

Let’s talk SHEIN

By Charlotte Crowe

Whether you love it or hate it, SHEIN has made its way into almost every young person’s life. It’s an obsession for some, but others have issues with the fashion site. SHEIN was founded in 2008 in China, and their brand has a mission to make affordable fashion available to everyone. It is, in fact, affordable, with clothes costing less than two dollars. Which begs the question, how can their items be available for so cheap?

According to *Brightly*, there is a lot of mystery with SHEIN’s labor practices. There has been no in-depth investigation into how much they pay their workers, but fast fashion competitor Fashion Nova has been found to pay seamstresses as little as \$2.77 an hour. Nothing has been proved about child labor or forced labor, but SHEIN has never provided the information for transparency.

SHEIN has been known to lie under other circumstances. They claim to do their best to source recycled material like polyester, but of all listed dresses, only 64 are made of recycled polyester, less than 0.15 percent of dresses they sell.

There are split opinions of SHEIN. Senior Paige Thompson said, “The problem doesn’t lie in the consumer who cannot afford ethical and sustainable clothing, but lies in their method of production.”

A lot of people share Thompson’s thoughts, wanting everyone to be able to get clothes they feel comfortable and nice in. However, with more affordable options comes questions about ethics and how it affects the earth.

When asked about how often she shops at SHEIN and how she feels about it, senior Theoren Brown responded, “I buy from SHEIN like twice a month, but I do think it’s bad for the environment.”

The majority of teenagers aren’t working a full-time job with adult money, so the cheaper clothes and frequent sales from SHEIN allow teens to have more freedom over their style and make themselves feel unique.

SHEIN’s multitude of products range from beauty supplies and home wear to men’s and women’s fashion. There is so much potential, but the fear of what SHEIN hasn’t revealed leads many to not shop the website. There’s no doubt that knowing more about their practices would make many people feel better and more informed, and could even convince people to shop there more depending on what comes to light.



Photo from SHEIN website.

Ethan's opinion column: Christmas edition

By Ethan Jenkins

Is it really the most wonderful time of the year? With all the singing and shopping going on, has the true meaning of Christmas gone away? It’s all wants and not needs, and people receiving and not giving. Christmas has always been deemed the queen of all holidays, but in my opinion, it’s pretty overrated.

Of course I understand the religious history around Christmas, but I think the hype around Christmas is just too big. In my opinion, it’s a holiday where people get stressed over gifts and shopping, listen to overplayed music, and spend too much money on overpriced decorations.

I do understand why you would buy all those decorations and listen to the music, because people want to have that so-called “Christmas experience.” My problem with Christmas is that people preach about the “season of giving,” but very few people actually give back to their community.

That’s the true meaning of Christmas. Giving to others is what it’s all about, not ugly sweaters and horrible family Christmas cards.

The shopping for me is the worst thing about the holidays. The whole Black Friday event has just become an embarrassment for our country. Millions of people wait outside stores to race other shoppers for gifts that people will use once in their life. I get that people want the best deals, but stores are tricking them with their price changes. Black Friday at least gets people off their butts, unlike Cyber Monday. That is somewhat better, but again it is a waste of time.

The whole stress of Christmas is overwhelming as well. People shouldn’t have to buy gifts for people in early and late November. They worry and worry about what gifts people want and if they will actually like it. Instead, they just buy a lousy LongHorn Steakhouse gift card and expect to receive something better.

Why should people have to put budgets on Christmas? Parents have to buy large amounts of gifts every year and spend too much money on these gifts for their spoiled kids.

Again, people need to start giving more back to their community. People have all this money and use it to buy gifts that kids will never use. They need to use that privilege and give it to people in need, like doing community service over Christmas break, helping out Kent Social Services by bringing in canned goods, or even just shoveling driveways. All show the true meaning of Christmas.

I also can’t get over the fact that parents continue to trick their kids into thinking that an old white man delivers them presents in one night. In school we are told to never talk or listen to strangers, but then kids end up worshipping some random old man who they have never met. As well, they feed the guy uncontrollable amounts of sugar and milk--I mean, what if the guy is lactose intolerant? We should be telling kids about how mommy and daddy are in debt because their brat wanted \$1500 in V-Bucks. Or that they should be grateful for what they receive because there are people out there who get nothing at all.

Christmas is a great time to see family and friends, give gifts, and decorate your house in ugly lights. But the truth of the matter is that people forget what it is about. How about this holiday season, spread some cheer and donate to our very own guidance department. They prefer to accept gift cards to places like Target and Walmart and donate to families in need. Contact Mrs. Sepi in the Guidance Department for more information. As well, the National Honor Society has a hat and glove drive going on this winter to help keep students in need warm.



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Things to do over winter break.

Club vs. school sports.

Out of gift ideas? See pg 2

Celebrities at TRHS!

Back in the parks

By Cooper Liedtke

With COVID-19 locking down many public parks, many people have been hesitant to return to popular tourist destinations. Many public places have changed, not to mention those which used to be packed with thousands of people every day. The pandemic has really impacted how people interact, and the amusement parks around the world are no exception.

At Walt Disney World in Orlando Florida, masks are required for all guests over the age of two regardless of vaccination status. While this doesn't include all outdoor areas, in all indoor areas masks are required. The rule was heavily relaxed over the summer of 2021, to the point where masks were practically optional; however, as of the end of July, they have reinstated their indoor mask mandate for all Disney parks in Florida.

Other parks such as Universal Studios, Disney's main competitor in the area, also have a mask mandate that seems more relaxed. On Universal Studios official website it states, "We encourage all guests – regardless of vaccination status – to wear face coverings while indoors." In practice the rules and regulations of Universal Orlando mostly line up. From my personal experience, around only 25% of the people I saw followed the encouragement to wear masks indoors. Practically no one wore masks outdoors. The weekend before Thanksgiving this year, thousands of people flocked to Universal. It used to be a calmer time of the year in the past, but this year was different. Many people who have become more comfortable with Covid took this break as a chance to get back out into the world, and with Orlando being one of the most popular vacation spots in the nation, it was very busy. From the Saturday I arrived it only got busier the three days I was in the parks.

