

THE LARIAT

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MONTICELLO HIGH SCHOOL

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Laborious Lives

HECTIC, HORRENDOUS, AND HEROIC

The Schedule of a Buckaroo Teen

by Shelbie Musselman

Students at Monticello High School are blessed with the opportunity to be involved in multiple clubs, sports, and activities. Take Hyrum Johnson for example; he is MHS Student Body President, Hope Squad President, a member of NHS, the football & basketball teams, and he farms & skates in his free time. He is heavily involved in everything and he is still expected to make time to succeed in school. Could you do it?

These days, students are held to an extremely high standard. Not only are they coaxed to become entangled in their society, they are encouraged to have high success rates in all of their activities. Throughout the four years

of high school, countless opportunities arise for involvement in the community and school. Various clubs and athletic teams are always looking for participation from students. Sometimes, even the coaches and administrators go out of their way to recruit high schoolers. Are they aware of the impact their activities have on their mentees? Are they trying to initiate the strain and heighten the student's ability to handle stressors later in life? Of course, they know these teens are talented and perfectly capable, but nobody is immune to the stress that comes along with this level of participation.

Margaret Shapiro, a journalist for the Washington Post, stated that "60 percent of teens

said that having to manage too many activities was a 'somewhat or very significant' stressor" and, "Just over a third reported 'having lain awake at night' due to stress." Some people have a natural knack for creating balance rather than chaos, but high school students are forced to acquire that ability. They are constantly bombarded with hefty homework assignments and reading passages - enough to keep them up late at night - and on top of that, their attendance is required at sports practices and club meetings. They are forced to wait until late at night to even start school work, which brings along the negative consequences of sleep deprivation.

Our entire generation is growing up chronically sleep-deprived and stressed out, which is a threat to our health and our academic success. Going to bed at 2:00 A.M. after finishing homework and then being forced to wake up and be to class at 8:00 the same morning is not an uncommon scenario for today's teens. By assigning homework and expecting students to also be involved in other activities, sleep deprivation causes their grades, mental health, and athletic performance to decline. In an article written about sleep-deprived teens, a quote by William Dement reads, "'It's a huge problem. What it means is that nobody performs at the level they could perform,' whether it's in school, on the roadways, on the sports field or in terms of physical and emotional health". Sleep deprivation causes unhealthy amounts of stress and emotional issues.

Aside from the negative effects of the heavy expectations of today's teens, the current high school students will benefit the future society because so much pressure was placed on them growing up. For example, a busy schedule in high school prepares you for real life. Adulthood is no easier than being a teenager. You are still forced to find a balance between your work and home life - maybe even college - plus everything else you have piled on your plate. By being busy, we are forced to be productive. To avoid letting grades slip and athletic performance decline, student's brains are constantly running 100 mph, creating effective members of society. Busy bees get the honey.



Boys in Black

BUCKAROO FOOTBALL 2019

by Staff Contributions

The 2019 Buckaroo football team brought a little magic back from the 80's with the addition of the Bird/Johnson show; not the Larry and Magic style, but to the tune of Dylan and Hyrum. Returning seniors Zach Cecil, Tyler Beshoner, Dillon (Cap) Slack, Eldean Lammert, and Carson King welcomed the cross-country defectors, Dylan Bird and Hyrum Johnson, to their fraternity to begin the 2019 season. Who knew that a couple of long distant runners could make an impact on Friday nights? When asked about Johnson and Bird joining the team, senior captain Zach Cecil simply said, "I'm glad they came out."

The new addition added a spark that helped the Buckaroos to a 6-4 regular season record and some exciting moments. A homecoming victory against new 2A opponent Gunnison, a dominating win over

Rich in Randolph, and an overtime thriller with longtime rival Layton Christian kept the fans warm in the stands regardless of the freezing cold temps. Sophomore Devin Hatch quarterbacked the team with standout skill players Cedar English, Brevin Olson, Carson King, and touchdown Tate.

