

# THE CHRONICLE

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Bishop Seabury Academy

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Vol. 15 Issue 7

By Cadence Cheng



Senior Emma Silvestri and eighth grader Ellie Berkland hold shirts from their old schools. Similar to Seabury, Silvestri had to wear a uniform to school everyday.

## Bishop Pre-bury

### Students study differences in school backgrounds

By Marie Brockhoff

Bishop Seabury has yet to add a kindergarten class. As a result, all of its students have been forced to attend other schools prior to Seabury. From public to private schools, or even homeschooling, students often experience marked differences at Seabury based on their school backgrounds, from homework to friends to leisure time.

"There were a lot of people, you had a lot less one on one time and the friendships weren't as great," says eighth grader Evan Maletsky of his experience at public school as compared to Seabury. Maletsky attended Cordley Elementary School before coming to Seabury in sixth grade. "It's a lot nicer here

[at Seabury]," he says.

Freshman Gray Werner attended West Middle School before transferring to Seabury this year. He generally agrees with Maletsky on the greatest difference between public school and Seabury: "the size. I went from a class of almost 200 people to a class of 35 . . . [it] was a big change." Overall, his experience at West was "Very long . . . I'm just going to leave it at that," says Werner.

Senior Emma Silvestri, unlike Werner and Maletsky, attended Corpus Christi, a private Catholic school, before switching to Seabury for sixth grade. For Silvestri, the predominance of Catholicism at Corpus

Christi is the greatest difference between the schools. "[Corpus Christi] is a Catholic school, and a lot of it was based on religion . . . It's not so much here, and I really like that about Seabury," she says. "We're an Episcopal school, but that's not all we are. Corpus is a Catholic school, and that's sort of all they are, in my opinion."

Although public and private school experiences differ, some Seabury students had an entirely separate experience in the comfort of their own homes. Eighth grader Ellie Berkland is one of the few homeschoolers at Seabury. "I liked [homeschool] a lot because you could sleep in,

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## Bishop Chiefs-bury

### Students and faculty celebrate Chiefs' victory

By Lyle Griggs and Catharine Richards

When the Kansas City Chiefs last won the super bowl in 1970, no Seabury students were alive. Richard Nixon was president, the Vietnam War raged and the Beatles had only recently broken up. Mr. Knudson was only 78. But last week, after decades of heartbreak and disappointment for Chiefs fans, the team beat the San Francisco 49ers in a thrilling comeback victory. The game and its aftermath affected everybody in the Kansas City area, even students at a certain college-preparatory school with no football team of its own.

Some Seabury Chiefs fans had waited since childhood for another win. Faculty member Ron Young, a longtime fan, actually missed that first victory in 1970. "When the Chiefs won Super Bowl IV," says Young, "I was at a friend's house playing football out in the wheat field with his brothers and sister. We had a great time. When I got home, my brothers told me about how great the game was." Without the internet, Young was unable to watch the full game: "For the next several weeks, I would look for replays on TV" Fortunately, highlights from the game were broadcast several days later.

This time around, Young did not miss a thing. During the game, his initial nervousness gave way to "total relief." The experience was particularly thrilling for a longtime fan. "When Williams headed down the sideline for the final touchdown," he says,

"I yelled up to my wife that I was headed to Rally House to pick up a Super Bowl shirt. They didn't have those in 1970!"

Faculty member Eric Nelson, though not a lifetime Chiefs fan, was similarly excited. "I was completely pumped up," says Nelson. "I feel that it's great for our region. I think Kansas doesn't get enough credit in professional sports, and Missouri for that matter."

The immediate aftermath of victory was, in some more-densely populated parts of Lawrence, joyous pandemonium. Chiefs fans, including Nelson, stormed Massachusetts Street to revel. Nelson, who rushed downtown as soon as he could, says, "It was mayhem," describing a scene "reminiscent of the 2008 KU National Championship," referring to the similar pandemonium following the KU basketball team's 2008 victory in the NCAA tournament. "It wasn't quite as big, but it was just as fun," he says. "There were people up in the trees and on the traffic lights and everybody was in a really good mood." Although Nelson left before midnight, the spontaneous party raged on until much later and a low roar was audible in central Lawrence for hours after the game. Many climbed trees, light posts and buildings during the celebration.

