The Atlanta Experience

Atlanta Paintball

By Reid Ragsdale

The sun beat down as three buses full of eighth graders were unloaded onto the battlefield. Months of *Fortnite* had not prepared the eighth graders for this. We each were armed with a paintball gun, a mask, and a bag of paintballs. We were divided into four teams; Green Team, Yellow Team, Pink Team, and Orange Team, and then sent onto the field for battle. The rules were simple, keep your mask on and if you get hit go out. The first match was a test run, deciding which teams had a shot for victory. In my first round, I accidentally shot a fellow teammate because of the adrenaline. He was running at me, and I took the shot. Direct hit to the hand. My aim was so perfect that his knuckle that I hit started bleeding. For the rest of the trip I apologized repeatedly. My team won that round against the Pink Team. We played one more round and then had a lunch break with pizza graciously provided by Mrs. Stewart and the other chaperones. After lunch, my team had to face the Yellow Team, who were considered overpowering. Not including the students the Yellow Team also had Mr. Simpson, Mr. Russ, Mr. Lawrence, Mr. Killian, and Ms. Russell. At the end of that round, my team had been forced into a surrender because we had done so poorly. The last round was to decide the victor of the day. My team, Green Team, was in second place, and the Yellow Team was in first. In what seemed like seconds the Yellow Team has charged our defenses, and we were all hit. The Yellow Team won, but the true victory was in the ability to have this amazing experience with my fellow classmates.

I would like to thank Mrs. Stewart, the chaperones, the bus drivers, Paintball Atlanta, and the parents for planning and organizing such a fun trip that will be remembered forever in the minds of the Class of 2022.
Andretti World

By McConnico Sharpe

Andretti World is an arcade and go-karting place the eighth graders visited in Atlanta. It was fun and one of my favorite parts of the trip. After we arrived at the hotel on the first day, we were given time to settle in before we had to go to Andretti World. After a few minutes we were on our way. As soon as we arrived at the arcade, the staff told us to get into two lines: one for laser tag and one for an interactive dark ride. I had never heard of an interactive dark ride, so I decided to go into that line and see what it was. The employees at the end of each line gave each person a wristband, and we were directed to a buffet of food, being told that we would go on whichever attraction we chose after dinner. The meal was sliders, chips and queso, and fruit.

After, I began to make my way over to the IDR. It turns out that it was really fun! In the ride you are strapped into a seat in front of a large screen, and you are given a blaster to shoot at enemies in whichever theme you choose. After I shot zombies, aliens, and cowboy robots, I was given a card. It was a ticket for me to play pretty much any game I wanted. The cards were set for an hour of unlimited play, so I had fun trying to get in as many games as possible. There were a few games where I received many tickets for getting high scores, yet when I checked my ticket balance afterwards, my ticket total was zero. Apparently, because of the one hour unlimited card, we did not receive any of the tickets we won. It was still fun to play all of the games like Mario Kart and Pac-Man. After I had played for a while, I decided to give the go-karting track a whirl. They first gave us instructions about what the different signals mean and how the karts work. We then waited for the group before us to finish. Next thing I knew, we were off! The karts were really fast, and I had lots of fun skidding around the corners trying to catch up to the person ahead of me. After go-karting, we were all rounded up by the teachers, and we headed back to the hotel. Andretti World was definitely one of the best parts of the trip, and if you like arcades, it is definitely something to look forward to.
Six Flags
By Lawson Patterson

The eighth grade traveled down to Atlanta, Georgia over April 19-21 for three days of fun and enjoyment. Among other events, the grade went to Six Flags over Georgia for our last day. Students had approximately four hours, from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M., to enjoy the park and its attractions. The park, which had a very welcoming environment, allowed for MBA students to enjoy themselves at will. Six Flags allowed students to have fun on one of their last outings as a whole class in the Junior School. The 290 acre theme park contains numerous roller coasters, prize games, and plenty of food courts. If one is not a particular fan of roller coasters, the park had numerous other activities such as bungee-jumping or a train to ride throughout the area. After taking a group photo, MBA students were given tickets and were free to roam wherever they chose around the park. Students were allowed to venture off and explore, but only with other MBA students by their side. Visitors had the option of purchasing a “flash” pass to skip the lines and ride the rides faster.

Six Flags over Georgia has some of the best roller coasters in the country, including Superman: Ultimate Flight, the Goliath, and the Daredevil, which provided thrills to those who chose to ride them. However, while Six Flags is renown for their roller coasters, the most popular attraction proved to be the amusement games and their prizes, with students taking home basketball jerseys, stuffed animals, hats, and many other rewards.

Despite the park being congested, the four hour time period gave students plenty of time to visit and grab some lunch. Six Flags was the last stop on the Atlanta trip, and after the fun, MBA 8th graders headed back to Nashville. This adventure was an amusing event to students who loved roller coasters and theme parks, while others had different ways of occupying their time. This journey to Six Flags over Georgia and Atlanta trip is one that will be cemented in students’ hearts over the next years as one of their most memorable and exciting excursions at MBA.

College Football Hall of Fame
By Ingram Hitt

The second stop once the eight graders arrived in Atlanta was the College Football Hall of Fame. The facility has three levels of activities. The first level is where the gift shop is located, but it is also where visitors get the chance to either kick a football through the uprights of a field goal or throw a football to try and hit a target. Along with these attractions, people can run over a ladder, run in-and-out of tackling dummies, and attempt a diving catch thrown by one of the employees.

On the second level there were many activities like recording your own commentary of a famous highlight. With the College Football Hall of Fame pass that we had, we were able to save some of our experiences. Also, the pass allowed us to look at different teams and their players who have been inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame on the third floor.

Also on the third floor, we watched a video about how football players felt on Gameday as spoken by current and former players. In all, the trip to the College Football Hall of Fame was very fun, and one that I will never forget.
Team Wins 16th Straight!

By Chase Thor

The MathCounts team finished this year with flying colors under the coaching of Mrs. Qian. In the state championships of the league, the MBA team finished in an impressive second place by a mere couple of points, with Alex Wang representing the state of Tennessee with nine other Algebra 1 students. After a long fought battle with the best of the United States, Alex received the ranking of 201st place, out of over 12 million students eligible to compete in the Algebra 1 league. That's right, Alex Wang placed in the top 0.002% of the students eligible to compete. A huge congratulations to Alex Wang and the rest of the MathCounts team, as well as to Mrs. Qian. Hopefully, this success will continue on with next year's batch of new seventh graders, the rising eighth graders, and the eighth graders moving up to the high school league. Good luck!
Junior School Team has Great Year!

