# The Hellgate Lance

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November 11, 2019

### 'Jesus is King' Review



### P.E. for Student Athletes



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The Lance is an award-winning, school-sponsored student publication of Hellgate High School. The Lance has been publishing since 1964. Ad rates are available upon request. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the entire paper, its advisers or Hellgate High School.

# 2 News

### Hellgate Represents at All-State

Josey MacDonald Reporter

Hellgate is often known for having strong art and music programs, and it upheld this

image at All-State this year, sending a total of 57 students to the annual event. All-State, a music festival featuring band, orchestra, and choir, is made up of high-school students from around the state who audition in the spring. Each group rehearses their pieces for two days, and on the last day, they combine for a final concert to perform them. The 2019 All-State music festival took place in Billings from October 16-18.

20 of Hellgate's students were from the advanced orchestra, and they made up almost a quarter of the entire symphony. The group was conducted by Dr. Michael Griffith, who has taught at the University of Wyoming for more than 30 years. They performed four songs, but most players' favorite was "Danzón No. 2" by Arturo Márquez, which is lively and entertaining, but with a relaxing melody. As they played, Griffith told them to imagine being in the hot sun under a flowering tree. The advice helped keep the tempo from rushing. Griffith also told them to play with passion. "Playing wrong notes is understandable, but playing without passion is unacceptable," he said.

The band was led by Dr. Peter Boonshaft, who has been a guest speaker or conductor in every state in the nation. He was eccentric and memorable, according to tuba player Mara Parks. Their songs included "The Redwoods," "Rest," and "Once More Unto the Breach," a three movement piece representing the struggle between good and evil. Parks said that she really enjoyed the music, and that she was amazed at how well it came together in such a short period of time.

20 students from Hellgate were part of the choir, which was led by Dr. Mack Wilberg, a former professor at BYU and an active composer. Lucía Garr, a soprano in the choir, said that she



Hellgate musicians on the bus headed to Billings. Photo Courtesy of Lucia Garr



Members of the Hellgate choir pose before their All-State performance on October 18. Photo Courtesy of Lucia Garr

really enjoyed the experience, and overall really like the music they sang because "it was challenging and sounded cool."

Most of the three days were spent rehearsing. "There were crazy long days but it was worth it," said Parks. There were about three two hour sessions per day, which meant that the music improved quickly, but the long hours took their toll on some of the musicians, especially the vocalists. Garr described the experience as "not enjoyable but fun," because although she liked the music, the long rehearsals could be painful at times.

On the second night of the festival, there was a host concert featuring Sound of the Rockies, a men's choir from Denver, Colorado. The group has continuously placed high in international competitions and is currently one of the four best barbershop choruses in the world. They sang a variety of songs from different eras, and worked some humor into the performance as well.

After a final day of rehearsal, the band, orchestra, and choir combined for a final concert to perform their pieces. The concert took place at Lincoln Center in Billings. Garr thought that the choir's "harmonies could have been tighter," but said that overall it went really well. Parks described the concert as "amazing."

It was a special experience for many people. For both Parks and Garr, the people were a large part of what made it all worthwhile. Parks said that she enjoyed being with people who share her love of music and can relate to the feelings she gets from it. All-State is one of the few opportunities students from different schools have to play together and be in a non-competitive environment. The festival helped show the power music has to connect people who might not have been brought together otherwise.

## News Apple Releases New Tech

#### Liam Queneau Reporter

Apple, the tech company we all know and love, had its annual keynote event back in September, releasing new hardware and software for the world to use. Usually, the most exciting announcement of the event is that of the year's new iPhone. The phone's release is typically met with positive reviews, but many complain about the lack of real change with the device's physical attributes and software upgrades.

This year, however, Apple did not disappoint. The iPhone 11 Pro, the nicest (and priciest)ew model, boasts a new triple-lens camera, with telephoto, wide, and ultrawide lenses. Along with the lens options, the 11 Pro also has the ability to shoot the highest quality video on a smartphone to date. The camera and software upgrade allows for a night mode to be utilized for darker shots.

Along with the upgrades to the outer camera, Apple also seriously buffed up the selfie camera on the iPhone 11 Pro. With a 12 megapixel sensor and 4K video capabilities, the 11 Pro also introduces a feature never seen before on iPhones, the "Slofie," described by Apple as a "slow-motion selfie video." The cheaper version of the phone, the iPhone 11, also boasts many of these features, but with one less camera, and slightly worse video quality.

Other new additions to the phone include a new super retina XDR screen that will allow for sharper contrast and brighter colors, and a new A13 bionic processing chip, supposedly the fastest chip ever put into a smartphone.



Apple also improved the construction, durability, and water resistance of the iPhone, and added an extra five hours of battery life to the device.

Also announced at the event was the Apple Watch Series 5, which includes a few upgrades from its predecessor, the Watch Series 4, the biggest of which is an always-on display. The display on the Series 5 stays on while the watch is at your side, and brightens when you raise your wrist. One of the only other actual hardware updates comes in the form of a compass, a feature never before seen on an Apple Watch.

Through all of the hardware and software that Apple announced at the conference, the one thing that stood out past everything else was the release of the date that Apple's streaming service, Apple TV+, begins. The streaming service, first announced in March, is set to begin on Nov. 1st. New territory for a company that has produced mainly hardware and software for its entire existence, it will be very interesting to see the quality of the shows they produce.

The current lineup of shows have star

casts and directors: Jennifer Aniston, Reese Witherspoon, M. Night Shyamalan, Steven Spielberg, and many other stars in the film world. The most hyped show by Apple however, is See, a show about a post apocalyptic world in which the world population has gone blind. Starring in the show is Jason Momoa, who burst into the spotlight last year with the lead role in DC's Aquaman.

