

# THE BASIS SCOTTSDALE GAZETTE

## A CHANGE IN PACE: INTERVIEWING **BY ANYA WAHAL AND NITYA Ms. JORDISON AND Ms. MITROVICH** **AGARWAL**

As many of you know, our former Head of School, Ms. Kristen Jordison, recently announced that she will be returning to her position as Head of School at BASIS Ahwatukee. Replacing Ms. Jordison is Ms. Megan Mitrovich, who previously served as Director of Upper School Programs, and prior to that, as a College Counselor. Due to these administrative changes, we decided to sit down with them to understand what these changes will mean for students.

*What are your plans for the future?*

MM: Obviously, I'm entering a role as the Principal of BASIS, so my plans for the future are to guide this community. BASIS Scottsdale is my home. I'm very grateful for the mentorship Ms. Jordison has offered me, and I'm excited to plan for the future. I'm also really interested to hear from BASIS Scottsdale students in terms of their vision.

KJ: I'm off to BASIS Ahwatukee, so my plans are to support that school campus a little closer to home. I look forward to still working with the BASIS community as well.

*What are you most excited for?*

MM: With the intersection of everything that goes on within the school on a daily basis and the different roles and capacities that different colleagues fill, I'm looking forward to building the best school possible. I'm excited to draw

upon the vantage points from my previous positions as the Upper School director upstairs and as a college counselor.

KJ: I think it's always great to get reacquainted with old colleagues and build new collaborations with people. I'm very team-minded, so I'm excited to make BASIS Ahwatukee the best it can be.

*What accomplishment from your time at BASIS are you most proud of?*

MM: I'm proud of building student support and advisement programs during my time here. When I first came here, the graduating class was about 40 students and have had significant growth since then. This growth we highlighted the importance of communication between students and their families about how to achieve the goals and accomplishments that students had for themselves.

### SAVE THE DATE

February 4: March 11-15:  
First Day of Trimester 3 Spring Break

February 14: March 17:  
Valentine's Day St. Patrick's Day

February 18: March 22:  
Presidents' Day Bollywood Night

**FEATURED**

### FEATURED

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KJ: The fact that we moved into a new building on time. After that, we had to figure out how to live in the building. There were a lot of moving parts in that effort, and I think together, they made a very successful first year.

*What do you hope to change at BASIS Scottsdale and BASIS Ahwatukee, respectively?*

MM: I don't know about change so much as collaboration across different units and departments, but I want to build on how academic affairs, college counseling, and teachers can support students.

KJ: BASIS Ahwatukee is a growing high school, so I'm looking forward to improving its programs.

*What message do each of you want to leave to the student body in the midst of this administrative change?*

MM: The school is here to support students and their families as they navigate their high school years. The gratitude I feel for our students is incredible. This is a place I come each day and I am blown away by students and their aspirations. I have an open door, and I hope that upper schoolers will start popping by and share their ideas to help us grow as a community.

KJ: Oh, now I'm going to cry again. All I've been doing is crying. I really have loved being a part of this community and thank the students for all of the hard work and their support through all of this. That's what is so meaningful is to have the community built.

Talking to both of these amazing women has given us insight into what the future holds for our wonderful campus, students, and teachers. We cannot wait to see what will happen!



Kristen Jordison, Head of School at BASIS Ahwatukee  
Source: BASISed.com



Megan Mitrovich, Head of School at BASIS Scottsdale  
Source: BASISed.com

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# NEWS

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## AN UPDATE ON THE GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN BY MALIA KUO

On January 25, 2019, President Trump signed a bill to end the longest government shutdown in history - 35 days, allowing the federal government to reopen for three weeks. As of January 20, 800,000 government workers were working without pay because of the government shutdown, which began on December 22, 2018. Though the second longest government shutdown was over taxation during Bill Clinton's presidency in 1995, this government shutdown hinged on funding for the border wall within the federal budget. Because of this, politicians and citizens alike were searching for a compromise to help government workers, who were left working without pay.

The divide in Congress that prolonged the government shutdown stemmed from the inherent wedge between Democrats and Republicans in Congress. The initial bill by President Trump asked for \$5.7 billion to fund the wall's creation. After thorough debate in Congress, President Trump had to sign the recent bill, which enabled federal government funding for three weeks. Had he not signed it, hundreds of thousands of government workers would have worked without pay for two consecutive paychecks. Similar to previous government shutdowns, the Postal Service, military, Department of Veterans, and entitlement programs were unaffected; unfortunately, the partial government shutdown culminated in ten of the fifteen departments facing a lack of funding.

As a result, the government shutdown also had an effect on national parks, federal prisons, the justice system, and the economy. Because the Department of Agriculture was affected, national parks lacked the funds necessary to continue running. Furthermore, the amount of people showing up to work without pay halved during this shutdown, resulting in prison workers taking double shifts to make up for employee absence. The justice system was altogether halted -- thousands of immigration cases went unresolved. In addition, the government shutdown had detrimental effects on the economy, with JPMorgan estimating a \$1.5 billion loss per week, and the Congressional Budget Office estimating an \$11 billion loss total.

