

THE BASIS SCOTTSDALE GAZETTE

Introducing... Mr Aleman!

by Jacob Shamoun

This January, BASIS students welcome our new Dean of Upper School, Mr. Aleman. As he is our fifth dean in the past few years, many students wonder what his impact will be on our students and our school as a whole, so I have interviewed him concerning his career as a teacher and what he plans to do for our school.

Can you tell us about your career as a teacher or administrator in the past?

Mr. Aleman: I have been a teacher for almost 20 years. I have taught students k-12, post-secondary, and Adult ESL. I have a passion for helping students achieve their goals, whether those are employment opportunities, College, or Technical schools. I have also coached JH Soccer to a District Championship and Varsity Chess to a league championship.



SAVE THE DATE

Sadie’s Redefined– 2/4

Super Bowl LVII– 2/12

Arizona’s Birthday/Valentine’s Day– 2/14

Presidents Day– 2/20

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What motivated you to pursue a role in the administration in BASIS Scottsdale?

Mr. Aleman: I have worked at a wide range of schools but finding a school where so many students are motivated to achieve was my biggest draw to BASIS. It is nice to go to work knowing I am helping students succeed. This is my first step into administration, and I felt like this was the perfect environment to allow me to help more than just a classroom of students but students throughout the school.

Do you have any goals for the future of our school?

Mr. Aleman: Our biggest goal right now is to make the Student Affairs office a welcoming place for all Upper School students. Mr. Flores and I share a lot of visions of the vibe we want to have, whether that's our awesome Secret Service walkie talkie headsets, the giant 49ers flag that is going up when we win the Super Bowl, or some of the signs that will be going up in our office soon. We may have to have some challenging conversations, but I also want us to have some positive ones. I look at every day as a new day and don't let our disagreements yesterday affect our interactions today. The Student Affairs office will always be available for students who need an ear or some advice or who want to share an awesome accomplishment in their lives.

What will be your main role as Dean of Upper School in the short future?

Mr. Aleman: Short term is to be a support for everything Mr. Flores was handling all by himself—grade checks, behavior issues, conflict resolution, ID raffle tickets and everything in between.

Is there anything else you would like to tell students?

Mr. Aleman: Stop by anytime to say hello! I am a huge animal lover—show me a picture of your pet or come hear about my terrible Hedgehog, Thornelious, but make sure you are wearing your ID!

We are looking forward to having Mr. Aleman as our Dean of Upper School and hope he is here to stay as an impactful administrator in our school.



The Shortening of Trimester 2

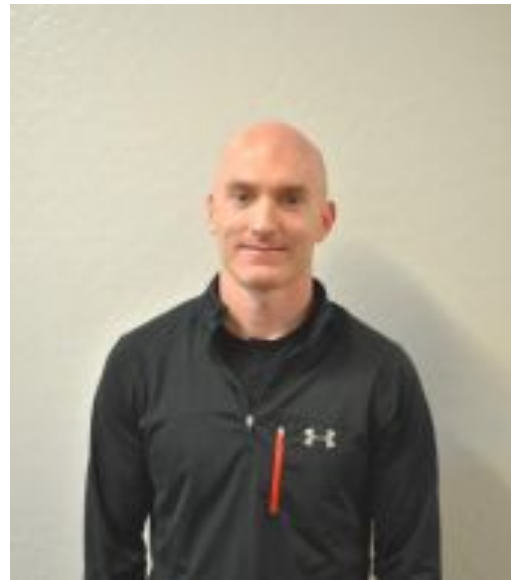
by Andrew Kang

Trimester 2 is underway, and some recent changes were made regarding its end date. The trimester was originally supposed to end on February 24th but has been moved two weeks earlier to February 10th. The reasoning for this sudden shift was to “better accommodate our high school schedule and Senior Projects,” but some negative consequences can be perceived from this change, namely, students having shorter times to improve their grades and teachers having fewer opportunities to offer exams to their students. In this article, I’ll be interviewing Mr. Garvey to further examine why this change was made and its effects. I’ll also be interviewing other BASIS students about their opinion(s) on this shift.