Finally, Apple introduced its new software update for iPhone operating systems, iOS 13. The update incorporated a new "dark mode" into the phone, which turns everything on the phone darker, making the screen easier on your eyes. Other improvements include enhanced photo editing features, and all around refinement of its apps and design.

Overall, the releases this year appeared exciting from the outside, but when you look into it, nothing too monumental was

released or changed in its technology. As with all technology releases, though flashy at first, once you get under the surface, nothing new has really changed. To really catch the eye of consumers, Apple needs to release something truly incredible.



Photo Courtesy of Wikipedia

## **Opinion** Vaping Isn't as Cool as Youth Think

Gabi Wilson Reporter

Vaping has been a very hot topic lately. It has been all over the news. This is because recently, various people have been hospitalized because of their lungs. Google's definition of vaping is "the action of inhaling and exhaling the vapor produced by and electric cigarette or similar device."

Vaping is very popular among the youth today such as teens and people in their 20s. The main brand who is selling vapes is Juul. They market their products specifically to the younger people. The company has many flavors that are all appealing and fruity. Many people are attracted to this aspect of vaping.

Recently, many people have been hospitalized due to their lung health and vaping. Vaping has even caused approximately 33 people to die, and about 530 people are in critical condition. The problem is that the vaporized oil sticks to the inside of your lungs when you inhale, and if the oil keeps building up, yours lungs start to get "smaller".

While vaping may not negatively affect you right now, you'll surely experience its effects later in life. You will barely be able to climb stairs, or breathe well in sports. Vaping damages your gums and your teeth. In the long run vaping won't work out for you.

Flavored vapes have been banned in many places including Montana, because many people are attracted to the

many fruity flavors. People quit vaping by using patches, nicotine gum, and throat lozenges. If you are deciding to quit, create a plan with steps and stick to it. Vaping isn't all that it's cracked up to be.



Photo Courtesy of Flickr



Photo Courtesy of Flikr

# Opinion

### Saturday Night Live Has Important Influence

Josey MacDonald Reporter Saturday Night Live is a television

show that puts on live comedy sketches, and it is highly anticipated by many Americans each week. SNL debuted in 1975 and has aired for more than 40 years. Their segments cover a variety of topics, including many that are political. The show's platform, humor, and frequent featuring of celebrities have drawn in millions of viewers. Today, the show has 9 million Youtube subscribers, and its most watched video has 46 million views. Its popularity has given it a large amount of influence. It's effect on the public's perceptions can be both good and bad, but SNL adds some needed humor to American politics.

The actors and designers at SNL do a good job of creating convincing impersonations. In 2017, a national newspaper in the Dominican Republic actually mistook Alec Baldwin's impersonation of Trump for the real man, printing a photo of Baldwin captioned as "President of the United States." This makes the show humorous and creates a more lasting impression in people's minds.

Humor can be a powerful tool. SNL has the ability to judge politicians in ways that traditional newssources wouldn't. It can also be more memorable. For some people, the SNL impersonations of politicians are more familiar than the actual people. An SNL parody of a debate most likely lasts longer in people's minds than details from the actual event.

A frequent criticism of SNL is that it is too partisan. A 2019 poll by the Hollywood Reporter found that 68% of respondents believe the show tries to make political statements in its sketches. A majority view it as more left-leaning than politically neutral, and 39% of respondents now see the show as "too political."

Chevy Chase, who played President Ford in 1976, told CNN in 2008 that even he thinks the show was partisan. "Obviously my leanings were democratic," he said. He wanted Ford out of office, and realized that making fun of him could be a way to encourage that. "...I figured, look, we're reaching millions of people every

weekend, why not do it," he said in the interview.

The show has targeted both Democrats and Republicans, though, and there is no significant bias towards either party. SNL can have a particularly strong effect on people who don't follow the news. Since it uses exaggeration and satire, it can create beliefs that are less well-rounded and comprehensive, but it can also make people more aware of important policies, and possibly cause them to research these policies further. Of course, it's better if people learn about important issues through more serious and well-researched media sources, but it's important for people to be aware of what's going on, and SNL is one tool that can keep people generally informed.

Despite the controversy over its effect, the role of SNL is important because it can lighten up political issues that are serious and divisive. People don't expect the same of SNL as they do of traditional news sources. It's meant to be a break, a chance to relax, and an opportunity to laugh at some of the things that typically cause stress or frustration in our lives.



## Feature

### Procrastination at Its Finest

Audrey Warren and Gabi Wilson Reporters

Studying doesn't sound appealing? Don't worry, procrastination is here to save you! Procrastination: the action of delaying or postponing something. More commonly known as saving ALL assignments for the last minute because you don't want to do them at the time you know you should be.

Nothing about homework comes across as fun, so when it comes time to do homework, the brain freezes, and nothing gets done except for things like eating food, watching tv, and online shopping.

Audrey Kurz, a sophomore, said she likes to "(watch) Netflix, nap, watch Tik Toks, and eat." We 100% agree with Audrey! Eating endless amounts of food, sleeping, watching Netflix, and making Tik Toks is the only option!

Ray O'Connell agreed with eating food, and Bennett Moseley agreed with eating food and watching shows along with making Tik Toks.