Though the government shutdown is technically over, its lingering threat remains. This shutdown exhibited the necessity of the Trump administration to try to overcome their differences and reach a compromise. While the recent bill allots three weeks for federal funding, President Trump stated he would enact another government shutdown if the upcoming budget fails to include funding for the wall. While the government stands shakily to its feet, the question of what comes next still sows doubt in public opinion.



Source: CBS News

# SPORTS

## PRO SPORTS REFS: LOVE TO HATE THEM

BY TANAY VEDARTHAM AND VIRAJ MEHTA

The beauty and entertainment of sports is possible due to its rules, set by a rule book and enforced by officials. That is the main reason why a pick-up game outside feels so much more different than the BASIS Homecoming game – pick-up games lack officials and defined guidelines. The referees moderate the game without unfairly changing its outcome. But in recent memory, it seems that they have become a larger talking point than the games themselves. Although fans have always unleashed their anger for poor officiating, tensions reached a new peak in the NFL, with the NFC Championship game between the Saints and Rams, as well as in the NBA, with James Harden’s unfair foul calls.

With one minute and forty-nine seconds left in the NFC Championship game, quarterback Drew Brees sailed a pass to open receiver Tommylee Lewis, who was slammed by Rams cornerback Nickell Robey-Coleman well before the ball arrived. The entire stadium was in uproar, looking for a flag, but there was none to be found. This crucial third down blunder by referee Bill Vinovich resulted in a 23-26 loss for the Saints, ending their season in heartbreak once more.



Nickell-Robey Coleman interferes with a pass to Tommylee Lewis

The outrage from this game-altering call has pressured NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell for weeks, being the pinnacle of frustration for all of the terrible calls by refs throughout the season. Take, for example, when Chiefs linebacker Dee Ford received a “roughing the passer” penalty for merely tapping Tom Brady’s shoulder on a play in the AFC Championship game. Controversially officiated moments have been plentiful throughout the season, reminding fans of the season when NFL referees went on strike and replacements refs missed call after call. As the satisfaction of NFL games diminishes due to game-changing calls, it’s up to the NFL to find a solution to its controversial penalties issue fast.



NFL Logo  
Source: WBUR.org

James Harden, or “The Beard,” is having a historic season. The All-Star is averaging an absurd thirty-five points per contest, but that otherworldly statistic is marred by the twelve free throw attempts he is receiving per game, which result in roughly ten easy points a night. Recently, rival fans have been frustrated with the amount of foul calls Harden has been receiving on a nightly basis, as opposed to other players. This is where referees let the stars of the NBA control them. Harden is a powerhouse driving to the basket, yet any defender who makes miniscule contact to stop him will get called for a foul. In addition to his ability to draw the unfair fouls, Harden uses

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his iconic, impossible-to-guard stepback, which raises questions as to what a travel really is. In a game against the Utah Jazz, Harden tested the refs with an illegal double step back move on Ricky Rubio, which went uncalled by officials. Upon further inspection, Harden took almost five to seven steps before getting his shot off, which is far more than the league's "maximum" of two and a half steps. This gaffe went unaddressed; other stars such as Stephen Curry and Kyrie Irving attempted the same move, yet were called for a travel. Harden is one of the top five players in the league regardless, but the NBA referees' seeming favoritism hovers like a dark cloud over all of basketball.



James Harden using an illegal step back against Ricky Rubio

Referees have an arduous job. They must be constantly vigilante, keeping an eye out for any break in the rules. While there have been some shockingly blatant bad calls recently, such as those pertaining to James

Harden or the missed call in the NFC Championship, we must keep in mind that the refs are only human, performing in a hostile environment where every call must be perfect. Do sports fans place too much blame for games' outcomes on refs at times? Perhaps. Yet, with avid sports fans on the lookout for anyone to hold liable, the referees must perform impeccably, or risk incurring the wrath of millions of fans.



Various NBA Logos  
Source: The Undeafated

# FOOD

## ESTHER EATS: BUBBLEBEE

BY ESTHER LI-CHEN

BubbleBee is a boba tea shop that recently opened in Scottsdale Quarter, located off of Scottsdale Road. It's tucked away between Elan Style and HPE Activewear, across from Obon Sushi Bar Ramen. Open from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. from Monday to Saturday, and noon to 6 p.m. on Sundays, it's the perfect drink place to visit for after-school cravings.

The drink shop is mainly white, with yellow as an accent color, and giant honeycombs line the walls to accompany the bumblebee theme. While the space is small, the bright white walls give the illusion of a larger room, and the simple, modern design creates a relaxing atmosphere that's perfect for pictures.

menu barely kept up with the bee theme, other than the "Honey Boba" flavor. Despite that, the packaging of the boba was not only adorable, but also unique because of the cups' wider base and shorter height.



