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The Bernard Journal

Every Little Girl's

DREAM

Mr. Withers Takes Care of Tech Troubles

By Sophie Kwiatkowski '19

I bet you all have been to the help desk sometime or another with real, or imagined assumptions about the "illness" of your computer. That's why Mr. Withers is here. He's been employed at Seton for two years and six days, give or take a few days.

Mr. Withers absolutely loves Seton, and he says, "The daily interaction with the students, faculty, and staff is my favorite part about the job. There are so many unique personalities."

Knowing high school students like myself, accidents happen, especially with computers. Mr. Withers implied that there are so many crazy stories students have shared with him about their crazy night before!

Mr. Withers never fully explained the story, but in brief detail he told me about the time a student brought her computer to the help desk and told him that she had dropped her computer in her swimming pool. "Her name shall remain anonymous lol," said Mr. Withers.

Mr. Withers says when [sleep/hibernation mode] happens, just power off the computer by holding down the power button for 10-12 seconds, and then simply turn it back on.

He also has had issues with pets chewing through cables, and he's heard a lot of cracked screen stories. The most repetitive

thing students come in and see him about is when their computer goes into a deep sleep/hibernation mode. Mr. Withers says when this happens, just power off the computer by holding down the power button for 10-12 seconds, and then simply turn it back on.

As you all know, Mr. Withers hurt his hand about



Mr. Withers with his family. Photo provided.

a month ago and I had to find out how he did it. He emailed me a brief story as to what happened. Mr. Withers wrote in his email. "Unfortunately, I left a pair of work shoes on my steps. In a rush I tripped over them and was catapulted down a flight of stairs. Easily the worst pain I've ever experienced. I knew it was broken immediately. Clumsiest moment of my life."

When he's not helping students, you usually can find Mr. Withers doing documentation, research, or inventory. Skylne Chili calls his name most days of the week if he doesn't bring a lunch! He then said, "Every day proves somewhat unique." In his free time, Mr. Withers likes to golf, though he doesn't get out as often as he'd like. He also enjoys spending time with his daughters with an occasional road trip.

The Bernard Journal strives to entertain, inform, spark conversation, and provide a snapshot of student and community life. The content of The Bernard Journal is determined by Seton High School's Journalism Class and aims to reflect Seton values. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the faculty adviser or of the administration of Seton High School.

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Charged With a New Life

By Emma Poli '20

"There is a 50% chance of getting PTSD if one serves in the military, especially in a hostile environment. The people involved in Veteran's Court have served anywhere from 1 to 4 tours overseas, so the chance of them getting PTSD is almost guaranteed," said Andy Poli, who has been a Bailiff for Judge Ethna Cooper since 1991.

Veteran's Court is a treatment court that was established in 2011 to help Veterans who are suffering from drug addiction, which is mainly caused by PTSD after returning from deployment. Judge Ethna Cooper of Hamilton County established the first felony Veteran's court in America.

The veterans come into the program in hopes to turn their lives around for the better. Once they enter the program, they are required to receive treatment for a year and a half in order to graduate. Treatment can be anything from getting a job, to housing, sobriety, etc.

This program allows veterans to have something to work towards: a goal. Instead of getting things handed to them, the vets are given the tools they need in



A silent , calm courtroom just moments before the judge enters. Photo Credit: Andy Poli

order to work to achieve their personal goal and change their life.

Judge Cooper allows each veteran to get back on their feet, so they are able to support themselves and accomplish things they never thought they would be able to.

Judge Cooper shows admirable compassion to these people and has a tremendous amount of respect for them,

which allows her to take everything into consideration during court.

Every individual has a story,

so no two cases are alike. Every day in a courtroom looks different: different cases, paperwork, suspects. However, every Wednesday at 1 p.m. in courtroom 540 lives are continuously being changed.

Andy Poli shared that the best part of this program is, "getting to meet these guys and getting to know them and their story, which gives you even more respect for them for what they went through." He also said that it has helped him realize the everyday life many people take for granted is what these people are working toward every day.