So there you have it. If you are not feeling like doing any homework at the moment, we have options for you. Yes, of course, there are other options for procrastination, like being active, going to the gym, biking, hiking, running, swimming, or playing a sport. There is also coloring, knitting, sewing, and even coaching! There are so many options for you to choose from. Don't get yourself too carried away but there are always other options than getting your homework done when you are supposed to! Maybe eventually work your way to what is supposed to get done.

Procrastination is an awful thing and is a high schooler's worst enemy. If you can help it, don't procrastinate, and be productive! If you decide against productivity, the magical procrastination fairy will grant you endless other procrastination opportunities! We are not writing this so that you now decide to procrastinate, we are simply writing this so that when you are procrastinating you know what you can do so that you are on top of procrastination game!



Photo Courtesy of Psychology Today

## Feature

### The "Sole" of Sneaker Culture at Hellgate

Liam Queneau Reporter If you were to take a poll of students

at Hellgate, at least a third of them would own a pair of Vans, for good reason. Vans are a very fashionable shoe, as they look great, they go with almost anything, and along with that, they're one of the cheapest shoes on the market. For \$60, the construction of Vans is excellent, and they've become a staple of many outfits across the world.

However, in the world of sneaker culture, Vans rank relatively low, though extremely popular among the general population. However, with clout than Vans, and almost as abundant, are the Nike Air Force 1's.

One of the shoes that helped boost sneaker culture into the mainstream, the AF-1's are only second to Vans in popularity at Hellgate. Their comfort and good looks make them a hit among students, although their higher price tag of \$100 is enough to push some away.

So how did this whole sneaker culture thing start? Many look at shoes as just another part of their outfit, their decisions based off of what looks good



Photo Courtesy of Pixabay



at first glance. For others, however, sneakers are the most important part of their outfit. This is where sneaker culture begins. The group of people have kept the culture alive and strong since the 80's has grown by a huge amount, as more and more become invested in the lifestyle.

Although still around before the '80s, sneaker culture really bloomed with the introduction of the Air Jordan 1. Michael Jordan, an up-and-coming basketball player for the Chicago Bulls, signed an endorsement deal with shoe company Nike in 1985, and soon after was wearing his own pair of shoes, the Air Jordan 1. However, the colorway utilized for the shoes violated the NBA's uniform policy, and Jordan was forced to pay a fine of \$5,000 a game.

This hefty price was picked up by Nike, who saw the rebellious air of the shoes as a great marketing opportunity. Due to Michael Jordan's willingness to wear the shoes despite the fines, along with the fantastic design of the shoe, the Air Jordan 1 became a staple of sneaker culture, still worn and produced to this day.

In fact, the history and the silhouette of the Air Jordan 1 has made it one of the most popular lifestyle shoes on the market, and with Nike releasing new colorways and styles of the shoe every year, the market for the shoe keeps increasing. However, due to the shoe's high demand, Air Jordan 1's sell for \$160, and most often even more.

The recent rise in popularity in sneaker culture can be attributed to the popularity of hip hop and rap. Musicians in these genres, usually saturated with money, own massive collections of shoes, that they display on social media and in their lyrics. Rappers such as Travis Scott and Kanye West have each released numerous pairs of shoes, the former's selling upwards of \$1000. Their influence over the current American culture cannot be denied, and the people who listen to and follow these musicians want to adopt that kind of lifestyle and wear the clothes that their idols wear.

So, how are Hellgate students influenced by sneaker culture? Well, many students stick to Vans and Nike running shoes. These shoes look good, they're comfortable, and they're affordable. The affordability of shoes is the biggest concern among the general population, as it takes a large amount of money to be a part of sneaker culture. Desirable shoes often cost more than most are willing to spend, and it just makes more sense to not spend senseless amounts of money on shoes.

## Charcoal Te Does it act

By, Maggi

A lot of people want to achieve the perfect smile with pearly white teeth. There are many different products on the market; and this question is always being asked: "Which one actually works?" We decided to try Active Wow 24k charcoal teeth whitener.

The charcoal teeth whitening product is available on many platforms, but the \$20 cost could turn some people away. The charcoal powder has up to 100 uses, while other products, such as Crest whitening strips, come in a pack of 21 and can cost anywhere from \$65- \$80.

There is also the concern that the whitening strips could be abrasive to your teeth. Many products are shown to degrade the enamel (part of your tooth that prevents decay), so it's important to find the right product for your teeth. Charcoal teeth whitener is beneficial because it doesn't contain bleaches such as peroxide, which degrades the enamel of your teeth. Some other benefits of using charcoal as a teeth whitener include being made in the USA and the exclusion of artificial flavors and chemicals. However, since charcoal doesn't contain some of the chemicals that other products do, it may take longer to see results. If you're looking for a safe product to use on your teeth, this may be the one.

Like many people, we wanted to see if the charcoal teeth whitener actually works. We hit the local Walgreens, and purchased the \$20 teeth whitener. 24k Active Wow was the number one rated charcoal product on Amazon, so we decided to commit to it. It's also recommended that you have a toothbrush for applying the charcoal powder, and another toothbrush to get the remaining charcoal out of the cracks in your teeth. From our experience, this was the best way to prepare for whitening.



The Active Wow 24k Charcoal Teeth Whitener is located at your local Walmart, Walgreens, and Target for \$20.



Before we applied the charcoal teeth whitener

As many people could imagine, charcoal stains almost everything it touches, so be sure to wear clothes that you don't mind getting a little black. It's also a good idea to have everything set up before you start the process, as this limits the amount of movement and possible charcoal spills that could occur. Other than that, it's super easy to use this product.