By Bill Ouyang

This school year, the MBA Science Olympiad junior school team had a great year. We started our season by going to invitational competitions. These competitions were designed to give us an overall feel of a competition and help us practice our events against other competitors. It gave test-taking events members the information that they did not have in their notes, and the build events members tips and ideas to build upon. The team attended two invitational competitions, the Bearden invitational competition and the Friendship Christian invitational. At the Bearden invitational, the team placed out of many teams, and at the Friendship Christian invitational, the team placed fourth out of 21 teams!

After finding success in invitational competitions and preparing and refining notes and builds, the team moved on to regionals at Tennessee State University. At regionals, the team competed against many teams in middle Tennessee. With hard work, luck, and notes, the team placed first with many individuals also placing high. After dominating regionals, the next step for the team was state at Tennessee Tech University. However, state was nothing like regionals. The teams were stronger and better and had better builds, and the tests were harder because this competition was meant for the best in the state. Despite these hardships, the team preserved through and placed fourth out of twenty four teams in state. This record has only been beaten by two previous MBA junior school teams. This year the Junior School Science Olympiad team finished with a great end.
The final round of the tenth annual Junior School Poetry Recitation Contest was held on April 17 in the Dead Poets Society Room. The competition is a celebration of National Poetry Month and the culmination of a year of quarterly recitation work by each student in the Junior School. The rounds begin with a representative from each English class and end with two seventh-grade finalists and two eighth-grade finalists.

This year’s representatives for the seventh grade were Connor Carr and Chanden Climaco, and the eighth-grade finalists were Darin Hall and Charlie Kost. The finalists were quite varied with their presentations. Darin and Charlie presented impassioned but very different renditions of Marc Antony’s funeral speech in *Julius Caesar*, and Connor and Chanden took forthright and inspirational approaches with Rudyard Kipling’s “If.” Each performance was strong, and the competition was fierce, but eighth-grader Darin Hall and seventh-grader Chanden Climaco emerged the victors. Congratulations to each of these young men for their hard work and fine performances.
That Long Gone Hue
By The Third King

We were in the golden times,
They are fleeing faster than fire,
Burning us from the inside,
For we know that they were golden,
But now are a burning hue of amber,
Setting on the horizon just behind us.

But those who are successful,
Look away, remembering what that hue held,
And look ahead, watching for the new hue,
As it peeks above the horizon,
Seizing it, taking everything from that golden hue,
Leaving it withered and grey,
Falling fast beyond the dark horizon behind them.

But those who are truly happy,
Never had to look back,
They were always looking around them,
Knowing that golden hue by the flowers,
They bend over, smell them,
Pluck a petal, laying it gently with the others,
Each shining with their golden hue,
Each growing to show everyone
The golden hue of that long gone day.

The staff and sponsors of Top of the Hill would like to thank the MBA Mothers and Fathers Clubs for their generous support this year!
Happy Summer From the Top of the Hill Newsroom!
A Guide to Endada

By Samuel Kinch

Every year MBA holds a festival of the arts called Endada, filled with everything from painting to food trucks. It is truly amazing. There are so many things to do and never enough time to take it all in. I am here to share my thoughts on this year's Endada and how to go about next year's. Endada is always a blast, no matter if you go with your girlfriend, a group of friends, or even by yourself. And remember, never underestimate the skills of a balloon twister.

No one in the history of Montgomery Bell Academy has ever been to every event at Endada. The way to go about it is to know what you are doing. If this means using a map of Endada, do it; if this means allotting more time, then do it—just use your time wisely. Try the food. At this year's Endada I believe the best food truck of the bunch was the Grilled Cheeserie. The ice cream truck was pretty good also; it had super small scoops, but compared to the masterpiece grilled cheeses, the ice cream cannot compete. Although the two trucks are expensive, the food is good, and it is right there. The food trucks are a hit, but never the best part of Endada. I think this starts at people not having a definite answer to the question, What was your favorite part of Endada? I think the reason for this is that people do not have an answer. What people like about Endada is not about one booth but about a collection of booths. So next time you walk away from Endada, think to yourself, What was my favorite section of Endada? For instance, the best part about Endada for me was the artwork. There were areas to make your own artwork where you could make and paint things from bags to paper statues, along with the on-display paintings, which were incredible, ranging from city skylines to captures of scenery. Not to mention the caricatures, and the sunning portraits done by Mr. Kimball. What was almost as interesting was the wood crafting. These pieces were well made, ranging from bowls to small tables, all for sale.

I have talked about the sights and smells of Endada, but not about the sound. The bands playing certainly brought a lot of attention to the stage and is the perfect addition to Endada. It adds a great background experience, not drowning everyone's ears out, but the perfect amount. People get a great sense of what Endada is, not a time to be quiet, but to have fun—not a time to go crazy, but a time of excitement. I give a 10/10 to the production team and the bands. They sounded great and drew a lot of people, making the quad less crowded. All of Endada was a treat, and I will be there again. The one thing that I was disappointed about, was the lack of a 3D printer. I do not know what happened, but Endada will be 2x better with a 3D printer. In my final message, I would like to say, make sure you wear deodorant if you are going into Endada. They should make it required at this point. With Endada's gaining more steam each year, it means that there are more people in the same place. If you took nothing from this article take this advice. Wear deodorant.
By Charlie Murff

Guns are a hot topic this year. As of May 2018, some 5,000 people have been killed through gun violence in 2018. Many people think that guns are a good thing while some people think otherwise. The ban on guns that people want to put in place is a ban on semiautomatic and automatic guns. These are the guns like AR-15s that can fire upwards of 500 rounds per minute. They can kill 100 people in less than a minute. No one should be able to do that. The guns laws are to regulate assault rifles, not to ban all guns.

A popular argument against the gun laws is that it is needed to protect yourself, to which I respond with no one needs to protect themselves with an AR-15 when one can protect themselves perfectly fine with a pistol. That is because no one else will have an assault rifle because it will be almost impossible to get one unless someone were to pay thousands of dollars while risking to go to jail. Another popular argument to the laws is that guns will not kill people, but people who kill people. Even though this may be true, guns make it easier for people to kill people, and if the guns are controlled more, then it will be harder to kill people.

Finally, the most popular argument against gun control and gun laws is that it is against the 2nd Amendment. The 2nd Amendment even says that “A well regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed.” Well regulated, which means guns should be regulated, and also, it says that it is for the necessary security of a free state. That means that arms should be used to help protect the security if necessary, and right now America has the biggest military on Earth, so it is most definitely not necessary.