Inside of BubbleBee



Entrance of BubbleBee

The menu is split into sections based on the different drinks offered at the restaurant, categorized as creamy, fruity, sparkling, coffee, 0 cal, hot, and pure tea. Although the menu stood out from other boba shops, with names such as Ice Age and Cali Girl, I thought the sheer quantity was unnecessary, as it only confused me, and the

When I visited, I ordered the drink called "Craving" with honey boba, which featured passion fruit, strawberry, peach, and white tea. Although, the drink was a bit too sweet for me, but that shouldn't deter anyone with a sweet tooth. The honey boba was similar to offerings at most other boba shops and tasted fruity, but had nothing distinguishable about it. I also tried "King Taro" with honey boba, which contained coconut, taro (the sweet and slightly nutty root of the taro plant) and black tea. I preferred this drink over "Craving" because it had a better texture, like a smoothie. I also sampled mango popping boba, which was delicious, but I prefer chewy tapioca in these kind of drinks.

Overall, I wasn't too impressed by BubbleBee as it was similar to other modern boba shops, but it did provide refreshing drinks that many students would enjoy. I recommend BubbleBee for any student looking for new drink places to try out as the weather gets warmer in Arizona.

# PRESIDENTS' FAVORITE RECIPES

BY ALLISON LI

The title of U.S. president sets its holder apart from ordinary individuals by the role's sway in governmental affairs. However, the president isn't as different from the rest of us as you might think. Many presidents enjoy simple foods that are easy to make in the comfort of your own home. Here are some of those down-to-earth presidents and their favorite recipes in honor of Presidents' Day.

## James Buchanan: Moss Rose Cake

This recipe was one of James Buchanan's favorite because of its subtle almond flavor. Although it may not look as pretty as other cakes, the cake is perfect for small parties and celebrations.

### Ingredients:

2 cups of Sugar  
4 eggs  
1 cup of milk  
½ teaspoon of almond flavoring  
2 cups of sifted cake flour

### Directions:

- Step 1: Beat the sugar and eggs for 12 minutes.
- Step 2: Heat the milk to boiling and add ½ teaspoon of almond flavoring. Set aside.
- Step 3: Stir sifted cake flour into sugar-egg mixture.
- Step 4: Slowly add milk-almond flavoring mixture.
- Step 5: Beat complete mixture for three minutes
- Step 6: Grease and flour two circular cake pans, and then pour mixture evenly into the pans
- Step 7: Bake in oven at 375 °F for 20-25 minutes



Source: ifood.tv

## Bill Clinton: Chicken Enchiladas

Although this isn't the healthiest meal one can have, it sure is one of the tastiest. Also, it's perfect for almost every occasion.

### Ingredients:

2 tablespoons of cooking oil  
2 4-oz. cans of green chiles  
1 minced garlic clove  
1 28-oz. can of tomatoes  
2 cups of chopped onions  
2 teaspoons of salt  
½ teaspoons of oregano  
3 cups of shredded cooked chicken  
2 cups of sour cream  
2 cups of grated cheddar cheese  
½ cup of cooking oil  
15 corn tortillas

### Directions:

- Step 1: Preheat 2 tablespoons of oil in a skillet.
- Step 2: Chop chiles and sauté with minced garlic in cooking oil.
- Step 3: Drain and break up tomatoes, saving ½ cup of the remaining liquid.
- Step 4: Season tomatoes with 1 teaspoon of salt, ½ teaspoon of oregano, and the reserved tomato juice.
- Step 5: Let simmer until thick (about 30 minutes). Then, remove sauce from skillet and set aside.
- Step 6: Combine chicken with sour cream, cheese, and rest of salt
- Step 7: Heat ½ cup of oil until warm.
- Step 8: Dip tortillas in oil until limp, and dry well with paper towels.
- Step 9: Fill tortillas with chicken mixture.
- Step 10: Roll filled tortillas and arrange side by side, seam side down, in a 9 x 13 x 2-inch baking dish.
- Step 11: Pour chili sauce over enchiladas and bake at 250 degrees Fahrenheit until heated thoroughly (about 20 minutes).

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Source: Genius Kitchen

### George H.W. Bush: Corn Pudding

Cooking something for Bush was not easy since he refused to eat vegetables such as cauliflower and brussel sprouts. However, this was one of Bush's favorite recipes because it balances vegetables with bacon, butter, and cream.

#### Ingredients:

4 strips of bacon, cut into small pieces  
 ¾ cup of chopped onions  
 1 diced sweet bell pepper  
 1 cup of milk  
 1 cup of heavy whipping cream  
 2 tablespoons of butter  
 3 eggs, beaten  
 1 cup of white corn kernels  
 2 tablespoons and 2 teaspoons of flour  
 ½ teaspoon of thyme  
 1 ½ teaspoons of chopped fresh parsley  
 Salt and white pepper (Optional)

#### Directions:

- Step 1: Preheat oven to 350 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Step 2: In frying pan, cook bacon until crisp, then set aside.
- Step 3: Add onions to pan and sauté until transparent.