We applied our first round of 24k Active Wow teeth whitener, and were surprised to see that the charcoal doesn't leave an unfavorable taste in your mouth. The grittiness of the product also didn't bother us; it felt similar to brushing your teeth, until the pitch black color set in. We were a bit surprised to see that the product completely changes your teeth from off white, to looking like you dumped black paint into your mouth. Although this may seem alarming, it isn't a big deal, and the charcoal is easily washed off. We let the charcoal sit on our teeth for approximately 2-3 minutes and then let the results "wow" us.

Although some of the research we had done said that since charcoal doesn't contain any harmful chemicals, it might take a couple days for you to notice the whitening effect that you want to achieve, we noticed results after the first application.

### hitener ork?! ıally

e Vann and Hailey Oien

We continued the same process as day one, of applying the charcoal powder, and then letting it sit for a couple minutes for the next three days. After each use we could see the difference from before our teeth were whitened to after.

Although this product helped whiten our teeth immensely, there were a few cons of usage:

- The black powder seemed to get everywhere
- It was semi-difficult to clean up, especially on our hands
- It dried out our lips more than expected The taste wasn't unfavorable, but it also wasn't some-. thing we looked forward to applying on our teeth and tasting.

However, there were many more pros than cons, and from our experience we would recommend trying out the product if you're looking to whiten your teeth.



The final product after day five of the charcoal teeth whitener



The second day after we applied the charcoal teeth whitener

After four days of using the 24k Active Wow charcoal teeth whitener, there was a huge difference

from before use and after. Some people wouldn't consider purchasing this teeth whitener because of its \$20 cost. However, it is well worth it because it can have up to 100 uses. The results may not be as immediate as other whiteners, but the charcoal doesn't have harmful chemicals that will degrade your tooth enamel. Overall, we would recommend purchasing the 24k Active Wow charcoal teeth whitener if you're looking for a safe way to whiten your teeth.

### **Rex Orange County Disappoints on 'Pony'**

#### Luke O'Connell Editor-in-Chief

On Oct. 25, Alex O'Connor, under the name Rex Orange County, released his third studio album, Pony.' With 10 songs and a 33 minute and 56 second runtime, the album followed up the success of 'Bcos U Will Never B Free' and 'Apricot Princess.'

Both of those albums have rather low quality production, but that isn't necessarily a bad thing. Rather, the production value of those two albums add to O'Connor's raw, emotional lyrics and vocal abilities. His new album flips that idea on its head in an unsavory way.

The album kicks off with one of my least favorite songs, "10/10." The use of autotune, albeit annoying, throws listeners into his new style in an effective way. I found the beat, along with the synth chords near the end pretty good, but his lyrics, when dubbed, have lost any semblance of authenticity. For instance, when he discusses how "It took all (his) strength to carry on," he touches on meaningful emotions, but because of the autotune, it feels manipulated and unauthentic. Along with that, though the beat is good, it isn't the classic Rex Orange County sound that I was looking for.

Following "10/10," "Always" attempts to bring Rex Orange County's sound back to its low quality roots, but does it in a bad way. The use of background noise and clips of comments in the studio, a rather cliche addition in 2019, amplifies the obvious commercial, unoriginal sound of 'Pony'. It's clear that O'Connor has lost his way tonally and vocally on this album, and "Always" just makes that worse.

Third on the tracklist is "Laser Lights." The beat is very dense, to an almost claustrophobic level, which is a musical "u-turn" from O'Connor's roots. The use of minimal instrumentals in his past albums helped his vocals shine through, portraying how he felt in a meaningful way, whereas the use of autotune and heavy layering does the opposite of that. Not all of the instrumentals are necessarily bad, but they affect the songs in a detrimental way.

After "Laser Lights" comes "Face to Face," which is one of the album's better, more simplistic tracks. Though the mixing is nice, moving audio from one headphone to the other, it's nothing new to the music industry. One of its strong moments is the breakdown around the two and a half minute mark, where O'Connor's vocals go along with strings and synths in a very satisfying way. Additionally, the song's idea of yearning for a girl is very similar to many of his earlier works. So far, "Face to Face" is the best track off of 'Pony.'

Next up is "Stressed Out." I don't have much to say about this song, as it's one of the album's most "meh" tracks. The yawn at the beginning plays into the feign of low production quality, and also portrays how this song feels sort of boring. I enjoyed how seamlessly this track fades into the next one, "Never Had The Balls."

This track kicks off with a rather cliche synth rhythm, but kicks it into gear to get listeners moving. The track is groovy, but holds little to no emotional value, as it's a happy-go-lucky tune with voice alteration and a kickin' guitar solo. In fact, I found the guitar solo to be one of my favorite parts of the project, but with his annoying, autotuned voice, Rex Orange County comes in and ruins it.

In between "Never Had The Balls" and "Pluto Projector," Rex Orange County returns to his roots. In this track, his clean, unrefined vocals, backed by strings and a guitar, discuss feelings of self doubt and figuring out who he is. The instrumental swell that occurs near the end sounds great, and the track's simplicity plays well with his meaningful lyrics. Though he uses voice alteration near the end, it doesn't detract from his lyrics too much.

"Every Way" is the next song on the tracklist, and lacks inspiration. Though he uses his natural voice, his lyrics don't feel like they mean much. To add to that, the track is shorter than most others on the album.

The second to last track on the album is arguably its

most groovy, yet most meaningless. It sounds almost like a Billie Eilish song, with powerful synth beats, snapping, and some obvious voice alterations. In short, it's a meaningless pop tune that isn't using O'Connor's voice the way it should. The lyrics are overpowered by the beat, and totally take away their meaning.

