panels will be more affordable and accessible to lower-income housing. It also provides relief to communities harmed by pollution, especially lower-income communities, which are the most impacted by air pollution.

The Inflation Reduction Act will also make healthcare more affordable. It allows Medicare to negotiate prescription drug prices, with steep penalties for companies who refuse to negotiate. Starting in 2025, it caps drug prices at \$2,000 per year for seniors on Medicare. It penalizes drug companies who raise prices faster than the rate of inflation. Keeping drug prices low not only helps people afford life-saving medication, it also helps lower inflation. Additionally, the bill extends financial aid for the Affordable Care Act for three more years, assisting those enrolled in ACA plans to afford premiums.

The Inflation Reduction Act, in a somewhat controversial move, also increases funding for the Internal Revenue Service. The IRS has been underfunded for a long time. As a result, its situation has worsened year-by-year as its budget drops, its technology becomes outdated, and it loses staff in a steady stream. Nobody likes getting audited, or paying taxes for that matter, so funding the IRS is politically damaging. But the Inflation Reduction Act bravely prioritizes doing the right thing over politics and optics by granting \$80 billion in funding to the IRS. This is money that will pay for itself many times over. Currently, America has a massive tax gap: there is a significant discrepancy be-

tween the amount of money owed in taxes and the amount of money collected. This is largely because the struggling IRS is only able to prosecute a fraction of the tax fraud that is occurring. Once it has the funding it needs, it can pursue the large corporations and the richest of the rich who are squirreling their money away. When the wealthy avoid paying their taxes, all it does is increase the burden on the middle- and lower-classes. Despite its unpopularity, the IRS having the ability to audit the wealthiest corporations will make life easier for the working-class and massively increase revenue for the federal government.

The Inflation Reduction Act will help so many people in so many ways. It is not just a partisan victory for the Democratic Party: it is a victory for America.

“This bill is a hugely important piece of legislation that will benefit Americans on multiple fronts, including climate change, healthcare, and tax equality.”

“It grants massive incentives for clean energy, both for producers and consumers.”



www.captrust.com

“Despite its unpopularity, the IRS having the ability to audit the wealthiest corporations will actually make life easier for the working class and massively increase revenue for the federal government.”



edition.cnn.com Biden signing the bill

Oil on Canvas

By Margot Englander, School News Editor



Art

By Becca Miller, Managing Editor



SCHOOL NEWS

Update on the Arts – Speaking With Mrs. Farrell

By Claire Englander, Staff Writer

As we finished up the 2021-2022 school year and entered the 2022-2023 school year, the Barrack community noted the loss of major arts faculty, which begged the question of what was going to happen with the arts department. Many students find that the arts are a part of their daily life, whether they dance, sing, or play an instrument, and they enjoy attending a school that encourages participation in arts programs. As a result, the Chronicle reached out to Mrs. Farrell, Middle School Director & Arts Department Chair, to answer some common questions about the arts at Barrack.

What is happening with the drama department this year? Is Wolf PAC in place of a drama teacher/department? Is Wolf PAC permanent?

We are thrilled to announce our partnership with the Wolf Performing Arts Center (Wolf PAC) this year to work with our students in preparation for our three productions – an upper school student-directed production, a Middle School musical, and an Upper School musical. In addition, Wolf PAC will provide Barrack with visiting teachers in the theater arts who will offer a variety of electives to our middle school students. We wish Dewey Oriente, long-time Drama Director, all the best in his retirement from Barrack.

What is happening with art? Is there hope to expand the program? Is art still a requirement?

Ms. Stern, our Art teacher, retired in June after being part of the Barrack community for 26 years. We are excited to welcome our new art teacher, Mr. Adam Lovitz, to our school. Mr. Lovitz was recently profiled in the Jewish Exponent as someone to watch in the Art field. He is both a teacher and a professional artist and is thrilled to be joining the Barrack community. In addition, Ms. Emilie Grossman, our new Student Life and Activities Coordinator, will be teaching some art electives in the middle school during the second and third trimester. We have high hopes for extending the art program in terms of elective offerings and programming in the years ahead. All MS students are required to take one Art elective each year. Arts education not only inspires and motivates students to enjoy learning, it also supports the creative and critical thinking skills that are so important to develop in today’s world. Research indicates that “engaging with art is essential to the human experience. Almost as soon as motor skills are developed, children communicate through artistic expression. The arts challenge us with different points of view, compel us to empathize with others, and give us the opportunity to reflect on the human condition” (The Brookings Institution).

Is music coming back?

Some of the middle school electives offered by Wolf PAC have a musical component – including musical theater, voice and guitar classes. For this coming school year, we will continue with our coffeehouse program to showcase our student musicians - those who play an instrument, who sing and want to perform. In addition, many of our talented student musicians will be featured at school programs over the course of the school year. We are also hopeful that students may be interested in creating music-based clubs, such as a band, acapella group, or singer-songwriter workshops.

“We expect the arts at Barrack to grow and thrive”

What is the plan for arts as a whole in the future - is it going to be considered as important in an evergrowing STEAM environment? How will the community be encouraged to participate in the arts?

As a school, we understand and appreciate the value of arts education for our students. With our new school leadership in place, we have the desire to expand our Arts program in the near future. We look forward to working with our leadership team and hearing from students as we look to grow our offerings. How we grow and expand, and in what timeframe, is an ongoing conversation with our leadership team. We look forward to hearing from students as well about their interests as we look to the future. This year, as we move past the limitations of the pandemic - we expect the arts at Barrack to grow and thrive, with a growing number of students participating in our vibrant drama program, showcasing their talents at our coffeehouse events, and engaging in the visual arts.



A Technological Marvel in Space

By: Edan Held

For years, traveling to space has been a technological dream. In 1969, Apollo 11 completed its mission to the moon, a first of its kind. Now, 53 years later, the James Webb Space Telescope (JWST) is taking marvelous pictures of space, allowing us to view never before seen images of planets, galaxies, stars, and nearly everything in space. Its mission: to explore the origins of space and find the earliest galaxies. The Webb telescope is an improved version of the long-used Hubble Space telescope. Launched into space on December 25th, 2021, the telescope cost over 10 billion dollars, with its development beginning in 2004 — over a decade ago. The telescope uses infrared technology, sending out waves to detect objects in space, be it a galaxy, star, or nebula. However, the human eye cannot see Webb images; instead, they're filtered numerous times until NASA is able to release a colored, beautiful picture of space. The JWST's aims to discover space's history. The first pictures released by the telescope were of a foreign galaxy cluster known as SMACS 0723. According to NASA, the picture, officially unveiled by President Joe Biden on July 11th, is “the deepest and sharpest infrared image” of the galaxies that are around 4.24 billion light years away. Despite the details of the image and the vast galaxies that it captures, NASA also says that the amount of space captured in it is “the size of a grain of sand held at arm's length.” Given this distance and focus of the telescope, the picture obtained by the JWST must have captured what the cluster looked like 4.6 billion years ago. At this time, the JWST is just beginning its journey capturing the vast and endless space we live in. Over the next decade, it can, and likely will, be a useful or even revolutionary tool in understanding space and other galaxies. Be sure to keep an eye out for its impact on the future.

“The telescope uses infrared technology, sending out waves to detect objects in space, be it a galaxy, star, or nebula.”



Source: NPR

Both images depict the Southern Ring Nebula. The image on the left is from the Hubble Telescope, and the right is from the James Webb Space Telescope.

The Supreme Court’s Newest Justice

By Raphael Englander, Editor-in-Chief

Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson is officially the newest member of the United States Supreme Court. The first Black woman to serve on the highest court in the land, Justice Jackson more than deserved the honor, considering her stellar resume and professional track record.

Born in September of 1970, Jackson grew up in Miami, Florida, graduating from Miami Palmetto Senior High School in 1978. She obtained both her Bachelor of Arts (*magna cum laude*) and Juris Doctor (*cum laude*) from Harvard University. While an undergraduate, Jackson led protests against a fellow student who was flying a confederate flag from his dormitory window, demonstrating a commitment to justice that carries through to her work today. Throughout the early part of her career, Jackson clerked for judge Patti Saris of the U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts, judge Bruce Selya of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit, and Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer, whose seat on the court she is filling. Jackson later worked as an assistant federal public defender in Washington D.C., winning cases against the U.S. government that reduced, or sometimes canceled, extended prison sentences. She is “the first former federal public defender on the high court and the first justice since Thurgood Marshall with extensive criminal defense experience,” says the Washington Post. President Obama nominated Jackson to serve as a district judge for the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia in 2012. During her time as a district court judge, Jackson ruled on a number of significant cases, including *American Meat Institute v. U.S. Department of Agriculture* (2013) and *Pierce v. District of Columbia* (2015), in which she allowed for regulations to be placed on the meat industry and defended the rights of a deaf inmate of the D.C. Department of Corrections, respectively. In 2021, President Biden nominated Jackson to serve as a circuit judge for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit, a possible sign of his later nomination of Jackson for the Supreme Court who, after confirmation hearings where Jackson demonstrated her intelligence and poise in the face of intense questioning from the Republican Party, was sworn in as a Supreme Court Justice on June 30th, 2022. She voted on her first case on July 21st; many more votes in an already illustrious career are sure to follow.