Dylan Bird fit perfectly into the role as a receiver and made several big catches throughout the season. The line, led by junior Tuff Adair, made vast improvements with seniors Eldean Lammert and Dillon Slack. Joe Boyle, Grant Nebeker, and Carson Wells saw significant action blocking for Hatch and Olson. Senior Zach Cecil ran the ball, caught passes, and anchored the defense at outside linebacker. Coach Reed Anderson will miss his departing senior class but continues to build excitement and anticipates a strong return in 2020.



Set it, We'll Hit It

MHS VOLLEBALL 2019



Seniors Megan Black #14, Presley Lewis #1, Rianna Shumway #2, and Morgan Maloy #13.



MOCKINGBIRDS, FARMS, AND MICE

Banned Books in Public Schools

by Madi Keyes

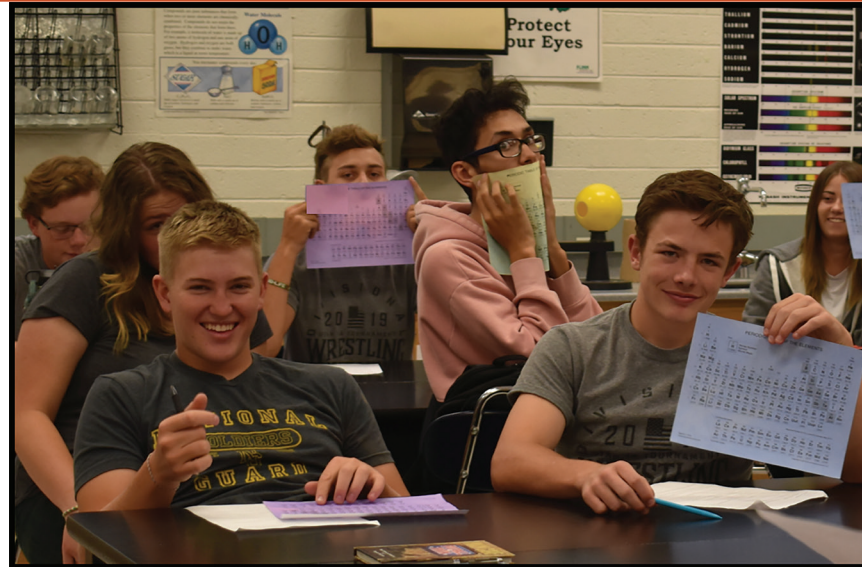
In the U.S. alone, between 600,000 and 1,000,000 books are published each year and that's not counting self-published books. Those books fill our school libraries, waiting for either a student to pick one up or for a teacher to assign them to their class. If it is assigned to a class, it's mostly likely a classic. To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee, Animal Farm by George Orwell, The Catcher in the Rye by J.D. Salinger, and Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck are examples of classics often studied in school, but they're also examples of books banned in school districts around the country.

The books we study in school are not just feel good, fun, easy books. The books we study in school are full of gritty detail and hard to swallow lessons. Using an article from the Insider titled "10 books that have been banned in schools" by Talia Lakritz, I learned the top ten books that have been banned in school libraries and why. In To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee, it talks about racism and the trial of an innocent man from the perspective of a young girl. The book was later banned in Tennessee for its "adult themes." Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain is a book talking about racism, child abuse, and slavery and has been under controversy since it's publishing. It was banned for the first time in 1885, only a year after it was published. It was considered "trash and suitable only for the slums." Animal Farm by George Orwell tells the story of farm animals rebelling against the farmer, a fight for equality that backfired. Because of its reflection of Stalin's betrayal of the Russian soviet and the political

views betrayed throughout the book, it was banned in multiple school throughout the years. All of these books share a common factor, they remind us of a time some rather forget. While some do contain adult themes and harsh language, they talk of a time that if we forget, we'll repeat it.