In conclusion, the idea of right to bear arms is a term that was taken out of context and abused by people who wanted it for their enjoyment. The killing of thousands of people a year is alone abnormal, but not to do anything about it is just insane. The gun control laws are to restrict use on assault rifles that can fire hundreds of rounds in minutes, not to take away all hunting guns but to regulate them and abolish assault rifles.
Betcha Didn’t Know - Life Hacks
By William Curley

I decided to make this article to help all the MBA students, teachers, and graduates. It is a list of Life Hacks from the *Life Hacks 2018* calendar. Some of the things you might already know, but some of them you might find interesting. Overall, the calendar is good, and I recommend it to anyone who likes these tips and tricks.

1. You can watch an awesome visualizer by hitting “Command + T” while a song is playing on iTunes.
2. Soak your Oreos in Half-and-Half, and lay them on wax paper in the freezer. In an hour each one is a mini ice cream sandwich.
3. Before dropping your business card in a bowl for those “free lunch” drawings, make a distinct bend in it. You’ll have a greater chance of being picked over all the other ones that lie flat.
4. Make ice cubes from the same liquid from the same liquid as the drink they’ll be going in, such as juice, coffee, or soft drinks. This keeps the drink from becoming too watered down.
5. Ten foods to get rid of an upset stomach: banana, ginger, plain yogurt, papaya, applesauce, oatmeal, white rice, chamomile tea, chicken broth, and aloe vera juice.
6. You can get a free stack of pancakes at any IHOP location on your birthday and the anniversary of joining their e-club.
7. When buying bagged lettuce, choose the flattest bag possible. When greens are packaged, the air is sucked out. Then, as they age, they give off gas, making the bag puffier.
8. Need a rough measurement of something? The distance between the first and second joints in your fingers is almost always an inch.
9. You can get a free cup of coffee at any Dunkin’ Donuts location when you join their rewards program on your birthday.
10. Pizza hack: One 18-inch pizza has more pizza than two 12-inch pizzas. Use this knowledge to your advantage to get the best deal.
11. Car finally paid off? Keep making the same payments into a savings account to cover future maintenance, repairs, and your next car. You won’t notice any difference in available funds.
12. When painting your home, add some vanilla extract to the paint (one tablespoon per gallon). This will not affect color or texture, but will leave your home smelling like vanilla instead of that awful fresh paint smell.
13. If you ever find a driver’s license, just put it in a mailbox as is, and the postal service will return it to its owner.
14. Mess up leaving a voice mail? Hit the pound button (#) for a chance to re-record. It works on every kind of answering system.

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MAY 29, 2018
Battlefield 1: The Outlier

By Samuel Kinch

The Battlefield series led a chronological order with its games, starting with WWII to modern combat, but in 2016 the developers had enough and created an outlier, Battlefield 1. The game is a very interesting one, with it being set in WWI and not going with the regular style, but of course it still had the Battlepacks, and Level-lution and the “Only in Battlefield” moments. It did, as all new games from a series do, have new things. This was the first time you could not buy Battlepacks with money (also the first time where the Battlepacks only had cosmetic items); it had a new campaign system, guns could attach a bayonet and an in-game platoon system. All of these new additions with the old ones combined to make a regular Dice game something new.

Like all new Battlefield games the Meta changed. The Meta in Bad Company 2 was all of the different types of non-bullet ways to kill someone, with ten different types of explosives. Ten! That is enough to make two full squads, if they only used one type, bombarding the enemy with over ten types of explosions; or with Hardline with its 22 submachine guns. Battlefield 1 had the emphasis of rifles. It had 24 types of rifles, not surprising seen as the game was set in WWI a war know for snipers, and, of course, there is the grenade spam, that inevitably comes with every single Battlefield game. There are certain times when it seemed like everybody in the server was spamming every single projectile they could, from gas to Anti-Tank shells. And to an extent, they were. With every player being able to use at least one grenade, it got pretty out of hand, and that is just the infantry. There are planes, tanks, and horses. Those three make the devil seem like a humanitarian. The planes can dish out over eight grenades at once, able to get triple kill-after-triple kill with little to no effort. The tanks are what they seem, with shells big enough to kill a gorilla, and the horses slice you in half as if they are playing Fruit Ninja and just got frenzy. All of these elements are what make the game what it is. And although the non-infantry unit is not fun for anybody, except the people who are using them, there could not be a lot of them at a time, and there are counters. Overall, the land vehicles are fair, but as stated by many players, who are in a plane, when people are arguing which gun is the best to use, you can dump eight grenades on their heads. The only counter to a plane is another plane.

Battlefield 1 is a fun game. Even though half of the time the player base is whining about how that medic did not revive him, it did do well from a PR standpoint. It was amazingly fun to play, and coming back to the game after a yearlong hiatus; it felt like hugging an old friend. The game deserves 8 out of 10. Great visual graphics and the ability to collapse a building with one swift AT rocket shell is the most fun in a game that anyone can have, and the satisfaction of capturing flags to victory is amazing. The game did have its downfalls, the grenade spam was deplorable, and the glitches were both ridiculous and hilarious. However, none of these issues take away from the game too much. It will be interesting what Dice will do with Battlefield 5 next year, and if they can bring back the success of Battlefield 1.
Ready Player One

By Chase Thor

Overall, Ready Player One is one of my all-time favorite books, but, sadly, I cannot say the same for the movie. While the two pieces share the same general plot points and messages, many of the changes to compress the book into the movie were unnecessary and took away from my enjoyment. I found the book to be much more interesting and suspenseful, while the movie had many plot holes and lack of backstory on many of the characters. First off, from this point on, THERE WILL BE MILD SPOILERS. AGAIN, THERE WILL BE SPOILERS.

I will start at the beginning of the book. Wade Watts, or Parzival, was a high school student running off of his school issued Oasis rig. He had no money, wore the default outfit, and tagged along with his school friend, Aech, whenever he could. In the movie, there is no mention of school, and Wade begins with a Delorean, which Parzival purchases after he acquires the bronze key. On the topic of the bronze key, there is the challenge. In the movie, there is a race that can only be won by driving backwards under the track. In the book, the key is received after beating an alien at the game Joust. Several other points were changed, including Art3mis, Parzival’s love interest, being captured by IOI, the corporate villain, instead of Parzival, both of the next challenges, the way that Parzival comes across his extra life, and the way that the High Five, the top five players in the hunt for Halliday’s egg, meet Ogden Morrow in real life.