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ketanji_Brown_Jackson

“[Jackson] is ‘the first former federal public defender on the high court and the first justice since Thurgood Marshall with extensive criminal defense experience’”



<https://www.npr.org/2022/06/30/1108714345/ketanji-brown-jackson-supreme-court-oath-swearing-in>

Continuation of World News on Page 16

Welcome Dr. Marti Kwon, Our New Director of College Counseling!

By Raphael Englander, Editor-in-Chief



<https://sks.org/congrats-dr-kwon/>

What are the most important things to know about Dr. Kwon?
Dr. Kwon grew up in Virginia and graduated from the University of Virginia. After college, she moved to Japan, where she met her husband, a United States Naval officer. Dr. Kwon returned to the D.C. area to get her Master of Education at the University of Maryland before again leaving the states. She has spent most of her adult life living abroad, in Spain, Germany, the Netherlands, and then Japan again. Her children spent most of their childhood abroad, too. It was not until college that they spent the bulk of their time in the U.S. This broad world-view has contributed to Dr. Kwon’s approach to her role as a college counselor, as she is able to view higher education through a global lens. In 2013, Dr. Kwon came back to the states to obtain her Doctor of Education from George Washington University. Dr. Kwon comes from a proud military family. Her grandfather lied about his age to enlist in the Marine Corps right after Pearl Harbor, her husband attended the United States Naval Academy and then served in the Navy, and her son joined the Marines after his own time in the Naval Academy. He will be discharged this fall. Dr. Kwon’s family likes to joke that the first song anyone in the family learns to sing is the Marines’ Hymn. In addition to giving Dr. Kwon’s family a shared first song, the military imbues them with a strong sense of service. Whether it is her son, currently serving, or her daughter, a critical care nurse, giving back is something on which Dr. Kwon’s family prides themselves.

What inspired Dr. Kwon to become a college counselor? What keeps her interested in coming to work every day?
While living in Japan after college, one of Dr. Kwon’s first jobs was advising U.S. sailors and marines as they explored higher education. This experience prompted her interest in pursuing a master’s program in the higher education process. She gravitated towards admissions, falling in love with supporting students in their search for the institutions in which they belong. Dr. Kwon is “a life-long learner,” so she appreciates helping others take the next step in their education. In the words of Dr. Kwon, the goal is to “help students find the setting that will cultivate their best self.”

What drew her to Barrack?
Dr. Kwon holds mission-driven schools in high regard; Barrack is a mission-driven school. She thinks highly of Barrack’s ability, as an independent school, to place importance on its values of honor, courage, kindness, and community. Dr. Kwon has worked at faith-based schools before, so she is familiar with this emphasis on ethics, but it is her first time at a Jewish school, so she is excited to learn more about the religion and culture that comprises the community. She also recognizes the place that faith holds in many students’ search for the next chapter of their education and looks forward to working with that in mind.
Dr. Kwon relayed that she felt welcomed when she arrived for her interview. The students asked great questions and were interested in her thoughts. She saw eye to eye with Mrs. Trajtenberg and Mrs. Pandian’s perspective on the ebb and flow of the college process. All three agreed on the priority of putting students first and ensuring they feel empowered as they head to schools where they will be happy, successful, and challenged.

“Candor with kindness”

What are Dr. Kwon’s favorite things about the Philadelphia area since she has been here?
Having spent a lot of time in the Philadelphia area recruiting for the Naval Academy, Dr. Kwon is happy to be here as a resident instead of on business. While running, she has noticed that Philadelphia is much flatter than New York, making her runs more enjoyable. She looks forward to exploring on the weekend, discovering all the new restaurants and sights to see. Dr. Kwon is also happy to say that everybody here is truly nice, with “a small town feel even though it’s a big city.”

What are her favorite books, tv shows, and movies?
Most recently, Dr. Kwon reread Seabiscuit: An American Legend by Laura Hillenbrand. She picks and chooses her non-fiction carefully, and, as often happens, she noticed many things she had missed in her first read. Dr. Kwon recommends that anytime one has the opportunity to read a well-written work of non-fiction, they should. Other suggestions include Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience, and Redemption, another nonfiction piece by Hillenbrand, and Where the Crawdads Sing, Delia Owens’s 2018 fictional murder mystery set in North Carolina (the film adaptation came out this summer).
Dr. Kwon doesn’t watch much television, while abroad she would mostly turn it on to get a sense of the language, but her recent favorites include Ted Lasso and Peaky Blinders. She is a big fan of Disney films, her family is known to quote them, and some movies she never turns down the chance to rewatch are The Godfather, Forrest Gump, and any of the Harry Potter films.

“In the words of Dr. Kwon, the goal is to ‘help students find the setting that will cultivate their best self.’”

What has Dr. Kwon been doing since she arrived at Barrack?
One important task has been decorating her office. Dr. Kwon loves students’ art for its colorfulness, hanging it on her walls because it brings her joy. She says to go with what makes you happy (the same reason her favorite color is yellow). She has also been diving into the meetings with the senior class and reading the surveys they sent to her. Once senior year begins, students’ lives can become hectic, so the end of summer is a good time to start the process while life is more relaxed.

Fast forward to the end of this year, what does Dr. Kwon want members of the Barrack community to take away as her biggest impact?
She wants people to say that “she got deep and real, real quick.” Having spent much of her life moving around, she is not one to wait passively to start something. She believes that one must act the way they want others to act and wants to get engaged in the community quickly. Dr. Kwon cannot wait to introduce herself and break the ice with everyone at Barrack, especially the senior class. Her motto is “candor with kindness,” making a point of speaking openly yet always with compassion and care. During her Barrack interview, she was asked tough, direct questions, which only advanced her interest in working at JBHA. She recognizes that anytime there is a transition, particularly in an office such as admissions, there will be questions; Dr. Kwon is happy to answer those questions and ensure that everyone feels relaxed and ready to get to work. Specifically, as it relates to the college process, she wants to ensure that students hit one of the first benchmarks of their adult lives with confidence. There is a major difference between a student at the beginning and end of senior year, and Dr. Kwon looks forward to witnessing that change while within a value-driven community like Barrack.

What is the Derech Eretz Council?

By the The Derech Eretz Council

<p>HONOR כבוד KAVOD</p> <p>BEING TRUTHFUL AND SHOWING RESPECT</p> <p>TO STUDENTS AND ADULTS</p> <p>TO THE SCHOOL'S BUILDING AND GROUNDS</p> <p>TO OUR TRADITION</p>	<p>COURAGE אומץ לב OMETZ LEV</p> <p>SHOWING STRENGTH OF HEART AND COURAGE</p> <p>TO ACT ON PRINCIPLE</p> <p>TO BE AN UPSTANDER</p> <p>TO SEEK UNDERSTANDING</p> <p>TO DEVELOP AND PURSUE MY OWN ACADEMIC AND EXTRACURRICULAR INTERESTS</p> <p>TO RESIST PEER PRESSURE</p>
<p>KINDNESS חן HESED</p> <p>SHOWING GENEROSITY OF SPIRIT</p> <p>TO GIVE TO OTHERS</p> <p>TO SHARE WHAT I HAVE READILY AND GENEROUSLY</p> <p>TO BE THOUGHTFUL, CARING AND INCLUSIVE</p> <p>TO LOOK OUT FOR THOSE IN NEED OF A KIND WORD OR DEED</p>	<p>COMMUNITY קהילה KEHILLAH</p> <p>EXTENDING FRIENDSHIP IN A SPIRIT OF INCLUSION</p> <p>TO CELEBRATE THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF OTHERS</p> <p>TO RESPECT AND CELEBRATE OUR INDIVIDUALITY AND OUR DIVERSITY</p> <p>TO REPRESENT MY SCHOOL IN POSITIVE WAYS WITHIN THE LARGER COMMUNITY</p>

- <https://www.jbha.org/about-us/derech-eretz-values>

“If you find yourself in a situation where disciplinary action is required, you always have the ability to request an audience before your peers”

What is the Derech Eretz Council? First of all, we should define Derech Eretz. Derech Eretz is a Hebrew phrase which literally means “the way of the land.” This refers to the ethics and morals by which we live our lives. The Derech Eretz Council is a student-run group, with Rabbi Judd Levingston, Rabbi Dan Rosenberg, Mrs. Lindsay Siney, and Mr. Jeffrey Lieberman. as faculty advisors, who work together to ensure that the Barrack community embodies Derech Eretz, and, in particular, the school’s four Derech Eretz values of Honor (Kavod), Courage (Ometz Lev), Kindness (Hesed), and Community (Kehillah). We do this in various ways. Every year, towards the beginning of the first trimester, we orgaize and lead the Derech Eretz assembly, where we come together as a school to affirm our commitment to these values. During the winter and spring, we design activities and develop case studies to help further an understanding of the principles that guide our community. Last year, for example, the Derech Eretz Council was involved in planning the Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI) Conference and a middle school program called the Week of Derech Eretz. Both your teachers and student members of the Council participated in social tolerance training with the National SEED (Seeking Educational Equity and Diversity) Project.