Outdoor parks like our Cedar Point in Sandusky, Ohio have been able to get off without too many issues this year. In the past year they have changed how they sell tickets to further limit attendance and follow guidelines. Over the summer the mask mandate was optional outdoors and only required indoors for those 10 and up.

Overall, while it may be weird for some people to imagine being around so many people in amusement parks after so long, it has been decently safe in the past year and people have started to open up to the parks again. Of course there is still the risk of Covid and you can't control others actions in the park. The best way to combat this is to be sure to sanitize and wear a mask around people.



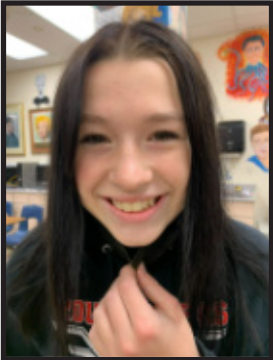
What was the most interesting place you've visited since Covid started and why?



Helen Plicka
"I went to Florida and it was really warm."



Kaleigh McMullen
"I went to Ikea. The one in Pittsburgh. It was my first time."



Bell Walter
"I went on a road trip out west for a month and went to 13 National Parks. We went to the Grand Canyon and the Rocky Mountains, California and Oregon."



Mrs. Harr
"Mr. Harr and I took a road trip to Mammoth Cave. It's so big and so cool and it was just amazing. There were times where we were completely alone in this mammoth cave and it was amazing."



Isabella Rodriguez
"Indianapolis. We went to museums, we went to the zoo. We went to the Eiteljorg Native American museum, that was pretty cool. We went to the children's museum, which is, I guess, like the biggest kids museum in the country. They had really huge dinosaur statues and different themed rooms."



Kaitlyn Ingersoll
"I went to Trader Joe's with Yulan. It was utterly insane. It was the best experience of my year. I just walked in and it was this whole world of all these people I've never seen before. My eyes were wide with excitement and anticipation. I was thrilled. It was just incredible. They gave me little bags and after that I ate the macarons I bought and they were so good."

The pressure is on: Christmas gift shopping has begun

By Payton Courtney



Christmas is right around the corner and stores have been stacking up with merchandise, but do you know what you are getting your loved ones this winter?

Some people love handmade gifts, because they often feel more personal and special. Handmade gifts also allow you to bring out your creative side and make the ones you love a special gift that they will keep close to their hearts. To start, simply think of an inside joke or just make a holiday card. The person receiving the gift will absolutely love it.

Clothing seems to be the main gift that everyone wants. Fashion is important in today's society. You can easily find a plethora of clothing options online or buy them something they have talked about wanting. With fast fashion, people are constantly buying new clothes to make new outfits. In order to be more environmentally friendly, visit a thrift store and look around to see if there is anything the special people on your "gift list" would like.

"Clothes and merch from bands and little stuff from places like Silver and Scents," recommended junior Kaitlyn Ingeroll.

"Clothes and candy," said junior Tyler Poluga.

Uggs are another big hit this year. Uggs were part of the style back in the early 2000s and they are making a return. Since they were no longer deemed "fashionable", many people donated their Uggs and no longer have a pair. Uggs are also great to have in the winter because they keep your feet warm and cozy.

Jewelry is a great gift to give to those who love to accessorize. Plus, everytime they are worn, your loved ones will think of you. Unfortunately, jewelry can be an expensive gift. This is another gift where thrift shops can save the day.

"Honestly, probably money," said junior Yulan Wang. "But merch, jewelry, coffee, clothes, and squishmallows would also be great."

Money is always a safe bet. If you really don't know what to get a person, you can always give them money to spend on something they'll love. Like money, gift cards are an easy gift. If you know your gift recipient spends all their money on food and coffee, a gift card is a way to give their bank account a break—at least for a while.

Vinyls and record players are also a big hit this season. Vinyls have been making a big comeback and are a fun way to listen to your favorite albums and artists. Unfortunately, vinyls are another gift that can be expensive, so be prepared to spend.

Plants are another great gift, even for those on your list without a green thumb. Plants are a great way to make your room feel more alive. In addition, plants can purify the air in your room and relieve stress.

Another big hit this season is Taylor Swift merch. With the release of Red (Taylor's Version), Taylor Swift has been releasing new merch, it seems, every week. And this merch is not inexpensive. Get Taylor Swift merch for your Swiftie friends and they will love you forever.

"Taylor Swift merch, roller blades, and posters," said senior Cherilyn Kowalski on what she wants for Christmas. "And to meet Dylan O'Brien, of course."

"Taylor Swift merch," added junior Helen Plicka. "I love her and her music, but it's \$35 for a scarf."

I hope these ideas have helped lessen the stress that Christmas shopping can bring. Happy shopping and spend wisely.

Curing winter boredom

By Ben Pazderak

As the bell rings at 2:29pm on the 17th of December, the halls of Theodore Roosevelt High School will be empty, not to be full again for a few weeks. For most students, the sound of the bell gives a sense of relief associated with piping hot chocolate, gingerbread houses, and relaxation. After a few days however, students realize something: they’re bored.

With boredom setting in, students will be looking for something to do. Fortunately, some TRHS students have good ideas of what to do over the break. Holiday trips to warmer climates such as the beaches of Florida and the Carolinas are always popular. Freshman Jean-Gabriel Ponte is excited for his upcoming trip. “I’m going to South Carolina for my tournament,” stated Ponte. “It’s a low pressure environment where I will get to just hang out with my friends and play lacrosse.” With the stresses of the first semester ending, many TRHS students will also be playing sports, from basketball to indoor soccer to box lacrosse.