Interviewing Mr. Garvey:

What was the thought process behind the reduction of Trimester 2?

Mr. Garvey: We needed to reduce the length of Trimester 2 in order to accommodate Senior Projects. The original date of February 24th made sense when planning for the Lower School students to switch over to a trimester schedule, but ending that late in February would make it very difficult for some of our seniors to complete their internships.



Source: Derrick Kang

How do you think the shortening of Trimester 2 will affect students? Teachers?

Mr. Garvey: Students won't notice much of a change. Trimester 2 typically ends during the first or second week of February so this should be a normal schedule for upper school students. Lower School students are new to the trimester system this year, so they are already experiencing longer grading periods for the first time. As a result, moving the date by a few weeks shouldn't stand out to 5-7th graders.

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Teachers did need to make sure all tests and projects would still fall within the correct trimester, but that change mainly impacted a small number of 12th-grade teachers.

Do you believe that this was the right decision to make?

Mr: Garvey: I think the change was minimal and had a small impact on the school year. Overall, it was the correct, and necessary, change.

Interviewing various students:

What are your thoughts on Trimester 2 being reduced? Do you like it or not?

Student 1: I personally don't mind the shift, but I feel that it does make it more difficult for me to improve my grades because of this change as there is less time to improve them. In my opinion, the date shortening of Trimester 2 does take a toll on those who are currently struggling with their grades.

Student 2: I'm honestly fine with the date change. It doesn't harm my grades that much because teachers are always pumping out tests that give me and other peers chances to study up and improve our grades if our grades aren't where we currently want them to be.

So, it turns out that the Trimester 2 date change isn't as detrimental as it seems. It gives seniors more time to complete their Senior Projects and also has minimal negative impacts on other students. In addition, Mr. Garvey stated that all quizzes/tests/projects will still fall in their respective trimesters and that Trimester 2 normally ended on the first or second week of February in prior years, meaning that ending of Trimester 2 on Feb. 10th is actually the norm.



Source: Google Images

CAMPUS NEWS

Tennis 101

by Abhinav Ravichand

Millions of soccer fans from many countries around the world stayed glued to their screens or on the stadium seats to watch their favorite teams compete in the 2022 FIFA World Cup. But have any of you even heard of the Wimbledon Finals in the summer of 2022? Or the U.S. Open? Probably not, unless you watch or play tennis. Those of you who don't really follow tennis might only know specific stars from tennis (Federer, Nadal, Serena Williams, etc.) and basic facts about the sport, but there's so much more to tennis than meets the eye.

Tennis is fairly different from basketball, soccer, or football in so many ways, the most obvious being that tennis isn't a team-based game. Tennis requires a lot of individual, separate, mentally focused time, as opposed to the at-the-moment feelings from other games. This can be great for people who don't like team sports, or just want to work alone by themselves on tennis activities. Tennis lets people find their strengths and weaknesses, and increase their skill with constant practice. Serves are one of the best parts of tennis; it's your shot, you get to choose the strength, speed, and time of hit, and you can take your time, and relax, preparing for the game ahead. This allows for more focus and overall happiness compared to other sports due to its emphasis on individual character and play.

Tennis can be strengthened through many repeated practice sessions. Often, many people who first begin to play tennis start out with practice by themselves, only to realize that, without a coach, it's very hard to improve beyond your current skill set. Personally, I find it to be really useful, because they know exactly what you should work on, and try to tell you what you've got to work on, which honestly makes up a large part of tennis; learning and getting better. Tennis is definitely one of those sports where a coach can be a big part of improving your performance. Although they don't usually cheer or watch you in games, they train with you individually, do rallies with you, and give personalized feedback for how you are doing to make sure that you improve as per your own standard.

Tennis can also be enjoyed by players of any age and skill level from young to old, and from rookie to seasoned pro. This is because everyone can always get better in tennis, no matter how good they currently are. The shots to return, the strength and speed of the serve, and even determination can always be improved.

Source: Stock Photos



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That’s why tennis is probably the best first sport for anybody who is interested in playing or learning a sport. It provides a good cardio workout due to the constant running and agility required in matches, and the grip strength required to get the perfect hit without either smashing the ball out of the court or hitting a just-in shot is no small feat either.