"It's Not The Same Anymore" is the last track to Rex Orange County's third album, and that's a good thing. It sounds genuine, and it grows in a very pleasing way. Songs like this, "Pluto Projector" and "Face to Face," are the silver lining to the grey cloud that is 'Pony.' I believe Rex Orange County argues my point better than I can when he reflects, "I miss the days when I was somebody else."

My biggest issue with his new album is its obnoxious use of autotune, which kills the emotion. In fact, the best, most meaningful songs on the album feature little to no autotune at all, like "Pluto Projector" and "It's Not the Same Anymore." This is not to say that voice alterations always take away from emotions in music, just that he uses said features poorly.

For example, Justin Vernon, or Bon Iver, uses voice alteration to create a much more powerful tone in his music. Specifically, this can be heard in his album '22, A Million,' where he uses said alterations in spectacular ways on songs like "22 (Over Soon)" and "10 dEAThbREasT."

Another example of artists who use voice alteration well is Kanye West, who's worked with Vernon before. Specifically, West alters his voice on "I'm In It," from his album, 'Yeezus.' West's use of voice alteration on "I'm In It" compliments his sound in an incredibly beneficial way, creating a pounding electronic sound which oozes emotion rather than stifling it, as Rex Orange County does on 'Pony.'

In conclusion, Rex Orange County's new album, 'Pony,' disappointed me, as it obnoxiously uses voice alteration, which takes away from his classic sound. It feels fake and unauthentic as it attempts to achieve what he once had regarding production quality on his other projects. Its layering and mixing work at times, but often overpower his vocals, raw or altered, in an unsavory way, which takes away from his ability to express emotion. This album deserves a listen, but comes in at around a 6/10 in my books.



Photo Courtesy of Genius

#### Batman to Bond: Who's Car to Borrow For a First Date

Solomon Kenworthy Reporter There are certain aspects of film and TV that seem to be overlooked, forgotten, but I would say that characters' cars are some of

your car. Secondly, you have

come. If things go south, you

can just ditch your date using the Batpod Bike built into

the driver's seat. I'd bet it's

bass up in that thing. The

Tumbler has some down-

sides, though, as it's probably

got a sweet stereo system as

well. Imagine blasting Brown Eyed Girl, and turning the

to prepare for every out-

the most discussed topics of all genres. I thought I would voice my opinion on this timeless debate. There are a lot to choose from, considering my original list was 15 cars, and included both Lighting Mcqueen and Optimus Prime. So to narrow it down, and hopefully make this list interesting, I have only one criteria. I will judge the car on one question alone. "Would I pick up my date in this?" Once I decided this, I knew that any van, including the Mystery Machine, was no longer a candidate. Also, we're going with the rules of each universe in terms of how the car works. Here's the top five cars to take on a first date from the world of entertainment:

#### <u>#5 THE TUMBLER - THE DARK KNIGHT (FILM)</u>

Now hear me out. First off, it's a tank. No one's gonna try and mess with



Photo Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

going to be hard to not run over other cars in city traffic. Also, parking would probably be a struggle.

#### #4 LONGMIRE'S BRONCO - LONGMIRE (TV SHOW)

Yes, I'm aware Longmire takes place in Wyoming, but what's more Mon-

tana than a Ford Bronco? Along with that, for a date car, it would be pretty epic to say the least. This Bronco in particular is an unstoppable machine. For example, in the first episode of season one, Longmire crashes it, and does not get it fixed for the rest of the season. Probably the biggest con would be the smell. Lots of blood and bodies (dead and alive) have been in this car. Not one hundred percent interested in explaining that to my date.



Photo Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

#### <u>#3 K.I.T.T. - KNIGHT RIDER (TV SHOW)</u>

Oh, what's that, you don't want to drive? K.I.T.T.'s got you covered. Wait, say that again? Oh your date left ditched you and you want to talk to someone

about it? K.I.T.T. still has your back, because he is a talking car. On the other hand, the interior has plenty of unmarked, dangerous buttons. If you or your date hit one of the wrong ones, it could end very badly.

<u>#2 ROBIN MASTERS' FER-</u> <u>RARI - MAGNUM P.I. (TV</u> <u>SHOW)</u> Now this one would only

work if Higgins would let me

Photo Courtesy of Wiki

borrow it for the evening. (For the purpose of this article we're going to say he would.) You could, yes, even you, could pull off the Hawaiian attire, that being



Photo Courtesy of Flickr

a Hawaiian shirt and slacks. It would be hard to get into, as it's extremely low to the ground, and insurance would be very high. It's all cool as long as you bring it back in one piece, because Higgins isn't going to pay for any damage. Unless maybe you trade him the tennis courts for a few years.

#### <u>#1 ASTON MARTIN DB5 - JAMES BOND FRANCHISE (FILM)</u>

A pure gentleman's car. Easily the most comfortable seats out of the cars on this list anyway. Parking won't be a problem, because with a car like this,

people would want to pay you to valet park it for you. What? Are you speeding? No worries, this car has three interchangeable license plates, which I'm sure will be enough to make the officer forget the car. The Aston Martin also solves the problem of a bad date, due to a hidden eject button for the passenger seat. Besides, what



Photo Courtesy of Flickr

could possibly go wrong going on a date with Bond, James Bond?

### Kanye West Goes Full Pastor on 'Jesus is King'

#### Daniel Blackwell Reporter

Kanye West released his new album on Oct 25. His new album is titled 'Jesus is King,' and was released with a documentary titled 'Jesus is King.'