-Step 4: Add bell pepper and cook for 3 minutes, then set aside.

-Step 5: Heat milk and cream on low until warm, add butter, and continue heating until butter melts.

-Step 6: Remove from heat and slowly add milk mixture to beaten eggs, whisking lightly to combine.

-Step 7: Add the corn, flour, thyme, parsley, cooked bacon, onions, peppers, salt, and pepper to mixture and stir.

-Step 8: Pour mixture into ungreased 1 ½ quart oval baking dish.

-Step 10: Bake 1 ¼ hour until golden brown.



Source: Food Network



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# OPINION

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## A GRUMBLER'S LAMENT

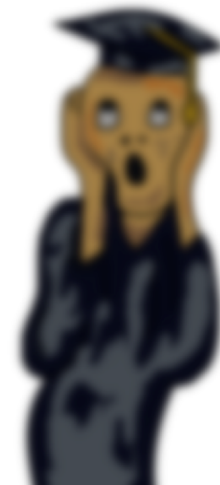
BY MICHAEL GARBUS

It was a dark and stormy night. A large screech permeated the atmosphere, bats flew in front of a glowing blood moon, and I stared at my desk: bare, naked, *disgusting*. It reminded me of myself after a night of binging homework. I gazed at my reflection in the small pool of sweat gathered at my feet as I worried about how I would spend my time without the constant bounty of essays, classwork, and most importantly, homework. With nothing to do, I was forced to sleep - a truly depressive task. I slept poorly that night. At 2:45 AM, I woke up in a cold sweat and I saw past tests, classwork, quizzes, homework, and notes from my 8-year long career hanging all around my room. I must have suffered from a bout of sleepwalking, and decorated my wall with the fruits of my labor. Until 8 o'clock, I sat and stared at my walls, thinking of better times. Out of force of habit, I got into my car and drove towards BASIS.

As I was just about to enter my parking spot, I observed something from the corner of my eye. As I got closer and closer to it, I came to the disturbing realization that someone was occupying *my* parking spot, 15; I shivered, shook, screamed, and finally, scrambled to the visitor parking lot, and then promptly exited my vehicle. Hobbyist oncologist and future philosopher Caleb King said the following, after I observed him staring longingly at the school from the government-sanctioned 500 ft distance, hidden in a conveniently-placed bush on Shea Boulevard: "School is like a spring; an oasis in a desert of stupidity. From that spring, traveling deep into that aquifer of knowledge, bubbles from only the purest of academia desiccate the thirst of the ever-parched zealot." He then tried to walk, but forgot that he was levitating because of his sheer desire for knowledge. It was truly an unfortunate sight. Because I felt I had no future, I tried to make a deal with the Egyptian sun god, Ra, to allow me to return to school by beating him in a staring contest. Unfortunately, although I got pretty close, it's pretty hard to stare at the sun for over an hour. That was one thing that BASIS doesn't prepare you for.

I slowly strolled towards the lobby, and I recognized a statue that I proposed from my previous article. The great Stonehenge of BASIS, Bonehenge, recounted the tips, tricks, and tales of our valiant fourth graders. However, I noticed a new part: a small plaque on an even smaller grave: "Here lies the weakest link of our school: Senior Class 2019." I stared at the plaque blankly, because, without school, I had forgotten how to read. I consulted the self-described "two-dozen rats in a jacket" known as Caleb King about what to do in this situation, and he said "obviously it means to come in, you bundle of two-dozen rats in a jacket."

I attempted to come in, but before I could, I saw my reflection in the glass. It was no longer an incredibly happy person who loved every day of his school career. It was instead more representative of the main figure in Edvard Munch's *The Scream* -- a man with sunken eyes, a distorted face, and perhaps most disturbingly, a black coat, not too dissimilar to those handed out at graduation. I shrieked loudly, almost shattering the glass that encased the house of knowledge. I felt a sinking feeling as a black hole opened beneath my feet. I woke up in a cold sweat: "Thank goodness", I thought, "it was all a dream." I looked over to my right, and saw my ripped-up diploma laying on the ground. I screamed.



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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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## CHINESE MYTHOLOGY: THE ZODIAC RACE

BY ANGIE WONG

Chinese New Year, also known as the Spring Festival or 春节 (pronounced chun jie), begins on the 23rd day of the 12th lunar month on the Chinese calendar, lasting 23 days and ending on the 15th day of the first lunar month in the Chinese calendar. According to this calendar, each year represents one of the twelve animals from the Chinese zodiac, as ordered by the Jade Emperor, or Buddha, depending on which the source, during the Great Race. This year, Chinese New Year fell on February 5th, celebrating the year of the pig. Why is the pig the last animal in the cycle? The legend of the Chinese zodiac goes something like this:

The Jade Emperor once held a race in which there could be only twelve winners. In order to win, the animals had to cross a rapid river and reach the finish line on the shore. Among the participants were the cat and the rat. These animals hated each other. Although they were the worst swimmers, they were also the smartest among the participants. The cat and the rat determined that riding on the ox would get them across the river the fastest, but, while crossing the river, the rat shoved the cat off the ox's back and jumped off the ox's back to secure first place, with the ox following in second. The cat, unfortunately, did not complete the race as it was left to drown after being sabotaged by the rat.