Ultimately, tennis is all about practice. You go out to the court, hit a bunch of serves, and practice with a partner, or just shoot forehands and backhands. By doing this, you are making yourself a better tennis player. For those of you who don’t play tennis, it’s a great step into the world of sports, and builds your agility, strength, and endurance in the long-term.

BASIS Scottsdale officially has its own set of tennis teams, and will be participating in many tournaments. Just a few weeks ago, Mr. Hermann, the tennis coach, made the final selection of players consisting of both Junior Varsity and Varsity boys and girls teams, and the Bulldogs have started off with a strong, promising start. We wish them the best of luck for the rest of the spring season!



Source: Lighthouse Point Yacht Club

Wear ID, Get a Carrot... Leave It At Home, Get a Stick!

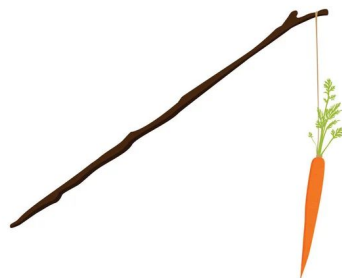
by Anastasia Sheleg

You all probably know the famous Carrot and Stick method to get one to do what you want. The carrot is a reward and the stick is a punishment for disobeying. The school tried a subtle "stick" approach by charging the students' parents accounts to replace the IDs for students who forgot theirs, but that provided little motivation for the students themselves, thus the deans announced their "carrot" method, "bribery" if you will.

The new "carrot" is a raffle, which gives random students who happen to be wearing their IDs the opportunity to win prizes. The drawing takes place every Friday and the prizes consist of small toys, gift cards, etc. At first students seemed intrigued by this new prize system, but it clearly did not work out as well as the admin would have hoped, for shortly after new, harsh policies were introduced. The "carrot" method failed, thus the admin resorted back to the "stick" method, yet this time severe punishments were introduced. The deans announced that, starting Trimester 3, anyone who isn't wearing their ID will receive an automatic lunch detention.

Although this new policy will likely have a higher probability of working, the admin presumably realized that punishments alone and rewards alone do not seem to work among the students, thus the deans announced one final student ID policy. The admin combined the "carrot" with the "stick" method, for they targeted the one thing students cannot survive without—their phones.

The deans announced that any use of phones outside of the accepted school times will be taken away automatically, unless the student is wearing their ID, if the student happens to be wearing their IDs and as long as their phone is not interrupting class the deans stated that they will let it go and not confiscate the phones. Ah yes, nothing motivates this generation more than finding a way to keep their phones with them at all times. Out of all these methods, which one will work? We will soon see if any method can somehow persuade the students to wear their IDs.



Source: Depositphotos



Source: Santa Ana College

HOLIDAY HUM

A Perfect Pair: Arizona and Love

by Harini Karthikeyan

All around the world, people celebrate Valentine's Day on February 14th. They celebrate love with chocolate, flowers, and teddy bears. There are usually only two types of feelings on this day: people in extreme reverence or people in extreme loneliness. However, many people don't realize that another holiday is on February 14th. Although generally only Arizonans celebrate, February 14th is also the exact day Arizona joined the U.S. statehood.

This article isn't a clichéd Valentine's Day spiel. Going to a high school in Arizona, BASIS students get to experience not only Valentine's day but also Arizona's Birthday on the same date. *I know, I know, this pleasure isn't awarded to highschool students living in other states. We should all be so grateful!*

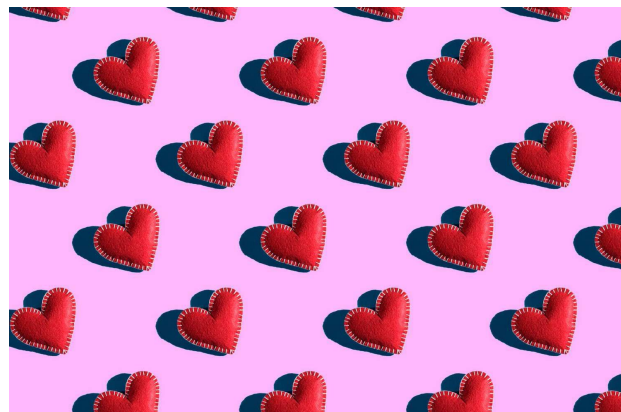
Although I am sure neither Valentine's Day nor Arizona's Birthday are widely celebrated at BASIS Scottsdale, I still believe some background information on the two holidays is necessary.