Although the cheering died down eventually, it resumed the following Wednesday

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Wednesday, when thousands of Chiefs fans filled the streets in downtown Kansas City for a victory parade. Although Seabury did not cancel classes, as some area schools did, many students attended the parade. Describing the crowd, one attendee, seventh grader Eliza Brockhoff, says "[people were] really excited and tipsy. There were people who were throwing a football across the street, and the police were even getting in on it, so when someone's pass didn't make it across, they would pick it up and give it back to people." Some fans waited for hours in the cold for the parade to begin, some arriving as early as four o'clock in the morning, but the Brockhoffs planned ahead, booking a hotel room along the parade route in advance to try and avoid the cold.

Freshman Gracia Greenhoot also attended the parade and experienced the fans' humorous antics. For example, says Greenhoot, "this dude that was wearing a devil suit crawled up into one of the trees and was about to

fall right when the players came." While the fans had plenty of time beforehand to build excitement, the true show started with the arrival of the players. "Everyone was screaming [when they saw the players]," says Greenhoot. Seeing their favorite players, like quarterback Patrick Mahomes, was certainly a highlight for those in the crowd. Overall, the atmosphere was positive and the crowd was excited to cheer on the Super Bowl champions. Brockhoff says she and her family "were kind of near this apartment building and [people] were throwing confetti off the roof, so that was really cool." Celebrating sports teams is truly a way to bring people together. Like the Royals winning the World Series in 2015 or the Jayhawks' victory in 2008, the Chiefs' Super Bowl victory has created fond memories and great shared experiences for Kansas City-area sports fans.

## Ms. Meyers' Life Advice: Your Monthly Cup from the Fountain of Wisdom

**On dating:** [redacted]

**On college:** There's a time and a place for everything and it's called college. That's pure Chef from South Park so you know it's legit.

**On Latin class:** Write down everything she says. It's some crazy stuff sometimes. You might use it to blackmail her later.

**On careers:** Like relationships, there's always another around the corner provided you're interested.

**On friends:** Sure you need them, but remember no one really has your best interest in mind except you.

**On sports:** CHIEFS WON THE SUPER BOWL! What more do you want? Of course, a National Championship for the Jayhawks. Wish granted. BTW, Tom Brady should just go play for the Cowboys; I need another reason to dislike them. And Phillip Rivers can go play for the Pats. PS: Go, Royals!

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for online exclusive stories  
and pictures.



# BSA POV: Racist Mascotry

By Katie Eckert

It is awesome that the Chiefs won the Super Bowl, but there is an undeniable shadow cast on the team by some of the themes in their fan gear and cheers. While their new branding and mascots make it easy to forget, the Chiefs, along with hundreds of other sports teams in the United States, use racially-charged branding that specifically targets Native Americans. The severity of these references ranges anywhere from using elements of Native American culture in logos to using words often described as racial slurs as team names.

Advocacy for the removal of racist mascots and names has increased in the past few decades. According to the National Congress of American Indians' website, the NCAA implemented policies to eliminate uses of detrimental Native American mascots in 2005, and over 2000 such references were removed. However, several still remain across collegiate and professional sports.

When it comes to big teams, it is

hard to have serious discussions about removing racist references, due to how long they have been representations of the teams. Teams like the Chiefs and the Chicago Blackhawks are not the worst offenders, as a certain NFL Washington team has maintained a racial slur as their team name since their founding in 1932. Still, many fans look fondly upon names and logos, which teams often hold for decades, as what will forever symbolize their favorite teams. People balk at suggestions that teams remove traditional, time-honored branding.

Another layer of the issue is how much any regulations about non-offensive branding should cover. Native Americans are a common target, but there are other examples, such as "Crusaders," a common high school mascot not without its xenophobic themes, that may be brought into question.

Eighth grader Edward Roman Nose thinks that references that target Native Americans should be

removed, but the Chiefs are not the biggest problem. "Their team name is not as bad as other teams . . . I don't think it's that offensive, the Chiefs thing," he says. However, they are far from innocent when it comes to fangear: "It's their fans, mostly. They wear headdresses that they're not supposed to wear. It's a privilege to wear that." Although Roman Nose thinks the Chiefs may not need to change their name, that does not let other teams off the hook. "The Redskins is just stereotyping Native Americans," he says, referring to the Washington Redskins, an NFL team. "So yes, I do think they should change the mascot and the name." For him, it does not matter how long a team has held the name or logo; it needs to go.