Life completely changed for these veterans when they came back from their tours, and all they are looking for is normal. This specific Veteran's court in Hamilton County is the model veteran's court that is used throughout America. There are now dozens throughout the country. Not only has this program been successful, but the court is recognized nationwide for what they have accomplished.

"The people involved in Veteran's Court have served anywhere from 1 to 4 tours overseas, so the chance of them getting PTSD is almost guaranteed."

Liberty Liberates the Soul with Service

By Ella Hartung '20

A trip full of love, laughter, simplicity and joy. An impact and experience that is truly beautiful and eye-opening. Liberty, Kentucky, is a service trip that Mount Notre Dame and Seton students attend in the summer, fall, winter and spring. These trips are a way for students to escape their chaotic lives in Cincinnati for a simpler lifestyle.

Students have the wonderful opportunity to help local families by working on their organic farms.

Seton senior Emma Poli attended a Liberty trip during spring of her Junior year and plans to attend the spring of her senior year. Emma describes Liberty as "an awakening."

Liberty is special to Emma because it's eye opening for her to go to a place like Liberty and "understand that they live like that by choice."

Liberty is a reminder to Emma that "every situation is different and you have to be respectful of others no matter what."

Liberty stands out to Emma because of the hospitality: "The people are really one of the main reasons why the trip is so awesome, because they are so welcoming. One family invites over 100 people to their house for dinner and just to hangout. I think it's just the atmosphere, the people and how genuine everyone is."

In Liberty, Emma met a physically disabled woman named Effie at the Galilean home. During Emma's trip, Effie and Emma's mom, who

was chaperoning the trip, grew such a tight relationship that Emma couldn't even ride in her own car because Effie wanted to ride with her mom.

Emma explains why other students should go to Liberty, "I was never really the type to get out of my comfort zone to do service. I would just get the service hours done that were needed to be done and move on."

Emma's trip to Liberty changed her in ways she cannot explain. She believes that everyone should be able to experience that too. She adds one last comment, "Go on Liberty." Seton junior

Emily Durr has attended 3 liberty trips and was a leader on the Fall 2019 trip. Emily describes Liberty as "simple."

Liberty is special to her because it helps her see the world in a way which Cincinnati does not allow. "Liberty is the perfect chance to step back, and find a deeper meaning to life."

Liberty has taught Emily that life is so much more than school and that relationships formed in



Mount Notre Dame student Maeve Tierney sits in a wheelbarrow while fellow MND student Emma Campbell pushes her around.

Photo Credit: Ella Hartung

person, not on social media are important.

To Emily, Liberty means "new friendships, a new beginning and a new perspective."

An experience that stood out to her is when she ate garlic on summer Liberty 2019 at a local organic farm. Emily says, "I hated the taste, but it stuck out. It reminds me of the farm we worked on."

Emily believes other students should attend Liberty because it's fun and good to take a step back from the chaos in Cincinnati.

Liberty stands out to Emily because, it's "so different from life in Cincinnati" because it's much simpler. Liberty is where "time flies and memories are made."

Liberty is like a family to Emily and it's different from other volunteer experiences because "other volunteer projects do not allow others to connect to new people on such a real and personal level."

If you're reading this and thinking "hmm, this Liberty place sounds super interesting," I would encourage you to take the leap and try out Liberty for yourself. You will not regret it.

You can look out



MND and Seton students cuddle on the grass at local family's house.

Photo Credit: Caroline Walter

for an email from Ms. Ag soon with information about the spring trip!

Best News You've Never Heard: Friends to Colleagues

By Molly Guenther '20



A 2004 pizza and pirate enjoying their high school years. Photo Credit: Jason Berling

Our Lady of Victory. Football field. Brian tackling and Jason eagerly watching from the sidelines. Little did they know in a few years, their friendship would blossom into something much deeper. A pizza and pirate kind-of connection.

"It all started in the fourth grade," Mr. Laiveling said as the teachers walked down memory lane. "We traded *Sports Illustrated For Kids* cards. Denver Broncos for the Carolina Panthers." Sounds like a fair trade for a lifelong bond.

