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# MVHS Journal



Issue 13

*Monte Vista High School*

October 10, 2017

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## Many New Appointments Made at September School Board Meeting Staff Reports

As is typical, September's Board meeting began with a spate of approvals of new and continuing appointments. Unica Archuleta was approved as a food service server, and Dan Gallegos as a bus driver. The Board also accepted Manny Wasinger staying on as the head football coach at the high school, with Jerry Duran, Al Ford, and Shadron Wenta appointed assistant football coaches. Adam Garcia, Presley Garcia, and Greg Jones will serve as middle school football coaches this year, while Michelle Ramirez will be the assistant volleyball coach at the high school. Ashley Barela, Danielle Gibbs, Michelle Schaefer, and Shelly Taylor were approved as middle school volleyball coaches, while John Naranjo will be the middle school cross country coach. Greg Hindes was also approved to continue as head high school boys' golf coach, and Valerie Atencio as high school head cheerleader sponsor. Finally, Bryce Engen was approved to serve as a basketball coach at the middle school. Lisa Robirds was also approved as a guest teacher, pending authorization, and Rebecca Gonzales and Frances Yeganeh as guest classified staff.

Following the appointments, as there were no comments from the audience, the Board discussed the Colorado Association of School Boards (CASB) convention and regional meeting, at which our Board will be represented. Mr. Nehring and Mr. Webb will present on CDE's framework at the convention (Mr. Nehring will also make this presentation at Adams State University on October 26th). After that discussion, the Turnaround Leadership Group presented a sustainable leadership model that was first implemented in May and entails a two-year process. Then each principal presented last

year's PARCC and CMAS test results, as well as a plan for how that data will be used to inform instruction.

After discussion of CASB, leadership models, and testing, the Board moved on to action items, approving the minutes from the August 17th meeting, the July 2017 financial reports, the Colorado Multi-Tiered System of Supports Implementation Grant, the resolution to cancel the School Board election, request to reconsider the On-Line Academy school performance rating, and nine non-eligible student transportation requests.

Following the action items, Mr. Webb reported on the city's reception of this year's Homecoming plans: At the City-District meeting, the City stressed that it would like to continue with the joint activities started last year. In that vein, the City is going to attempt to make the world's largest s'more at the Homecoming bonfire, which will be held on Thursday, October 26th.

After the reports, the Board of Education announced that its next regular meeting would be held on Tuesday, October 17th, 2017.

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### Monte Vista School District Board of Education

**Matt Nehring-President**  
**David Reschke-Vice President**  
**Beverly Martinez-Secretary**  
**Elizabeth Conner-Treasurer**  
**Gary Wilkinson-Assistant Secretary/Treasurer**

## AP English Students Take in a Romantic Comedy at Creede Repertory Theatre

By Grace Beckner and Kylee Henderhan

On September 6, 2017, 25 Monte Vista High School students (AP English Literature, AP English Language, and Dramatic Literature classes, accompanied by Ms. Harlan, media specialist) attended the play at the Creede Repertory Theatre in Creede, Colorado. The play, *Talley's Folly*, was written by Lanford Wilson. The play was originally performed on February, 20, 1980. It is one of Lanford Wilson's simplest plays. Wilson's plays were usually very "busy." They were plays that had many characters and had a lot of things going on at once, but this play was meant to be "simple and romantic."

The play was set in a deserted Victorian boathouse in Lebanon, Missouri. In the play Matt Freedman, who is a Jewish accountant from St. Louis, arrives in Missouri to announce his love for Sally Talley, who is from one of

the richest families in Missouri. After Matt arrives in Missouri he sets out to find Sally. First, he goes to her place of work (the hospital for the wounded soldiers) but she hides from him and tells the other



Source: Creede Repertory Theatre

nurses to tell him that she is not there. Matt sits in the waiting room of the hospital for the whole afternoon before he decides that he will just go over to Sally's family house. When Sally gets home from work she finds Matt in the old boathouse where they had had an "affair" the summer prior.

Throughout the play Sally tells Matt several times that she is

not interested in seeing him, but he ignores her requests for him to leave. They sit in the boathouse talking about what happened to Matt's family and how he got to America; they also talk about Sally and how she was with one of the richest men in town until they found out she could not have children to carry on his family legacy. In the end, Sally agrees to move back to St. Louis with Matt and visit the old boathouse in Missouri once every year so that they never forget that first summer.