Another popular destination trip for the winter is ski resorts. Senior Reese Campana is headed on a trip to Colorado. “I’m going skiing in Vail with my dad,” stated Campana. “I have never been skiing out west, but I’ve [heard] skiing out west is the best thing ever,” he stated. The slopes of the rocky mountains offer an exhilarating experience that is sure to make memories for a lifetime.

There are plenty of options for skiing if you’re staying local, too. Nearby locations like Brandywine and Boston Mills are always offering fun for teens. Even if you don’t know how to ski, you can have lots of fun! Boston Mills offers a tubing experience, where you head down an icy slope in a single-sized inflatable in a group. Even if the cold isn’t your thing, you can sit in the lounge and drink hot chocolate.

There is also a tobogganing location in Strongsville. Similarly to tubing, you head down a big icy slope, reaching high speeds. Unlike tubing however,



The lights shine brightly at Stan Hywet, via Destination Cleveland.

you are on a big wooden sled, and you get to ride with your friends on the same toboggan.

If you want to stay inside, spending time with friends is always a good way to cure boredom. Finding things to do can be hard, but there are always plenty of events going on locally. Junior Ben Young also has big plans for the winter. Famous rapper and icon Playboi Carti is headed to Canton, and Young plans to attend. “I’m most excited to see him perform because he’s a beautiful man,” said Young. “I’m going with my best buddies Peyton and Griffen.” Concerts are a great way to not only have an enjoyable time, but also spend quality time with good friends. There are also plenty of plays that can be attended with friends, such as the Nutcracker.

Many festive activities will also be going on as we get closer to the holidays . Stan Hywet Hall in Akron always holds a “Deck the Halls” event. “I went when

I was ten years old, and it was a good time,” stated Parker Balan. “There’s plenty of things to do there, and you get to look at all the decorated trees around the hall and garden.” According to the Stan Hywet website, there are twenty-five trees around the green, and the Manor House is decorated with many scenes from different Christmas movies. “I also remember there being good treats there,” stated Balan. With lots of food and gifts to shop for, the Hall is a perfect place to cure winter break boredom.

Even if you don’t have plans over winter break, there are always plenty of things to do. If you don’t know what to do, talk to your friends! Someone is sure to have a good idea, even if it’s just staying in and watching movies.

Instagram account takes Roosevelt by storm

By Ezra Turner

Taking advantage of the semi-recent resurgence of the ‘affirmations’ trend, Instagram account trhsaffirmations is soaring in popularity. The account, run by a student here at Roosevelt, is incredibly on the nose for Rough Rider related content. From images of Principal Dennis Love in cat ears to the cutout of professional basketball player Shaq at our homecoming game, trhsaffirmations is both relevant to the student body and amusing.

‘Affirmations’ are a way of speaking into reality what you want to have happen. Affirmations are often wholesome and positive outlooks on otherwise stressful situations, other times they are sarcastic, such as poking fun at a teacher known to assign a large workload. In the eyes of one Roosevelt senior, Kyle Schmidt, “It’s a wonderful account! It’s like an inside joke but everybody at the school is on it.”

The Colonel was able to get in touch with the account’s administrator to get the skinny on the account’s history. “I saw the ksuaaffirmations account on one of my friends’ stories when our favorite starbucks closed, and I thought it’d be funny if I started one” says the admin. When asked about if local student media accounts were possible, they said “Yes of course! I only have a few hundred followers right now, and I wouldn’t be surprised if someone came up with an account that passed me up. I’d really love for other people to be included in this sort of thing.”

Student-run media pages, or what some would call meme pages, could be the future of community outreach over social media. If you haven’t already, go and check out @trhsaffirmations on Instagram.

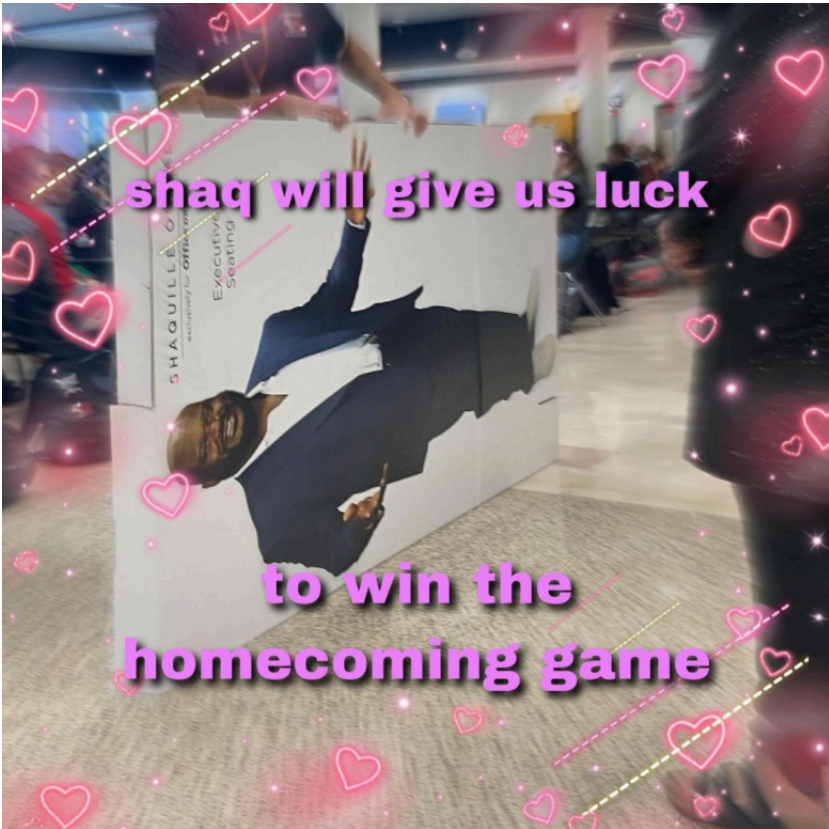
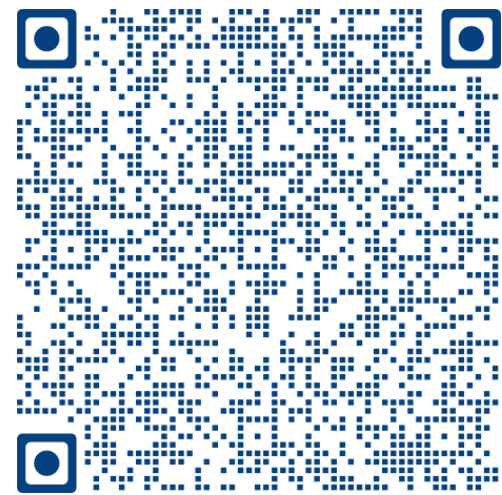