Back in the Stone Ages, when they were in high school, they were in Elder's Glee Club and on the track team. Mr. Laiveling would always finish first at the track meets, but being the nice friend he is, would always stay and wait for Mr. Berling.

For many years, students have wondered who was the smart one and who was the athletic one. Mr. Berling admitted that "Brian was chilling in college, playing cards and still acing his Engineering major, while I

am cramming for my weak Criminal Justice major." Despite his modesty, Seton knows the academic capacity possessed in Room 224.

In their college years, the friends went on several road trips, ranging from West Virginia to Universal. It was also made clear that Jason was "the mom" of the friend group, making sure everyone was staying in line. Apparently, not much has changed.

As college came to an end, and it was time to look for jobs, Mr. Laiveling was the first to come to Seton. Mr. Berling, seeing how much his friend loved coaching his favorite sport and teaching, decided he would enjoy doing the same. Soon, they were both part of the Seton family.

Saving the funniest story for last, they told the tale of Jason's infamous cowboy hat. He wanted to have a "cowboy image," part jokingly, part real. He even bought the hat on the first day of a road trip and spent all his money on it! The hat then became a staple piece

of his wardrobe, making an appearance multiple times. He must be the most dedicated cowboy in the Wild West...SIDE!

While looking back on these moments now may seem embarrassing, they assured us that funny moments make high school better. "If you look back at your high school years and you're not embarrassed, you didn't do it right."

So girls, go out there and make some memories. Who knows, you might end up working right down the hall from each other.

WHO ARE YOU?

Italian Food	Chocolate Pie
Red	Green & Black
Skyline	Zip Dip
12	7 & 87
Classic Rock	"1B" by Yo-Yo Ma
Dog	Bald Eagle
Shot Put/Discuss	Distance Races
-Brian-	-Jason-



The dynamic duo showing off their athletic awards. Photo Credit: Brian Laiveling

Catch up with Carlie and the Cavs

By: Alayna Steffen '20

Almost every little girl dreams of being a professional dancer. For many, this dream dies soon after they quit those ballet lessons that lasted only a few years, but for some, that dream carries them into reality.

When Carlie Jackson was a little girl and dreamed of being a professional dancer, this is not where she thought she would end up.

Carlie Jackson is one of the 18 dancers on the Cleveland Cavaliers Dance Team, officially named the Cavs Powerhouse Dance Team. She graduated from Seton, and the varsity dance team, in 2018. After graduation, she coached with Seton's Junior High Dance Team, modeled for a short time, and even starred in a few music videos before pursuing a career with the Cavaliers.

Carlie attended events such as *We The Creators*, and through those events, created many of her connections. She made relationships with photographers, musicians and dancers just like herself. This later helped land her jobs in these fields.

Carlie has always loved to dance and dreamed of pursuing a career as a professional dancer but it wasn't until her parents pushed her towards her goal that those

dreams became a reality. Her parents calmed her nerves by reassuring her that, "what was meant to be will be and everything will work out the way it's supposed to." So with those words of encouragement, she took a leap of faith, drove

Seton Dance Team is a major time commitment, so I asked her to compare her current practice times to how she had trained in high school. Practice itself only lasts about 6 hours a week, compared to the 12-15 hours a week expected for Seton's Varsity Dance Team. Carlie said the time commitment is comparable, though instead of practicing 3-5 days a week, you are expected to attend appearances, games, and conditioning on top of practice! That can add up and take up a lot of your time!

Although everyone practices and conditions, there is no guarantee every teammate will get to perform on the floor for the game. Carlie explains, "The practice before game day, our coach determines if each dancer is ready to go out on the floor. We have routines set for 15 and 18 people and based off the coach's decision, that is how many dancers will take on the floor for the next game."

The Coach of the Cavaliers Dance Team also picks the music and choreography for each game. This means the coach has a higher expectation for each dancer the practice before the game, making it that much more intense before game day.

Although the physical and mental aspect of being a professional dancer is hard, dance is what makes Carlie happy and she loves what she does. Her hard work paid off, as she was front and center for her first Cavs game performance.