Though many of the students said that the play was confusing and that they didn't really know what was going on, the play was still lovely, with an open ending that encourages the audience to imagine how it ended. Overall, most of the students enjoyed the trip to Creede Repertory Theatre, despite the play's unusual, simple structure.

## Monte Vista High School Welcomes Lisa Robirds, Guest Business Teacher

Lisa Robirds, a native of the San Luis Valley (Sargent High School graduate), is currently student teaching through the Public Education and Business Coalition's (PEBC) Boettcher Program with Kana Condon, a business teacher who has been at Monte Vista High School for sixteen years. Ms. Robirds is currently teaching Accounting, Consumer Math, Desktop Publishing, and Business Management.

She comes to MVHS with significant experience in various business industries, including executive administration, finance, and farm credit, and is a graduate of Regis University (B.S. in Finance, minors in accounting and marketing).

Ms. Robirds is also an assistant coach for Sargent's cross country and track teams (MVHS junior Jordan Sierra runs cross country for Sargent), and is an active member of her church, Sargent Community Church.

The journalism staff warmly welcomes Ms. Robirds to Monte Vista!



# Sports News



## Monte Vista Pirates Trounce Cedaredge Bruins at First Home Game

By Nashawna Chiquito and Tyler Vigil

On September 1st, 2017, at 7:00 pm the Cedaredge Bruins' and the Monte Vista Pirates' varsity teams had a football game at the Monte Vista High School football field.

In the first quarter the Pirates played well, according to freshman Seth Quirova (#41). Quarterback Zach Hindes (junior, #14) threw his first touchdown pass to sophomore Kaiden Wenta (#7) and put the Pirates on the board early in the game. Then the Bruins had a long run, but the Pirates defense stopped them.

After the Pirates shut down Cedaredge, junior Tyler Vigil(#24) made a nice catch and senior Andrew Martinez (#87) made a hard punt leaving the Bruins to deal with the defense. Late in the second, however, the Bruins scored a touchdown, taking the lead 8-7 but the Pirates answered back with a field goal by junior Parker Randolph, bringing the score at



The Monte Vista Pirates walk to their positions as the ref looks on as they take on the Cedaredge Bruins.  
Photo by Nashawna Chiquito

halftime to 10-8, Pirates .

In the second half, Wenta made a touchdown and the crowd went wild again. Then senior Jacob Chavez (#45) scored a touchdown. Chavez had 163 yards rushing for the first home game of his last year with the Pirates. He was a big key to the offense, as were fellow seniors Jared Atencio and Cedric Perea, both of whom had an amazing night on defense, leading the team with tackles. Yet another senior (Andrew Martinez) made another key punt in the second half, putting on a good show for the home crowd. Senior Ste-

phen Clutter (#80) also set the stage from the 40 yard line for another touchdown by fellow senior, Andrew Martinez.

The Pirates were on a roll and working together to get more points before time ran out: #3 (Parker Randolph), with a kickoff, added another few points for the Pirates, who took the win over the Cedaredge Bruins (ranked ninth in the state), 31-8.

The whole team made Monte Vista proud, but a few key seniors (Jacob Chavez, Jared Atencio, Cedric Perea, and Andrew Martinez) really set the stage for what will hopefully be a great football season. Coached by Manny Wasinger, Jerry Duran, Al Ford, and Shadron Wenta (MVHS alumnus and accomplished football player), the Pirates have the potential to take out tough opponents like Centauri (away, October 6th), John Mall (away, October 13th), Rocky Ford (away, October 20th), and Dolores (Homecoming, October 27th).



The Monte Vista Pirates defensive line gets ready as the Cedaredge Bruins prepare themselves for the snap.  
Photo by Nashawna Chiquito



## Monte Vista High School Cheerleaders Entering an Exciting New Season

By Karicia Ceballos

This year the Monte Vista High School cheer team consists of nine ladies: Jimena Lopez (freshman), Emilie Beckner (freshman), Larissa Medina (sophomore), Captain Jazmine Veal (junior), Kiana Dominguez (junior), Alexis Lovato (senior), Marisol Jaramillo (senior), Captain Emma Deherrera (senior), and Captain Genesis Savala (senior). Each put in effort and hard work during try-outs over the summer. Their wonderful coach, Valerie Atencio, who is returning for a second year, puts in her time and ideas. One of the team's major goals this year is going to state competition in December.

Apart from competition, during the fall and winter sports season, they cheer for football, volleyball, basketball, wrestling, and golf. The cheerleaders also practice every evening, Monday through Friday, and participate in extra workouts to improve their strength and stamina.