Sometimes, when students make errors in judgment, the high school members of the Council are convened to hear their case and recommend a course of action to the administration. The consequences that we suggest are oriented around the principle of restorative justice; rather than taking a punitive stance, we strive to help you understand your mistake, how you can do better next time, and ways the community can support you. Derech Eretz Council members abide by a strict pledge of confidentiality. So, during a hearing, you are free to express yourself and be honest – we will never share anything that you or anyone else shares behind closed doors. You should know, also, that teachers and administrators are not the only people who can ask the Council for a hearing. In fact, under the Derech Eretz Council Constitution, every student has the right to voice their perspective before the Council. Whether you believe that a teacher or administrator decided upon an unfair consequence, are concerned about your relationship with a classmate, or saw something else about which you’d like to speak up, you can request that your fellow students on the Council consider your viewpoint in a hearing. If you want to voice a concern but do not think that a formal hearing is needed, you can talk to your grade or division Council representatives. In ninth grade, you choose your representatives for the remainder of high school through a blind ballot.

If you can only remember a little bit about the Derech Eretz Council, there are two things that are perhaps the most important. First, if you find yourself in a situation where disciplinary action is required, you always have the ability to request an audience before your peers. Second, to be a member of the Barrack community means committing to uphold our Derech Eretz values as the pillars of the school.

To learn more about what Derech Eretz means at Barrack, visit <https://www.jbha.org/about-us/derech-eretz-values>.

Jews, Germans, and Palestinian Leadership React Viscerally to Abbas's Comments

By Niva Cohen, Editor-in-Chief

At a press conference in Germany on August 16th, Palestinian Authority (PA) President Mahmoud Abbas horrified Germans and Jews alike. He was asked if he would apologize for the murder of 11 Israeli athletes at the 1972 Munich Olympics; the terrorist organization responsible was once associated with Abbas's Fatah party. Abbas did not denounce the attack. Instead, he said, "If you want to look at the past, go ahead... I have 50 massacres that were committed by Israel... 50 Holocausts." He said the word "Holocausts" in English — there is no translation confusion, no benefit of the doubt.

Jews were outraged but not surprised by Abbas's comments. Israeli Prime Minister Yair Lapid called them "not only a moral disgrace, but a monstrous lie." Dani Dayan, the Chairman of Yad Vashem, said he was "appall[ed]." Dayan's word choice might convey more shock than is warranted, considering Abbas's personal history. After all, Abbas's cavalier dismissal of the Holocaust was not a one-off mistake but part of a decades-long pattern. Abbas has at times denied the Holocaust by arguing about the number of Jewish victims. His 1982 doctoral dissertation, "The Other Side: The Secret Relationship Between Naziism and Zionism," stated that Jewish leadership encouraged the Nazis as part of a master Zionist agenda to get Jews to settle in Palestine. Zionists and Nazis, he argued, were not enemies but "partners in crime." Such a perspective dismisses Jewish persecution and perpetuates the stereotype of a manipulative Jewish elite pulling all the strings.

"Abbas did more than hurt a few feelings; he alienated Germany, at least temporarily, at a time when Palestinians need as much foreign support as they can get as Israel makes peace with its neighbors."



Mahmoud Abbas, president of the Palestinian Authority, at a press conference in Germany. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/a-monstrous-lie-abbas-50-holocausts-claim-met-with-outrage-in-israel-germany/>

Perhaps not as familiar with Abbas's past Holocaust rhetoric, Germans have reacted even more viscerally than Jews. Some Germans believe that people should only use the word Holocaust to describe the Nazis' actions and are accustomed to a degree of sensitivity that Abbas disregarded. German chancellor Olaf Scholz, who grimaced at the press conference in response to Abbas's words, said that he was "disgusted by the outrageous remarks. For... Germans in particular, any relativization of the singularity of the Holocaust is intolerable and unacceptable." Abbas did more than hurt a few feelings; he alienated Germany, at least temporarily, at a time when Palestinians need as much foreign support as they can get as Israel makes peace with its neighbors. Foreign and security policy advisor Steffen Hebestreit said that Abbas's comment "casts a dark shadow over Germany's relations with the Palestinian Authority." German leadership is investigating Abbas for inciting hatred, but his status as a diplomat will ensure immunity from prosecution.

Abbas's political rivals have jumped to his defense in response to widespread and global criticism. Islamic Jihad official Khaled al-Batsh blamed the Germans for displaying "double standards, hypocrisy, and bias in favor of the [Israeli] Occupation [of the West Bank]." Hamas official Hussam Badran, too, has dismissed the German investigation as a blatant double standard. Qais Abdel Karim, Deputy Secretary-General of a PA opposing party (the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine), said that "the crimes committed by Israel are no less horrific" than the Holocaust. Within three days after his remarks, Abbas has united bitter political opponents through what they call an expression of the Palestinian "historical narrative."

Palestinian leadership might respect Abbas for his Holocaust comments, but that does not mean that the Palestinian people do. Abbas does not represent all Palestinians or even the majority. In fact, he is in the 18th year of a term that was supposed to be four — people attribute his refusal to hold elections to a worry that the Palestinian people would vote him out. Many Palestinians view him as a corrupt power-grabber who does not have their best interests at heart. According to a public opinion poll by the Palestinian Center for Policy and Survey Research, 70 percent of Palestinians want Abbas to step down. There is no cause, therefore, to write his sentiment large, and ascribe it to the whole Palestinian people. New Palestinian and Israeli leadership could revitalize hopes for peace and perhaps welcome in a mutual respect for historical and national narratives.

Root Causes of the Israeli Conflict

By Mikaela Garber, Israel Editor

In order to fully understand Israel’s current status in the Middle East, we have to recognize some of the root causes of its conflict with surrounding countries. Throughout history, many different groups of people have ruled the land. Due to this, there has been a lot of conflict between small communities. Only much more recently did the Israeli conflict get labeled as the Israeli-Arab and Israeli-Palestinian conflict. While there are other reasons, the root causes of the conflict are land, religion, nationalism, and Arab rejectionism.

Due to the fact that Jews and Arabs have all ruled the land over a period of time in history, each believes that it belongs to their people. The Jews, who have had presence in the land since King David, feel as though they are the indigenous people, and therefore the land is rightfully theirs. Following the Jewish exile, there was much turnover in Israel; first the Babylonians, then the Persians, Romans, and Christians took over. Finally, about 1300 years ago, Islam grew larger and gained control of the land. At the point, Arab presence became permanent in the land. As such, both Jews and Arabs have claims and rights to Israel because of living there for such a long time.

Both groups also have important religious sites in the land of Israel. The Temple Mount is a holy site in Judaism and Islam. Believed to be the site of both the first and second Temple, the Temple Mount is the holiest site for the Jewish people. The Temple Mount was declared the 3rd holiest site in Islam, giving them a permanent holy connection to the land as well. According to Deutsche Welle, this place signifies where Muhammad went to “the Divine Presence.”

<https://www.vox.com/2018/11/20/18079996/israel-palestine-conflict-guide-explainer>



The IMW Post <https://imwpost.com/mediation-in-the-israel-palestine-conflict/>



In addition, nationalism plays a big role in the Israeli conflict. During Ottoman rule from 1517 to 1917, the idea of nationalism flourished. All citizens were granted equal rights. Jews, who had previously been treated as second-class citizens, by having to abide by laws such as wearing identifying clothing and working in certain areas, began to rise in power. Subsequently, antisemitism grew as well. When multiple pogroms occurred, Jews decided that they would not be safe unless they had a state of their own. Towards the late 1800s came the rise of Zionism and the dream of a Jewish state. Pioneer, labor, political, and revisionist Zionists worked together to rally for a Jewish homeland. However, just as Jewish nationalism was growing, so was Arab nationalism. In their minds, the Jews wanted to establish a country on their land. This led them to feel hatred towards the Zionists.

Finally, the Arab’s unwillingness to recognize Jewish rights to the land has added to the conflict. From 1882-1903, pioneer Zionists bought land in then-Palestine with the intention of building communities and growing crops. The land, which they bought from Arab land-owners, sometimes had civilians occupying it. When the Zionists arrived and found people living on their land, they had a choice: let the civilians continue to live there or kick them out. Sometimes, they decided on the former and other times, the latter. The displaced Arabs felt robbed, and tensions grew. For many years to come, compromises and plans were made for a Two-State solution. Each of them were turned down by the Arabs. As the Palestinians reject more and more, Israel moves further away from the idea of a Two-State solution. Land, religion, nationalism, and rejectionism have all played a part in the Israeli conflict. However, there are so many other factors that have influenced it as well. Although both sides have valid rights to the land, the conflict is harming innocent civilians, killing both Palestinians and Israelis. Without a trusting relationship between both sides, a compromise may never be reached - even though there is dire need for one. As such, it is important to continue learning about the conflict, both at its roots and where it is today. With education and conversation, perhaps we can eventually reach a point of peace.

“Without a trusting relationship between both sides, a compromise may never be reached- even though there is dire need for one.”