Photo taken and owned by Thomas Chimney.

up to Cleveland, and showed up for the first day of auditions.

Many would be terrified the first day of tryouts, but Carlie was calm and collected.

She says that, "Seton molded me into a person who is driven by passion, hard work and challenges. The years of dancing for a program with such love and support gave me the confidence to walk into the first day of tryouts."

"Seton molded me into a person who is driven by passion, hard work and challenges."

Get Out and Enjoy Life in Cincinnati

By Alaina Olding '21

Cincinnati houses 301,301 people in the city, and there are at least 301,301 things that spark people's love for Cincinnati.

Cincinnati overflows with food stops that are only located in this area, different parks surrounding the city, an arrangement of entertainment spots, grand architecture, the annual city pop up events, and more!

One of Cincinnati's favorite spots to see is the city skyline. No, not the restaurant Skyline. This is what everyone first sees when going around the bend from Kentucky to Ohio on the highway.

Inside downtown, there are an array of activities and sightseeing spots. Some of these places remind people of their love for this unique city.

An uncommon spot in downtown is the unique art work on most of the buildings. Many of the buildings have one of their walls painted. These walls can either have stories, a connection to the building's purpose, or an optical illusion. Download a map and take advantage of seeing these art pieces everywhere. <https://www.artworkscincinnati.org/public-art/murals/>

Another Cincinnati favorite, located downtown,



The City of Cincinnati Photo Credit: Alaina Olding

is the famous Smale park. This park is along the river, in-between the Reds' stadium and the Bengals' stadium. Smale park is filled with a range of different activities such as work out stations, a huge piano, a life size chess board, and many more interesting things.

Besides the many activities in Cincinnati that people love, there are three amazing food spots everyone loves to enjoy. These include Skyline, Graeter's Ice Cream, and LaRosa's Pizzeria. These three places can only be found in Cincinnati.

Many people like to say Skyline has a special place in their heart. Everyone goes to Skyline after the Friday night football games. People go there to eat while hanging out with their friends.

Cincinnati also boasts of four different professional sports teams; FC Cin-

cinnati, the Bengals, the Cyclones, and the Reds. Although these teams don't have the best season records, they create some unforgettable nights. Some people say their favorite memories are going to the games with their family or friends and having a night full of laughter and fun.

Oh, the Places You'll Go!

Smale Park: 166 W Mehring Way, Cincinnati, OH 45202

Bengal's Stadium: 1 Paul Brown Stadium, Cincinnati, OH 45202

Red's Stadium: 100 Joe Nuxhall Way, Cincinnati, OH 45202

Findley Market: 1801 Race St, Cincinnati, OH 45202

Carew Tower: 441 Vine St, Hilton Cincinnati Netherland Plaza, Cincinnati, OH 45202-2821

Who says a car has to run on gas?

By Emily Haufler '20

Imagine a world where you never have to go to the gas station ever again. Your car would be fully charged and you would help make the environment a healthier place. By eliminating gas cars, the air pollution problem would improve greatly.

According to Ergon Energy Network, "Electric vehicles help the environment in multiple ways. There is less pollution, the cars reduce harmful air pollution from exhaust emissions. There is renewable energy and eco-friendly materials. Some cars are even built with recycled materials."

Electric cars will be a major transition for the car industry, and will not only help with climate change, but improving air quality in cities too. According to the Reuters analysis, "Carmakers plan to invest more than \$90 billion in the shift to electric vehicles over the next decade or so." Carmakers are making the shift towards electric cars to make the environment better.

Electric cars last longer than gas cars. They do not require a lot of maintenance and in the long run are a lot less expensive. There are different cars that require premium gas, making the price of gas more expensive depending on what type of gas the car takes. Not to mention all the times gas prices rise. Electric cars only require a charger and the chargers can be installed right outside your house.

Although gas cars are faster to fill up, there are many things to do while you wait. For example, Meijer has Tesla charging stations, so you can shop for groceries, while your car charges. If you have a charger at home, you can charge it when you get home from work or school. This way the next morning your car will be fully charged.