Valentine's Day, originally known as Saint Valentine's Day, originated as a Christian feast day honoring the Christian martyr, Saint Valentine. During the 14th and 15th centuries, romantic love was associated with the holiday after the prevalence of lovebirds in early spring. Then, in the 18th century, the holiday became a way of expressing love to one's partner through flowers, gifts, and chocolate. However, in the 21st century, it has become very common to simply express love to friends and even family members, and not strictly a significant other.

Arizona officially became a state on February 14th, 1912. As the 48th state admitted to the union, Arizona turns 111 this year. President William Taft signed the legislation that officially created Arizona as a state. Originally, Arizona was supposed to combine with New Mexico and join the union as a single territory—however, the majority of Arizonans rejected the proposal. Now, Arizona is one of the nation's largest states with 15 counties!

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It's important to learn about these two holidays because although everyone around the world celebrates Valentine's Day, it is only we Arizonans who have the pleasure to celebrate these two occasions on the same exact day.



Source: RealSimple



Source: Wikimedia Commons

Galentine's Day

by Payton Dymek

For some, February 14th is the worst day of the year. All of the red and pink hearts, Sweet Tarts candy, and teddy bears are enough to make the average person puke. On top of that, all of the rom-coms on television only make it worse. When you were younger, it was an easy holiday to enjoy. You would exchange valentines with all of your classmates and eat candy in gluttony until you felt like your stomach was about to burst, and even sometimes have small classroom parties. The older you get, the more pressured you are to enjoy the holiday with a significant other and make it all romantic, taking away a lot of the original innocent joy linked to the holiday.

A new approach to the holiday was created for those who are single on the holiday, especially to make the holiday more enjoyable for women. This new approach is called Galentine's Day, and every year it gets more and more publicized and even romanticized. In some cases, it's even more crucial to enjoy a good Galentine's Day with your friends rather than a Valentine's Day with a significant other.

Since this isn't a formal holiday there are no specificities surrounding it. You can either celebrate with the traditional Valentine's colors of pink and red, or go for the opposite and celebrate with blue and green. Some groups decide to have all of the cakes and sweets their hearts desire, yet others celebrate with a burrito night or Italian food. For the dinner, it's up to you and your friends to decide the dress code, unlike how certain restaurants you may attend on Valentine's Day require a suit or a nice dress. And there are no pressures of having to impress anyone on Galentine's Day— it's an entirely guilt-free holiday.

On this day, instead of doing the traditional Valentine's Day activities, you can do absolutely anything you want and not feel any guilt. You can go to the movies, go swimming, go to a karaoke bar, or even go axe-throwing. However, everyone on Valentine's Day feels some amount of pressure to go to dinner with their significant other and when too much pressure is applied to this "fun holiday" it becomes something that people don't want to participate in. Even guilt can arise if you or your significant other feel that something didn't go perfectly.

Galentine's Day has become the new Valentine's Day, and it's even a more popular holiday among Gen-Z women, too. Try it out for yourself this year and see which one you like the best!



Source: Pinterest

The History Behind Presidents Day

by Neha Jasthi

While Presidents Day was originally intended to commemorate our first and arguably most memorable leader, George Washington, in recent years it has become a celebration of all past and present U.S. presidents. The origin of Presidents Day dates back to the 1800s after the death of Washington in 1799. February 22nd, his birthday, became a day completely dedicated to honoring him and his career. He was, at the time, considered one of the most important and impactful historical figures. The 1832 centennial of his birth and the start of the construction of the Washington Monument in 1848 were some of the ways his life was celebrated during that time.