Dear Covid, It's Me Lila: An Opinion on a Pandemic

By Lila Elkins, Centerspread Editor

For almost three years we carried with us the burden of attempting to maintain normalcy. It was weird, it felt like I was in some sort of dome, but everyday I'd embark on a walk around four blocks of my neighborhood. They were a way to cope with the impermanence of the entire world (Buddhists were right). The 'Covidity' of the entire world. Just the word is gross. It ignites a feeling of medical masks, fear, and crazy things we would do to keep sane. I became too interested in Harry Potter. My friends said weird tik tok phrases that people gag thinking about now. We were all so cringey- but we were all so uncomfortable. I now look at how many people died at the hands of Covid19, knew someone who had died, or been locked away from their families, and feel almost guilty that my sympathy had all but shut off from my lack of connectivity.

“The pain, guilt, fear that you might feel daily is normal- the ‘new’ normal”



Covid19 Occupational Health and Safety Administration - CC: OSHA

It was numbing. I have so many complaints about Covid19, so much baggage to carry in my mind, so many harmful, intrusive thoughts that are so very valid but don't feel that way because everything else in the world was so so so much worse. I don't need to share a statistic with you, or remind you of how many people in your community are or were infected, these numbers are blasted towards you everyday without consent. However, I will tell you that what you have experienced for the past three years can medically be labeled as a trauma. The mental health effects can linger for several years after the pandemic which is debatably not over, and the pain, guilt, fear that you might feel daily is normal- the 'new' normal (I also think that phrase is very cringey but unfortunately I agree with it). My newest normal was a walk around four blocks of Bala Cynwyd that somehow made the bleakness of the world a bit less gray.

I always thought that everything would go back to normal, that at one point there would be some defining moment that the world said, "there. Okay. It's over." It is only now that I think it will never be the 'normal' it once was. The state of the world has shifted, whether it is in respect to the economy, public health system, pop culture (rip Pete and Kim), media, Oxford English Dictionary definitions, everything has been stained by Covid. But maybe one day it just won't hurt so bad. And maybe there won't be one definable moment where everything changes, but gradually, slowly, inch by inch, you won't walk four blocks. You'll walk five.

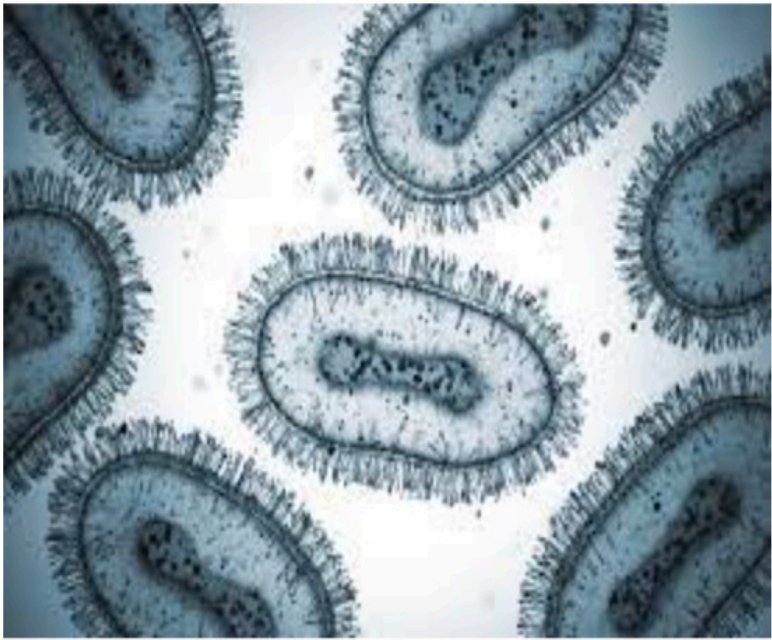
Monkeypox and Covid19: What you should know about the diseases plaguing the world

By Lila Elkins, Centerspread Editor

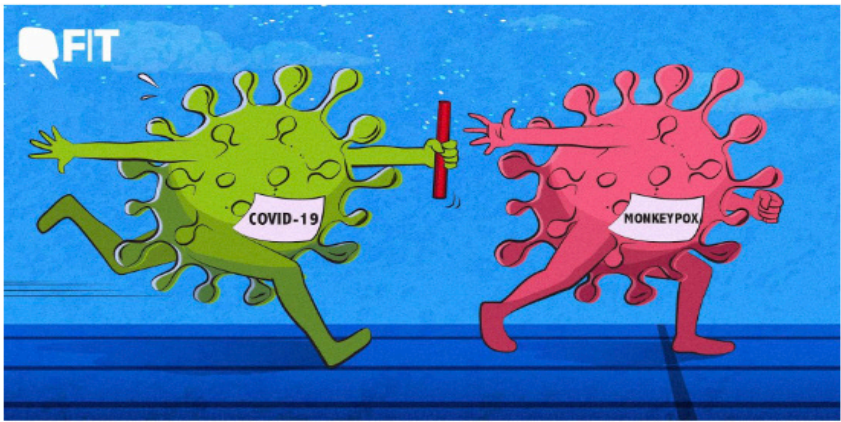
Summer 2022: filled with beach visits, in-season cherries, heat waves, and a new viral zoonosis called Monkeypox... along with our well acquainted virus, Covid19.

The news has been overflowing with headlines reading: “Will Monkeypox Be the Next Pandemic?” - Yahoo News, “NYC Switching Kid COVID Vaccine Sites to Monkeypox” - WebMD, and “Monkeypox outbreak: WHO declares global health emergency” - Medical News Today. But is Monkeypox really comparable to Covid19? And is Monkeypox as big of a threat as headlines say? The simple answer- or should we say the most recent answer- is this:

While news of both Monkeypox and Covid19 have bombarded the media, the two viruses are virtually incomparable and have drastically different effects on the body. Monkeypox, a disease originating from Central and West Africa from animals such as rodents, spreads from close physical contact, transmission of bodily fluids, face-to-face contact with respiratory droplets, and infected bedding or clothing. Monkeypox can also only spread through a person actively showing symptoms, differing from Covid19 where an asymptomatic person may spread the virus. Monkeypox does not spread through the air like Covid and because of its parameters of transmission, is much easier to contain than Covid19. Another difference is that there has been an effective vaccine against Monkeypox since 2019. Its similarity to smallpox allows doctors to be more familiar with Monkeypox, unlike Covid and its year-long journey of creating a vaccine. The two viruses are very different from a medical standpoint but share one thing in common: they shed light onto America’s underfunded public health system. Covid19 made the public aware and Monkeypox is a reminder that work still needs to be done in the world of public health in the U.S.



Monkeypox - CC: Scientific American



2. Monkeypox and Covid19 running - CC: The Quint

“The two viruses are very different from a medical standpoint but share one thing in common, they shed light onto America’s underfunded public health system.”

But seriously, is Monkeypox all that serious? The short answer is: we don’t know, but it very well might be. The current cases in the U.S. are primarily in adult males who most likely can fight the virus. Dr. Amy Edwards of University Hospitals says, “If the virus jumps to large populations of children or seniors, the outlook could quickly change. The other concern is that Monkeypox could jump to our rodent population and become endemic to the United States.” While Monkeypox has been declared a national health emergency by the U.S, the virus seems to be fairly treatable and not as serious as Covid19. Symptoms of Monkeypox include fever, headache, back and muscle pain, swollen lymph nodes, exhaustion, and of course, a pox-like rash on the body similar to Chickenpox. The infectious period can last up to two to four weeks, according to Angela Rasmussen, a virologist at the Vaccine and Infectious Disease Organization at the University of Saskatchewan in Canada. According to Rasmussen, the main health threat is Covid19, not Monkeypox, and people should maintain Covid19 prevention protocol when also trying not to contract Monkeypox (social distancing, mask wearing, etc.). Moreover, Coronavirus and Monkeypox are very different in nature but can dually be used to magnify the flaws in public health, helping us to repair America’s current public health crises.

Review of *The Gray Man*

By Margot Englander, School News Editor



www.thebulletintime.com

If you like an action-packed movie with perfect comedic timing, *The Gray Man* is the perfect movie for you. Starring Ryan Gosling, Chris Evans, and Ana de Armas, the *Gray Man* is a representation of what an action movie should look like. The cast brings out the best in each other, and there are many jaw-dropping twists and unexpected deaths. While not precisely CIA-accurate, the *Gray Man* is a great choice for those who want to sit back, relax, and get involved in a story. Even though the storyline centers on a man-hunt, there are hints of other storylines that draw a watcher in. The Russo Brothers, who directed the movie, emphasize a parent-child relationship, as well as pointing out realistic corruption within a government. They balance these relationships well, obviously mainly focusing on Sierra Six the protagonist, but not forgetting to flesh out supporting characters.

“10/10”

“While not precisely CIA-accurate, the *Gray Man* is a great choice for those who want to sit back, relax, and get involved in a story.”

“The cast brings out the best in each other, and there are many jaw-dropping twists andn unexpected deaths.”

Something interesting to note is that the *Gray Man* does not end in a traditional manner. I was excited to see the ending, although it left me asking more questions – perhaps a *Gray Man 2*? This film also gives the actors a chance to star in a role so unlike other famous jobs. Chris Evans, for example, amazingly plays a villain as opposed to his widely known role as the hero Captain America. As another example, Regé-Jean Page portrays a morally gray agent, which is a stark contrast to his role as Simon Bassett, the Duke of Hastings on *Bridgerton*. The acting was phenomenal, specifically the interactions between Gosling and Evans. Overall, the film had a feeling of mystery and adventure, the perfect blend. All in all, this film is a solid 10/10 and I would highly recommend watching it!