The tiger finished in third place because of its strong swimming ability, and the rabbit followed soon after by hopping over rocks to cross the river. The emperor thought the dragon would finish first because it could fly, but the dragon said it stopped to help some villagers on the way, and thus, finished fifth. Next, the horse almost took sixth place, but the snake startled the horse, giving it enough time to steal sixth place and leave the horse in seventh place. Soon after, the monkey, the rooster, and the sheep landed on the shore. Unlike some of the previous animals, these three actually helped each other to get to the finish line. The rooster found a raft, and the monkey and sheep hopped on. The sheep came in eighth place, the monkey in ninth place, and the rooster in tenth place.

The dog came in eleventh place. Even though it was a great swimmer, it was late for the race, and told the emperor that it needed a bath. Finally, in last place came the pig, who got hungry in the middle of the race and went off to get some food, then fell asleep. When it woke up, it finished in twelfth place, and so the sequence of the zodiac was set.

In light of Valentine's Day and Chinese New Year, here are the Chinese zodiacs that are compatible with each other. Here some of the recent years, but you can calculate any other year by adding or subtracting twelve years from the ones given to get your zodiac.

Group One: Rat (1996, 2008), Dragon (2000), Monkey (2004) They are action-oriented and show traits of intelligence. They can complement each other in intellect and are compatible with each other.

Group Two: Ox (1997, 2009), Snake (2001), Rooster (2005) They are deep thinkers and always conscious about attaining their objectives. They are complementary to each other in intellect and habits.

Group Three: Tiger (1998), Horse (2002), Dog (2006) They are inclined towards freedom and a strong sense of personal ego. They can understand each other, but are sometimes egoistical.

Group Four: Rabbit (1999), Sheep (2003), Pig (2007) They love peace and believe in mutual cooperation. They can be sympathetic and usually make great pairs.

# STRANGEST AWARDS SHOWS

BY ZAK HORI

Academy Awards, People's Choice Awards, Nickelodeon Awards. These shows are just for show, right? The typical award shows typically promote achievement, popularity, and dedication in modern day culture. What people dismiss about these shows is that they give us a glimpse into Hollywood society. Awards shows not only showcase achievement, but also sometimes inspire younger generations to become something greater, to aspire to a certain model. However, there are some award shows that stand out as less inspirational, and even just plain stupid.

In contrast to the Oscars, the Golden Raspberry Awards recently announced their nominations for 2019. However, the title doesn't signify anything good. This show recognizes the year's worst films. Would you want to win Worst Director or Worst Actor? The winning actors and executives still receive publicity. In addition, the show presents the Redeemer Award, recognizing past "winners" (of a Raspberry) who have redeemed themselves from their failures.

Another awards show that recognizes true "innovation and excellence" is the Tire Technology International Awards. Wait, what? Who would want to honor tires? Sure, we rely on improvements to the minor parts of our transportation, but do our tires really deserve

recognition? The categories include manufacturing, innovation, and environmental achievement of the year.

The Stinky Shoe Awards are pretty self-explanatory. Ripley's Believe it or Not hosts an intense competition for kids on a mission to kill off the sense of smell with their shoes. In this awards show-contest hybrid, shoes are judged based on odor, presentation, and color. To make matters even stranger, the judging panel has previously included NASA chemical specialists and doctors with PhDs. Quite remarkably, a winner of this "competitive contest" won \$2,500. To put that in perspective, that's as much as a National Merit Scholarship.

Famous award shows like the Oscars or Emmys always attract news articles and attention of social media. However, for these award presentations, the award is all about the drama. Who would want to be the worst actor or have the stinkiest shoe? Not many would. So, the real question is, what can we learn from these bizarre awards? We learn that life is all about having fun and enjoying ourselves, and these awards provide us with just that.



The Golden Raspberry Award  
Source: The Telegraph

# NEW SHOW ALERT: *SPACE FORCE*

BY KOBE SIMON

While it may be awhile before President Trump is able to commandeer his own “space force,” it appears that Netflix will be acquiring one soon. In what may be the closest we ever get to a reunion of *The Office*, producers are creating a new fictional comedy centered around President Trump’s ideas for intergalactical defense. Many are ecstatic about this upcoming TV show for one reason: former *The Office* star Steve Carell.

On May 16th, 2013, the final episode of the beloved show *The Office* aired, much to the dismay of fans across the United States. However, some argue that the show really ended in season seven, when Steve Carell left. Fans and cast members have since expressed interest in rumors of an revival of the show, but Steve Carell expressed distaste at the idea, saying, “it might be impossible to do that show today and have people accept it the way it was accepted 10 years ago. The climate’s different.” Since then, Carell has gone on to star in films such as “Beautiful Boy,” “Welcome to Marwen,” and “Vice.”