Naysayers may claim that

cheerleading is not a sport, but it requires athletes to be in good physical condition in order to compete and stunt safely. Cheer also entails hard work to learn the cheers and project one's voice. The cheer captains became captains by showing ability, leadership skills, responsibility, effort, and hard work during the 2016-2017 season. Captains have the privilege of teaching and calling cheers to the team, and helping out the coach, as needed.

This year, the cheerleaders have participated in fundraisers and solicited donations in order to compete at state, and they are grateful to the community for their continued support. Their future fundraisers include selling popcorn and chocolate. After setting money aside for competition, the team decided to purchase new warm-ups to look more united as a team. The warm-ups include new bows,



*The cheer team poses at this year's first home football game.  
Photo courtesy of Larissa Medina*

sweats, gloves, backpacks, shoes, headbands, and pom-poms

With their new gear, the cheerleaders are ready for competition, games, and clinics. They each have a spot in their stunt clinics: The flyers are Kiana and Genesis, the bases are Emma, Jazmine, Alexis, and Marisol, and the backs are Jimena and Emilie.

Though the team has had successes, some problems they are struggling with include lack of participation, attendance, and effort, so their current goals are to be more motivated and committed as a team.

## Monte Vista Football Faced Off Against Pagosa Pirates

By Irene Aguilera, Kaitlynn Chavez, and Angel Gallegos

On Friday, September 15th, the MVHS Pirates played the Pagosa Springs Pirates at home.

Although our team lost 7-26, the varsity team was facing tough opponents: Pagosa Springs got 15 yards on their first downs, while Monte Vista got 6 on their first downs. Pagosa got

3 penalties, and Monte got 6. Pagosa got 15 penalty yards and Monte got 45.

Even though it was a tough loss, Monte Vista still got 46 solo tackles, including: Senior Jacob Chavez (#45), who got 4; junior Zack Hinds (#14), who got 5; sophomore Levi Trujillo (#30), who got 3, senior Jared Atencio

(#52), who got 5; junior Jesus Vasquez (#56), who got 4; senior Oscar Diaz (#71), who got 7; senior Cedric Perea (#78), who got 4; and senior Stephen Clutter (#80), who got 3.

The upperclassmen made a good defensive showing at this game, and will hopefully do the same this Friday against Centauri.

## MVHS Golf Team Goes Up Against Salida, Alamosa, Pagosa, and Montezuma-Cortez

By Irene Aguilera and Angel Gallegos

On Friday, September 8th, Salida, Alamosa “A”, Pagosa, Montezuma-Cortez, and Monte Vista competed in a golf tournament at the Monte Vista Golf Course. Golfing for Monte Vista were Casin Holder, Griffin Whitmer, Hunter Hinds, Jameson Obberick, Jarren Chavez, Luke Hoffstaetter, Manuel Contreras, Riley Lester, Ryan Holland, Tristen Holder, and Tucker Jones.

Luke Hoffstaetter got an 86 in total (on an 18-hole golf course) with a 43 in front (first nine holes) and 43 in back (last nine holes). Hunter Hinds got an 86 in total with a 44 in front and 42 in the back, Tucker Jones got a total of 86 with 43 in front and back, Casin Holder ended up with 45 in front and 50 in back, for a total of 95. Monte Vista’s team total was 262. For Monte Vista’s group number 2, Tristen Holder got a 46 in front, 52 in



*The golf team poses during their only home golf tournament this season.  
Photo by Angel Gallegos*

the back, for a total of 98, while Griffin Whitmer ended with a total of 108 (53 in front and 55 in the back). Jarren Chavez had 49 in front, 55 in the back, for a total of 100. Ryan Holland got a 63 in the front a 64 in the back, for a total of 127. Team total was 306. The last team for Monte Vista included Manuel Contreras (103, 48 in front, 55 in back), Caleb Riggerbach (111, 55 in the front, 56 in the back), Jameson Obberick (131, 64 in front, 67 in back), and, last but not least, Riley Lester (126, 59 in front, 67 in back). The team total was 340. The front is the first nine holes and the back is the last nine hole. In an 18-hole golf course.

Salida, with one team, got a team total of 257, with one of their golfers taking 3rd place. Montezuma-Cortez had two teams but only one was ranked (team total of 240). One of their players took first place, and another took second. Pagosa had two teams, with the first team ending at 258, and one of their players taking fifth. The second team had a total of 293. The last school, Alamosa “A”, also had two teams, with the first team earning 249 points and taking a fourth-place finish, and the second team ending up with 269.