It was not until the late 1870s that Presidents Day became a federal holiday. Senator Stephen Wallace Dorsey of Arkansas was the first to propose it, and in 1879 President Rutherford B. Hayes signed it into law. Originally, the holiday only applied to the District of Columbia, but in 1885 it was expanded to the whole country. At the time, Washington's Birthday joined four other nationally recognized federal bank holidays—Christmas Day, New Year's Day, the Fourth of July and Thanksgiving—and was the first to celebrate the life of an individual American. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, signed into law in 1983, was the second.

The shift from Washington's Birthday to Presidents Day began in the late 1960s, when Congress proposed a measure known as the Uniform Monday Holiday Act. Led by Senator Robert McClory of Illinois, this law sought to shift the celebration of several federal holidays from specific dates to a series of predetermined Mondays. The proposed change was seen by many as a novel way to create more three-day weekends for the nation's workers, and it was believed that ensuring holidays always fell on the same weekday would reduce employee absenteeism. Some people argued that shifting holidays from their original dates would reduce their meaning; however, the bill also had widespread support from both private institutions and labor unions.

The Uniform Monday Holiday Act also included a provision to combine the celebration of Washington's birthday with that of Abraham Lincoln, which fell on February 12. Lincoln's Birthday had long been a state holiday in places like Illinois, and many supported joining the two days as a way of giving equal recognition to two of America's most famous statesmen. McClory was among the measure's major proponents, and he even floated the idea of renaming the holiday Presidents Day.

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Interestingly enough, Presidents Day never actually falls on the actual birthday of any American president. Although four Presidents— George Washington, William Henry Harrison, Abraham Lincoln and Ronald Reagan— were born in February, their birthdays all come either too early or late to coincide with Presidents' Day, which is always celebrated on the third Monday of the month.



Source: fineartamerica.com

CURRENT EVENTS

World Hijab Day

by Nahyan Wajiha

February may be known for major holidays such as Valentine’s Day or Presidents Day, but February 1st is a more recent holiday– World Hijab Day.

The holiday was founded by Nazma Khan on February 1, 2013, and in 2017, the state of New York officially declared February 1st World Hijab Day. Since then, the occasion has been recognized by many world leaders, such as Theresa May, the former prime minister of the United Kingdom, who attended an event honoring the event at the House of Commons, and the Phillipines House of Representatives, who designated the day as a means of better understanding and accepting Islamic traditions.

As of 2022, it is estimated that about 150 countries participate in honoring this occasion every year, with a rising number of participants every year. The hijab may seem to be just a piece of cloth, but to many Muslim women it holds significant religious values, such as modesty and devotion. It has also become a symbol for beauty.

To founder Nazma Khan, World Hijab Day is a means to “foster personal freedom of religious expression and cultural understanding.” For her, allowing others to experience the hijab seemed to be the only solution to ending the discrimination she faced in both her childhood and adulthood.

For myself, wearing the hijab has allowed me to feel more comfortable in my own skin in addition to allowing me to become closer to my faith and being a part of a community. While there are some days where I still struggle with wearing the hijab properly, it has allowed me to embrace modesty.

And, as someone who wears the hijab, I truly appreciate this occasion being an annual holiday to represent those who wear one and educate others about faith and religion, especially in recent years with the rise of Islamophobia, the prejudice against Islam or Muslims. With the rise of various Islamophobic legislation across the world, such as those in France that prevent its presence in sports competition and an amendment passed by the French Senate banning girls under 18 from wearing the hijab, it is especially important to honor the solidarity upheld by this occasion.



Source: River Online

Secession of Scotland: Separate or Stay?

by Stephanie Lobodanescu

"Scotland Forever!"-- Sean Connery, 007

Scotland is an ancient and beautiful country, rich in history, culture, and natural beauty. It gave the world the legend of the Loch Ness monster, the creation of whiskey, and the game of golf. Scotland is home to breathtaking scenery, with towering mountains, deep lochs, and rugged coastlines, and gave way to an array of religions, dialects, and cultural practices. For centuries, it has been the source of inspiration for literature, art, and music. Authors and artists from Scotland gave us some of the most powerful reads and memorable emotions, from fierce Scottish patriotism in poems by Robert Burns, to nostalgia and imagination in J.M. Barrie's *Peter Pan*. Scotland is a land of great diversity, with a strong sense of national identity and pride-- and it's people want it to stand alone as a nation that can uphold these values, separate from the United Kingdom's rule. .