A Review of “Thor: Love and Thunder”

By Becca Miller, Maganing Editor

The release of “Thor: Love and Thunder” was eagerly anticipated by Marvel fans this summer. Not being a huge Marvel fan myself, I went to see it with friends who were and was much less excited. But to my pleasant surprise, I found “Thor: Love and Thunder” to be ubiquitously enjoyable. Director Taika Waititi continued the trend he started in “Thor: Ragnarok” of abandoning the super-intense save-the-world self-important vibe of other Marvel movies for a lighter, more rom-com-esque, but still action-adventure film.

My favorite thing about “Thor: Love and Thunder” is that it doesn’t take itself too seriously. It is unafraid to crack stupid jokes, often at its own expense, and embraced its own cheesiness. Everything about the movie felt self-aware, like Taika Waititi knew exactly what kind of film he was making and wanted the audience to know it too.

This isn’t to say that the movie is totally goofy. There were many funny moments, yes, but there were also touching moments. It told a great story, the kind of plot that is strong enough to withstand heavy-handed comedic relief and still keep the audience invested. The star-studded cast also delivered. Chris Hemsworth, Natalie Portman, and Tessa Thompson were everything you wanted them to be: charming and funny, with the kind of casual chemistry that made their acting seem effortless and pulled the audience in.

I can’t speak for Marvel superfans, but as someone who doesn’t usually go for superhero movies, I found “Thor: Love and Thunder” to be a solid movie, not the next “Casablanca”, but a genuine and sweet film with something in it for everyone.

“Everything about the movie felt self-aware, like Taika Waititi knew exactly what kind of film he was making and wanted the audience to know it too.”



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/marvel-studios>



www.deviantart.com

Lil Uzi Vert RED & WHITE EP Review

By Manny Shklar, Arts & Entertainment Editor

Rap fans were not disappointed by the first projects in the front half of 2022. Legends such as Kendrick Lamar, Drake and Ye all topped charts and continued their dominance while present-day artists like Lil Durk, Saba and Jack Harlow each grew their fan bases even more. Listeners were ready for an amazing summer of rap music with chart topping hits from their favorite artists. However, the summer of 2022 did not give the rap community what they wanted. There were very few big name artists who released projects, and the most notable ones had seemingly bad albums, but one of the worst was RED & WHITE by Lil Uzi Vert.

Lil Uzi Vert, known to fans as Uzi, began gaining widespread popularity for his 2016 hit “7AM” and then became a certified star with his 2017 album Luv Is Rage 2, which is considered to be one of the best albums of that year by many listeners. Since then, their devoted and loyal fan base would spend hours trying to find leaked songs or hints on when their next project would come out. Unfortunately, Uzi would make the world wait until March of 2020, in the middle of the day for their long awaited release of Eternal Atake. This album was received well by audiences due to its numerous beat drops and fun, entertaining pace that seemed to be classic Lil Uzi Vert.

Their final act of 2020 was releasing a joint album with fellow rapper Future, which the duo had teased at doing for years. The album, Pluto x Baby Pluto, had a few very good songs but was not liked overall. In the two years since then, Uzi was only seen as a feature on other artists’ songs and released one song, “Demon High,” in 2021. While this left fans wanting more, everyone knew that Uzi would stay quiet about their next project. Eventually, in the middle of the summer, they released RED & WHITE, which is officially listed as an EP.

1.



RED & WHITE’s album cover (complex.com)

2.



Uzi has disappointed fans with his more recent album releases (uproxx.com)

As fans listened to the nine-song piece, it became clear that Uzi was regressing badly, especially because fans wanted to hear the kind of music that made them so popular five years ago. Many of the songs seem repetitive, and have similar flows, styles and beats. They are making newer music seem old to listen to after just three or four songs, and Uzi will continue to lose popularity like this. As Ben Brutocoa of HipHopDX says, “While Uzi’s writing has never been brainy, it has rarely, if ever, been this imbecilic,” attributing to their annoying and downright bad songwriting as of late, which seems to be forming into Uzi’s new style.

As Sol Elsila ‘24 said, “[The best songs on the EP are] only decent songs,” which sums up what avid Uzi listeners have thought for years now. Four weeks after releasing, “FOR FUN” and “SPACE CADET” were the only two songs with over 5 million streams on Spotify, which is shockingly low compared to their past songs. Hopefully, after the public has ridiculed and critiqued Lil Uzi Vert, they can begin to find their musical roots and make the music everyone loved them for. Until then, fans will just have to wait while Uzi makes more confusing and mysterious hints about what random and disappointing music they will put out next.

“Many of the songs seem repetitive, and have similar flows, styles and beats. They are making newer music seem old to listen to”

A Biased Sixers fan’s prediction for the 2022-2023 NBA season

By Raphael Englander, Editor-in-Chief

Most Valuable Player (MVP): Joel Embiid, Philadelphia 76ers, Center

Embiid has been snubbed of the award the last two years, losing out to Denver Nuggets center Nikola Jokić in both 2021 and 2022. This year will be Embiid’s. Last season, Embiid averaged 30.6 points per game (ppg), winning the NBA’s scoring title. Born in Cameroon, he became the first foreign player to win that title in NBA history. Embiid also became the first center to lead the league in scoring since Shaquille O’Neal in 2001 and the first center to average at least 30 ppg since Moses Malone in 1982. Both O’Neal and Malone are widely considered top fifteen NBA players of all time.

In addition to his statistical case, Embiid’s qualities as a leader stood out last season, as he kept his team focused and winning despite Ben Simmons’s trade request and subsequent refusal to play. Simmons, the 76ers point guard who, along with Embiid, was once considered half of Philadelphia’s star duo, was traded to Brooklyn last February for former MVP, guard James Harden. With Embiid and Harden preparing for their first full season together, the Sixers seem poised to finish the 2022-2023 season with a top record in the Eastern Conference; the NBA MVP is typically the best player on one of the best teams. There are many players who will make the case for the award, such as past MVPs Jokić, Milwaukee Bucks forward Giannis Antetokounmpo, and Golden State Warriors guard Stephen Curry, as well as rising stars like Boston Celtics forward Jayson Tatum and Memphis Grizzlies guard Ja Morant. However, if Embiid can muster a statistical season anywhere near as good as last year, and Philadelphia can obtain a top four record in the East, the 76ers center should be the clear choice for the 2023 MVP.

Defensive Player of the Year (DPOY): Bam Adebayo, Miami Heat, Center

Adebayo finished top five in DPOY voting for the fourth year in a row this past season. The Heat center is not content with these near misses, though, recently stating, “I should have won it the last two years, and I will win it this year.” Adebayo, a one-time All Star and three-time All-Defensive Second Team player, is regarded as one of the NBA’s most talented and versatile defenders, able to defend any opposing player regardless of position.

Other top candidates include past recipients such as Golden State Warriors forward Draymond Green and Minnesota Timberwolves center Rudy Gobert. Phoenix Suns forward and Philadelphia-native Mikal Bridges, one of the league’s best perimeter defenders, also has a decent shot. However, voter fatigue may hinder Green and Gobert’s chances — voting media-members are historically less likely to give the award to a player who has previously won it, even if they deserve it, because it is viewed as boring for fans to watch the same players win year after year — and the Suns’ recent playoff collapse has cast doubts over their team as a whole. Adebayo’s ability on the court and his avowed comittment to win the award this year combine to make a solid argument that his efforts will be rewarded with the 2023 DPOY trophy.

Rookie of the Year (ROTY): Paolo Banchero, Forward, Orlando Magic, Forward

For most of the summer, any discussion about the 2023 ROTY race concerned two rookies, Banchero and Oklahoma City Thunder forward Chet Holmgren. However, following Holmgren’s season-ending foot injury which ocured this August, Banchero is the clear-cut choice. Wowing viewers in both summer league games in which he participated, Banchero demonstrated an ability to score and deliver in the clutch that could signify a future status as an NBA superstar. Some of the other rookies who could be in the running include Detroit Pistons guard Jaden Ivey, Indiana Pacers forward Benedict Mathurin, Sacramento Kings forward Keegan Murray, and Houston Rockets forwards Jabari Smith. That is without mentioning the unanticipated rookie, selected with a later pick in the draft than the obvious ROTY candidates, who seems to throw his hat in the ring every year. However, the fact that Orlando does not currently have an All-Star caliber player means that Banchero will likely be called upon to be the primary scorer in his first year. This level of responsibility sets Banchero apart from his peers, as Ivey, Mathurin, Murray, and Smith will need to play behind established first-options in guards Cade Cunningham, Tyrese Haliburton, De’Aaron Fox, and Jalen Green, respectively. Banchero is the front-runner for a reason.

With a game that is expected to seamlessly transition into the professional league and the space to lead his team from the get-go, he is the definitive pick for the 2023 ROTY.