In almost every school district that banned the books, it was pushed by the parents. The same parents claim that they don't want their kids reading those books because they don't their kids being influenced by the story. John Green, the author of Looking for Alaska which happens to be a banned book, addressed that idea in a vlog, "Teenagers are critically engaged and thoughtful readers," he said."....."They also don't read 'The Outsiders' and think 'I should join a gang' or read 'Divergent' and think 'I should jump onto moving trains. So far as I can tell that kind of narrow prescriptive reading seems only to happen inside the offices of school superintendents." What he means is that teenagers don't read a book and only focus on one detail of the story, like the parents so heartily believed that they do.

There are some books that kids shouldn't read until they're older and more mature, but teachers, who have read and studied English and literature, are not going to assign those books. Teachers don't assign books to students if they thought the book would turn them into a criminal or gang member. Students don't look at one of the details of the book and decide to dramatically change their life to fit that aspect of the book. It's easy to see that the banned books of school districts across the country just don't need to be banned.



A WORLD WITHOUT HOMEWORK?

It Might Actually Work!

by Clayton Young

Students from all around the world experience one thing that they all dread equally, homework. Teachers, faculty, and parents alike have students convinced that homework is essential to our success in school. They say that it helps us remember better, or that it gives us more practice. However, is this really true? Is it possible that homework has actually been making a negative impact or no impact at all? Just imagine a world where this chore in our lives actually doesn't exist. Maybe a world without homework will be better than the one we currently reside.

An article written by Alfie Kohn states "The negative effects of homework are well known. They include children's frustration and exhaustion, lack of time for other activities, and possible loss of interest in learning" (Kohn). Homework is making a huge impact on teens mentally. Going through seven hours of school just to go home and do school some more takes a toll on young minds. It only gets worse when you put sports and other after school activities in the mix. Teens don't even get a chance to breathe much less get a chance to rest their minds. This sort of constant pressure put on the minds of teens

is not healthy at all. Homework is just doing damage with nothing to show.

Another section of Kohn's article states "For starters, there is absolutely no evidence of any academic benefit from assigning homework in elementary or middle school. For younger students, in fact, there isn't even a correlation between whether children do homework (or how much they do) and any meaningful measure of achievement. At the high school level, the correlation is weak and tends to disappear when more sophisticated statistical measures are applied." Why do we do something that has no impact on learning whatsoever. Students are putting in hours upon hours of work with no benefits. Students most often just end up BS-ing the assignment so that they can get a good grade, not learning anything in the process. If homework is made for "practice" it's clearly not working.

In the end, the idea of homework is genuinely a good idea. However, the idea clearly doesn't work. Yet teachers still insist on us doing it, why? Can they not see that it's just hurting students far more than it is helping them? Hopefully someday we can think of homework as a thing of the past.

Advice

FROM THOSE WHO KNOW THINGS!!



RUMORS

1. Rumors spread super-fast in Monticello. One person can tell another, then after a couple of days, the entire school will know. It's kind of like a fire, once one tree is on fire then it will catch the entire forest on fire. Even though the person you told may say they kept it secret. We all know they told someone, like a parent or another friend.

- Dylan Bird

PLACES TO EAT

2. There is nowhere to eat here. For more of a quick lunch, there is only PJ'S and Subway.

Then after that you are looking to more of a sit down to eat. Which will take around an hour or two. Some people don't have that long for lunch, most have about half an hour. As a student you have limited options. You can eat school lunch, go home, or quickly eat subway or pjs.

- Dylan Bird

SUPER SENIORS

3. There are a lot of super seniors that hang around here

for a while. They don't want to move on with their lives, some have something here like farming and ranching.

But those who don't have that staff need to go to college and get a better job. There was a lot of seniors that stayed around this year.

- Dylan Bird

QUIRKY GIRLS

4. It's a well-known fact that quirky girls are very cute. They have the best personality any guy could ever ask for. They bring a fun energy to the school that would be missed without them.

- Joe Boyle

MR. REEVE v. PHONES

5. Mr. Reeve will always catch you if you have your phone out in class. Mr. Reeve has a 6th sense that he uses to detect students using their phones in class. He will catch you no matter how stealthy you are. Some people have gotten lucky but more often than not, if you take your phone out in Mr. Reeve's class it's as good as gone.