The announcement trailer for the show, which was released on January 16th, begins with the words “On June 18, 2018, the federal government announced the creation of a 6th major division of the United States armed forces. The goal of the new branch is to ‘defend satellites from attack’ and ‘perform other space-related tasks’...or something. This is the story of the men and women who have to figure it out.” Though vague, this trailer provides a glimpse into the show’s probable dry humor.

The exact date of *Space Force*’s premiere on Netflix is currently unknown; however, due to Netflix’s release model, the entire first season of the space-comedy will likely be released at once for binging pleasure.

Netflix is largely keeping the details of *Space Force* under wraps for now. While the first trailer has already surfaced, information regarding the cast has yet to be released, other than the fact that Steve Carell will star in the show and will help create it alongside *The Office* producer Greg Daniels. Whether the show has undergone production is still a mystery; however, the trailer declared that the show would be “coming soon,” much to the delight of Dunder-Mifflin fans everywhere.



Thumbnail for the *Space Force* Announcement Trailer  
Source: Netflix



# WHAT KIND OF ROMANTIC ARE YOU?

BY ANGIE WONG

Ah, Valentine's Day, the most irrelevant holiday to a majority of BASIS students...at least I think. Take this quiz to find out how great your love life is going. If not, don't worry, it just means you have other priorities right now. Have fun!

- Someone unexpectedly asks you on a date. What do you do?
  - Run away screaming. (0 pts)
  - Write a sonnet about the experience. (1 pt)
  - \*No comment\* (2 pts)
  - Accept and see how it goes. (3 pts)
- A person holds the door open for you as an act of chivalry. How do you react?
  - Bow to him/her. (1 pt)
  - Thank the person and start a conversation. (3 pts)
  - Panic and find another door to avoid the person. (2 pts)
  - Ignore it because you're too busy trying to finish homework that's due next period. (0 pts)
- Which one of the following are you more likely to consider attractive?
  - Nothing. I like dogs, though. (2 pts)
  - A person. (3 pts)
  - An illustration of a person. (1 pt)
  - A proton. (0 pts)
- Which of the following would make you cry?
  - The Notebook*. (3 pts)
  - A Tale of Two Cities*. (1 pt)
  - A friend giving you a pencil. (0 pts)
  - Inside Out*. (2 pts)
- People are gossiping about relationships at your school. What do you do?
  - Attentively listen to all the tea being spilled. (3 pts)
  - Plug your ears and bang your head against the wall. (2 pts)
  - Write a theme statement about love. (1 pt)
  - Ignore it and cry about how much homework you have. (0 pts)
- You see someone getting bullied, and, of course, you want to help them. How do you intervene?
  - Rush in like the heroic protagonist you are and save the day. (3 pts)
  - Get a teacher's help. (2 pts)
  - Be a Byronic hero and write a tale about your mysteriousness. (1 pt)
  - Be a tragic hero, meaning you try to help and then get punched in the face. (0 pts)
- What kind of music do you prefer?
  - Music from the Romantic era (e.g. Beethoven and Chopin). (1 pt)
  - \*ahem\* You start at the anode; electrons are lost there; you go through the wire and through the load on fire; you enter the cathode and reduce the cations, and the anions go through the salt bridge back to where? Where? (0 pts)
  - Soundtracks from various movies and plays. (2 pts)
  - Regular pop music. (3 pts)
- What are you most likely to do on Valentine's Day?
  - Buy discount chocolate. (2 pts)
  - Study and cry yourself to sleep. (0 pts)
  - Ask someone out in a showcase of your affection. (3 pts)
  - Make a musical composition about love. (1 pt)
- Which of the following are you more likely to take to a dance?
  - A sweet fruit you set on fire – get it, a hot date! (0 pts)
  - Friends. (2 pts)
  - A book. (1 pt)
  - A person you like. (3 pts)
- You see two people spending a lot of time hanging around each other and suspect it is more than a friendship. What do you do?
  - Get as far away from the PDA as possible. (2 pts)
  - Write a novel about this interaction. (1 pt)
  - Ship it like a Fedex truck. (3 pts)
  - Nothing. Who has time for that when you have AP exams? (0 pts)

## Results:

(0-7 pts) The BASIS student: Congratulations, maybe? You are definitely made for this school, or the school made you like this. Either way, you're basically way too busy to be concerned with romance, and far too stressed to care about any drama. Those AP's and finals are slightly more pressing than who likes who. Sometimes you just have to focus on more important things.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

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**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13**

(8-15 pts) The Romanticism Artist: You're an intellectual romantic, emphasizing inspiration, creativity, individualism, and emotions. I'd say you like the idea of love more than actual love, or you're an artsy person with no intention of finding someone right now. Be free! Write a novel!