Kanye has been teasing an album for about a year now. Originally he said he was going to release an album titled 'Yandhi' last September. 'Yandhi' was delayed, with a tweet from Kanye's wife Kim Kardashian saying, "November 23 black friday YANDHI TRUST ME it is worth the wait." Well, we shouldn't have trusted Kim, as Nov 23 came and went with no "Yandhi." Moving ahead to this year, Kanye has seemingly forgotten about Yandhi and has released 'Jesus is King'. Yandhi was leaked earlier this year, to mostly positive acclaim.

Kanye's last album, 'Ye', was released in 2018 as a part of the five album production project he did in Wyoming. This is evident with the cover of 'Ye' being a picture Kanye took of the Grand Teton mountain range. 'Ye' was received with mostly positive reviews, receiving a 7.1 from Pitchfork.

'Jesus is King' itself is a Christ-filled hip hop excursion, with clear gospel influences. It feels a lot like a Kanye album.

The album starts off with the powerful gospel track titled "Every Hour." It's a very strong opener, which sets off the theme of the album quite well. It's a simple song, with only a piano and a choir, but a lot of its appeal comes from its simple yet attention grabbing feeling and groove.

The second song on the album is titled "Selah." Selah is a mostly gospel, some part rap song with some minor synth elements. It's a very powerful feeling song with the chorus being the word "Hallelujah" repeated over and over, which really adds to the feeling of god.

"Follow God" is the third song on the album, and I have very mixed feelings about it. On the one hand the song feels almost like a long verse off Late Registration, and if it were a verse on a larger song it would probably be one of my favorites off the album. On the other hand it's so barebones it almost feels too simple. It also only lasts for one minute and forty four seconds, which is super short for any song. The lack of any real chorus or breaks in his verse is the part that I cannot decide if I like or I hate. Kanye's flow is really good and bouncy, and I enjoy hearing it, but at the same time I feel like he could've done more with the sample he used, and maybe have switched up the beat once or twice throughout the track to keep it feeling fresh. One part of the song I do love is Kanye's lines about his dad saying that Kanye isn't acting "Christ like," and the fact that that line is repeated four times throughout the song.

The fourth song on the album is easily one of the worst Kanye songs I have ever heard, and I don't say that lightly. The song title, "Closed on Sunday" is a reference to the fast food chain Chick-fil-A. The title is accurate as this song tells the listener to "hold hands and pray" and says "Closed on Sunday" as the fast food chain Chick-fil-A is closed on Sunday, which is assumedly to give time for it's workers to go to church. This song is one of the worst Kanye songs for a lot of reasons, whether it be the annoying delivery of goofy lyrics like "You're my number one with the lemonade," which is a Soundcloud level line, or the off-putting feeling of Kanye's vocals, which feel as if they were recorded months in between each other (Listen from 0:38 to 0:40). The worst part of the song is easily the end, as Kanye shouts Chick-fil-A in an obnoxious voice. One part of the song I do appreciate is Kanye's verse in the middle, which I appreciate, as it feels emotionally charged. Apart from the verse though this song is definitely one of my least favorite Kanye songs of all time.

The next song on the album is "On God." It's produced by Pierre Bourne, which is really apparent, as the beat feels trappy and smooth. "On God" is really enjoyable to listen to, and is definitely one of the best songs off the album, with a solid



verse from Kanye, and a really enjoyable beat/production. As with most songs on the album, I wish it were a bit longer, but I appreciate what it does in it's short time frame.

The sixth song off the album is "Everything We Need." "Everything We Need" is a poppy hip-hop song with some gospel elements. This song is the first off the album that was also on 'Yandhi,' and I have to say, I liked the 'Yandhi' version a lot more. The 'Jesus is King' version isn't necessarily bad, it's just that the 'Yandhi' version had a great XXXTentacion verse on it, and it had a better hook with the "Girl you owe it to yourself." Overall it's a solid song, but it's a little disappointing to hear the better version on 'Yandhi' and to get stuck with the worse 'Jesus is King' version.

"Water" is the next song and it's easily one of my favorites off the album. The production is really atmospheric and the bassline is super groovy. Ant Clemons' part adds to the atmosphere of the song, as I think the gospel sound works really well with the muted synths. It's one of the longer songs on the album with a runtime of two minutes and forty nine seconds, which is still pretty short but it does a good job at setting up it's atmosphere and tone in that short time frame.

The next song on the album is "God Is." "God Is" is a groovy acoustic hip-hop track with clear pop influences (especially in the last verse). "God Is" is another song that I really like off the album. The arrangement and production is really pleasing and the song is all around great to listen to. The sample at the beginning is a great intro and the explosive introduction of the instruments with the choir sounds really good. Even the last part where it's just shouts is quite pleasing to listen to.

The ninth song on the album is titled "Hands On." "Hands On" is a pretty good track, with some disappointing parts, as the lyrics feel uninspired and like Christian ramblings. I really

enjoy the vocal section at the beginning, as I think it has a really interesting sound. The track is overall pretty mediocre, but its not bad.

The next song is another song off of 'Yandhi,' its title being "Use This Gospel." Like "Everything We Need," the 'Yandhi' version of this song is much more listenable and enjoyable. The differences in the song are pretty major, the lyrics are completely different, there's guests on the 'Jesus is King' version and the two versions are arranged differently. One of my biggest issues with the 'Jesus is King' version is the Kenny G feature as it feels super out of place and hamfisted. The Pusha T and No Malice verses are fine, but I like Kanye's energetic vocal performance on the 'Yandhi' version more than the guest features.

The last song on the album is also the shortest and it's title is "Jesus Is Lord." This song has great potential, but it's incredibly short runtime does not allow it to really do anything with itself. It ends abruptly and it feels sort of unfinished. It's a bad way to end the album, as it feels super disappointing.