Scotland has had a long and complex history with the United Kingdom; prior to the unification of England and Scotland in 1707, it remained an independent nation, while still experiencing frequent conflict with England's monarchy. In the Middle Ages, Scotland was divided into two distinct regions - the Highlands and the Lowlands - both ruled by the same monarch. During this time, Scotland established the first development of their Parliament and an independent Scottish legal system.

Scotland was forced to submit to English conquest in 1296-- and after years of separation and reconciliation, the two countries were united in the Acts of Union of 1707, forming the Kingdom of Great Britain. Although the union permitted Scotland to retain its own legal and educational systems, the new government of Great Britain was still able to pass laws that affected the whole kingdom. The people of Scotland did not go down without a fight, however futile.

From the Rising of the Priests, a revolt by Catholic clergy in Scotland against the Protestant Reformation and forced conversion, to the Jacobite uprisings of the 18th and 19th centuries, where supporters of the exiled House of Stuart rioted against the time's British monarchy, Scotland has continued its attempts at distancing, trying to preserve its people's own distinctive culture, identity, and government.

The Acts of Union were replaced by the Acts of Union 1800, officially creating what we know to be the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland. However, the tension between the regions and the need to hold onto a Scottish identity gave way to a period of Scottish nationalism in the 19th and 20th centuries, and the establishment of the Scottish National Party in 1934. In 1979, a devolution referendum that aimed to estimate the range of Scottish support on separation from the U.K. saw Scotland gain the status of a devolved nation within the United Kingdom, permitting a degree of autonomy that would allow them to set their own laws and policies on a range of issues, such as education and healthcare.

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In the first referendum in 1979, the majority of the Scottish people voted to remain in the United Kingdom, with a split of 52% to 48%. Widespread public debate and opinion polling over the issue only exacerbated the already heated debate, with public opinion polls showing that support for independence had increased since the first referendum. Polling reflected the rising support for the Scottish National Party (SNP) in the 2007 and 2011 Scottish Parliament elections, where the SNP had campaigned on a platform of holding a second referendum on Scottish independence and successfully won a majority of seats in both elections.

The second referendum was held on September 18th— a historic event, with a record turnout of 84.6% of eligible voters. The result? A majority for remaining in the United Kingdom, with 55.3% voting ‘No’ and 44.7% voting ‘Yes’. It was a significant victory for the ‘No’ campaign, who had argued that independence was too risky and would lead to economic uncertainty. More than that, it was a pivotal moment for the future of the United Kingdom and its relationship with the European Union. It resulted in Scotland remaining part of the United Kingdom for the foreseeable future, with the SNP being required to implement its policies within the framework of the United Kingdom.

The English Parliament has its own vested interest in keeping Scotland as part of the United Kingdom, keen to maintain the strong (though strained) ties that the two countries have forged over the past three centuries. Economically, Scotland provides a strong and stable resource base for the UK, with the country’s fishing, oil and gas, and renewable energy industries all making significant contributions to the national economy. Scotland assists the UK’s defense and security, with key military bases and an extensive pool of military personnel. Furthermore, Scotland is an

important ally in global diplomacy and international affairs, with Scottish members of the UK government regularly represented, and strong cultural ties and a shared history between Scotland and the rest of the UK, as well as the shared history between the two countries. Keeping Scotland as part of the UK helps to strengthen the bonds between the two nations and to ensure that the United Kingdom is a united and cohesive entity. Breaking away from the UK would have serious economic consequences for Scotland, as it would no longer be able to access the resources and investments of the UK. Scotland relies heavily on the UK for its trade and access to markets, and Scotland could lose its EU membership status and have to renegotiate its terms of trade with the rest of the world. And yet, Scotland has a long and proud history of independence and self-governance, regardless of English involvement. Since the Act of Union in 1707, Scotland and the rest of the United Kingdom have been joined together under a single government. Over the years, however, the political, social, and economic dynamics of the UK have changed, leaving many Scots feeling that their best interests are not being served by the UK government.