The Monte Vista High School golfers did a fine job individually, and as a team. They scored very well overall, although they didn’t take first or second place; their third-place team finish was also solid, considering that they went up against seven other teams.

During the tournament, the Monte Vista golfers commented on how they enjoyed the accuracy and challenge of golf. One player even said that he started playing because generations of his family have been golfers and he started golfing as a young boy. Another golfer further explained, “It gives you good life skills,” to which another added, “especially if you play baseball.”

The coach (Greg Hinds) told us that golf is a growing sport and that it is competing a lot with football. He explained that many students who used to play football now play golf because it isn’t as injury ridden as football. He went on, saying, “Although it’s a growing sport, I just wish more people would come out and enjoy it.” Hinds, of his own coaching experience, explained, “This is my fifth year. I coach the girls and boys. Every year since I’ve made it we’ve had at least two players go to state.”

The MVHS golfers should know that their couch is very proud of them. Coach Hinds was impressed with Monte Vista’s third place finish at the tournament. He also said, “What I like about the Monte Vista team, is that we can draw from Del Norte, Sargent, Center, and Monte Vista. It makes for a dexterous environment with different schools and boys.”

## MVHS Volleyball Takes on Centauri at Home

By Kaitlynn Chavez

On September 19th at 4:00 p.m, Monte Vista High School's C-team began a game with Centauri's C-team. Centauri served first, and there was good back and forth play for the first game, but sadly the Falcons won

The Pirates, with their head still in the game, wanting that victory, switched over to the other side of the net and strategized amongst themselves. Eager to start the second game, they all listened to what their coach had to say.

The Pirates were then on the serving side; they served, and both team started volleying. The Pirates were determined to win this game, but the Monte Vista C-team Pirates were defeated by the Centauri Falcons, two games to zero.

When 5:00 p.m. came around the Monte Vista High school Junior Varsity began to play the Centauri Falcons. As the team served the ball over the net both teams begin to volley. The bleachers began to fill up, and every time the Pirates scored a point, the crowd cheered. Although the game was close and the Pirates wanted the victory, they lost the first game.

Just as the C-team had done, the Pirates switched to the other side of the net, and discussed their strategies for the next game.

Wanting the victory, the Pirates began the second game, volleying back and forth with the Falcons, each team getting a point.

The end of the game was extremely close, but the Falcons pulled off another win against the Pirates.

As 6:00 p.m. arrived, the Monte Vista High School Varsity (2-11 record) had the crowd pepped up as they ran out to "Bring Em Out" by T.I. This was the game that the crowd had been waiting for. The Varsity warmed up, and began the game. Varsity played 3 out of 5 games, each second of each game more intense than the last. Nevertheless, Centauri (12-0 record) took yet another win. Monte Vista lost 25-4, 25-15, and 25-17, respectively.

Centauri's Ember Canty, #10, led in both kills (30) and blocks (21), while Alexis Dingfelder, #4, led in serving aces (12) and assists (46). Centauri's Kaitlyn Quinlan rounded out the top performers of the day with 28 digs and 62 receptions.

When Monte Vista once again took on Centauri on September 30th, they lost 3-0, but managed to keep the Falcons on their toes, posting tighter scores (25-15, 26-24, and 25-18) than those from the September 19th showdown.

Centauri, undefeated in league play, was a tough opponent, but the Pirates do not let losses get to them. They continue to work hard in practice to become the best they can be. Their next game will be at Alamosa on Tuesday, October 3rd.

### Varsity:

Mariah Barbosa #10  
Grace Beckner #14  
Lanaya Cleghorn #15  
Isabel Contreras #11  
Hannah Jones #12  
Harley Kincannon #2  
Lesli Lopez #8  
Erika Medina #1  
Alyssa Rawinski #7  
Amber Michel #3  
Madison Plane #5  
Kaitlynn Porter #4

### Junior Varsity:

Alyson Baker #12  
Maegan Beckner #8  
Hailee Cale #2  
Jordan Duran #16  
Kylee Henderhan #14  
Kayla Hernandez #10  
Larissa Medina #1  
Mareh Medina #7  
Annalease Salcido #15  
Kaylie Self #5  
Alejandra Torres #9  
Kylee Wilson #11

### C-Team:

Alia Baker #10  
Kaitlynn Chavez #8  
Kriselle Dupont #15  
Anjanae George #19  
Elianna Gonzales #5  
Jimena Lopez #3  
Tonita Lopez #1  
Madison Miller #11  
Yesenia Morales #11  
Alyssia Soto #17  
Aracely Torres #10  
Nicki Widger #18



## Circus Kane: An Inspired Story by Staff Writer Nashawna Chiquito

On July 8, 2017, a famous circus master and magician named Kane chooses people that are famous over social media. Those people are invited to his mansion to play a little game: If they are able to make it through the whole course without getting scared then they will win \$250,000. But these social media stars think that's how the game really works, until they encounter terrifying things like they never imagined.