'Jesus is King' is a disappointing Kanye album. Kanye doesn't really try anything new apart from the use of a gospel choir, which really isn't that new of a sound as sampling gospel has been one of the facets of Kanye since the beginring. One of the facets of Kanye since the begin-

ning, one of his first hits off his first album,"Jesus Walks," is centered around a gospel sample. The sonic landscape of the album feels pretty cluttered and it can be hard at some points to identify a clear idea of what Kanye wanted the music to feel like. When judging this album apart from Kanye's past discography and instead as it's own album it feels pretty mediocre, and a lot of the past issues still apply. If you're not a Kanye fan, or a Christian, I doubt this album is for you, as the Christian lyrics can be pretty boring to listen to, and super one dimensional feeling. I would rate this album a 5.75/10 for it's boring lyrics and odd production choices that fall flat and his lack of any really new feeling sound. In terms of Kanye's discography I would put this album near, if not at the bottom. Don't let this be your first Kanye album, instead listen to his 2010 masterpiece 'My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy,' I promise it's way better than the dogmatic feeling of the Christian propaganda that is "Jesus is King."

### Shoreline Mafia: A Success or Unimpressed?

Sophia Geranios Reporter On the 26th of October an up and coming rap group by the name of Shoreline Mafia performed at local music

venue/restaurant the Top Hat. Shoreline Mafia was founded in 2016, and consists of four members signed by Atlantic Records. Some of their well known songs are "Bands," "Nun Major," and "Musty." The concert sold out quickly, leaving many fans desperately searching for last minute tickets.

The concert was aimed to begin at 9:30 with doors opening an hour earlier, but by 7:00 fans were lined up down the block. At 8:30, the line hadn't moved, and Top Hat employees urged concert goers to enter from the back door where there was no line.

The scheduled openers were lesser known rappers 1TakeJay and Azchike. This is where the night began to go downhill. No performer was in sight when 9:30 rolled around, and the crowd was getting impatient. Finally someone appeared on the stage, although confusingly it was neither 1TakeJay nor Azchike. Honestly, it's still unknown who this replacement opener was. He didn't even seem to completely know what was going on. Playing sort of spin-offs of other rapper's popular songs, and frequently asking the crowd what they wanted to hear in between awkward transitions from one obscure remix to the next, it was an overwhelmingly unsatisfactory performance. At one point he had an also unknown female rapper (potentially from the audience) join him on stage where she performed a song of her own which actually turned out to be surprisingly good, perhaps even the highlight of the evening.

After what seemed like a never ending opening performance, 2 members of Shoreline Mafia finally came on stage. Confused as to where the other half of the group was? Welcome to the club. The rappers who did perform were the founding members, Ohgeesy and Fenix Flexin. Research on the mysterious disappearance of Rob Vicious and Master Kato, the missing two, turned up nothing as to why they were not at the Missoula performance of the OTX tour.

If you've ever attended a concert, you know that to have it go successfully, the crowd needs to be engaged. To engage said crowd, as displayed by Hellgate's own student section, you must communicate with them. Chants, questions, call and response, etc. If you just wanted to sit there, blankly staring at a performance, watch a youtube video, or even just listen to their music from the comfort of your own home. It's safe to say



Photo Courtesy of Top Hat

Shoreline Mafia took crowd interaction as a suggestion, not a necessity. This is not the move with a Missoulian audience, especially one mainly composed of teenagers. Other concerts such as Felly, Skizzy Mars, and Mike Stud, were also teenage targeted concerts, and excluding Felly, although these other artists were somewhat lesser known, there is no doubt that their performances surpassed Shoreline Mafia's. Attempts were made at crowd simulation. For example a mosh pit was started, however moshing is defined by the Oxford dictionary as "dancing to music in a violent manner involving purposefully jumping up and down and colliding with other dancers", which is a difficult task when the music is chill toned, slow bassed, and could almost be described as lo-fi.

Objeesy himself would seemingly spur of the moment yell to whoever was controlling the lights to change their colors, creating an unorganized, chaotic vibe. Furthermore, the songs that were well known and actually could be sung along to were few and far between.

Whether or not there was a set list of songs is unclear, but doubtful. The performance of some of their unreleased music which obviously no one knew was the beginning of the end for Shoreline Mafia and when the lights came on signaling the end of the concert it caught everyone off guard and confused about whether the concert was actually over, since the performers filed off stage without so much as a word to the crowd.

Overall, the Shoreline Mafia OTX tour was underwhelming, and although they truly are decently talented musicians, their concert left something to be desired.



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## Sports

### Student Athletes Shouldn't Be Required To Take Physical Education Classes

Ali Caudle Reporter

Why are student-athletes required to double up on physical activity? Between practices and games, they easily spend anywhere from 5-20 hours every week exercising. Additionally, though, they are expected to complete two full years of health enhancement, or physical education, classes.

Missoula County Public Schools (MCPS) requires that a student has two health enhancement credits to graduate high school. This is the same for all of the high schools in the school district: Big Sky, Sentinel, Hellgate, Seeley-Swan, and Willard. This is more than the state of Montana requires, since state law only mandates that students have one health enhancement credit.

This doesn't make much sense. For students who participate in activities like choir, orchestra, or band, they get to use that activity to fulfill the credit requirement for fine arts classes. The school district doesn't say that they are then required to take a class such as Intro to Art, in addition to their music. Students who participate in school sports should be able to count their sport as their health enhancement credit.