(16-22 pts) The Friendzoner: Ah yes, the Anti-Romantic. You are absolutely repulsed by PDA, you hate drama, and you most definitely do not need a significant other. If someone asked you out you might punch them. You are an independent human who doesn't need a partner. Friends are totally fine, since you're not a loner, but if anyone gets a little too close, you politely crush them.

(23-30 pts) The Cupid: Wow, this is really impressive. If you get this option, it means you actually successfully achieved a relationship at BASIS Scottsdale. That achievement deserves a reward in itself. If you do not have a significant other right now, then that means you just want one and enjoy the idea of being in a relationship. You also find romance movies or novels adorable and ship everyone you think would be good together. I honestly don't know how you do it at this school, but still, kudos to you!



# WHICH SPORT DO YOU CHOOSE? BY SANAYA NICHANI

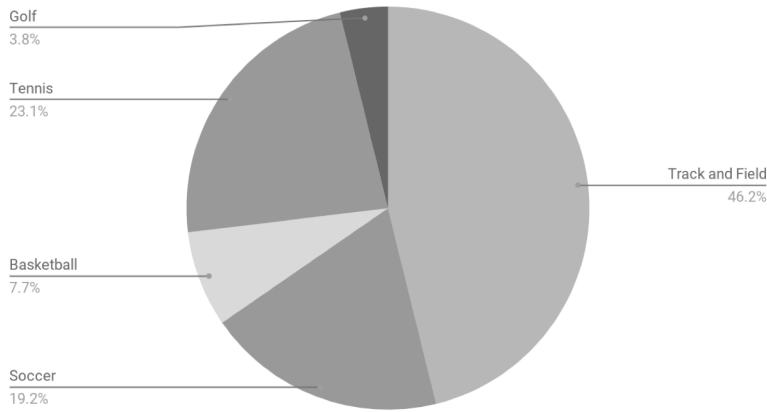
The spring semester brings exciting new extracurricular activities to BASIS, including many more sports for students to join. But which sport seems to be the most popular? I polled students to determine which spring sports they were most excited for, and which activities they might like to see added. Students between grades 6 and 10 were asked which sport they would choose to participate in if they could, regardless of the teacher, timing, or location. All that mattered is which sport the student felt most interested in, whether or not they had experience in the sport.

The Lower Schoolers chose between CoEd Soccer, Boys Basketball, Girls Basketball, Track and Field, and CoEd CAA Tennis. For the Upper Schoolers, I featured CoEd Soccer, Boys Volleyball, Boys Basketball, Track and Field, and CoEd CAA Tennis.

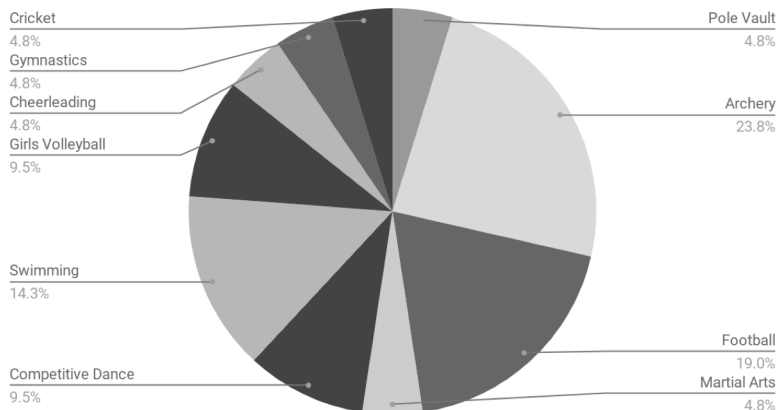
After the students picked a sport, I then asked them which sport/competitive activity they would add to the list. The two tables below show the percentages of which sports students, both lower and upper school, would join, and which sports they would add to the list.

Many sports seem to be popular among the student body. Track and Field seems to be most popular, as many students are already taking the sport this year, and more are interested in joining. There is also a variety of sports that students would like to add, showing the diversity of interests among the student body. Football, Competitive Dance, Archery - which might be a bit tricky to add to the curriculum, but doable nonetheless - and a renewal of Girls Volleyball are quite popular among the students. This poll may help reveal which sports BASIS should focus on and add for students here at BASIS Scottsdale. So, which sports would *you* choose?

Which Sport Students Would Join



Which Sport Students Would Like to Add



# REVIEWS OF BEST MOTION PICTURE NOMINEES

BY SAM ENNIS

The Academy Awards are right around the corner to celebrate the best that the film industry had to offer in 2018. Although this year's ceremony has already been plagued with controversy over its host (or lack thereof), this should not distract from the great movies released this year. Here are the eight nominated movies ranked from best to worst, in my opinion.

8. *Vice*: *Vice* is about Dick Cheney's time as vice president under Bush and is the only movie that I would consider to have more negative aspects than positive. Though Christian Bale delivers a phenomenal performance, that alone cannot save this movie from being a jumbled mess. The plot is uneven and the editing, flat. This movie tries to be a satire, drama, and documentary, leaving this movie with no soul. This movie tries to say so much, but ends up saying nothing. Rating: 4/10.