In the end, though, the main points of the story stayed the same, such as the three keys, each and every 80’s reference, the battle against the IOI, and the splitting of the Oasis between the High Five. Also, the message of enjoying reality and not getting caught up in a false world stays the same. In conclusion, I recommend reading the book before watching the movie so that you can fully appreciate the way that Earnest Cline wanted it to be, and so that you are not forced into visualizing the scenes and characters in a certain way. Although I am a bit biased towards books, this book absolutely put its movie to shame.
Top 10 Horror Movies

With the school year ending, I would like to make one last submission to the Horror Column. I will be counting down my top 10 favorite horror movie series.

ATTENTION- SPOILER ALERT!

#10 Final Destination

*Final Destination* is the formula for The Dead Teenager movie. The series has five movies. Each one starts off with a fatal event. The first was a plane crash, second was a car crash, third was a roller coaster accident, fourth was a race-track failure, and the fifth was a bus driving, and the bridge on which it drove collapsed. In this event, the main character is having a vision of what will happen. Reality strikes, and the main character tries to save as many people as he can from dying. Seven people always survive. In each movie, a creepy old man follows the group of survivors, telling them that they cannot cheat death. After their encounter with him, each one of the survivors begins to die in the order they would’ve in the incident. In the end, all of the survivors die and leave us with a sad ending.

#9 I Know What You Did Last Summer

The first movie of this trilogy takes place in a small town. Four friends are partying after Julie, the final girl, wins a beauty pageant. The group accidentally hits a man and kills him. Julie begins to panic and thinks they should call the police. The group decides to dispose of the body in the water and agree never to discuss the event again. One year later, Julie returns from college and receives a mysterious letter saying, “I know what you did last summer!” They all try to track down the mysterious person who knows their secret. One of the four is murdered by a fisherman wearing a slicker and a hook that comes out of the sleeve of it. Another is hit by a car. In the end you are left with Julie and her boyfriend who defeat the killer.

#8 Jeepers Creepers

*Jeepers Creepers* has three movies out right now, and the third one left us with a cliffhanger. *Jeepers Creepers* is an ancient demon who seeks organs from humans to replace its old or damaged ones. Every 23rd spring for 23 years it hunts. He scares his victims by using the scent of fear to determine what it feeds on. He drives around in an old, rusty truck, and in the back, he carries his victims. All three movies are worth watching, so I’d check them out.

#7 Saw - Jigsaw

*Saw* is the story of a man who takes the law into his own hands. People who commit crimes and don’t get punished are targeted by Jigsaw. He makes his victims go through a series of games. He gives them clues telling them what they did and how each game works. Jigsaw sets up the game where you can either shed blood or die. He does not kill the victims with his own hands. The series consists of 8 movies with one that just came out last October. It is a very good movie series, and I recommend it to everyone who likes bloody movies.

#5: Child’s Play - Chucky

*Child’s Play* is an all-time favorite movie series. The first three movies follow the life of Andy Barclay. Andy receives a good guy doll for his eighth birthday. What he doesn’t know is that the doll is possessed with the soul of a serial killer and fugitive. We all know him as Chucky. Throughout the trilogy, Chucky wants to play a game of “hide the soul.” In this game, Chucky does a chant to remove his soul from the body of the doll into Andy. He ends up failing, and in each movie, he starts becoming less human. In the end, he always gets defeated but somehow comes back to life in the next movie. The series is great, and I recommend everyone watch it.

Continued on page 17
#4 The Purge

In a dystopian future, America is ravaged by crime, and the prisons are overcrowded. The new founding father of America and the government sanctions an annual Purge. For 12 hours, on one day of the year, all crime is legal. During this time, murders, robberies, hostages, and much more occur. Many people sacrifice their lives to get money to their families. The government takes poor people out of their homes and sells them to rich families to purge them. This summer, the fourth installment of *The Purge* will be coming out. I am very excited for it.

#3 Friday The 13th

*Friday the 13th* is a movie about a mother who has a deformed son. The mother, Pamela Voorhees, is working as a cook at Camp Crystal Lake. Her son, Jason Voorhees, is being made fun of by some of the other campers. While the counselors aren’t paying attention, Jason goes for a swim and ends up drowning. Pamela blames her son’s death on the camp counselors, and she ends up going on a killing spree. She kills the counselors one-by-one until there is only one counselor left, Alice, who beheads Ms. Voorhees with a machete. Surprisingly, her son Jason watches as she is beheaded. Jason is better known than Ms. Voorhees because who could forget Jason’s hockey mask?

#2 Scream

The first thing that probably comes to mind is ghostface. *Scream* is so much more than that. *Scream* shows how anyone can just snap. The main storyline takes place in a small town named Woodsboro. Sidney Prescott, the survivor girl in all four movies, is targeted by a masked killer. The killer starts killing people that are close to her one by one. The killer finally unmaskes himself/herself and tries to kill Sidney. Of course every unmasking is followed by a ten minute monologue telling the victim what they did to him, but who doesn’t love an unmasking? Sidney ends up defeating them all in the end, proving her status as a survivor girl. *Scream* was turned into a TV series on *MTV*. The storyline was different from the movie, but *MTV* still did a good job on the show. *Scream* is amazing because scream can be anyone. *Scream* can be your neighbor, your family, and even your best friend. I suggest watching the movie or the TV series.

#1: Halloween

*Halloween* is an all time favorite horror movie. The story starts when a young boy known as Michael Myers kills his sister and her boyfriend. Michael’s baby sister is left after the bodies are discovered. Michael’s mother passes away while he is in prison. After spending some time in prison, Michael plans a violent escape and hunts down his sister, Laurie Strode. Laurie is a babysitter at the time, so the kids are the first to spot him. Michael kills anyone in his way in all movies until there will be no one left in his family. There are eight movies included with this series and two remakes directed by Rob Zombie. I recommend watching this movie. I guarantee you will love it. I give it a 10/10 rating.