Photo from @trhsaffirmations



SENIORS!!
DID YOU FORGET TO TURN IN
YOUR BABY PHOTO!
SCAN THE QR CODE TO THE LEFT AND
UPLOAD YOUR BABY PHOTO AND OTHER
INFORMATION NEEDED FOR THE
YEARBOOK AND SLIDESHOW!!
DUE JANUARY 7th!



What is your New Year’s Resolution?



Cherilyn Kowalski
“Date a country boy and skate fast!”



Naomi St. Clair
“To go to school less and get good at Fortnite.”



Megan Dickuy
“To eat better.”



Ms. Crawley
“Community involvement, and increasing the amount of giving I do.”



Henrik Wong
“To run a six-minute mile.”



Emaan Kaiser
“Gonna build a dog-house.”



Dr. Roebke
“Do better in the New Year than in the previous.”



Kyle Hodar
“Read a book, drink more water.”



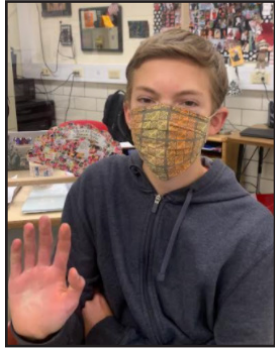
Ben Young
“To ball.”



Yulan Wang
“Be successful, meet Taylor Swift, go to the moon and to Saturn with Taylor, and be a billionaire.”



Tyler Poluga
“Eat healthier.”



Duncan Byrk
“Try and be more like Luke [Jenkins].”

Need a fathead, poster, or sticker? Come down and talk to Rider Prints in Room 182 for all your printing needs!

Once a pawn a time

By Tyson Maynhart

Roosevelt has over 50 different extracurricular clubs that students can join. One of RHS’s newest additions is the chess club, founded by sophomore Ethan Young.

Young founded the club at the end of the last school year when he came up with the idea and proposed it to the club’s advisor. “Honestly it really wasn’t that hard,” said Young. “I talked to Vice Principal Bush and I asked Karam if he wanted to do it and we did it. It was surprisingly easy.” Last year, chess club only had a single meeting. The club really started this year when they began meeting weekly.

A large number of members joined this year. Young himself was surprised by the turnout. “I was not expecting it,” he said. “There is an insane amount of people for a chess club, I only thought five or so people would come.” Since the club’s first meeting this year, they have gathered approximately 25 members.

Many of them are completely new to the game with no prior experience, something which Young has made a point to consider at meetings. He welcomes and encourages newcomers into the club and provides tips and lessons at the beginning of each meeting in order to help them improve and gain a better understanding of the game.

With chess club’s first year already in progress, Young has made many plans for the club over the coming year. Most notably, the members of chess club will be going to a tournament in January. This tournament will be an open tournament and will be taking place on January 15th with only a \$5 entry fee, and if you manage to win, there will be a \$1,500 grand prize. Young also has plans for a possible miniature tournament taking place during lunch periods in the coming months, but it is still being planned, and he wishes to participate in inter school chess tournaments in the future.

If after reading this article you have any interest in taking part in chess club or any of the activities it has planned, be sure to check out the club on Instagram @trhschess or email Young at 500443@kentschools.net if you have any ques-

tions. If you have interest in joining or attending chess club meetings, they are held every Wednesday after school in room 157 and anyone can join even if they have no prior chess experience or skills.



Photo by Tyson Maynhart.

Goodbye, Buckeye State

By Fatou M’Baye

Ohioans complain about the weather a lot. We whine about the constantly changing temperature and dread having to shovel our driveways during winter. Most of us have wished that we lived in another place at some point, but that doesn’t mean that we don’t appreciate it here. Imagine an Ohio where we never have snow days. Imagine no buckeye trees. Even crazier, imagine climate refugees flocking to this state because it has one of the *mildest*, most *stable* climates. Doesn’t sound right, does it?

Those scenarios are what Ohio is expected to look like in the future due to climate change. According to the *Scientific American*, cold places are warming at a faster rate than hot places. Climate researchers predict that by 2050, weather in Northern and Midwestern states will be similar to that of today’s Southern states.