Most Improved Player (MIP): Anthony Edwards, Minnesota Timberwolves, Guard

The MIP is always the hardest award to predict due to its nature. How can fans expect which player will make an unexpected improvement? That said, Edwards feels like the right choice. The first pick in the 2020 draft, Edwards put together a strong rookie season and followed it up with a jump in his second year, scoring more ppg and doing it efficiently. While Edwards’s regular season last year was fun, it wasn’t untill the playoffs that he truly shone, averaging 25.2 ppg and showing glimpses of real basketball brilliance.

It must be said, though, that Philadelphia 76ers third-year guard Tyrese Maxey could prove a worthy challenger. Maxey more than doubled his ppg between his rookie and sophomore seasons, going from 8 to 17.5. More impressive, however, was the unreal improvement in Maxey’s three point shot, skyrocketing from 30% accuracy on fewer than two attempts per game in the 2020-2021 season to 42% on more than four attempts per game in the 2021-2022 season. Reports have stated that Maxey has thrown himself into practice this season, so another leap this upcoming season is not out of the question. At the end of the day, Edwards will probably emerge victorious. Maxey is the third or even fourth option in Philadelphia, slotting behind superstars Embiid and Harden, and arguably veteran forward Tobias Harris, as well. Edwards, on the other hand, will likely be called upon to be Minnesota’s primary scorer after his recent playoffs success. Uber-athletic and ultra-confidant, Edwards has become a fan-favorite and media darling, which won’t hurt his chances, either. Edwards is the favorite to win MIP, but Philly’s promising young guard should not be overlooked.

Sixth Man of the Year (6MOY): Malcolm Brogdon, Boston Celtics, Guard

In Indiana, Brogdon was a solid starter, but injuries hindered much of his time on the Pacers. Now, having been traded to Boston, Brogdon is expected to be the sixth-man in the rotation, not a starter, but the first player off the bench. In this role, he will flourish, giving the Celtics much needed help as he creates open shots for other players and commands the floor. Brogdon is by no means the only candidate, as Gold-

“2023 will be Embiid’s year”

All-NBA 1st Team Guard: Stephen Curry Guard: Luka Dončić Forward: Jayson Tatum Forward: Giannis Antetokounmpo Center: Joel Embiid	All-NBA 2nd Team Guard: Ja Morant Guard: James Harden Forward: Kawhi Leonard Forward: Kevin Durant Center: Nikola Jokić	All-NBA 3rd Team Guard: Trae Young Guard: Devin Booker Forward: Jimmy Butler Forward: Zion Williamson Center: Bam Adebayo
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Eastern Conference 1. Boston Celtics 2. Philadelphia 76ers 3. Milwaukee Bucks 4. Brooklyn Nets 5. Miami Heat 6. Cleveland Cavaliers 7. Toronto Raptors 8. Atlanta Hawks 9. Chicago Bulls 10. New York Knicks 11. Detroit Pistons 12. Charlotte Hornets 13. Washington Wizards 14. Orlando Magic 15. Indiana Pacers	Western Conference 1. Golden State Warriors 2. Denver Nuggets 3. Phoenix Suns 4. Memphis Grizzlies 5. Dallas Mavericks 6. Los Angeles Clippers 7. Minnesota Timberwolves 8. New Orleans Pelicans 9. Los Angeles Lakers 10. Portland Trail Blazers 11. Sacramento Kings 12. Utah Jazz 13. San Antonio Spurs 14. Oklahoma City Thunder 15. Houston Rockets
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Investigations on Former President Trump

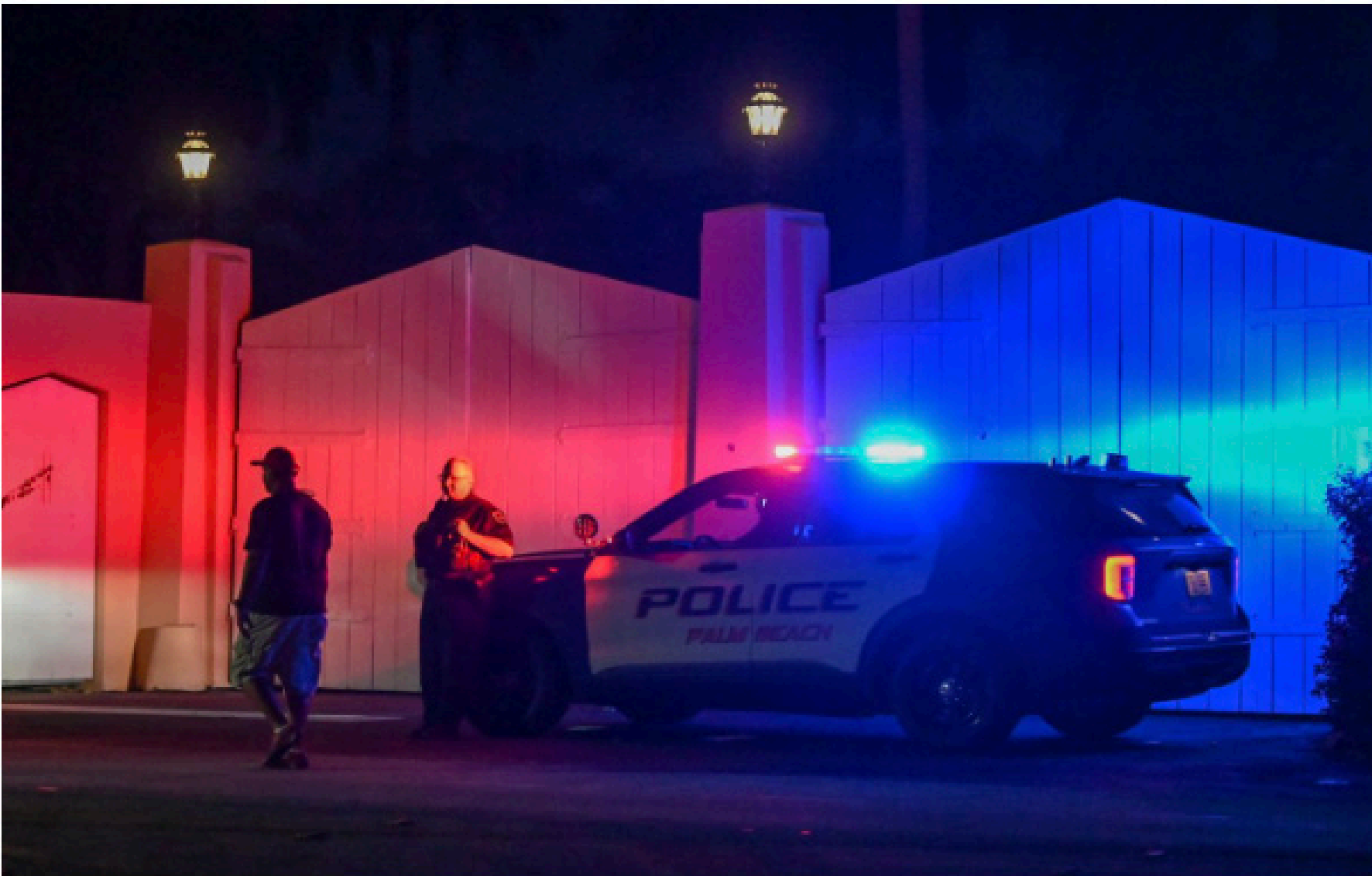
By Rachel Loeb, Managing Editor

As Former President Donald Trump weighs his bid for a third presidential run, he faces numerous investigations and lawsuits that could potentially end in criminal charges or settlements. Their focuses range from his businesses and tax returns to his activity after losing the election. The consequences of these searches are unclear; however, they could have a substantial impact on future elections.

After the January 6th attack on the capitol, the House of Representatives established a select committee to examine the role that Trump and his allies played in the insurrection. This investigation is ongoing, and over 870 people have already faced charges. While the committee itself cannot bring criminal charges forward, it can refer its decisions to United States Attorney General, Merrick Garland, who can prosecute those involved on behalf of the Department of Justice. In this investigation, they also discovered that Trump raised 250 million dollars from his supporters in order to pay for legal funds to overturn the 2020 presidential defense fund. This fund was never actually created and the act of misleading campaign donors could end with wire fraud charges for Trump and his allies. Led by Fulton County District Attorney, Fani Willis, the Georgia Criminal Inquiry is another investigation dedicated to determining whether Trump violated the law in his attempt to overturn Georgia's election results. It is primarily focused on Trump's phone call with Georgia's Secretary of State, Brad Raffensperger, during which he asked for Raffensperger to change the vote total.