Some of my other favorite horror movie series are *A Nightmare On Elm Street*, *Insidious*, *Leprechaun*, and *The Ring*. It has been a fun year writing for this paper. I will miss it very much.
By McConnico Sharpe

Chances are that most of you reading this article have heard about Marvel and DC and definitely have a preference between the two. However, unless you are a serious comics fan, you have probably never even heard of Image comics (most likely because they have very few movies and TV shows out), but Image comics is the third most profitable comics publisher next to Marvel and DC. In this article I will be comparing these three companies to reveal where these companies stand in relation to one another. First off, as far as movies go, it is absolutely clear that Marvel is in the lead with their most recent film, *Avengers: Infinity War*, making $112.5 billion in just two weeks. Marvel also has a huge advantage here as they were the first to have a “cinematic universe,” and this feature has really boosted both profits and opportunities in storytelling. DC has begun their own cinematic universe, although it feels rushed, and it seems that all they are trying to do is catch up to Marvel. DC movies recently have all also received fairly poor reviews. Image has no connection in their films at all and in fact only have eight motion pictures in total. As for television, DC has a firmly established connected universe with a large number of their shows, and they have all been generally well received. Marvel has a few shows that seem to be completely self-contained except for brief references to the films and some crossovers that aren't rated as well. Yet again, Image has no connected universe besides a spin off show to AMC’s smash hit adaptation of *The Walking Dead*.

Finally for the most central part of these companies… the comics! DC is well known for being darker and more mature in their storytelling, and that can make some people skeptical about reading them. However, because of this fact, DC does have some very well written and fantastic epics that have changed the way comics are written. Some of my personal favorites are: *V for Vendetta*, *Y: The Last Man*, and *The Sandman*. These stories are thought provoking and insightful. Marvel comics tend to be more lighthearted, and people do not really credit them with giving much to the comic industry. Marvel’s more friendly reputation does work to their advantage and draws new readers in easier than DC. In addition, Marvel’s having movies about more of their comics (or even comics for movies in the case of *Star Wars*) introduces a wider audience to their characters. Image Comics is, for the most part, at a disadvantage because Marvel and DC have at least a 58 year head start on them, with both companies having older and longer running series with familiar and well known characters. This situation leads to Image not having all their titles centered in a superhero universe. I also believe that this makes their comics more unique because the series that they have usually have only one author, and when they are done, the series ends. Therefore, they have to keep coming up with fresh ideas. Some examples of these are: *Chew*, *Saga*, *Invincible*, and *The Walking Dead*. Check out any of these titles at the library, and you will enter into a world of strange and amazing stories.

So there it is. I hope that this article has helped you proportion the relationship between these companies, and maybe even encouraged you to check some of these comics out at the library!
Avengers: 
Infinity War

By Carter Ozburn

At last! The movie this generation was waiting for is here! With Anthony and Joe Russo at the helm, what could go wrong? Well, I am willing to say this movie was not what we all hoped for. The movie started in the middle of a battle continuing between two movies and was action-packed from the beginning to the end. I, personally, was interested how Marvel would fit every Marvel hero still alive in one movie. Their solution? They did not. Many characters were lacking, while others had way too big of a role. I think Scarlet Witch (Elizabeth Olsen) and Rocket Raccoon had way too big roles, while Captain America (Chris Evans), Doctor Strange (Benedict Cumberbatch), and Black Panther (Chadwick Boseman) had way too small of roles. How can you base a whole couple of scenes on Vision when Thanos can just turn back time? I think Marvel used that scene and many others, to add to the character of Thanos, but I feel like anyone that powerful would turn back time. If Thanos had actually led the attack on Wakanda, the Avengers would get creamed. He just sat up in his ship while his "children" did his dirty work. I also want to talk about the overall quality of the effects.

The effects were very very good but I wish they would put more of the Doctor Strange effects in it. Doctor Strange just had that one scene against Thanos, and Thanos wrecked him. The overall action content of this movie was very good. That was one positive about the movie. Another plus was seeing Red Skull! Wow! I never thought I would see him in Infinity War, even if he had a minor role. I also loved that they put Wakanda in a major battle scene. That was satisfying. Many characters also played true to their personalities while in combat. Tony Stark and Captain America didn't fight together, and Spiderman acted like a little kid. Thor was very good in this movie, and I like the addition of Nidavellir into the storyline, and Peter Dinklage playing Eitri the famous dwarf.

In conclusion, I thought the movie was pretty satisfying, and the credit scene left me wondering, "what's next?" However, I think that there are some gaping holes in the storyline that I am sure Marvel will fix in the next movie. I would rate it 3.5/5 infinity stones.
By Jack Young

In the emergence of the Battle Royale genre, two amazingly popular games have come out, PlayerUnknown's Battlegrounds, or PUBG, and Fortnite: Battle Royale. With these two similar games, it begs the question: Which one is better?

In sheer player numbers, Fortnite is on top, amounting to 45 million total players, with at least 3 million playing every second. PUBG has reached 30 million players, with 1 million playing every second. These numbers can get a bit blurry, however, as Fortnite is free to play, while PUBG costs 30 dollars. Internationally, PUBG is king. In China, PUBG is incredibly successful while Fortnite is most popular in North America. It is important to note that Fortnite is much more popular on consoles such as the Xbox One and Playstation 4. Fortnite is the most popular game on consoles, and number five on PCs. Fortnite has also surpassed PUBG on Youtube and Twitch, as Fortnite was the most uploaded game in one month of all time on YouTube, and popular Twitch streamer “Ninja” brought in 600,000 total viewers, breaking the record for concurrent viewers on Twitch. These statistics don’t mean all too much when Fortnite is free; however, it does give you a glimpse into how many players enjoy each game.

In game play, Fortnite takes the edge on how much fun there is to have, while PUBG wins on realism. In Fortnite, you can build massive structures in seconds from nowhere. In PUBG, you need to strategically find cover. In Fortnite, if you are shot at you still have a good chance to build cover and heal, then attack the person who shot at you. In PUBG, you are prone to dying from a sniper shot from someone you couldn’t even see. The building mechanic allows for a higher skills gap as well in Fortnite. The most successful players build stairways and complex towers to gain a slight advantage.

Fortnite came out after PUBG, and PUBG’s developers, Bluehole, have been threatening legal action for claiming the popularity that PUBG had created of the Battle Royale Market. Bluehole also sued popular mobile games Knives Out and Rules of Survival for their blatant stealing from PUBG. The issue got so out of hand that false articles and incorrect news stories arrived of Epic Games, Fortnite’s creators. The beliefs were proven incorrect by Epic; however, many believed the false tweet, which stated:

“Due to the lawsuit against PubG on copyright infringement, we are sorry to inform you that Fortnite Battle Royale will be coming to an end May 24, 2018. Save the World will still be in development, and we will roll out ASAP. Thank you all for the support.”