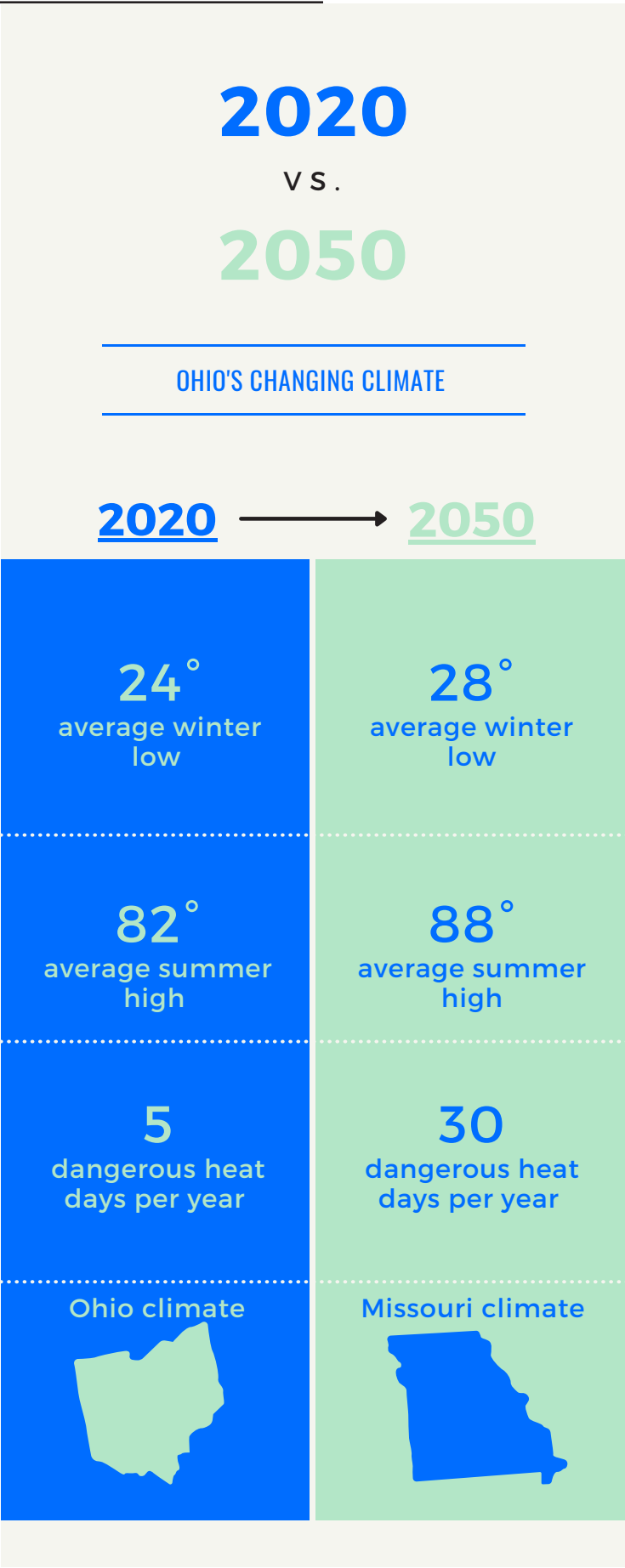
“By the end of the century, based on current projections, we’re expected to look something like central or southern Missouri,” said Roosevelt environmental and climate science teacher Mr. Carman. “Regular summer temperatures in the 90s, high humidity, and not a lot of snow in the winter, if ever.”

“A lot of record temperatures are already being broken, and that trend will continue,” he added. “It won’t be every day--it’ll just be more common.” Carman also predicts an increase in humidity and storms, because warm air can trap more moisture. “For decades what we call Tornado Alley, where you’re most likely to get tornadoes in the United States, has been shifting east because of climate change,” he explained. “So we’re going to see an increase in severe storms that can carry destructive tornadoes.”

Climate change is also affecting the El Niño and La Niña cycle, which is the movement of warm ocean waters. La Niña occurs when warm waters build up where they’re supposed to be in the Western Pacific Ocean, and El Niño occurs when the winds die down and the water flows to the coast of South America. This cycle has a huge effect on the world’s weather, and humans are impacting it by using too much energy and increasing the ocean’s temperature. “We’re trapping in more energy by releasing carbon dioxide,” said Carman. “Sunlight hits the planet, and more of it should be leaving in the form of infrared radiation, but it gets trapped by our carbon emissions. So we’re just adding that energy in. It’s like putting a thicker blanket on at night so you stay warm.”

The warming of the oceans is making the differences between El Niño and La Niña more drastic. When we have an El Niño year, it will be more pronounced, and the same thing will happen with La Niña. Global warming also results in snowpack and sea ice melting in the Arctic, putting more moisture in the atmosphere that comes down as precipitation. “When we do get snowfalls, they’re probably going to be more severe,” noted Mr. Carman. “We might not get many days with snow, but there’s a greater chance that we’re going to get, you know, two feet of snow in one storm system. Those severe events will be more likely to happen, but snow on any given day will be less likely to happen, if that makes sense.”

These intense, spread-out weather events are already starting to happen with rain; you might have noticed that flooding is a bigger problem now. Torrential downpours are becoming more common due to a warmer atmosphere, which allows water molecules to stay up longer. Mr. Carman compares it to “loading the atmosphere with more ammunition.”



Another problem is that many of Ohio’s native tree species will not be able to survive in the new climate, the most shocking one being the Ohio buckeye. “It’s probably not going to be able to live in Ohio by the end of the century because it will be too warm,” stated Carman. “The conditions that buckeyes can survive in will be moving northward. So, it might be the Toronto buckeye or something.”

Sugar maples, firs, spruces, and pine trees are also suffering from the warming climate in Ohio. “You have more dead trees, you have greater opportunity for the massive fires that we saw out in California, and Oregon and Washington happening here,” explained Carman. “Those 116 degree days that happened in Portland and Seattle and Vancouver, there’s no reason that that can’t happen here as well. We’re just going to see more of those super hot events happen, and that will kill some of those trees, which will make it more likely that we have fires.”

It might seem like Ohio will be a bad place to live in the future, but actually, our predicted climate is looking pretty good in comparison to other states. “We’re looking at 20 feet of sea-level rise minimum by the end of the century,” warned Mr. Carman. “Minimum.” Most of the coasts will be completely underwater, including cities like Virginia Beach and Miami. Meanwhile, Ohio will still be above-ground and have relatively stable weather. Ohio also benefits from Lake Erie, a huge source of freshwater that will be very valuable. “Then Ohio becomes kind of attractive, which I know sounds strange to Ohioans like me who were born and raised here,” said Carman. “I could see people saying things like, ‘Well, I could at least live in Ohio, where there’s food and water.’” Ohio will have problems, but compared to states like Florida and Louisiana, they are much more manageable.