- Cameron Harrod

SLACK and WATER

6. Dillon "Cap" Slack not only drinks more water in one day than the average person does in a week, he also claims that he pees roughly every 5 minutes which is pretty impressive. Cap carries a milk jug full of water with him everywhere because he needs that good hydration at all times.

- Cameron Harrod

SOCCOR and ENGLISH

7. Don't talk about soccer in English. Mr. Keyes doesn't share a lot of his likes and dislikes in his class, but if you didn't know that he doesn't like soccer you haven't gone to a single class.

Mr. Keyes says, and I quote, "soccer is a communist plot."

He will rant in class on how much he hates it. You can like soccer all you want, but our English teacher won't allow it in his classroom. A fact at MHS, don't talk about soccer in English.

- Madi Keyes

QUIZLETS

8. People who make and share quizlets are the real M.V.P.s. Studying can be hard without flashcards or some sort of practice test, but quizlet has all of those so it's a very valued website.

But sadly, you have to make the quizlet. It takes time and energy, something most high schoolers don't want to give up, so when someone makes one and shares it with the whole class! It's like Christmas!

- Madi Keyes

THE BEARD

9. Mr. Adair has the biggest beard. Everyone knows this, it's a fact. No one else could compare to his beard. Tuff is getting there though.

- Ethan Lee

ATTICUS the ESCORT

10. Atticus was the best escort for the Queens Assembly. He was dressed nicely, and he knew what to do. He didn't hesitate, and he wasn't unsure.

- Ethan Lee

LOWKEY FUNNY

11. Mr. Reeve is lowkey funny. He acts all serious most of the time and wants it to be quiet and have assignments done. But given the opportunity, Mr. Reeve will be a goofball who makes jokes, scares students with fake anger, and smile when he is talked about. Mr. Reeve doesn't get enough credit at school, good credit at least.

- Parker Nielson

HUMAN Q-Tip

12. Carson King looks like a human q-tip. He is a cool cat, and the people he hangs out with are also cool. But he is a goof and his hair is crazy. If he were skinnier, you could use him to clean your ear, if he doesn't already do that by telling bad jokes or making weird gestures towards Joe.

- Parker Nielson

VENDING MACHINES

13. The school takes away vending machines, but instead sells food in the office.

Ever since Michelle Obama banned obesity in schools, school officials felt it was necessary to vanish the cherished vending machines.

After everyone figured out that was a terrible idea the office decided to start selling food in the office but won't just bring the vending machines back. Go figure?!

- Dillon Slack



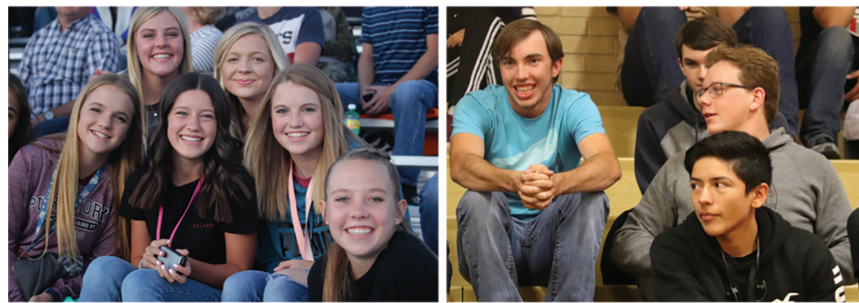
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the public. We are all just in our own worlds that we don't notice our differences or similarities between one another. It's only when an event comes along to show how diverse we are.

In community service or some sort of meeting, you are confined to a space and, in a way, forced to look at the diversity between you and the others. One person might have darker skin than you. Another might be taller with curlier hair and is wearing a shirt that supports a cause that you don't. But that's the point of diversity is to be who you are and not someone who you aren't. In the majority public around the U.S. diversity is what can bring us together or tear us apart, depending on if it's a meeting with positive vibes, such as Comic con where I think diversity is at its strongest. Or it can be used to tell who is on the opposite side of the spectrum, like in politics.