An unrelated charge Trump is facing is whether his financial statements reflect a pattern of fraud. The fate of the Manhattan Criminal Case investigation has been uncertain, as two of the lead lawyers quit after Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg told them they would not move forward with criminal charges for Trump. However, Trump is also facing a civil investigation in the state of New York about misleading tax authorities on behalf of his business. Donald Trump Jr. and Ivanka Trump have both recently testified, and on August 10th, Donald Trump came in and refused to answer over 440 times during his questioning, citing his right under the fifth amendment to not have to testify against himself. In response to the criminal probe into the Trump Organization's finances, Trump called it a "continuation of the greatest Witch Hunt in American History." Most notable of all of these investigations is the Department of Justice's August search at Trump's Mar-a-Lago club and home. In February, the National Archives and Records Administration received 15 boxes of documents from Mar-a-Lago. These documents, kept by Trump, included communication with North Korean Supreme Leader, Kim Jong Un, and a letter from former president Barack Obama. Keeping these documents violates The Presidential Records Act of 1978, which requires that all presidential records remain in the archives. Then, on August 8th, around 30 federal agents raided Mar-a-Lago and found 20 boxes, which included 11 sets of classified records. In the warrant, three potential crimes are named: misuse of national defense information, obstruction of justice by destroying records connected to a federal investigation, and concealing protected federal documents. The last charge holds significant interest, as anyone convicted is disqualified from holding office in the future. All of these investigations, especially the Mar-a-Lago search, have received much scrutiny across both parties, generating many questions of legality and national security. The quantity and severity of the cases are unprecedented. More details regarding these investigations are sure to emerge within the coming weeks.

“All of these investigations, especially the Mar-a-lago search, have received much scrutiny across both parties, generating many questions of legality and national security.”



Police officers outside of Mar-a-Lago

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2022-08-12/trump-calls-for-release-of-search-warrant-documents-used-in-raid>

Art By Becca Miller, Managing Editor:



Nonstop Noah

By Harrison Andelman, Staff Writer

You ask of him and Noah Rosenthal ‘23 won’t disappoint. Throughout his Barrack career, Noah has stood out in more than just his academic path. As a soccer and lacrosse star, this 12th grader has done anything and everything to help the Barrack Cougars win. Because of his efforts, Noah has helped bring three championship trophies to the Cougar campus. Even though his talents place him at the top of his class and team, Noah’s leadership and grit are what separate him from others. He has and will continue to bring his team together, and all of his teammates are “beyond grateful” for his help, says Noah Erlbaum ‘23. During the soccer season, playing as our center back, Noah stands strong as a brick wall on the defensive end. This year, he looks forward to watching a young and developing team “improve,” and strives to enjoy a successful “senior and final season,” states Noah Rosenthal ‘23 (the man, the myth, the legend). “There’s no I in team” is how Noah views the entire athletic community at Barrack, and it has helped us out greatly. Always looking for the extra pass or play, he creates new opportunities and challenges his opponents. I’m excited for and am anticipating Noah’s athleticism, elite communication, and strong chemistry for this season, as he tries to bring home another championship for his final season. Later in the school year, Noah stuns the team and audience once he steps onto the lacrosse field. Winning two years in a row, Noah exclaims that he’s ecstatic to compete for “trophy number 3”. Noah has led the team in goals for the past two seasons, and looks forward to potentially scoring his “100th” one this season. With a young team, Noah looks to teach and show the Barrack Cougars Lacrosse team how it’s done. To Noah, the Barrack Laccrosse team does a great job in building a family-like atmosphere, and we’re fortunate to have him lead it. As a Junior and Senior captain, Noah represents our team extraordinarily, and everyone is proud to have an outstanding athlete like him. To conclude, Noah’s excellence on the field has led to great memories and stories, and I can’t wait to see how he does in the upcoming seasons. I wish him luck in his last year and cannot wait to see him succeed once again!



“Always looking for the extra pass or play, he creates new opportunities and challenges his opponents.”



Preparing For Your Fantasy Draft:12 team PPR Fantasy Football Mock Draft

By Beny Scheinmann, Sports Editor, and Jack Barrack, Staff Writer

Experts Benny Scheinmann and Jack Barrack got together to create a mock draft for a 12 team full PPR league. Below are the round by round picks of how the experts expect their draft to go.

Team 1	Team 2	Team 3	Team 4	Team 5	Team 6	Team 7	Team 8	Team 9	Team 10	Team 11	Team 12
Jonathan Taylor	Christian McCaffrey	Austin Ekeler	Cooper Kupp	Derrick Henry	Justin Jefferson	Najee Harris	Jamar Chase	Dalvin Cook	Alvin Kamara	Joe Mixon	Stefon Diggs
Nick Chubb	Tyreek Hill	James Conner	Leonard Fournette	Javonte Williams	Aaron Jones	Travis Kelce	Ceedee Lamb	Deebo Samuel	Saquon Barkley	Davante Adams	D'Andre Swift
Mark Andrews	Mike Evans	Keenan Allen	A.J. Brown	Michael Pittman Jr.	Kyle Pitts	J.K. Dobbins	Tee Higgins	DJ Moore	Josh Allen	Cam Akers	Terry McLaurin
Brandon Cooks	Josh Jacobs	Amon-Ra St. Brown	David Montgomery	George Kittle	Justin Herbert	Diontae Johnson	Travis Etienne Jr.	Ezekiel Elliot	Mike Williams	Breece Hall	Jaylen Waddle
Courtland Sutton	Antonio Gibson	Darren Waller	Patrick Mahomes	Jerry Jeudy	DK Metcalf	Gabriel Davis	Elijah Mitchell	Darnell Mooney	Chris Godwin	Amari Cooper	Lamar Jackson
Drake London	Michael Thomas	Drake London	Devin Singletary	Rashod Bateman	Clyde Edwards-Helaire	Jalen Hurts	Dalton Shultz	Kyler Murray	JuJu Smith-Schuster	Hunter Renfrow	Miles Sanders
Russell Wilson	T.J Hockenson	Dak Prescott	Allen Robinson II	Elijah Moore	Tyler Lockett	DeVonta Smith	Rhamondre Stevenson	Kareem Hunt	Chase Edmonds	Kadarius Toney	Dallas Goedert
DeAndre Hopkins	Christian Kirk	Garrett Wilson	Allen Lazard	Joe Burrow	Brandon Aiyuk	AJ Dillon	Tom Brady	Tony Pollard	Damien Harris	Aaron Rodgers	Cordarrelle Patterson
Chris Olave	Mathew Stafford	Rashaad Penny	Zach Ertz	James Cook	Dameon Pierce	Chase Claypool	Russell Gage	Pat Freiermuth	Mike Gesicki	Kenneth Walker III	Skyy Moore
J.D. McKissic	Nyheim Hines	Derek Carr	Michael Carter	Melvin Gordon III	Kenny Golladay	Tyler Boyd	James Robinson	Alexsnder Msttison	Treyton Burks	Dawson Knox	Marquez Valdes-Scantling
Kirk Cousins	Jahan Dotson	Raheem Mostert	Cole Kmet	Jarvis Landry	Josh Palmer	Marlon Mack	Robbie Anderson	DJ Chark Jr.	DeVante Parker	Evan McPherson	Justin Tucker
Nick Folk	Brandon McManus	Saints D/ST	Ravens D/ST	Harrison Butker	49ers D/ST	Daniel Carlson	Buccaneers D/ST	Hunter Henry	Matt Gay	Noah Fant	Bills D/ST
Packers D/ST	Cowboys D/ST	Tyler Bass	Graham Gano	Colts D/ST	Matt Prater	Steelers D/ST	Greg Joseph	Jake Elliott	Chargers D/ST	Commanders D/ST	Robbie Gould

2022 Fantasy Football Preview

By Manny Shklar, Arts & Entertainment Editor

The 2021 NFL season provided us with historic seasons at many positions, and that led fantasy football players to watch their phones even more than their TVs. A random late-round pick getting touchdown after touchdown and third-string running backs having great games were just some of the oddities that managers went through last season, and they should expect even more wild stats this year. From the effects of big trades to players who are ready for even bigger leaps, these will be some of the key factors to pay attention to in the 2022 fantasy season.

One thing that is clear to me is that the dominance of last year’s record-breaking players will be muffled, but only a little bit. Indianapolis Colts’ Jonathan Taylor finished as the highest scoring running back in the NFL, which will make him the highest pick this year in almost any league. However, the Colts traded for veteran quarterback Matt Ryan this offseason, and defenses will force him to throw to his decent receiving core to keep the ball out of Taylor’s hands, thus lowering Taylor’s production. Cooper Kupp, the Los Angeles Rams’ superstar wide receiver, who had one of the best receiving seasons ever last year, may never be figured out by the defense, but his quarterback Matthew Stafford could slow him down. Last year, Stafford came in with a healthy throwing arm, but this season he has complained about his elbow constantly hurting when he throws. This may be harmful to Kupp’s season, as it is no secret that Stafford made Kupp a way better player than previous quarterback Jared Goff did. Another new part of Kupp’s Rams that could hurt his stats is the loss of their offensive coordinator, Wes Phillips, as they had worked together since 2019 developing a key chemistry. With Stafford’s injury and Phillips’s absence, I expect Kupp’s fantasy value to fall below a couple receivers and running backs he was originally thought to be ahead of.

Two players who will see declines in production this season will be the Miami Dolphins’ wide receivers Tyreek Hill and Jaylen Waddle. Waddle had a phenomenal rookie season in 2021 and was expected to crack into the top 10 receivers on everyone’s lists at the end of this season, before the Dolphins traded with the Kansas City Chiefs for Hill, an already established superstar. While there have been teams with two elite receivers both producing in the recent past, all those teams had a top 10 quarterback. The Dolphins have Tua Tagovailoa, who is regarded by pretty much everyone as one of the worst quarterbacks in the league in every facet of the position. This will definitely hurt Hill more, as he is used to perfect, deep throws from Patrick Mahomes, a top three quarterback in the game. Waddle has previous chemistry with Tua and has spent a lot of time learning how to be effective on short passes. Even if this move helps the Dolphins in real life, it will not benefit your fantasy team to take either of these guys with a valuable pick.