Even then, climate change will affect every part of the world, and we are already seeing its impact here. The science is clear: the world as we know it is going to change, and so is Ohio. “It makes me tremendously sad,” admitted Mr. Carman. “I became a teacher because I wanted to work with young people, and so obviously I care about you guys as well, and the world that you’re going into is just different and will never be the same as the world that I grew up into. That world is gone. Basically, everything is going to be harder for your generation and any

generations that come after you. Everything is going to be more of a struggle. We really need to completely reform how our society does everything.”

When you know all of the challenges that are coming our way, it can be difficult to take in. It’s easy to give up when you understand the scope of the problem, but there are things that people can do. Individual actions can have an impact, and most people know what those are: recycling, using less energy, buying locally produced foods, eating less meat, etc. However, it’s governments and large corporations that really have the power to slow down global warming. A scientific report by the Carbon Disclosure Project found that 100 fossil fuel companies are responsible for over 70% of global greenhouse emissions. If we want to protect the Ohio that we know and love, a lot has to change, and it needs to start at the top.

Infographic by Fatou M’Baye. Sources: National Weather Service, Climate Central, Vox

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Despite draw of winter AAU, players choose RHS

By Jaden Lepp

The Roosevelt basketball team, just like many other Roosevelt sports, has continued its long tradition this year of playing school after school in our conference throughout the winter season. Although their performance varies greatly year to year, many Roosevelt basketball players still try out to support their local team. However, many students will often face a tough choice each year, caught between playing for their school team, or choosing a more exotic, competitive option.

Club sports have been around since the 1830s, and far predate school sports teams in America. During the early 1900s, many sports teams became associated schools, and so school sports teams were born, while club sports fell out of fashion. Club sports didn't become popular again until the 1990s when distraught parents began to pay for their children to enroll in elite, private sports leagues, in hopes of getting benefits for college admissions. Since then, the private youth sports industry has grown in value to upwards of \$15 billion in 2017, according to Time magazine.

The main competitor to the school team, at least when it comes to basketball, is AAU, or the Amateur Athletic Union. Rather than being a league in the normal sense of most sports leagues, AAU is a private organization that helps organize and run circuits. The circuits function like mini leagues, and are each sponsored and hosted by a third party, such as Nike, Stow High School, or the Cleveland Cavaliers. The party hosting the circuit provides courts and money, and then AAU provides staff and organization. People can then apply to become AAU coaches, and then form their own teams to be able to play in the circuits. The main thing that makes AAU special is the variety of circuits available, from small, non competitive local ones, that would be hosted by a place like Stow High School, to massive, national ones, hosted by massive companies such as Nike or Adidas. In many of the larger circuits, competitive players from across the nation will play, and rewards for winning can often include scholarships, prize money, or even shoe contracts. However, the majority of AAU players spend their time playing in the less competitive local or state circuits.

When asked about AAU basketball teams compared to the school team, many students found the choice difficult. Roosevelt sophomore Jeremiah Lepp said, "There's a lot of different AAU teams in Ohio. It really depends, because I feel like if I'm playing for a more local team where we are playing in easier tournaments, it will be way more like relaxed, but if I'm playing for a big good team that plays in all the biggest tournaments and the ranked tournaments then it's obviously gonna be more serious."

The variation from team to team in many club sports appeals to most players, and can be what convinces them to play during the offseason, or sometimes, during the school basketball season. When asked whether he liked playing AAU basketball more than playing for the school team, senior Seth Bowser immedi-

ately responded "yes."

Senior Desmeal Leigh stated, "I like traveling with the AAU team and staying in the hotels and stuff. That's fun. And when we went to New Jersey, we were on the beach, and that was fun, so sometimes I like AAU, but I do like the high school team."

Of course, there are some areas where even high competition AAU travel teams can't compete with the school team. "On the school team you get to play with your friends, who you've gone to school with the whole year and known for the whole year," commented Lepp. "School basketball games are more fun probably because you're playing in front of a big crowd, usually you don't get a huge crowd for AAU, but school is like a big crowd and the games are more fun. But you play way less games in school because in AAU you are playing like eight, nine, or 10 games a weekend, and then in school you have like two games a week."

Despite the benefits of AAU, Lepp, Bowser, and Leigh have all decided to play for RHS rather than an early winter AAU circuit. The allure of the school team, being in front of the crowd with your friends, and being able to play for a cause that you are close to, is just something that isn't around much in AAU leagues. With AAU running almost year round though, it is almost guaranteed that once the winter sports season ends and students begin wanting to play basketball again, the AAU circuits are where they will turn.



Photo by Dr. Roebke

A bowling bananza at Theodore Roosevelt

By Luke Jenkins

The Riders are set to run the bowling lanes this coming winter, so to hear all about the girl's bowling team and their many triumphs, the Colonel talked to senior Tara Sefchick about both the team's past and their future. She's a bowling aficionado who boasted the highest average for high school girls in Portage County during the 2020-2021 season.

Last year, the group had a series of great successes, meaning this season the girls are looking to "defend the Suburban League title, and to hopefully have another undefeated season!" On the subject of their record, Sefchick also notes, "[w]e've only lost one match during the past two seasons, so we're going to work extra hard to keep up this winning streak."

This year also features more athletes on the team than Sefchick has ever seen in her four years on the team. "I think part of that is due to the success of our program for the past few years," but, she goes on to say "bowling is also a sport that's relatively quick to pick up and learn."

This, however, is by no means saying the sport is easy. "It may be easy to learn, but it's hard to master!" Bowling demands a wide variety of skill, patience, and restraint to truly excel, even if it's one that Sefchick says "you can always turn to for fun." Make sure to voice your support for the team as they hope to continue their streak and make our school proud.



Photo by Dr. Roebke

Indoor track: Is it even real?

By Jaden Lepp

As winter winds on and the basketball season comes to a height, a few students are participating in an alternative winter sport, a sport that is normally not even associated with the winter season.