A car that saves the environment and protects in climate change.

Photo Credit: Emily Haufler

Q & A with My Brother, Owner of an Electric Car

Q: Since they are more expensive, why did you decide to buy one?

A: In the long run they are cheaper than gas cars. It is actually the same price as owning a gas car. The gas savings cost outweighs the monthly payment of a gas car.

Q: How do you think the world will change once electric cars are the future?

A: Gas stations would go out of business, everyone would be driving electric cars and charging them at home. They would get solar panels so they could charge their cars and go green, which would put pressure on companies to go green because electricity and



Different kinds of affordable electric cars.

Photo credit: Gustavo Henrique Ruffo

transportation would count for almost half of greenhouse emissions every year.

Q: How has having an electric car changed your outlook on every other car?

A: With the younger generation,

who grew up with smart devices, why are car companies not changing their car interior to match the devices? The current generation, kids grew up with a minimalistic life-styles. There is no need for all the buttons and to overcomplicate things.

Electric cars are very beneficial for the environment. There is nothing complicated on the cars

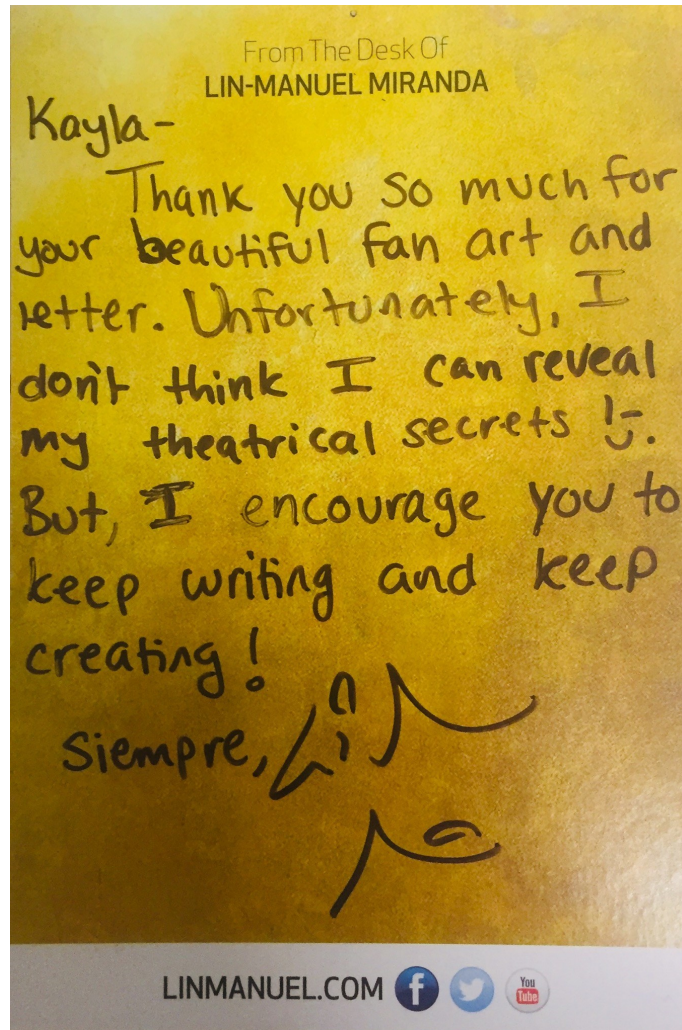
and you will never have to buy gas again. You could go home every day, charge your car and would not have to worry about the price of gas ever again. You would also be saving the environment.

Hamilton Hype: Touched by a Star

By Kayla Hess '20

Flashback to a few years ago when *Hamilton* was a household name all across America. Everyone who happened to listen to the Broadway musical's soundtrack out of sheer curiosity became hooked. I, a music-loving teenager, was no exception. Entranced by the hip hop beat and creative lyrics, it was easy to see why I became a fan. In addition to the fantastic soundtrack, the poignant characters make the production come to life. Who knew that the life of a founding father could be so fascinating?