Eight social media stars are chosen to go (Jonathan, Mark, Nick, Mike, Scott, Rose, Nicole, and Amber); these eight know Kane and are big fan of him. On the way there they talk and sing the famous Circus Kane theme song. The other seven find out Scott has a bad heart, so they think he won't make it through the frights that will come their way. But while they're enjoying the company of each other they end up getting gassed. When they arrive they notice that they're in the middle of nowhere. An old man comes out of the mansion and invites the eight in. While they're looking around and trying to find clues, something pop out of nowhere, so Scott has to take some of his pills for his heart condition. Nicole then says, "Uh-huh. You can handle this stuff." Scott responds, "I'm just trying to face my fears." She replies, "And how's that working out for you?" Scott just looks at her. The others go off to the other room and find a tape of Kane, who, in the video, tells them the rules of the game.

After they finish watching the whole thing a door opens and Nick goes through it. Then BOOM! The door shuts behind him. The rest of the eight can't open the door for a full thirty seconds, but then Mark is able to open the door and they all walk in. They see a glass wall, and on the other side they see Nick in a saw box. There are also two clowns that are wearing rubber masks. At first the other people think it's a joke until one of the clowns wearing a rubber mask takes it off, revealing a clown with sharp teeth. Then the clown laughs at Nick trying to yell for help, and suddenly the others are laughing with the clowns. Suddenly the laughing clown pulls out a chainsaw and kills Nick. Mark, Jonathan, and Scott say, "It's obvious Nick is working with Kane. They're just basically acting this whole thing out."

Later, after the seven leave the room, they find another clue, so they enter a room with a ticket booth inside of it and Scott says, "Typical. It is going to be easy for us to win \$250,000." The girls roll their eyes and say, "Says the one with the bad heart. You never know what will come your way."

Next they end up getting seven tickets from one the workers and Amber is handing them out, There are two doors: door number 1 and door number 2. They end up splitting up: Group 1 has 4, and group 2 has 3, and behind each door lies a dangerous course. Behind door number 2 the walls and floors are steaming hot. The contestants have to step on these stools, with axes coming back and forth from each side of the wall. Behind door number 1 are barbed wires all over, but there are arrows on the floor pointing out the direction the contestants are supposed to go. Three contestants die behind these doors: Mark dies because the clown he saw earlier stabbed an axe in his back. The clown ran off and got to the other side without going through the course, so Rose thought it was a good idea to go through the barbed. Right when she was reaching towards the other side she tripped, tangling her neck in barbed wire. Then, behind door number 2, Scott dies because two pop ups scared him so badly he ended up having a heart attack. The rest of the group makes it back and starts freaking out, crying and figuring out that this is real. None of it is fake.

Later they end up meeting with the two clowns again, so they run into the closest room, which is full of body parts hanging from the ceiling. Mike finds a jack-in-the-box on the floor, and when he picks it up it squirts water on him. When Jonathan, Amber, and Nicole ask if he is okay Mark says, "Yeah, thought it was something else, but it's just water." They say, "Thank God." After they talk for a while, they encounter two hooks flying around. They latch onto Mark and the others try to save him, but it is too late. Rose starts freaking out, and when she turns around, screaming, the clown with the sharp teeth gets ahold of her and chokes her to death.

So that leaves two: Jonathan and Amber. They run into the next room where they see a crazy guy eating a human body. Amber screams and that crazy guy turns and attacks Jonathan, but Jonathan fights him off and ends up killing the crazy guy. They then meet up with Kane the Circus King. Jonathan tries to tell Kane these are innocent people he is killing, but after awhile he starts to irritate Kane, who tells him: "One, two, three, that's all I need to finish with." Then he smiles and starts laughing. He says, "Run my little guinea pigs. RUN AS FAR AS YOU CAN, BUT YOU CAN'T HIDE FROM THE CIRCUS KANE."