So this leads me to my conclusion. Fortnite is better than PUBG for being free, having a better community, and higher-skilled game play. Compared to PUBG, that might have led the Battle Royale market, but Fortnite refined it. Fortnite is continuing to become more popular day-by-day, but PUBG’s numbers have dropped around 40% from January 2018, its peak. Fortnite has many advantages, while PUBG isn’t beating Fortnite in any real qualities.
Dear Gabe,

Before you leave to go on to the high school, I thought I would ask a few questions.

What is it like being an 8th grader?

Gabe - Honestly, it is not different at all from being a 7th grader; however, we do get some minor luxuries, such as the Atlanta trip and "Just Talking," every 8th graders favorite program at MBA.

Is the eighth grade academically harder than the 7th?

Gabe - Latin is hard; however, the trade for Earth Science instead of JPS is welcomed by many.

Are Mixers any better in the 8th grade?

Gabe - Of course! We have fun times such as our "game night" and "glow mixer," starring DJ Heartthrob Rob, and I don't see any way else I could be spending my Saturday night, but hey, that's just me.

Have fun next year!

Honest Gabe - Aka Jon Tarquinio

Nashville Predators

By Billy Morris

Nashville is home to many different attractions, from country music to our NFL football team, the Tennessee Titans. However, as of now, nothing is more vibrant than the Nashville Predators. Driving around Nashville, you can constantly see Preds flags and apparel on restaurants, houses, and people throughout the city. This support did not come without the Predators’ earning it. The Nashville Predators finished the season number 1 in the league with a record of 53-18-11. This record season awarded the 2017-2018 Predators the President’s Trophy, the first one that the Predators have received in franchise history. All of these achievements came after losing last year’s championship to the Pittsburgh Penguins. As anyone could tell, this years Predators are fired up and ready this year for the cup.

Going to the analytical aspect of things, this year Filip Forsberg has lead the team in total points with 64. That number includes 26 goals and 38 assists. Right behind Forsberg is Viktor Arvidsson with 61 points. With this young talent, the Nashville Predators have the potential do great things. They also have a city rallying behind them day-in-day-out; setting a record for most sellout games in a row in franchise history. The Predators have been the talk of the town. With the playoffs in full swing, everyone is wondering if the Predators can live up to their potential and bring the Stanley cup back to the city. After defeating the Colorado Avalanche, the Predators will have three more series to go in order to win the cup. The team has more pressure than ever to redeem themselves. It's time to cheer on the team, rally with the city, and help get this team a cup.

*The Predators lost in Game 7 Round Two of the playoffs to the Winnipeg Jets*
The NFL Draft is always a monumental time when it comes to sports. This anticipation is mostly because football fans get to see who their favorite team will pick, or who their favorite player will go to. But on the flip side, there are also the times when the organization picks some player out of nowhere for their first round pick. The draft can make a NFL fan feel like they are going to go undefeated to the unmatchable feeling that you are going to win the Superbowl. Usually during the first five picks is when fans can go from feeling like no wins to winning the Superbowl and vise versa.

Now, for the first pick in the 2018 NFL Draft, the Browns Select

1. Baker Mayfield, Quarterback, Oklahoma

This pick was very controversial, mostly because the Browns have the first pick in a draft that has four other outstanding quarterbacks and arguably the best running back in the draft for the better part of the decade. But also, this reigning Heisman Trophy winner played his best season ever in 2017, passing for 4627 yards and 43 touchdowns with only 6 interceptions. The real question is, will he stick around in the NFL or pull a Johnny Manziel? The reason I say Johnny Football is because these two share similar personalities on-and-off the field. Both get in trouble with authorities, and both are mobile quarterbacks. In conclusion, Baker Mayfield will be a good player in the NFL if he can control himself off the field.

For the second pick in the 2018 NFL Draft, the Giants select

2. Saquon Barkley, Running Back, Penn State

With the pick of Barkley the Giants have set themselves up to get better. (Not to succeed, but to get better.) The reason for this is now, Eli Manning has another threat to give the ball to. In the 2017 season, one of the biggest weaknesses was that Eli had no big playmaker to give the ball to (with the sometimes exception of OBJ). Along with Mayfield, Barkley had one of his best seasons in 2017-- 1271 rushing yards and an average of 5.9 yards per carry with 18 rush touchdowns. But the season is not where he showed the most promise. Saquon showed the most promise in the NFL Combine. In the Combine, Barkley put up 29 reps in the bench, 1.54 ten yards split, 4.40 forty yard dash, and a 41 inch vertical jump. In conclusion, I think the Giants used their second round pick fantastically, and if the Giants keep up the roll with good picks, in 3-5 years they could be contenders.

For the third pick in the 2018 NFL Draft, the Jets select

3. Sam Darnold, Quarterback, USC

The idea with this pick was to get rid of their string of risky second tier quarterbacks such as Josh McCown, Ryan Fitzpatrick, with hints of Geno Smith mixed in. Darnold is a solid quarterback, throwing 4143 yards, 26 touchdowns, and only 13 interceptions. His stats may not have been as good as Baker Mayfield, but he is a lot less likely of having a “Manzel Moment.” Darnold is a perfect fit for the New York Jets because he would be a boring quarterback on a boring team. Darnold has shown promise on the field and off. He rarely talks trash and never gets in legal trouble. So, all-in-all, he will do well with the Jets.

With the fourth pick in the 2018 NFL Draft, the Browns select

4. Denzel Ward, Defensive Back, The Ohio State University

After losing the defensive back all-star Joe Haden, the Browns needed a better defense (and team).Denzel Ward played 11 games and got 37 total tackles with 2 interceptions. He was the best defensive back in the draft, so he was bound to be picked by the Browns. In the combine he ran a 4.32 forty yard dash and 16 reps on bench. Denzel Ward all together is a good addition to the Browns roster, and he will help the defense immensely.

With the fifth pick in the 2018 NFL Draft ,the Denver Broncos select

5. Bradley Chubb,Defensive End, N.C. State

Von Miller is one of the most flamboyant players in the NFL. Yet, he is also the one of the best defensive backs in the NFL. Nevertheless, he needs someone to help with destroying the opposing team’s quarterback. So Denver selected Bradley Chubb. Chubb is 6’4” of pure muscle and can take a quarterback with ease. In 12 games he had a total of 72 tackles, ten of those being sacks. In the combine, he had an incredible 24 reps on the bench. Overall , Chubb and Miller will be an incredible team and will make any quarterback nervous about those threats.
Microbe A Baseball

By Kayman Cooke

The Microbe A Baseball team had a great year with a 11-5 record and a runner-up finish in the HVAC tournament. The team had a season filled with great games that consisted of stellar pitching performances, great team play, and walk off hits; the season also came with rough days at the plate, pitching struggles, or even a six game streak with 55 strikeouts. Through a season of ups and downs, the team stuck together alongside each other in order to reach a common goal.