Without even viewing the musical, I knew that I must write a letter to the visionary of this masterpiece, the man himself, Lin Manuel Miranda. So, one day, I sat down and began to compose. I commented on how much I enjoyed the songs and the content, and asked Miranda how he came up with such a brilliant idea to illustrate on the stage. I also talked about how I love to write and how *Hamilton* inspired me to continue creating. Along with this letter, I attached a drawing of the Schuyler sisters who I idolized as female icons of the Revolutionary War period. Soon after, I sent my humble letter off. I wasn't



The autograph! Photo Credit: Kayla Hess

sure whether or not I would receive a response knowing how busy Miranda must have been.

Several months later, when I was leafing through the mail, I spotted the letter I had been waiting for. Immediately, my eyes lit up with excitement and I jumped for joy. Running inside the house, I ripped open the envelope and took out the note. It read, "Kayla- Thank you so much for your beautiful fan art and letter. Unfortunately, I

don't think I can reveal my theatrical secrets ;-). But, I encourage you to keep writing and keep creating! Siempre (Always), Lin Manuel Miranda."

My little fan-girl heart did a few flips after reading this. I never dreamed in a million years he would respond to me. After all, why would a Broadway star care about a teenage girl in Cincinnati, Ohio? This autograph further showed me that Miranda was not only talented, but also considerate towards his fan base. It was thoroughly refreshing to see a celebrity who cared so much about how his project came across to his

audience. As well as one who encourages people like

me to cultivate my talents.

Last summer, my family and I traveled to Chicago for my sister's birthday and we saw *Hamilton*. Even though the performers were not from the original cast, (tears!) witnessing the musical on stage exceeded my expectations. *Hamilton*, with all its buzz and fanfare, was everything it was hyped up to be.

**Curious about
Hamilton?**

**Read the synopsis
on p. 12**

It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year... or is it?

By Mary Fieler '20

There is no doubt Christmas time is the most beloved time of the whole year. Although this is a time mostly everyone can agree they love, there is a debate on when people should truly start the celebration. For my November article I decided to delve into the controversy around this, and discover a psychological explanation on why people feel the need to start Christmas so early.

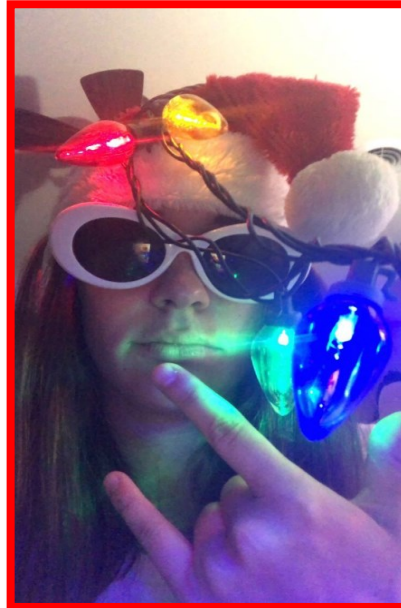
Seton student and Christmas fanatic, Chloe Belletti says, "I believe the Christmas season is year round and people should treat every day like Christmas."

Another Seton student, Ainsley Cook, has her own views on this topic: "I feel like they are rushing through the fall and Thanksgiving season and forgetting about the joy of Thanksgiving."



Ainsley Cook and her cute family all dressed up in December. Photo credit: Cook family

Lights, decorated trees, Christmas scented candles. All of these things have a huge controversy behind them! How can Christmas be exciting if we are celebrating it a whole month in



Chloe Belletti getting festive! Photo Credit: Chloe Belletti

advance? I guess that means we just have to glaze over the whole holiday of Thanksgiving. But then again, why can't we celebrate and be cheerful just a little earlier in the season? There should be no limit on joy, especially Christmas joy.

According to "People Who Put Up Christmas decorations Early Are Happier" by Rachel Hosie, "In a world full of stress and anxiety people like to associate to things that make them happy and Christmas decorations evoke those strong feelings of their childhood." The child-like nostalgia creates an explanation for why someone, such as Chloe, may want to start the celebration early.