Junior Paige Weigel-Helt thinks that when it comes to tolerating racist references in sports team branding "It's kind of a toss-up. While some of the things [teams] do are blatantly racist, people just don't know what it means." When it

comes to requiring existing teams to remove racist logos or names, she agrees that they should be removed but says that "it depends on the situation."

As for how far sports leagues should go when regulating the use of names for groups of people, Roman Nose feels it should generally be avoided for any group of people. "I sometimes feel mad because they're still stereotyping people."

Weigel-Helt, on the other hand, feels that things are not as obvious: "There's no definite line." She is certain that leagues have to be careful not to take it too far: "If we keep taking down every single thing it will just be a frenzy."

Many say racism should never be tolerated, but when it comes to real life there are many examples where racism is ingrained in everyday society. It may not be clear how exactly to go about removing racism in sports teams, but the most important part is that one is aware of the problem.

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# Editorials

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## Complicated Calamity

### Editors discuss Kobe Bryant's legacy

By Lyle Griggs

On January 26th, a helicopter carrying basketball legend Kobe Bryant crashed into a mountainside near Calabasas, California, killing everyone on board. In the days that followed, coverage of the tragedy was widespread and fans of Bryant flooded social media with tributes. But inevitably, a few less-adoring people reminded the world of the star's complicated past, specifically allegations that Bryant committed rape in 2003. Given the recent rise of the #MeToo movement, it seemed likely that these allegations would dominate or at least greatly taint news coverage of Bryant's death. Instead, the few who brought up the alleged crime were shut down. A reporter for the Washington Post, for example, was suspended after merely retweeting a story about the allegations, and television personality Gayle King faced death threats and public condemnation after her interview questions about the rape case surfaced.

This public reaction against discussion of Bryant's imperfect legacy is deeply disheartening. It

encourages ignorance and emboldens those who turn a blind eye to sexual assault. To tiptoe around such accusations of rape is to ignore the importance of verbal consent, which Bryant, by his own admission, did not obtain. I fear that the general public's adoration of Bryant may reduce the rape case to a footnote.

Unfortunately, history justifies that fear. In the past, tragedy has often altered a celebrated figure's legacy, concealing the less-appealing, darker bits in favor of the good. Former President John F. Kennedy's 1963 assassination had a similar cleansing effect. Kennedy's short presidency was certainly not perfect, nor was he particularly admirable. He cheated on his wife, abused drugs and pragmatically hesitated on the issue of civil rights. But tragedy erased most criticism--shortly after his assassination, 65% of Americans polled claimed to have voted for him, although just under 50% actually did. To this day, popular polls rank Kennedy as the best modern president. Even I admit to viewing Kennedy's presi-



dency through rose-colored glasses; nobody who has seen footage of his assassination is unaffected.

But I hope, despite discouraging recent events, that people are smarter than they were after the Kennedy assassination. As far as I can tell, Kobe Bryant was a great father, a giving person and a celebrity who seemed less corrupted by fame than most. Nevertheless, he was no saint. No matter the circumstances of his death, we must remember his life in his entirety, uncensored by grief.

By Campbell Helling



The recent death of star basketball player Kobe Bryant has sparked a storm of tributes, from Instagram posts to outfits dedicated to him at the Oscars. His best moments are the ones we remember as well as the legacy he left behind. Some, however, have reminded us of his past rape case, which makes it hard to both mourn him and hold him accountable for his past actions.

When most celebrities pass away, the news reports their death and some of their accomplishments. Fans grieve on social media, but only for a day or two. In response to Bryant's death, people are still mourning

over two weeks after the tragic helicopter accident. In this period of grief, however, his past sexual assault allegations are often overlooked.