The primary reason for Scottish independence is for the ability to shape their own future. Scotland has a distinct culture, language, and history from the rest of the UK, and many Scots feel that their voice is not heard by the UK government— that decisions are being made without taking Scotland’s unique needs into account. Scotland has a strong tradition of egalitarianism, and many feel that the UK government is not doing enough to promote social justice and economic equality, and their poverty rate and cost of living is significantly higher than the rest of the UK. And with a wealth of natural resources, including oil, gas, and renewable energy sources, many believe that they could be better off if they were able to control their own resources and spend the revenue generated from them however they see fit, rather than having it go to the UK government.

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Voting for the separation is set to occur in 2023, and it is important to remember that the actions of past governments should not always set precedent for current ones. The people of Scotland want to stay true to their heritage and culture– to have a country status that mirrors their identity.



Source:
Japanese Times

SPORTS

The Super Bowl: A History

by Aanvi Verma

In February, spectacular things happen, like Valentine's Day, Groundhogs Day, and Galentine's Day. Still, the most exciting is the Super Bowl, which brought in over 92 million viewers last year. The Super Bowl, hosted this year in Glendale (State Farm Stadium) has a capacity of 100,000 people, with tickets priced at over \$400. This year, Rihanna will be performing at the halftime show, guaranteed to make many fly across the globe to witness it.

But why are they hosting the Super Bowl in Arizona this year? Arizona's temperatures make it so that during winter time, it feels more like spring, and that's a plus for the football players who won't be affected by the typical cold of the winter season. Not to mention, this is also Arizona's fourth time hosting a Super Bowl.

We know a lot about the Super Bowl today, but how did America's most popular sports event come to be? Football, which began to be played in matches in 1869, is a fun, exciting game that many enjoy watching. The first Super Bowl was between the Kansas Chiefs and the Green Bay Packers on January 15, 1967, in the Memorial Coliseum in Los Angeles, where the Kansas Chiefs defeated the Packers 35 to 10.

It wasn't until 1978 that the Super Bowl first started its games at nighttime. Along with that, the Pittsburgh Steelers won the most Super Bowls. The NFL is much younger than the World Series, The Masters, or the Kentucky Derby. The origins of the Super Bowl lie in the 1960s AFL (American Football League). The AFL offered to expand with the NFL, but at the time, they preferred to stay small.

Because of such rivalry between the two leagues, the first Super Bowl did not get as much hype. The first time between the Kansas City Chiefs and the Green Bay Packers did not have as many viewers. Ten years later in the 1970s, the NFL and AFL merged. Meanwhile, the NFL and AFL would play each other at the end of the season, creating the household name "Super Bowl."

The NFL's Super Bowl blows people's socks off every year. With incredible halftime shows and a display of true competition from the Philadelphia Eagles and the Kansas City Chiefs, Super Bowl LVII will certainly be one to remember. Be sure to watch on Sunday, February 12th!



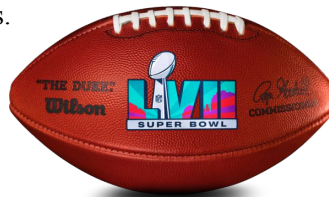
Source: Wikipedia

The Super Bowl: Why Arizona?

by Ram Bubby

Super Bowl LVII is just days away, and to top it off, it is being held right here in Arizona; however, it would not be the first time that the Super Bowl was scheduled to be in Arizona. The first Arizona Super Bowl took place in 1996, yet it did not happen without extensive deliberation. Back in 1990, the 1993 super bowl was going to be held in Arizona but was canceled, due to the state not recognizing MLK day, and then moved to Pasadena, California. Shortly after this, Arizona approved MLK day as a holiday and has since hosted three Super Bowls. However, due to recent voter suppression bills making their way through the senate, the decision to host Super Bowl LVII here at the State Farm Stadium in Glendale has sparked controversy among local Arizonans.