Music is another portion of the controversy. Friendly face, Audrey McQuillan, advises us all to, "Sing along to Christmas music right after Halloween is over!" If you hear the

music you might as well sing along, right?

Wrong! Ainsley says, "I think waiting until the Christmas season to sing these songs makes it more special and makes the Christmas season that much more fun." Christmas music should be saved for the right moments to play it.

Though it could annoy you, it may be in your best interest to start decorating early because, "People Who Put Up Christmas Decorations Early Are Happier" by Rachel Hosie says, "A study published in the 'Journal of Environmental Psychology' revealed that decorating the outside of your house makes you appear more friendly."

Whether you celebrate in November or in December Christmas still is a time to spend with family and friends. I say to enjoy the season whenever you feel like, and have fun doing it!

Christmas Psychology Facts

facts brought to you by "People Who Put Up Christmas Decorations Early Are Happier" by Rachel Hosie

- People may be in denial of the loss of their childhood and that is why they set up for Christmas so early.
- Christmas became much more widely advertised after the Great Depression to inspire hope and happiness within people.

Psychology: the Most Boring Science? PSYCH!

By Cass James '20

So, who are you? What makes you, you? Sorry, I hope I didn't send you off into an early existential crisis, but these are questions that humans have been pondering for as long as we could ponder. They are also questions that I've been pondering for as long as I could ponder!

I've always wondered what makes people tick. Why are some people's favorite colors blue, and others prefer yellow? Why is it that I could watch *The Notebook* with eyes as dry as the desert, but the moment someone flips to the one scene in *Madagascar 2: Escape to Africa* where Marty leaves Alex to go back to the pack of zebras, I'm a bawling mess? Why is that animated animals personally pull at my heartstrings more than some revolutionary love story?

This all boils down to my first assignment in my College Psychology class: Why do people behave the way they do? If you didn't realize by now, I'm a nerd for psych AND writing. So writing an essay on my thoughts about human behavior and getting graded for it? A dream come true. I was beyond pumped. An essay I actually wanted to write (no offense Mr. Collins). But enough psych gush for now, let's get to some questions that hopefully won't make you question your existence.

So you might be wondering, what is psychology? I interviewed my psych teacher, Dr. Langen, to dive a little deeper into what the wonderful world of psychology entails.

There are many common misconceptions about psychology. I've heard that it's not a real science or only 'crazy' people deal

with psychology. Dr. Langen explained that she thinks one common misconception is that "Many people think of psychology as common sense. People don't know that it's actually a science that people create a hypothesis and go out and test it." The Merriam-Webster definition of psychology states that it is "The science of mind and behavior." The word science is in the dictionary definition.



I picked my psych teacher's brain on her thoughts about psychology.

Photo Credit: Creative Commons

So why do some people still seem to not believe it, or in a way, fear it as a science? In her opinion, Dr. Langen believes, "People are concerned that people who know a fair amount about psychology will read their minds or people are analyzing them and they don't want people to know their inner thoughts or feelings." However, just because the word "psychic" has the root word "psych" in it, doesn't mean that psychologists can read minds. Years of research and studies back up what knowledge we have today. It's all just science, baby! As cool as it would be, I'm still 58% sure that mind reading isn't real.

The cool part about psychology is how helpful it is. There are many benefits from learning about the science and taking courses on it. Dr. Langen's list of benefits seemed almost end-

less. A couple of her pros included better communication skills, learning about how people interact in groups, self-care techniques, how to have relationships, mental health awareness, and stress management.

Stress management, now that's something I, a busy bee senior, could definitely benefit from learning. My advice as a future psychologist: don't take my advice until AFTER I've gotten my degree, but also dabble in a psych class in the future. You won't learn how to read minds, but if you know how the mind works, then maybe you can figure out telepathy. If you do, please teach me.

Psych tips PROVEN BY SCIENCE!