The Big Red had its fair share of blowout wins and close games in the regular season. The team’s blowout victories were as follows: two victories over the Nashville Monarchs (17-0 and 14-0), USN (13-0), JT Moore (15-0), Lipscomb (9-0), Ensworth (12-2), and Brentwood Academy (13-0). The team also had its close games and losses. The team’s close games and losses are as follows: CPA (6-2 Loss), BGA (3-2 Win), Goodpasture (2-1 Loss and 11-8 Win) ,DCA (2-1 Win), Brentwood Academy (3-1 Loss), Nashville Catholic (7-1 Loss), Davidson Academy (2-0 Win), and Lipscomb (2-1 Win). After a very productive and successful regular season, the team’s attention immediately turned to the postseason.

The Microbes began the HVAC tournament with a first-round bye and would play the winner of Davidson Academy and Donelson Christian Academy. The next day the team came out focused on winning and advancing to the championship against the winner of Christ Presbyterian and Goodpasture. The team had an amazing first game with great hitting and fielding performances along with an amazing complete game from Arthur Bennett. The Big Red would face Goodpasture in the championship after their defeat of Christ Presbyterian, following the Big Red’s victory.

On the following day, the Microbes would battle with Goodpasture. The team struggled on the mound and at the plate to begin the game and continued these struggles throughout the game. Goodpasture’s excellent hitting performance and having their starting pitcher throw six innings, proved too much for the Big Red. After the final out, the Big Red’s season sadly came to an end in a 7-1 championship loss. The team was crushed not to achieve their overall team goal of winning the HVAC championship. This year’s eighth graders will move into the high school and cheer on the seventh graders to finish the job next season.

The team would like to thank the coaches for the amazing job they did this year. The team would also like to thank the students, staff, and parents who supported the Microbes this season.

Photo courtesy of Ellen Hitt
Microbe B Baseball

The Microbe B baseball team, coached by Matt Golenor and Ric Rader, had a successful season with some standout performances on the mound, on the field, and in the batter's box. We look forward to watching their continued success next year as they move to the Microbe A team.

Microbe Track

By Matthew McMinn

The junior school track team had a great season this year. The team finished fourth in the HVAC meet and had a record breaking run.

The HVAC track meet was on May 4, a big day for the Microbe track team. The distance team was a big factor in our success. In the 800 meter run, Battle Ground Academy’s Trace Alexander was in the lead with Hall Griffith close behind. Hall Griffith crossed the finish line with a time of 2:15.41 just two seconds behind BGA. William Holleman finished right behind Hall Griffith with a time of 2:19.34. Witt Dawkins placed fifth with a time of 2:22.54. Earlier that race day, the 1600 meter run took place. Hall Griffith placed first with a MBA record breaking time of 4:47.08, crossing the line just under two seconds before Trace Alexander of BGA. William Holleman finished next, placing third with a time of 4:53.27. Hall Griffith broke the MBA 1600 meter record by six seconds and William Halleman tied it, an incredible race for both boys and an amazing year for the distance team.

Photos courtesy of Robinette Gaston, Jennifer Haendel, Anne Holleman, and Mike Strasinger
7th-Grade Lacrosse

By Patrick Tatro

The MBA 7th Grade Lacrosse season was a great success. The team had many first time players, as well as some veterans. The veterans consisted of Gus Kirkland, Hayden Kirkland, Thomas Harwell, Jack Myers, Sully O’Neal, Walker Stevens, and Liam Campbell. Many players proved to be great first year players, such as Keen Zoller, Payne Daniel, Browning Trainer, and Evan Viars. Every player contributed very much throughout the season. Our first year goalie, Ethan Klindt, did a great job not letting in goals. Our coaches this season were Coach Brown, Coach Carlini, Coach Richardson (briefly) and Coach Ferry.

Gus Kirkland had many goals throughout the season, contributing 12 goals. Our reliable defense of Liam Campbell, myself, and Brooks Smith did an outstanding job this year. Coach Carlini did a great job training and helping our attack improve and get better. Our record could have been better, but we played our hardest. The season concluded with our game against Woodland at the 42nd Avenue campus. We had recently lost to Woodland, and we wanted revenge. We started out quick, with a goal from Gus Kirkland. Then Thomas Harwell ripped 2 more goals to pad our lead. Then I took a ground-ball, took it coast-to-coast and scored. We ended up winning 5-2. We planned on having another game, but the weather and scheduling issues prevented the game from happening.

The final game was a great way to end our season. The season was a great success and a great way to introduce lacrosse to people who hadn’t played before.

Microbe Golf

By Reid Smith

The MBA junior school golf team had another successful golf season this spring. The team fought hard to finish 4th out of 10 teams at the District tournament at Two Rivers Golf Course. The players finished with a total score of 327 with Carson Hensler (85), Owen Flanagan (85), Cummings Levi (82), Max Hastings (81), and Reid Smith (79), all participating in the tournament. The season was filled with competitive matches at various courses throughout Nashville such as Legends Golf Club, Governors Club, Brentwood Country Club, and Ted Rhodes Golf Course. The team was comprised of almost all 8th graders, except Owen Flanagan, who will hope to lead the team next year. Meanwhile the 8th graders will compete for the High School team this summer.

On behalf of the junior school golf team we would like to thank Coach Michael Kelly for his support and leadership this season.
TOP OF THE HILL

8th-Grade Lacrosse

By Jackson Francis

This season was definitely one to remember. It had it all from blowout wins to heart stopping games. This year’s team had an overall record of 15-2, and earning 5 of the 15 wins, all in one day to win a championship.

The Big Red began their season at the Nicholas Caroland Jamboree by defeating all three of its opponents handily. The regular season began with the team’s hardest opponent, MUS. The Big Red were caught off guard with MUS gaining a large lead early. The team fought back in the second half bringing the score within 2 goals, but the strong MUS was just too much for the Big Red. The team got a chance to redeem themselves against Collierville the same day. This game went the Big Red’s way, and the team got their first win. The team’s next game was against Brentwood. The weather was extremely cold with temperatures in the 30s. The Big Red easily defeated Brentwood in a hard fought game. The next game was against Grassland who is a very good and physical team. This game was close all the way until the final buzzer. Both teams traded the lead all throughout the game. Grassland had taken a two goal lead on the Big Red, but with great coaching and resilience from the players, the team battled back to win in the last minute of the game.