Jonathan and Amber start running but they get lost in the room Nicole and Mike died in. Later they end up finding each other: Amber is crying and Jonathan says, "We can fight these guys one by one. We just need a strategy." Amber says, "I can't. I just can't. This is scaring me so bad." Jonathan explain, "If we made it this far we can defeat him and make it out alive, okay? Just trust me." At that moment, Kane stabs Jonathan in the stomach and starts laughing. He calls his two servants (the clowns) and they beat Jonathan with hammers and axes.

Amber, screaming, runs into the room where the group started at the beginning of the competition and finds a button on the side of a desk. It is the button that opens the door to freedom. Kane chases after her, but, by that time, the cops have shown up, shooting Kane because he won't stay still. They take Amber in to talk about everything that happened in that mansion and she tells them everything, except that she wasn't really part of that group of eight innocent people: She was Kane's daughter, and had been playing a role the whole time.

## What do the stars have to say about your personality? Check out your sign!

Compiled by Jessica Castillo Gallegos

Sign	Element	Color	Spiritual	Emotional
<b>Aries (March 21-April 19)</b>	Fire	Red	Perseverance	Courage
<b>Taurus (April 20-May 20)</b>	Earth	Pink	Security	Sociability
<b>Gemini (May 21-June 20)</b>	Air	Yellow	Wisdom	Contentment
<b>Cancer (June 21-July 22)</b>	Water	White, Silver	Peace	Peace
<b>Leo (July 23-August 22)</b>	Fire	Orange, Gold	Purity	Optimism
<b>Virgo (August 23-September 22)</b>	Earth	Brown, Navy	Steadfastness	Confidence
<b>Libra (September 23-October 22)</b>	Air	Pastels	Fertility	Balance
<b>Scorpio (October 23-November 21)</b>	Water	Dark Red	Love	Strength
<b>Sagittarius (November 22-December 21)</b>	Fire	Purple	Faith	Inner Calm
<b>Capricorn (December 22-January 19)</b>	Earth	Black	Loyalty	Power
<b>Aquarius (January 20-February 18)</b>	Air	Turquoise	Integrity	Innovation
<b>Pisces (February 19-March 20)</b>	Water	Sea Green	Compassion	Reflection



Source: Daily Horoscope

**Aries:** The Ram. Ruled by Mars. An Aries is courageous, energetic, willful, commanding and leading.

**Taurus:** The Bull. Ruled by Venus. A Taurus is pleasure seeking, loves control, is dependable, provokes slowly, and is highly sensual in nature.

**Gemini:** The Twins. Ruled by Mercury. A Gemini is cerebral, chatty, loves education and learning, is charming, and adventurous.

**Cancer:** The Crab. Ruled by the Moon. A Cancer is emotional, group oriented, and seeks security and family.

**Leo:** The Lion. Ruled by the Sun. A Leo is generous, organized, protective, and beautiful.

**Virgo:** The Maiden. Ruled by Mercury. A Virgo is particular, logical, practical, and critical, and has a sense of duty.

**Libra:** The Scales. Ruled by Venus. A Libra is balanced, seeks beauty, and has a sense of justice.

**Scorpio:** The Scorpion. Ruled by Pluto. A Scorpio is passionate, exacting, and loves taking things to the extremes.

**Sagittarius:** The Centaur. Ruled by Jupiter. A Sagittarius is happy, absent minded, creative, and adventurous.

**Capricorn:** The Mountain Goat. Ruled by Saturn. A Capricorn is timeless, driven, calculating, and ambitious.

**Aquarius:** The Man. Ruled by Uranus. An Aquarius is forward thinking, communicative, people-oriented, stubborn, generous, and dedicated.

**Pisces:** The Fish. Ruled by Neptune. A Pisces is likeable, energetic, passionate, and sensitive.

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## Album Reviews: When Artists Get the Attention They Deserve

### Ed Sheeran's *Divide*

By Maryha Brown

Ed Sheeran is a British singer-songwriter that is from Hebden Bridge, United Kingdom. His latest album *Divide* broke the charts. *Divide* was released on March 3rd, 2017. Ed Sheeran has broken the charts with its singles, knocking out One Direction and Justin Bieber. The opening act of Taylor Swift for four years, Ed hasn't just become a pop-star—he has remade the sound of pop.

"Dive"

is considered one of the best pop songs this year. This song shows the gritty smoothness of his voice when he sings "Don't call me baby unless you mean it- Don't tell me you need me if you don't believe it."