One player I believe will surprise many and dominate is Cleveland Browns’ running back Nick Chubb. He is coming off of a season where many people expected him to do poorly, yet he still produced solid numbers in many categories. Many of these expectations were set because he shares a backfield with another star running back in Kareem Hunt, who was injured and did not get a ton of playing time. Now Hunt has requested a trade and it would not be surprising to see him go soon, so Chubb will get way more snaps and backfield targets to raise his production. He will be especially valuable in the first 11 weeks of the season when his quarterback Deshaun Watson is suspended for those games. Another important piece is that numerous coaches around the Browns’ organization are trying to give the 26-year-old more targets in the passing game, giving Chubb an opportunity to really explode this year if he can capitalize on these new opportunities.

My final outlook for the season has Justin Jefferson solidifying himself as the number one wide receiver in the league. The Minnesota Vikings’ receiver broke numerous rookie records, then put up even better numbers his second year, all while playing with another star wideout in Adam Thielen. Thielen just turned 32 and has been regressing for the last few years due to injury and age. Now he is due for another slow season that leaves Jefferson as the only prominent option in the passing game. Another factor helping Jefferson is that his quarterback, Kirk Cousins, just had his best season, throwing for 33 touchdowns with just 7 interceptions, for over 4,200 yards. These numbers landed him in the top 9 of all those categories, and it’s safe to say that he will replicate a season like that again, or do even better. Another element to this year’s takeover will be his new offensive coordinator, the aforementioned Wes Phillips, who was maybe the most important factor to Cooper Kupp’s 2021 season. Phillips is known for an aggressive passing scheme that targets a specific top receiver, who could only be Justin Jefferson in the Vikings’ offense.

As we all prepare for awful trade offers from that one person in everyone’s leagues and for our five best players to get hurt in the same week, we remember that it’s all part of the fun of winning, or sometimes just not losing. Winning the fantasy football championship is the holy grail of bragging rights, and hopefully, these takes can help lead you to the top of your league.

“As we all prepare for awful trade offers from that one person in everyone’s leagues and for our five best players to get hurt in the same week, we remember that it’s all part of the fun of winning, or sometimes just not losing.”

Jonathan Taylor will be the first pick in pretty much every league (ESPN)



“Defenses will force [Matt Ryan] to throw to his decent receiving core to keep the ball out of Taylor’s hands”

Waddle (left) and Hill will both see a decrease in production as teammates (CBS Sports)

“Get ready for the Student Association (SA) Carnival!”

By Aiden Sandler, Staff Writer and Student Asociation President

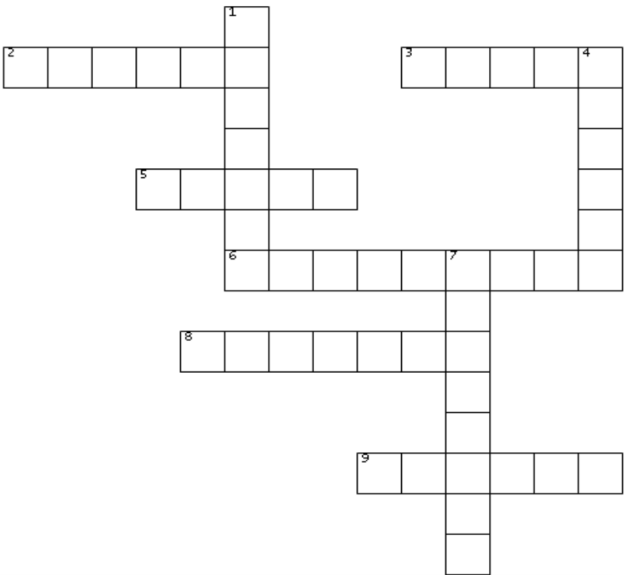


“The SA officers have been hard at work planning this event, ensuring that there is something for everyone to enjoy”

Get ready for the Student Association (SA) Carnival! By Aiden Sandler, Staff Writer Get excited! The SA carnival is back and better than ever this year. On September 16th, SA will hold the welcome back to school bash with all the usual activities and some new ones! There will also be some friendly competitions, giving you a chance to test your skills and go against friends. As always, this event will encourage everyone to reconnect with their classmates and have fun doing it. To make this possible, the SA officers have been hard at work planning this event, ensuring that there is something for everyone to enjoy. We are also making sure that none of the activities risk the health or safety of anyone involved. As the event nears, keep an eye out for more information, and we look forward to seeing everyone there.

Back-to-School Edition Crossward Puzzle

By Sophia Mittman, Arts Features, and games Editor

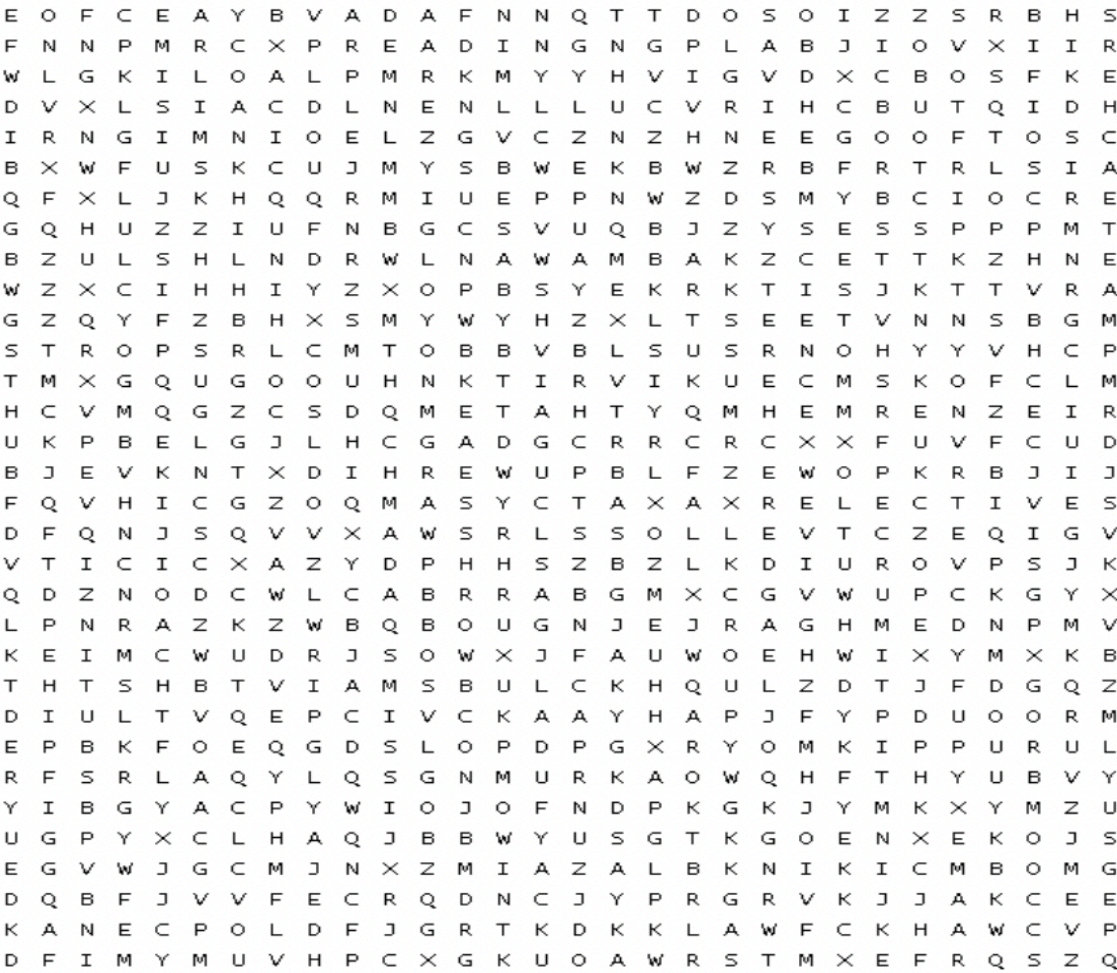


- ACROSS
- 2. we look forward to it every year
 - 3. long and dreadful
 - 5. best part of the school day
 - 6. a class we all look forward to
 - 8. a big part of our everyday lives
 - 9. something a lot of us participate in on a daily basis
- DOWN
- 1. best part about school
 - 4. every weekday we go to...
 - 7. we all hate doing it



Back-to-School Edition Word Search

By Ariel Shavit, Layout Editor and Staff Writer



- | | | |
|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| Academic | Art | Classroom |
| Clubs | Core | Derech Eretz |
| Dining Commons | Electives | English |
| Fall | History | Ivrit |
| Leaves | Muss | Pencils |
| Reading | Rosh Hashanah | Science |
| Soccer | Sports | Students |
| Teachers | Tennis | Yom Kippur |

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