Is it Good?

Despite whether it can be good or bad, diversity is in our daily living, and human nature only wants what's best for us. So why not make it something good? By including diverse in schools, businesses and top organizations, we are encouraging people to be different, which can inspire new ideas and create new opportunities for those old and new. Diversity is something we live each day, and no one realizes it. We just have to know how to make the best of it.

DIFFERENT IS GOOD

by Parker Nielson

What is diversity? In the simplest of terms, diversity is what divides others from being too much like one another, whether it be the way someone talks to the way someone dresses to what someone likes and dislikes. Diversity gets even larger when you take into consideration a person's religion and ethnicity. No matter how you look at it, people are

diverse from one another. Not one person is exactly the same as another, even twins.

Diversity in Public

When it comes to how others view each other in public, most of the time you don't really think about how different you are from your friends or even strangers you might pass by once on the street. Diversity, in my opinion, is not very thought of in



by Joe Boyle

After finishing this little experiment, we did in journalism, there were many similar answers. Although it was mainly excitement, the words used by almost every person were stress and fear. It was very interesting to see how anxious the topic of post high school life made students. Another thing that came as a surprise to me was how basically every student was ecstatic to get out of Monticello. This was expected for the most part, but I didn't expect that almost every kid to feel this way.

The thoughts and feelings that come to mind are almost all positive, and this isn't because I have a hatred for the wonderful little town of Monticello. Monticello is an amazing place to grow up. The people you get to know and the lessons you learn are second to

none. It provides a sheltered, action packed childhood. I'm insanely grateful for the opportunities that I was presented with while living in this great town. I'm just excited to start my life. I'm excited to find out what kind of person I want to be and become that person. I'm also excited to meet new people. I love my fellow classmates here at MHS, but I've spent a LOT of time with the same people for many years now. It will be a nice breath of fresh air to get to know new people with a different upbringing than me. Monticello is great, but I'm personally excited to really get out and experience life when I get out of this sheltered little town. Another reason I'm excited to leave is for my education. This is nothing against Monticello. I'm just excited to get out and learn more and find out what I want to do with the rest

of my life. It's a very exciting time of life and I'm excited to get there.

In conclusion, Monticello is an amazing place, but I'm with my classmates. Although I understand

the fear, I'm just mainly excited to get out and live my life. I'm not ready now, but when the time comes, I know I'll be ecstatic to get my life moving forward.



FEAR THE CHILL

by Parker Nielson

Life after high school is something that is shrouded in mystery for all those attending. For some, it is much closer than others. Some will be experiencing that life immediately after this year resolves, which is something that I figured out a lot of people are stressed about. Often times, humans fear the unknown, and because the future hasn't happened yet, many teenagers here at Monticello High School find the life afterwards stressful, anxiety inducing, or even straight up scary.

The common answer between many of the students I interviewed with were all related to fear. Fear of multiple things that they had no control over at this current moment, or if they do, what they would do

once it came into play. These things would be things like living alone, having to pay rent on your own apartment. Needing to buy your own food and be entirely dependant on themselves for their daily needs. For teenagers who are still going through education, this is an entirely reasonable fear. Some have already had some experiences of working to gain cash and buy things for themselves, like cars and food, as well as pay some of those things off. But not many really understand all the other things that come with becoming an adult. You are more inclined to responsibility, to stay in line and realize that laws now have harsher punishment, and added payments, such as house payments, student loans, and even more taxes that have to be submit-