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So many of his songs have a meaning, like "Supermarket Flowers", in which Sheeran describes the aftermath of his late grandmother's funeral through his mother's point of view. "Perfect", on the other hand, is a love song that's mixed with golden-age pop, while "Castle on the Hill" is a mix of jittery guitar and massive chorus. "Shape of You" makes use of a memorable beat, but, otherwise, it's just Sheeran and his guitar.

*Divide* paints a picture of the songs' messages: sunglasses indoors, man bags, fake patois in "New Man", which showcases an ex-boyfriend's faults. "Galway Girl" is a tribute to an Irish-lad who isn't above chowing down on Doritos when bringing a guy home. The combination of interesting details and Sheeran's voice and his guitar makes for an album that I definitely recommend.

### Khalid's *American Teen*

By Grace Beckner

Khalid is a nineteen-year-old American singer from El Paso, Texas. He is best known for his debut single "Location" which is currently peaking at number 16 on the Billboard Hot 100. "Location" is also his highest charting single to date. Khalid's debut album



Copyright RCA Records

*American Teen* was released March 3, 2017, and has received a lot of high-profile attention from celebrities like Kylie Jenner, boosting the young singer's career.

"Location", the third track on *American Teen*, undoubtedly deserves all of the attention it has received. The track, with its mellow electronic beat and smooth vocals, is well beyond the message of other young artists. Khalid's commentary cuts deep into his generation and speaks for a change in the modern way people experience love: "Send me your location / Let's focus on communication / 'Cause I just need a time and place to come through."

This is not to say the album's sense of youthfulness should be ignored. The opening track "American Teen" leads with the lines, "Saying I don't want to come home tonight / Yeah, and I'm high up, off what? / I don't even remember / But my friend passed out in the Uber ride." The music, paired with Khalid's voice, creates a casual, almost innocent, story void of any eccentricity. The ending, which could very well take place around a bonfire with friends, is an acoustic rendering of the chorus, reminiscent of younger years.

Despite many of his songs being based on his own personal accounts of life, he also speaks to the current generational culture with his constant use of the words "we" and "us", which serves to make his music more personal to those who listen. The songs do not center on ignoring social norms, but instead focus on bending them in the interest of freedom and independence. With *American Teen*, Khalid sets a high standard for himself as his future stretches endlessly before him, full of potential.

## *IT* Delivers on Scares, as Well as Storyline, Taking the Best from the Original

By Karicia Ceballos

The movie *IT* released on September 8th, 2017, by New Line Cinema is a coming-of-age parable that centers around a fateful summer for a group of childhood friends. An evil spirit, IT (Bill Skarsgard), terrorizes this group, composed of Richie (Finn Wolfhard), Beverley (Sophia Lillis), Bill (Jaeden Lieberher), Eddie (Jack Grazer), Stanley (Wyatt Oleff), and Mike (Chosen Jacobs). Andrés Muschietti (2013's *Mama*), the director of the film, seemed to have mixed emotions, sometimes paying homage to the 1990 version of *IT*, as well as Stephen King's novel, and sometimes striking out on his own with new images and concepts. One aspect that is the same in all three versions, however, is how the young main characters have to go through stages in their life that affect the other situations they are put in. They are labeled as the unpopular kids, in addition to having to deal with developing and puberty (IMDB).

For that reason, *IT* succeeds at being both terrifying and emotionally resonant. Viewers feel sympathy for the main characters as they endure bullying, domestic abuse, and a spate of other issues, in addition to discovering the secret of IT. One of the most emotional scenes was when the character Sophia was cutting her hair in the bathroom representing the sexual activity between her and her father. The film makes use of slow emotional suspense, as well as many jump scares and humorous scenes. For example, one of the best jump scares was when one of the main characters went to the house where the clowns were: Pennywise the clown appeared, hidden by red balloons which represent the clowns, and ghoulishly says, "Pop, pop, pop," while popping them. Throughout the movie, the scenes communicated terror, as well as sadness, such as when Bill built his little brother Georgie a boat to play with in the rain, just before Georgie went missing. In one of the most memorable scenes of the film, Georgie's boat slips into the sewers, at which point IT, in the form of Pennywise the Clown, lures him in to the sewer. Following his disappearance, Bill becomes depressed thinking about him wondering what happened to him. During the movie, the kids started realizing the town they live in is haunted, so they begin a search for clues related to Georgie's disappearance, as well as the disappearance of many other children in town. Then Pennywise the Clown starts haunting each character with their worst fear until they eventually come together to face him at the end of the movie.