- When people are angry at you, be calm. They will get even angrier and later feel embarrassed.
- Smile in order to be happy. It tricks your brain into thinking that you are.
- If you want to be remembered, make a good first AND last impression because that is what people will remember the most
- If you want an answer from someone, remain silent. Most people dislike silence in a conversation and will speak to fill in the quiet awkwardness.
- Your brain is more creative when you're tired.
- Convincing yourself you slept well tricks your brain into thinking it did.
- People tend to be happier when they are kept busy, as this prevents them from thinking about the negative things in life.

Celebrate

November B-days!



Megan Kock	11/1/02
Katie Cummings	11/2/01
Rebecca Hater	11/2/03
Anna Schmitt	11/3/04
La'Shay George	11/4/04
Lily Nie	11/5/04
Shayna Gaskins	11/5/02
Megan Tressler	11/5/03
Audrey Schwiers	11/6/04
Kerrie Lee	11/7/03
Jessica Schneider	11/11/01
Katelyn Fitzpatrick	11/11/04
Paige Robbe	11/11/04
Mary Catherine Agee	11/12/03
Natalie Brogan	11/12/04
Lindsey Vale	11/14/01
Olivia Ohradzansky	11/19/01
Katherine Roden	11/20/01
Kelly Roden	11/20/01
Avery Barnes	11/21/03
Sophia Martin	11/23/04
Ava Stratmann	11/24/04
Lindsey Doherty	11/25/02
Sydney Galbraith	11/27/04
Samantha Stautberg	11/28/01
Riley Meier	11/29/3
Mia Vetter	11/29/04

What the Hype about *Hamilton*'s all about

By Kayla Hess '20

The premise of the play finds Alexander Hamilton, a zestful and driven immigrant from the island of Nevis, trying to make a name for himself in New York City. Upon arriving, he buddies up with Marquis de Lafayette, Hercules Mulligan, and John Laurens who admire his moxie. He also gains a rival, Aaron Burr, who reacts to Hamilton with distaste.

The first act of the musical takes place during the Revolutionary War. In this act, Hamilton becomes General George Washington's correspondent. Despite feeling honored, this creates internal conflict. He wrestles with wanting to be active on the battlefield, but his writing skills make him invaluable to the cause. The audience is also introduced to the Schuyler sisters. Brave and witty Angelica is the eldest, followed by sweet and wise Eliza, and finally charming Peggy. Hamilton and Eliza meet at the winter ball through Angelica and get married. The first act concludes with the Continental Army triumphing over the British at the Battle of Yorktown and Hamilton being selected as Secretary of the Treasury with George Washington as president by his side.

**See p. 8 for
more about Lin
Manuel Miranda!**

In the second act, tensions build when Thomas Jefferson returns from serving as an ambassador in France. Instantly, the two clash and argue over financial matters. Succumbing to the pressure he faces from trying to win over the Congress, Hamilton engages in an affair with a woman named Maria Reynolds while his wife is out of town. Afterward he joins James Madison, and Thomas Jefferson to create the Compromise of 1790. Burr, envious of Hamilton's governmental power switches parties and defeats Hamilton's uncle in an election. In another debate, Hamilton and Jefferson argue whether or not the United States should help France in its conflict with Britain. Washington takes Hamilton's side that they should remain neutral. Scorned Jefferson teams up with Burr and Madison to take Hamilton down. Washington retires from the presidency, wanting a more peaceful life at his plantation Mount Vernon.

John Adams succeeds as the next president of the United States and fires Hamilton. Outraged and facing accusations of gambling with government funds and also being scorned for his affair by Jefferson, Madison, and Burr, Hamilton publicizes his affair in a document called the Reynolds Pamphlet. Eliza, beside herself after reading the pamphlet, burns Hamilton's love letters and separates herself from him. Later on, the Hamilton's son Philip, dies in a duel in which he was defending his father. Amidst their grief, Eliza and Hamilton come to an understanding and reconcile.

The musical ends with Burr challenging Hamilton to a duel after he endorses Jefferson to be the next president rather than him. Hamilton intentionally loses the duel and dies with Eliza and Angelica by his side. Burr, racked with guilt, laments that he and Hamilton could have worked together. Also, he will be known as a villain of history. Eliza recounts how she spent the rest of her life keeping Hamilton's legacy alive.