7. *Black Panther*: Personally, I do not understand the excitement for this movie, as it is just another Marvel movie. T'challa lacks any kind of charisma or likable qualities; the supporting cast is all very similar. Despite all of this, Michael B. Jordan's Killmonger is amazing and has depth, even if he was not as developed as he could have been. Rating: 5/10.

6. *Bohemian Rhapsody*: Rami Malek gives one of the best performances of the year as Freddie Mercury, selling every second of his portrayal with depth and palpable emotion. The music is, of course, amazing, but that also leads to the problem with this movie: without Queen, this movie fails to be interesting. Take Queen out and replace them with some random band, and no one would care for this movie. The only reason it is not lower on my list is due to Malek's amazing performance. Rating: 5/10.

5. *Green Book*: This is where the movies start to become good, even great. *Green Book* is a feel-good movie. The charm and banter between the two leads is so endearing that one cannot help but smile. Both Viggo Mortensen and Mahershala Ali give amazing performances. The main problem is that this movie can be corny at times, which underplays its serious topic of racism. However, the charm between the two leads makes this flaw forgivable. Rating: 8/10.

4. *BlackKlansman*: This movie is a passion project by Spike Lee, based on the true story of the first black detective in Colorado Springs who infiltrated the Ku Klux Klan. Spike Lee managed to craft a movie that balances drama and comedy perfectly, with the help of witty banter, easily making this one of the best screenplays of the year. The political commentary gives advice to both sides of the spectrum. The minor negatives of the film would be that it takes a while to pick up momentum, and some of the editing choices feel a bit off. Rating: 8/10

3. *The Favourite*: This is such an odd movie with its stylistic choices, but in a good way. The performances are all perfect, with Olivia Colman being the standout as the mentally unstable Queen Anne. The score and cinematography set the mood perfectly in every scene, creating a disordered feeling. The commentary on power and taking advantage of a handicapped person is also well done. However, the beginning was not as captivating as it could have been. Rating: 9/10.

2. *A Star is Born*: This emotional rollercoaster left me absolutely astounded. The story tackles major themes of fame, happiness, and addiction, and weaves them together into a realistic screenplay. Bradley Cooper and Lady Gaga give the best performances of the year in the movie's insanely powerful and heart-wrenching scenes. The cinematography and direction are phenomenal, and the songs carry the same weight the themes do. The only problem I see is that Cooper was snubbed for a best director nomination. Rating: 10/10.

1. *Roma*: *Roma* is a masterpiece. Every choice in this film by director Alfonso Cuarón is meaningful and purposeful. Never have I felt a movie to be so calm and uncomfortable at once. So much hope is felt just to be squashed by the most tragic accident. The cinematography is breathtaking, with exceptionally long takes that would seem impossible to film. *Roma* captures the essence of life and what makes it hard yet wonderful. It's a Netflix original, so I would suggest watching it immediately. Rating: 10/10.

Answers to clues: 1. E, 2. L, 3. V, 4. O  
Mystery Word: LOVE



# PUZZLES

BY TANAY  
VEDARTHAM  
AND RYAN DONG

All the scrambled words listed below are all missing one letter. it's up to you to find the missing letters and arrange them to solve this Valentine's Day-themed puzzle.

1. TAHR? → Clue: *Song by Elton John ("Don't Go Breaking My \_\_\_\_\_")*
2. CATECHOO? → Clue: *Song by The 1975, Album: The 1975*
3. NAILETE? → Clue: *Song by Frank Sinatra ("My Funny \_\_\_\_\_")*
4. SERS? → Clue: *Song by Juice WRLD or Song by The Chainsmokers*

Mystery Word: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Answer on Page 16)

S W P W T W Y N I Z F S T R V  
 E U V R I P L D Q T U R A D A  
 V U I N E O I F N W T E Z I L  
 G C T R C S T S A A Y W S P E  
 N E L N A N I S C W C O H U N  
 R O I B B U H D E E E L A C T  
 M L V E J I Q N E R S F D Z I  
 M D V H N O E A P N P Y O X N  
 B O S G F S J C S C T K W G E  
 L U T M E Q S F D Y W S N B S  
 X O G N W O R R A C S H D L D  
 N U I E T A L O C O H C W A A  
 B H G R O U N D H O G S D A Y  
 C H E A R T S O F N O T S D V  
 A A Z E J A A F B T R Y F R C

AQUARIUS  
 CHINESE NEW YEAR  
 FLOWERS  
 LINCOLN  
 PRESIDENTS DAY  
 WASHINGTON  
 ARROW  
 CHOCOLATE  
 GROUNDHOG DAY  
 LOVE  
 WINTER  
 SHADOW  
 CUPID  
 CANDY  
 HEARTS  
 PISCES  
 VALENTINES DAY



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