Overall, this film has a great storyline (screenplay by Chase Palmer, Cary Fukunaga, and Gary Dauberman), believable special effects (supervised by Warren Appelby), solid directing by Andrés Muschietti, and memorable acting. Of course the film had a great story to draw on (Stephen King's *IT*), but it also went in a few different directions from the novel and the 1990 version, most notably related to the timeline and King's setup, wherein he jumped back and forth between the group of friends' adult lives and the childhood adventures and terrors they endured. Some of the more controversial scenes from the novel were also omitted. For fans of the remake, they'll be treated to *Stephen King's IT: Chapter 2* on September 6th, 2019, which will feature the same director and Bill Skarsgard once again filling the role of Pennywise. *Chapter 2* will be set 27 years later (where King's novel starts) when the group of friends is called back to their hometown to get rid of IT once and for all (IMDB).



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## Opinion: PDA Policy and Enforcement Not a Problem at MVHS

By Staff Writer

For some who may not know about what PDA means, it is an abbreviation for “Public Display of Affection.” In the MVHS handbook, the PDA policy states, “Inappropriate intimate contact is when two students make contact with each other in either a front-to-front or front-to-back positioning of their bodies, kissing, embracing in a non-consoling manner, or any sexual touching of the body of the other person with or without permission of the other person involved. Students will be warned on the first offense and a progressive increase in response will result in being sent home for a day.”

Many students of MVHS have different perspectives on the PDA policy at MVHS. Personally, I feel as if the school does handle PDAs well because staff generally stop it from happening and don’t let it get out of hand, but some students feel like the policy is too strict/unfairly enforced.

High schoolers are typically 14-18 years old; at this age teens are trying to express themselves in as many ways possible, including being in friendships and relationships. I personally support the way that the MVHS staff handles PDAs at the high school; however, I believe that the rule that there is not to be any “front-to-front” contact such as hugs, is a bit over exaggerated. I believe there is nothing wrong with hugs, even between significant others.

Some of the high school students would like to take it much farther than that, believing that “making out” in the hallway is okay. However, I believe that it is not. The staff handles it well by simply telling them to “get to class,” which is perfectly reasonable.

My personal opinion on the PDA issue is that there shouldn’t be changes to the policy in the handbook because the staff lets the

students express themselves, while not letting the PDAs get out of hand. The staff sometimes make fun of the students, but I believe the students would rather them make fun of them than have them get mad and write them up. Overall, myself, along with other students at MVHS, believe that the PDA policy, its enforcement, and student PDAs are not issues of concern.



Source: gurl.com

*PDAs are not only of concern at public high schools, but in the workplace and in public spaces. Some city Codes of Conduct even reference them.*

## YouTube is a Trending App That Is Overtaking TV, Other Media

By Karicia Ceballos

YouTube is a trending app on the app store! YouTube is taking over and is becoming the next source of your average cable/TV. The website was developed in 2015. The hidden truth is if your friend is not texting you back, they’re most likely watching YouTube. Watching videos on the app is a typical hobby for most teens in this generation. YouTube includes music, videos, vlogs, tutorials, and much more. YouTube is also evolving and becoming more and more advanced each day, catering to the interests of different viewers. Ladies can try out new makeup and hair trends, and it’s also a way to learn new things, especially for beginners. Users can check out the daily vlogs of gamers and learn new tricks for videos games. Vlogging, or recording one’s daily life, has become especially popular recently, so if you ever need a back-up career plan, or just a way to pass the time away, check out YouTube!





2017 Homecoming Schedule



**Monday, October 23rd: Stoplight Day (Wear red if you're taken for the dance, yellow if you're unsure you're going, and green if you're looking for a date)  
Hall Decorating from 4-6 pm, Coronation at 7 pm at Central Auditorium**

**Tuesday, October 24th: Gender Switch Day, Peach Fuzz Volleyball  
Powder Puff Football at 7 pm at the high school football field**

**Wednesday, October 25th: House Wars Day, Quidditch and Class Presentations**

**Thursday, October 26th: Green and Gold Day, Parade at 2 pm  
Bonfire at 7 pm at Ski-Hi**

**Friday, October 27th: Tailgate Carnival from 4-6 pm, Football Game (Dolores) at 7 pm**

**Saturday, October 28th: Homecoming Dance from 8 pm-12 am at MVHS**

**DRACO DORMIENS NUNQUAM TITILLANDUS**



Juniors

Freshmen

Sophomores

Seniors