Honorary Roosevelt student Aaron Dutt spends his afternoons running mile after mile training for his indoor track league. Although the spring running season is still far off, Dutt and many other students across the district run indoor track, mostly for the purposes of preparing for the spring running season. When asked about the benefits of running indoor track as opposed to other winter training activities, Dutt replied, "Getting in more competition and getting used to racing against higher level competition, rather than your own team mates."

Aside from the extra competition, there are other benefits to running indoor track before the outdoor season. Indoor is actually more difficult than outdoor track, because most indoor tracks are only 200m per lap, far less than the 400m long outdoor tracks. This means that the runners have to make more frequent and tighter turns for the same distance, and as a result spend much more time battling with centrifugal force than when running on the 400m tracks found

outside. Indoor track times will be on average longer than outdoor times, allowing indoor runners to achieve comparably high results once they switch over to outdoor during the spring season.

The extra challenge has led many runners like Dutt to step out of their comfort zones and participate in indoor track leagues. With competition mounting, especially for seniors who hope to gain college scholarships, indoor track is a great way to stay active during the winter season and build on your skills.

Horoscopes

By Payton Courtney

Aries (March 21 - April 19)

This holiday season will be a rough one. Your drive to be number one and on top will cause stress, but over the break, you should be more relaxed. There may be a decision you must make this holiday season, but make sure you take a step back and think about it. Don't jump right in (avoid water).

Taurus (April 20 - May 20)

This holiday season will bring many decisions to you. These decisions will be hard for you to make and will be bringing you stress. When break comes around, you will finally be able to relax and have some time to yourself.

Gemini (May 21 - June 21)

This holiday season, be prepared for stress. You will be juggling many different things, from hobbies to friend groups.

Cancer (June 22 - July 22)

This holiday season, romance is in the air. Prepare for peppermint spice and a good time with your pals. Don't be scared to walk through doorways with a smile. Don't let your crown fall, queen.

Leo (July 23 - August 22)

This holiday season should bring you peace. These past months have been stressful and things may have not been going your way, but this holiday break will be relaxing. The season will be filled with laughter and love from friends.

Virgo (August 23 - September 22)

This holiday season, be prepared for a mess that you will need to help fix. Your helpful spirit will cause you to want to step up and help others this month. You will get the relaxation you need, but not long after, will need to get back up and do something. Over the break, you will eat all kinds of yummy foods.

Libra (September 23 - October 23)

This holiday season will be an artistic one. You will have many new experiences with the ones you love and create great memories. This month, you will be all over the place. You will be kept on your toes, nothing that you can't handle, but will take in every relaxing moment in between. This holiday season is sure to be a great one.

Scorpio (October 24 - November 21)

This holiday season, be prepared for chaos. This month will start off slow, but quickly move from there. This month will be very ambitious for you and your ego may get the best of you. Keep your ground, remember to stay humble, and don't let your emotion control you and you should sale through this month.

Sagittarius (November 22 - December 21)

This holiday season will be a very creative time for you. This month will also cause a lot of emotional stress. With school, you may find it hard to find time to relax and do things with the ones you love. Although, once you go on break you will have time to relax. Make sure to not put too many things on your plate this winter.

Capricorn (December 22 - January 19)

This holiday season you will do a lot of exploring, whether it be in yourself, others, or the nature around you. Sometimes you may come off as cold or unemotional, so make sure you are expressing your feelings to those you love. Stay calm and cool, and this holiday break should be relaxing.

Aquarius (January 20 - February 18)

This holiday season will bring you change. You constantly want to make change in the world and your life and it is finally coming. This month, you will go on many spontaneous adventures. You will also express yourself through your clothing and fashion this winter. Don't get too stressed and in your head this holiday and everything will go well.

Pisces (February 19 - March 20)