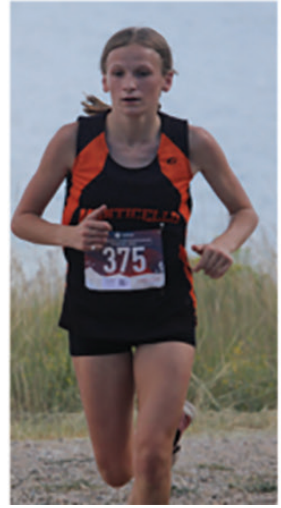
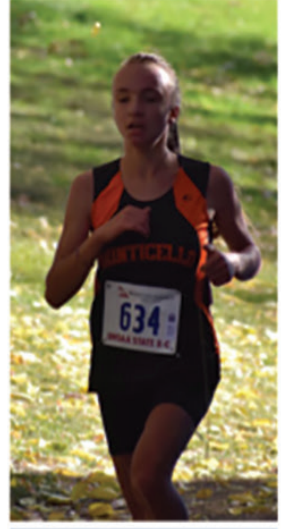
ted, that is, if they have a job that makes them enough money in order to fill out a tax form.

Most students, except a few that I interviewed, were afraid of becoming adults from the sounds of it. A few were excited to get out there and be free of this small town and become who they want to be, fully ready to embrace the world and its challenges. That was very few people compared to the vast amount that were terrified to leave this town and start fresh with a diploma, or with whatever education they leave here with.

In my own opinion, I am slightly terrified to leave just like some of my interviewed peers. Their fears almost match up exactly with mine, with my own being slightly different, such as, "Will I be good

enough for the world?" or "Will I even make it in society?". Those kinds of thoughts are identical to how many teenagers feel. Leaving a place that you know and exploring is something many humans don't want to do, because of the earlier mentioned fear of the unknown.

In conclusion, what appears to be chill of what hasn't happened yet is boiling anxiety swelling up in teenagers as the years turn into months for some, and months turn into days for others, including myself. They've only got a little bit left of their high school life, and it stresses out many. So instead of chill of the unknown, many would agree with me that it is the Anxiety of the unknown.



2019 BUCKAROO XC

Boys XC 2019

- Dawson Atwood*
- Alan Pettit*
- Jalen Bradford*
- Jacob Johnson*
- Josh Wheeler*
- Bailey Walker.*

Girls XC 2019

- Macy Badger*
- Kennedy Brewer*
- Adri Bird*
- Serra St. Clair*
- Lily Long*

- Eric Montague*
- Cory Bunker*
- Taw Robinson*

- Katie Morrison*
- Lily Badger*
- Halle Morrison*

It's a Wonderful Life

Cast

George Bailey	Tate Ramsey
Clarence Odbody	Hyrum Johnson
Mr. Gower	Dawson Atwood
Young George	Jacob Johnson
Harry Bailey	Logan Nielson
Mother Bailey	Alexa Peterson
Aunt Tilly	Barbara Abernathy
Violet Peterson	Adri Lewis
Bert	Joe Boyle
Ernie	Clayton Young
Uncle Billy	Paul Reay
Mary Hatch	Madison Freestone
Henry F. Potter	Carson Wells
Mr. Potter's Goon	Taw Robinson
Mrs. Hatch	Kennedy Brewer
Sam Wainwright	Jaxson Wells
Miss Andrews	Halle Morrison
Mrs. Thompson	Janette Halls
Mr. Martini	Parker Nielson
Mrs. Martini	Aimee Crowley
Miss Carter	Lydia Pettit
Mr. Welch	Buddy Morrison

Children

Newspaper Boy	Michael Peterson
Pete Bailey	Jalen Bradford
Tommy Bailey	Jacob Johnson
Zuzu Bailey	Sophie Morrison
Janie Bailey	Hannah Crowley
Townspeople #1	Kamron Yoakam
Townspeople #2	Lily Long
Townspeople #3	Joshua Dilts

Stage & Tech Crew

Stage Manager	Garrett Henderson
Curtain & Props	Brighton Torgerson
Curtain & Props	Xochie Hollingsworth
Lights	Alissa Black
Sound	Giovana Alba
Spotlights	Kylee Davis
Spotlights	Xochie Hollingsworth
Director	Lynda Boyle
Student Director	Madison Freestone







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The Holiday Season at MHS



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