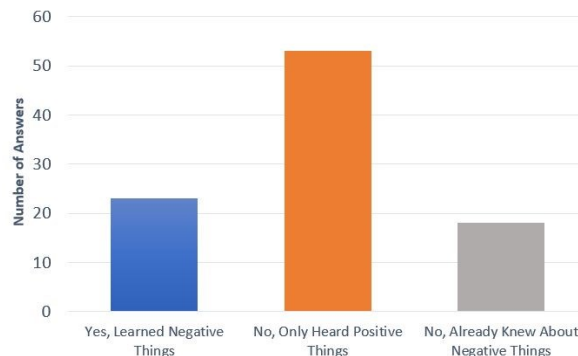
In 2003, a hotel employee filed a sexual assault complaint against Kobe Bryant. He initially denied it, and it has been largely forgotten in the aftermath of his death. Instead of focusing on the allegations, many fans choose to celebrate his basketball career. Fans will even go to great lengths to defend Bryant's legacy; some who brought up his rape charge received death threats.

Many have mixed emotions about his death. Someone that contributed greatly to a beloved sport died, and everyone has a right to grieve in their own ways. Nevertheless, that same person possibly committed a terrible crime, and we must never forget that.

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## Seabury Statistics

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Did you learn any new negative things about Kobe Bryant after his death?

## In the Halls

### Who is your greatest inspiration?



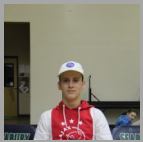
6th Grade  
Gabe Rinnert  
"Roger Federer."



7th Grade  
Makena Grant  
"My dad."



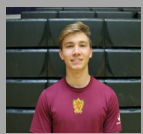
8th Grade  
Eve Tuckel  
"My mom."



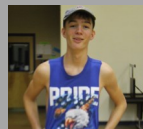
9th Grade  
Beck Oldridge  
"Freddy."



10th Grade  
Juju Ramirez  
"Freddy Comparato"



11th Grade  
Harrison Hartzler  
"Peyton Manning"



12th Grade  
Freddy Comparato  
"Myself."



Faculty  
Vanessa Eicher  
"Mrs. Bryan."

# Faculty Spotlight:

## Madame Derby

By Edie Patterson

"Since I was very young, I have been fascinated by other cultures and places," faculty member Lori Derby says, describing her initial fascination with French on childhood trips to Quebec. "I am as excited about learning French and everything about francophone cultures today as I was as a student." Derby has been teaching French at Seabury since 2011 after moving here from Columbus, Ohio, where she taught at a large school with lots of fights and plenty of interesting stories to tell her French classes today, including one where students claim she jumped over tables in the cafeteria to break up a fight when the cop stationed there did not show up. "After a really rough four years in Ohio, I was so happy to teach at Seabury. I've learned a lot about teaching, myself and kids through these diverse experiences. Plus, I have some really good stories!"

Building on her interest in French and high school education in the language, Derby started teaching in Dayton, Ohio, 22 years ago. She moved to Park City, Utah, and taught there, where they had an exchange with their sister city, Courchevel, France. After that, she moved to a larger school in Columbus, Ohio, before coming to Seabury. "I've been here for the addition of the 6th grade, the expansion of the commons, the building of the FEMA shelter/locker rooms and now the new addition," Derby says of her ten years working here, showing just



By Candace Chang

*Faculty member Madame Derby smiles for a photo. Derby has been teaching at Seabury for ten years.*

how dramatically the school has grown. Initially, she taught two classes, but after readjustments and growth, she teaches four levels of standard French, an honors French section and 7th grade Latin, which she shares with Senor Rowe. "So many teachers, staff, and students have come and gone. They've all contributed to making this such a dynamic environment." After nine years of teaching at Seabury, Derby has seen various improvements and renovations, and become a part of this uniquely tight-knit community.

"My favorite part of being a French teacher is showing young people that there's a whole world out there that you can discover more fully if you are knowledgeable of other languages and cultures," Derby says. Although the language is usually associated with just Paris and France, it is actually

either an official or heritage language in countries on six continents. "Learning another language is also about learning history, geography, literature, art, food etc. It can really open up the world for people and expand their horizons. I like to think that I'm helping to encourage people to be thoughtful about other cultures and enthusiastic about diversity," she says. According to Derby, French studies have been the most influential part of her life, and she loves French's "satisfyingly rule-based" grammar. "It's so fun and rewarding to have a job where you explain your passion to others and try to convince them to be passionate about it too." Over her years at Seabury, Derby has certainly impacted students' lives and passed on her love of French.