Granted, there are many benefits to physical education, or P.E., classes. They provide a time for students to move around, engage with their peers, and get exercise. Research has shown that exercise is extremely important for overall health.

However, student-athletes already get a lot of exercise. Most sports have practice five days a week, which can last anywhere from 1-3 hours, in addition to games, meets, and competitions. Athletes are clearly receiving enough exercise, so they don't need to rely on P.E. classes for fitness.

Another reason some people might argue health enhancement classes are important is because they teach students about health, nutrition, and taking care of their bodies. However, most athletes already know all about this, because staying healthy is such a vital part of being able to compete at your best in a sport.

Others might say that P.E. is beneficial because it gives students a way to be more rounded individuals, and it teaches them to work in a team. Again, this is already emphasized and taught through sports.

Participating in school sports covers all of the im-

portant bases that physical education does. Exempting student-athletes from P.E. classes does not mean that those classes are not important, it just shows that there is no need for student-athletes to spend time doing things they already do and learning stuff they already know.

That isn't the only reason school districts should exempt student-athletes from sports, however. P.E. class could pose a risk to student-athletes, because it increases the potential of an injury. For one, merely participating always has the potential to cause an injury. A student could receive a concussion from being hit in the head with a ball, could strain a muscle while lifting weights, or twist their ankle while running. An injury would be particularly devastating for a student-athlete, because it would likely prevent them from being able to practice or compete for a period of time.

Also, they could become injured from being overworked. A student-athlete might have to spend a day in their P.E. class doing a tough workout, and then have to go play in a game. Doubling up on fitness isn't a great idea because it can hamper performance or increase potential for injury, all because of fatigue.

Then, think about how beneficial it would be for a student-athlete to have two more periods to use, either to take more classes or to take a study hall. One way the extra two periods could be put to use would be for a student-athlete to take more classes in subjects they are interested in. After all, student-athletes are students first, and athletes second.

That time could also be used as a study hall. Having a study hall can be useful for any student, but it is extremely useful for athletes. For one, it gives them an opportunity to make up tests and catch up on all the work they miss for their sport. During their season, student-athletes tend to have to miss classes, especially those at the end of the day, for games or meets. With a study hall, it would be easier to catch up and stay on top of everything.

Additionally, any student-athletes have to stay up late to do homework. Most sports hold practice after school, so by the time they get home from practice, shower, and eat dinner, it is already really late. By getting a head start on homework in a study hall, they would be able to go to bed earlier, which in turn allows them to function better the next day.

Not having student-athletes in the physical education

classes could also be better for other students. This is partly because P.E. classes would be smaller, allowing students to receive more personalized attention. It would relieve some of the pressure that some students feel when they are compared against the student-athletes in their classes, and expected to perform as well as them in tests such as the timed mile run. It would also reduce the impact of the obvious bias that many P.E. teachers, some of whom are also coaches, show towards their students who are athletes.

Finally, it might encourage students to join and participate in school sports, if they knew that it would count as a health enhancement credit.

Allowing student-athletes to use their sports to fulfill their health enhancement credits would have many benefits. It would not prohibit student-athletes from taking P.E. classes, they could still have the option to take one if they so choose. It would just eliminate the requirement for those students who already recieve all of the benefits of physical education classes in their sports.



The Hellgate Knights boys soccer team plays the Capital Bruins during the regular season. They typically practice five days a week for two hours a day. Photo by Audrey Warren.

# Sports

### **Dynamic Duos in the NBA**

#### Oliver Beck Reporter

This season will be a start to a new era in the NBA for several reasons, the most important of which being the large number of superteams that formed through free agency last summer.

Normally, NBA teams consisted of one super star and multiple role players around them, or a few super stars, making up a superteam, like the Miami Heat back in 2012. The new format of a bunch of decent players surrounding two main superstars will be a good opportunity for players like Anthony Davis to break out and play really well. Lebron will also have a decent amount of support from Davis and Danny Green, the main newcomers to the Lakers.

Jonah Teasdale has been following the Danny Green trade to the Lakers recently. "Danny Green to the Lakers is big because he is an all time three point shooter, so having him around Lebron in Los Angeles is big because he is someone who he can drive and knock down the defense then kick it to Green and he can be a knockdown shooter when they need him." The Green trade will be interesting to watch since Los Angeles has not had this good of a shooter in a few years.

The battle in Los Angeles between Lebron and Davis and Kawhi Leonard and Paul George will be interesting to watch as the season progresses.

George and Leonard will likely have the Lakers beat defensively,

but James' and Davis' offensive abilities may prove to be too much for the Clippers overall.

Next, you have Philadelphia, with Ben Simmons and Tobias Harris. The Sixers got rid of JJ Reddick as well as Jimmy Butler over the offseason, but if Simmons can consistently hit jump shots that would be a huge boost for them.

D'Angelo Russell with Steph Curry will be a good backcourt for the Warriors because they'll be slinging threes from everywhere on the court, and once Klay Thompson gets back, they will have the big three back with Klay most likely at small forward.

Overall the NBA will have a really competitive season between the teams with the superstar duos and trios.



Lebron James and Anthony Davis last season. Photo courtesy of NBA

## **Guess The Student!**

Audrey Warren and Gabi Wilson Reporters



He ripped it up on the field this year playing for Hellgate football.



He supports his sister, who plays on Hellgate's varsity volleyball team, at her games.



You can catch him rooting for his favorite team the New York Giants.

## Think you know who it is?



Make sure you're following @hellgatelance on Instagram and DM us your answer there. If you guess correctly, you could be the "Guess the Student" of the next issue!