Coming off of spring break, the team made a key adjustment in its practice intensity that would have great effects that could be felt for the remainder of the season. The first game coming off of spring break was against a talented Woodland team. The Big Red took care of business and defeated them. That weekend, the team took a road trip down to Memphis with one goal in mind, to win. The first team that the Big Red faced was MUS. MBA was hungry for revenge and ready to play. The Big Red struck early and took MUS by surprise. The team took an early lead and never let up. MBA beat MUS in a close, hard fought game. Then the team rode a short distance over to play the Memphis Saints. Just coming off the game against MUS, the team started out a little slow, but picked up speed as the game went on. The Big Red came, saw, and conquered Memphis. MBA’s next game was against Brentwood again, and the team took care of business once again. Now, the Big Red had to play a physical Grassland team once more. The score was close the whole game, but the Big Red never stopped playing hard and won. After this, the team had to play the talented Woodland team the next day. The Big Red were very tired from the previous day, and their goalie was just coming back from a bad sickness. MBA played a little slow the whole game and couldn’t find the net as easily as they have all season. A very hard working Woodland team played a good game and ended up defeating the Big Red, giving them their second loss of the season. This was the last regular season game before the McCallie Tournament, but it wasn’t the last the team would see this Woodland team.

Going into the tournament the team had a chip on their shoulder. On the trip down to McCallie, the mood on the bus was serious, and everyone was on a mission. The first game of the day came against a good Knoxville team. The Big Red weren’t messing around today and easily defeated the other team. The second game was immediately after the first and was against Boyd; it was very physical. MBA started off a little slow, but as time went on the team couldn’t be stopped. MBA beat Boyd in a good game. After a little break the Big Red were back on the field against McCallie. MBA took an early lead and never looked back. This was the last pool play game for MBA. The first bracket play game was against the Memphis Saints who the Big Red had beaten before. The game was close in the first half with MBA leading going into halftime. The second half was much better for the Big Red. They pulled away with the win, and ready to go to the championship. After playing four games in one day, the team was getting physically drained, but the team shook it off and looked fresh and ready to go for the championship. The Big Red’s opponent was the infamous Woodland team. Both teams had beaten each other once. This game would settle it once and for all. It couldn’t have been a more perfect situation for the Big Red. To play their season rival in the highest game. The game got off to fast start with both teams scoring early. The score was very close in the first half, but in the second half, MBA willed themselves to win and pushed themselves. They wanted this game bad. As the second half went on, the Big Red were unstoppable, scoring goal after goal. In the end, the Big Red ended up on top. A perfect ending to a great season.

The whole team worked hard the whole season. The team was led by captains Elliot Lyell and Rhett Hayles. The team would like to give a huge thank you to Coach Cooper, Coach Pollock, and Coach McWhirter for their great coaching this past season. The team would also like to thank Mrs. Mary Lyell for organizing the food for the bus trips, organizing the team shirts, and for everything else she helped the team out with. The team also thanks all of the parents for their help too. The team also would like to thank Miss. Dreher for organizing the bus trips that took us to practice every day and for arranging the Grey Line buses for us as well. Anyone else who helped out with the season, the team would also like to thank you.

The 2018 Eighth-Grade Lacrosse Team

The 2018 Eighth-Grade Lacrosse Team

Grey Line buses for us as well. Anyone else would like to thank you. Coach Cooper, Coach Pollock, and Coach McWhirter for their great coaching this past season. The team would also like to thank Mrs. Mary Lyell for organizing the food for the bus trips, organizing the team shirts, and for everything else she helped the team out with. The team also thanks all of the parents for their help too. The team also would like to thank Miss. Dreher for organizing the bus trips that took us to practice every day and for arranging the Grey Line buses for us as well. Anyone else who helped out with the season, the team would also like to thank you.
By Ian Durelli

The MBA 8th grade Crew team has finished the Sprint season incredibly with wins in three regattas. The team consists of 8th graders Simon Buenahora, Jace Breeden, William Curley, Joseph Dattilo, Devan Durrett, Ryan Decoster, Ian Durelli, John Gray Egbert, Carter Gold, Walker Green, Charlie Graves, Harrison Jackson, Wilson King, Charlie Kost, Henry Krumm, Austin Murphy, Reid Ragsdale, Rylan Schroeder, Jacob Viner, Noah Wisniewski, and Walker Lenderman as coxswain. Orman Nimmo, a seventh grader, also competed in regattas with us.

The first regatta was a home regatta against McCallie. The 8th grade boat of Wilson, Ian, Ryan, Orman, Harrison, Reid, John Gray, Noah, and Walker as coxswain won their race. It was a close race where any team could’ve pulled ahead, but they were not quite able to. Towards the end of the race the other boat “caught a crab,” which is when a rower’s lad gets caught under the water and flings out of the hands of the rower. It allowed our team to improve our slight lead into a large gap which we maintained to the end of the race. The other Novice Boat with 8th graders John Gray and Charlie placed second in a tough battle against McCallie’s second Varsity 8.

The next regatta was at Baylor, and the same 8th grade boat came and rowed hard. We placed third, losing to another MBA high school boat and a Baylor boat. This boat consisted of Wilson, Ian, Orman, Joseph, Harrison, Reid, John Gray, Noah, and Walker Lenderman.

The most recent and last regatta was again at Baylor. Two 8th grade boats competed, and one placed first. It was an intense race with the top three boats in close proximity to one another. At this point McCallie, a MBA high school boat, and my 8th grade boat were drawing dangerously close to each other, leading to the oars of our boat and the other MBA high school boat hitting each other. Despite allowing McCallie to pull away and get in first place, the MBA 8th grade boat out rowed any other boat and got ahead of McCallie’s boat. We placed first by a sizable gap between our boat and the others. The high school MBA boat got third, and the other 8th grade boat got last, but had fun and pulled their hardest.

To any junior school student who doesn't have a sport, consider the crew team. There are no cuts, and most of the 8th grade team has received Varsity letters. The sport may be the hardest one offered at MBA, and you may come home with bloody blisters all over your hands, but there’s nothing like the feeling after winning a regatta. Give it a try and see how you like it. For those of you who don’t have a sport for a certain season, but don’t want to get out of shape for your other sport, Crew is a great workout and will get you in great shape.
The MBA Class of 2021

The sponsors of Top of the Hill would like to congratulate The Class of 2022 on their terrific year and wish them all the best during their tenure on the Hill.

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