### What people are saying about Madame Derby

"I've known Lori for the last three years and she is one of the best, most dedicated teachers we have at Seabury."

Faculty Member Eric Neuteboom

"It's easy to learn with her because you don't fall behind on anything."

Freshman Will Richards

"She has a great style and is great at working with you instead of against you."

Seventh Grader Sean Ruddy



# Bishop Rob-bury

## Seabury Chaplain brings new spin to service

By Peter Westbrook

Every Wednesday morning at Seabury, the entire student body gathers in the gym for a service combining spiritual lessons, general worldly wisdom, jokes which are simultaneously cringe-inducing and endearing and music that was popular before most of the students were born. While this ritual may seem confusing to the uninitiated, to the Seabury community, this is Wednesday Chapel with Father Rob.

The Very Reverend Rob Baldwin, or Father Rob, served a long stint as Chaplain at Seabury before a three-year absence as Chaplain Stephanie Jenkins took the role. Now returning this year, Baldwin, who administers services at Trinity Episcopal Church downtown, has more experience in giving Chapel to Bishop Seabury.

He says, "When I was first asked to do Chapel, it was literally right after I came here. I didn't really know what I was doing, I didn't really know how to talk to youth, I didn't really know what the relationship between the Chaplain and a school like this could be, and I think it's its own unique creature. So now at this point, I think I better understand how the Chaplain integrates itself with this particular school community."

Moreover, preaching to Seabury is a much different task from preaching to a church congregation. At any Christian church, one could expect that almost all of the audience would be Christians, and those that were not would at least be interested in having a Christian experience. At Seabury, however, the same is not true. While Seabury is a religiously

affiliated school, much of the student body is not religious, and many students who are religious belong to faiths other than Christianity, especially international students. Because of this, giving a Christian chapel to such a background presents a unique challenge.

Baldwin says that he addresses this issue "by, at the beginning, talking about fundamental truths, things that people can comprehend and understand." He further says, "I think that normally when people preach in church, they say, 'Jesus said this, so it must be true,' and that's not a context you can take in Chapel. Instead, what I say is, 'Hey, here's something that's true, and by the way, for those of us who are Christian, how we understand that truth is informed by the teachings of and our relationship with Jesus.' So it's almost like you preach the sermon backwards."

So far, Baldwin's approach to Chapel at Seabury has been met with positive reactions from the community. Junior Morgan Orozco, who does not identify herself as religious, says about Chapel, "Especially at Seabury, there's a lot of good discussion about morality and ethics, which, regardless of whether you're religious or not, ties into one's daily life and is beneficial for one's whole being." While one might expect a Christian service to be primarily of benefit towards Christian students, Baldwin's Chapel successfully offers something to all students.

# Bishop Bee-bury

## High school and faculty geography bee scheduled in lieu of traditional competition

By Matthew Petillo and Lyle Griggs

Due to insufficient interest and a bit of stage fright among middle schoolers, there will be no traditional Geography Bee this year. The tradition, however, will continue in some form when teachers and high schoolers participate in a mock bee during Grudge Match in March, in lieu of the typical lower school competition. Although the details have yet to be ironed out, prospective participants should expect questions similar to those used in the official National Geographic Bee.

Faculty member Sara Asher came up with the idea after a lack of enthusiasm among her middle school students forced her to cancel the official bee, which she has coordinated in the past. "I was having to practically beg middle school students to participate in the school level bee after participating in the

class bees," she says. "When I mentioned this in journalism class, some of the high schoolers became nostalgic about the geography bee."

Junior Audrey Nguyen-Hoang, the student in charge of coordinating the bee, became interested after Ms. Asher explained the official bee's cancellation. "Remembering how excited and competitive my grade was when we had the option," says Nguyen-Hoang, "I wanted to bring that energy back to the bee, specifically because I know that we have a lot of high schoolers who still are interested in history and geography, and that's why we have interest in things like Scholars' Bowl and Academic WorldQuest." She hopes that the novelty of the nontraditional bee will make it particularly "fun to watch."

*"Bishop Pre-Bury"*

*Continued from page 1*

and you only had to do school for a few hours a day, and there was no homework at night," she says. "I've become a lot more social [at Seabury]."