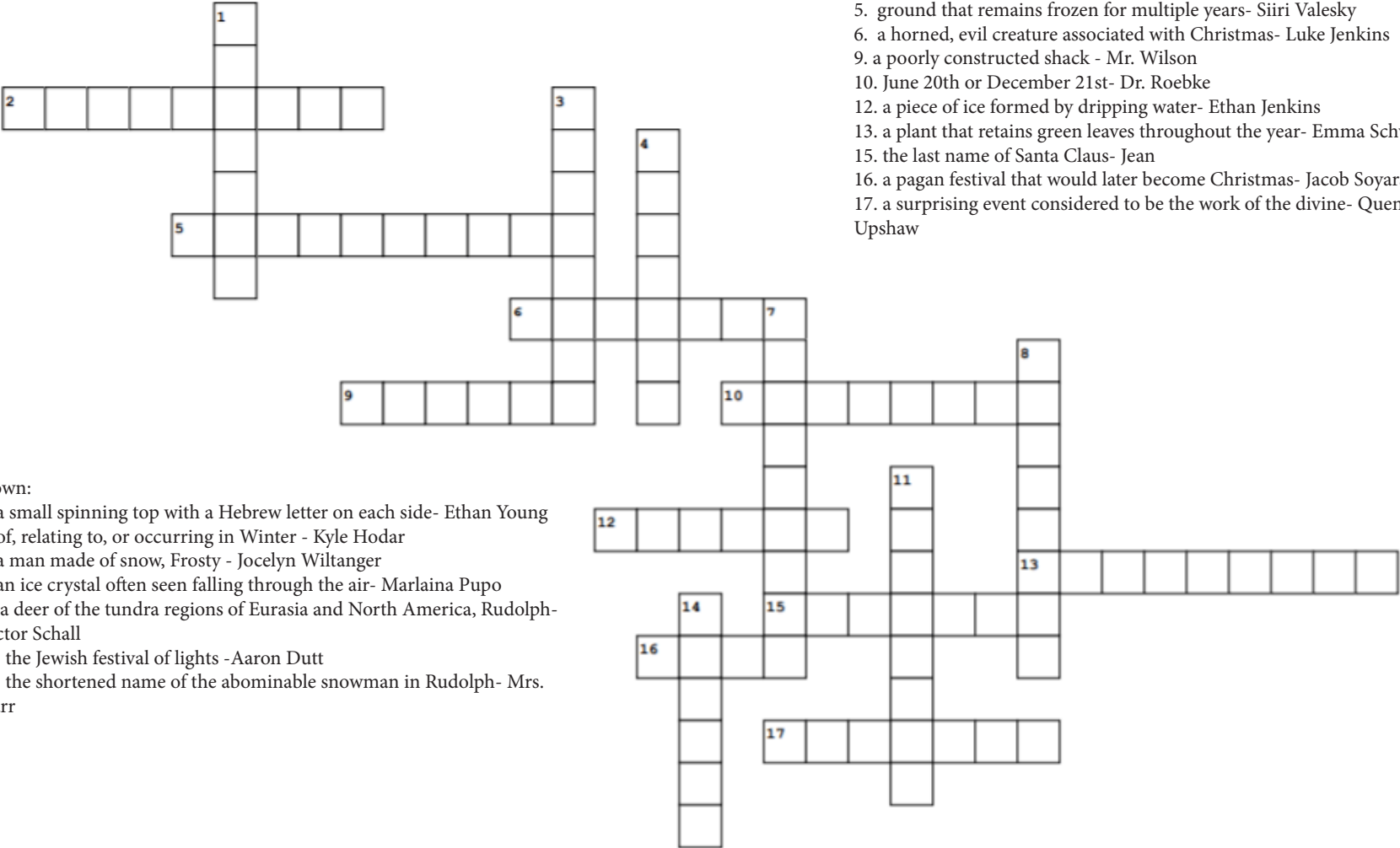
This holiday season will be a restful one. It may not be at the start, but things should get better as the month goes on. Last month was an emotional one, and this one will too. Although, you will have more control on your emotions. Over the holiday, you will have many experiences with the ones you love and make great memories that you will cherish for the rest of your life. Make sure to stay calm and cool over the gift buying process this season.



Comic by Jaden Lepp

Fa La La LaLa Crossword

By Ezra Turner



Down:

- 1. a small spinning top with a Hebrew letter on each side- Ethan Young
- 3. of, relating to, or occurring in Winter - Kyle Hodar
- 4. a man made of snow, Frosty - Jocelyn Wiltanger
- 7. an ice crystal often seen falling through the air- Marlaina Pupo
- 8. a deer of the tundra regions of Eurasia and North America, Rudolph- Victor Schall
- 11. the Jewish festival of lights -Aaron Dutt
- 14. the shortened name of the abominable snowman in Rudolph- Mrs. Harr

Across:

- 2. a fruit; commonly a sauce at Thanksgiving dinners; a sprite flavor- Paige Thompson
- 5. ground that remains frozen for multiple years- Siiri Valesky
- 6. a horned, evil creature associated with Christmas- Luke Jenkins
- 9. a poorly constructed shack - Mr. Wilson
- 10. June 20th or December 21st- Dr. Roebke
- 12. a piece of ice formed by dripping water- Ethan Jenkins
- 13. a plant that retains green leaves throughout the year- Emma Schweitzer
- 15. the last name of Santa Claus- Jean
- 16. a pagan festival that would later become Christmas- Jacob Soyars
- 17. a surprising event considered to be the work of the divine- Quentin Upshaw

Celebrity look-alikes

By Cooper Liedtke

					
Daryl Sabara Actor	Parker Balan Junior	Tina Fey Actress/Writer	Mrs. Puhalla Gov Teacher	Ross Lynch Singer/Actor	Reese Campana Senior
					
Dwayne Johnson Actor	Mr. Ferlito P.E. Teacher	Tyler Funke	Ethan Hicks Junior	Billie Eilish Singer	Paige Thompson Senior
					
Jake Gyllenhaal Actor	Mr. Hughes Math Teacher	Gwyneth Paltrow Actress	Taylor Dunlap Junior	Jeremy Schuch Senior	David Dobrik YouTuber

Spiderman swings into theaters

By Ryan Barkley

Spider-Man No Way Home has become one of the most anticipated movies of all time after racking up 355.5 million views on it's first trailer, destroying the previous record of 289 million that was set by Avengers Endgame in 2019.

It picks up the Spider-Man story right after the end of Spider-Man Far From Home when Spider-Man's real identity was revealed to the public, leading the majority of them to turn against Peter because they believe that he killed Mysterio, who was viewed as a hero by the people. To try and fix this, Peter takes a visit to fellow Avenger, Doctor Strange, to try and make it so no one knew about him being Spider-Man. This does not go completely according to plan, leading to potentially much more serious issues.

The film will have appearances from popular Spider-Man villains such as Electro, Lizard, and Sandman. Doctor Octopus, who was revealed in the first trailer, and The Green Goblin, who was revealed in the first poster, will also make their returns. A potential appearance from Venom after Spider-Man was also in the post credit scene of Venom: Let There be Carnage. All of these villains made their first appearances on screen in the first Spider-Man trilogy with Tobey Maguire or the Amazing Spider-Man Trilogy with Andrew Garfield.

When asked what they were most excited to see in Spider-Man No Way Home, junior Jay Datta said, "Seeing if Tobey Maguire and Andrew Garfield are back in the Spiderverse."

Both actors have been heavily rumored to make a comeback as the iconic character since this movie was first announced. With all of the Multiverse stuff slowly building up throughout Marvel's other shows and movies for the past year or so, there is certainly a chance that we will see these two back on the big screen once again.

The hype surrounding this movie is all for good reason, whether you liked the first Spider-Man trilogy with Tobey Maguire or you prefer the newer movies with Tom Holland. Either way there should be something in this movie for all Spider-Man fans to look forward to.



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