Maletsky believes sixth grade at Seabury helped him transition from Cordley, particularly in preparing for the homework. "It introduced us to the community and all that . . . I think I was pretty prepared going into seventh grade. If they had given us a lot of homework in sixth grade, I wouldn't have been prepared at all," he says.

"Sixth grade is really an important year, and we try to get everybody on the same page and get them ready for Seabury," agrees Admissions Director and faculty member Leslie McCaffrey. Because of her job, McCaffrey is in a prime spot to observe students' transitions from their prior schools into Seabury. "Kids come from all kinds of schools—public school, Prairie Moon, Century school, homeschool—so some kids come here, and they've been taking state assessments all the time. Other kids come here and they've never even taken a quiz or a test," she says.

"It was definitely a big jump for me academically, coming here . . . I never finished reading the Harry Potter series, because I started them in fifth grade then I came to sixth grade, and I didn't have time to read anymore," says Silvestri. Most students interviewed, regardless of the school

they attended before, found Seabury's level of homework more intense.

"I have more homework, so trying to do that and still balancing sports," says Berkland of what was most difficult to adjust to when she switched to Seabury. Although keeping up with sports and schoolwork has been a challenge for Berkland, activities helped her adjust socially at Seabury. "I was able to find friends right away because of sports and being able to meet other people," she says.

Interestingly, public middle school helped ease Werner's introduction to fast-paced Seabury academics. "You have to be organized at public school, because of how many people there are, and you have to keep track of your stuff, so that made it easier to transition to Seabury," he says.

Regardless of school backgrounds, McCaffrey believes most transfer students become a part of Seabury within a few short months. "Thanksgiving is about the time it takes for everybody to just sort of catch up and get it figured out, so I think it only takes kids a couple months until they are just in the flow of Seabury life," she says.

Despite varying school experiences with homework, religion, size and leisure time, we are all a part of Seabury. As Silvestri says, "It's always different coming into a new school and meeting new people, . . . but a few months in I already had found close friends."

By Cadence Cheng



Father Rob Baldwin tells a story during chapel. Baldwin returned to Seabury after his three year absence this year.

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# Reviews

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## "Circles"

By *Evan McHenry*

Album



The tragic and sudden death of Mac Miller rocked the music world in 2018; the rapper/producer was beloved for his pop-influenced rap and R&B songs. His 2018 album, "Swimming," topped out at number three on the US Billboard 200, and was also well-received among critics. His latest release, "Circles," has been released posthumously and compiled from work Miller did on the album before his death; it is his sixth studio album. Unlike the posthumous releases from other artists, like the ill-fated "Skins" album from rapper XXXTentacion, "Circles" maintains its authenticity and does not seem like a simple cash-grab exploiting Miller's name recognition.

On the whole, the album has a softer, more melancholy sound, with Miller delivering understated vocals on most of the tracks. The production is quite minimal as well, but the included instrumentation is of a high

quality and fits each track well. On the track "Woods," Miller sings and raps about being stuck in the throes of a broken relationship with one of the album's more florid instrumentals as backdrop. The song is representative of the whole album: well put together work regarding Miller's various struggles and vices. The slow and reflective feel of the album is much like that of "Swimming." On one of the album's more lively tracks, "Hands," Miller raps to an uptempo beat, but the lyrics are more dark, with him cycling through some of his more negative thoughts. The lead single, "Good News," is bittersweet, especially in light of Miller's untimely passing; when Miller sings "There's a whole lot more for me waitin' on the other side," he sounds eerily prescient.

Overall, the album is exactly what it needed to be: a diligent tribute to Miller's legacy. It gives his fans one last project to enjoy without seeming like a haphazard grasp at capitalizing on his fame.

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## "Jojo Rabbit"

By *Diego Klish*

Movie



"Jojo Rabbit" is a relatively low-budget film that was released in late December of 2019. The movie is set towards the end of World War II in Germany. As the German forces retreat, the allies gain ground and the German government begins to contradict the reality of the war. The movie is accompanied by a wonderful soundtrack and an even more wonderful cast.

The movie begins with a boy, Jojo, who has few friends and is as pro-Nazi as a little kid can be. The film follows Jojo and his growing belief in Nazism as he is brainwashed by countless people that he looks up to. As the reality of the Germans' performance in the war, and his mother's own subtle lessons sink in, Jojo begins to open his eyes to the reality of his world.

The movie is certainly funny as well as intense and at some points tragic. Jojo's imaginary friend, Adolf

Hitler, is somewhat comical in nature and tries to help him along throughout the movie, leading him into more and more trouble. Ultimately, the movie really gets interesting when Jojo discovers a Jewish girl in his attic and his whole world is flipped. He's forced to reconsider what the Nazi party really stands for and if what he's been told his whole life is really true. The cast, which includes Roman Davis as Jojo, Taika Waititi as Adolf Hitler and Scarlett Johansson as Jojo's mother Rosie, certainly shines.

With the combination of talent, emotion and overall plot, this movie was one of the best that I have seen in a long time and, for that reason, I give it five out of five anchors.

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## "Rick and Morty" Season 4

By *Jonah Kim*

Show



After an extremely long wait for "Rick and Morty" fans, episodes of Season 4 of the ever-popular Adult Swim show began to air in November. So far, producers have only released five episodes and have come to a sudden halt, leaving viewers everywhere wondering when the sixth episode will arrive. The answer to this question may leave some viewers angry, as the release of the next five episodes is rumored to be planned for April.

Despite the pause in episodes, my viewing experience of "Rick and Morty" season four has been really enjoyable. The first episode featured Rick dying and being reborn into his endless clone factory in an alternate universe every time, while Morty struggles to live with a crystal that shows him how he will die. This season certainly seems more focused on Rick and Morty, showing less of the rest of the Smith family, as ex-

plained at the end of the episode when Rick and Morty yell at Summer for even being in the shot.

Without going into the rest of the episodes, this most recent half-season of the critically acclaimed TV show features all original ideas that have not been used before in the series, which is usually the downfall of most TV series that go for as many seasons as "Rick and Morty." The episodes so far all feature the same wacky "Rick and Morty" humor and characters that have attracted millions of viewers.

Overall, Season 4 of "Rick and Morty" has so far been excellent, replete with the witty humor, wacky characters, crazy ideas and talking cats that make the show unique.

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## Wrecking Ball: Hobby Lobby

By *Lyle Griggs*



For \$10.99, you can go down to your local Hobby Lobby and buy a decorative pillow with the word "gather" machine-embroidered on the front in loopy cursive to indicate to house guests that they are to gather near the pillow. Or, if you want to appear sporty or stereotypically masculine, you can buy a fake baseball for just \$4.99 that appears old and weathered, as if you once actually threw it. If you have a bit more money--sixty dollars, to be precise--you can buy a birdcage that is too small for an actual bird. Unfortunately, a portion of that precious money that you spend on home decor funds the efforts of a tomb-raider.

That tomb-raider is David Green, the Emporia native who founded Hobby Lobby in the early 1970s. Green has used part of his multibillion-dollar fortune to fund the Museum of the Bible in Washington, D.C. To help fill the display cases of that museum,

Green had Hobby Lobby purchase 1.6 million dollars worth of artifacts of dubious origin, most of them likely illegally taken from archaeological sites in Iraq. The company was later forced to return the artifacts and pay a three million dollar fine.

It may be extreme to describe Green as a tomb-raider, but his actions are plainly inexcusable. His lawyers warned him that the artifacts were likely stolen cultural items, but he made the purchase anyway. By shopping at Hobby Lobby, people enable such behavior and fund the illegal efforts of a man obsessed with creating visible proof of his religious philanthropy. Shoppers should avoid the business for that alone.

There is another reason not to shop at Hobby Lobby: the company's staunch opposition to birth control. That, however, is a bit too controversial to discuss here. For those who know a bit about that controversy, just count that among the reasons to just shop at Michaels instead.



# Photos of the Issue

By Cadence Cheng



Junior Morgan Orozco poses with the soon-to-be-delivered Valentine's Day gifts. Orozco made all of the gifts by hand.

By Cadence Cheng



Freshmen Tony Jung and Martin Hill show off their edible cell project. The project had to model at least 15 parts of the cell.

By Cadence Cheng



Seventh grader Avery Bird shoots a basket. Bird played aggressive defense and made great plays during all of the games.

By Colin Farha



This photo depicts tools at the Seabury construction site. Dr. Schawang said he is very impressed with the size of the commons and science classrooms.