Source: SiriusXM



Before we can see why people are at an impasse over Super Bowl LVII, we need to first understand what happened in 1990 for the upcoming Super Bowl XXVIII. In 1990 after the NFL's decision to host the Championship game at the Sun Devil Stadium in Tempe, preparation was underway for Arizona. The game was estimated to earn between \$200 million to \$250 million for the state along with granting the opportunity to showcase Arizona for the entire nation. However, controversy arose when Arizona failed to acknowledge MLK day as a holiday, and as such the NFL moved the game to Pasadena due to the strong push from Americans to uphold moral standards over mere economic benefits. Following the move to Pasadena, Arizona approved MLK day as a holiday in November of 1992, and since three more Super Bowls have been held in Arizona. So why not a fourth?

The NFL announced its plan to hold Super Bowl LVII in Arizona, and it immediately received an outcry from faith leaders in Arizona. Since the 2020 elections, Arizona has been in the midst of processing and voting on numerous voter restriction bills all of which stemmed from what many believe to be false claims of voter fraud. Many minorities and faith leaders are outraged at the Arizona legislature's misuse of the unclear situation to pass more restrictions on the right to vote. Due to this, faith leaders and minorities are arguing the need for the NFL to uphold morality over monetary gains, and many have rallied to protest the Super Bowl being in Arizona.

Despite the Arizonans who see it fit to not hold the Championship game locally, there are many people who strongly believe that the positives will outweigh the negatives of holding the game here. According to the CEO of the Arizona Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Super Bowl LVII is expected to generate close to \$1 billion for the state. Not only will this benefit Arizona economically, but it can also help to promote future tourism by highlighting conventions and other attractions of Arizona. Additionally, the live crowd at the stadium always presents a promising boost in revenue to local restaurants, hotels, and other amenities.

The NFL has ultimately upheld its decision to host the Super Bowl at the State Farm Stadium in Glendale; however, this has not deterred protestors who claim their fight for equality is an uphill battle, but progress is being made. As for the rest of Arizona and the US, Super Bowl LVII is just days away, and fans couldn't be more excited.

Football Injuries

by Shreyank Murala

On January 2nd, during Monday night's game against the Bengals, we saw the disturbing scene where the Bengals safety Damar Hamlin collapsed on the field following the tackle from the Bengals wide receiver Tee Higgins. Suffering from cardiac arrest, Hamlin was promptly placed on oxygen by his assistant athletic trainer Denny Kelington who was praised by the head coach Sean McDermott for "saving Damar's life". Hamlin was admitted to the University of Cincinnati Medical Center, the closest health center to the field, and four days since the incident, he has shown signs of improvement and has even spoken with his teammates, remarking, "Love you boys".

In light of this incident, the NFL has faced criticism from both pro-football fans and medical professionals ragging the brutal nature of the sport. Has our society truly advanced from the times when Romans cheered for gladiators fighting in the colosseum? Damar Hamlin is not the first player involved in a near-death experience in the NFL as there have been several players who have suffered from ankle sprains, concussions, knee injuries, and more. On October 14, 1971, Chuck Hughes, a wide receiver for the Detroit Lions, suffered a fatal heart attack, clutching his chest on the field with 62 seconds left in the fourth quarter. To this date, he has been the only player to die on the field in the NFL.

Seeing the injury risk involved in the NFL, some future prospects might wonder if it is necessary to put their lives on the line for this sport. This is not only a valid question, but will also ensure that the NFL looks into creating more rigorous safety protocols to prevent further backlash from the public. Along with the NFL, high school and college teams with less proficient athletes in comparison to the national football league must also create such actions for the protection of the players. Only then can this sport truly break the dangerous stereotype surrounding it since the past century.



Source: WNYT.com

BOOK REVIEW

Book Review of the Month: by Valerie Polukhtin The Caves of Steel

It feels almost impossible to believe that one author, Isaac Asimov, after retiring from teaching chemistry, wrote over five hundred books in his lifetime. Yet he did. Choosing just one novel out of his prolific collection was no small feat, but *The Cave of Steel* captures the best of Asimov's genius within the brevity of this work.

Written in the early 20th century, Asimov's works often fail to predict some of the more obvious technological advancements, but this work manages to hide some of those mistakes. He masterfully proves the world we can imagine even without any idea how accurate it would become.

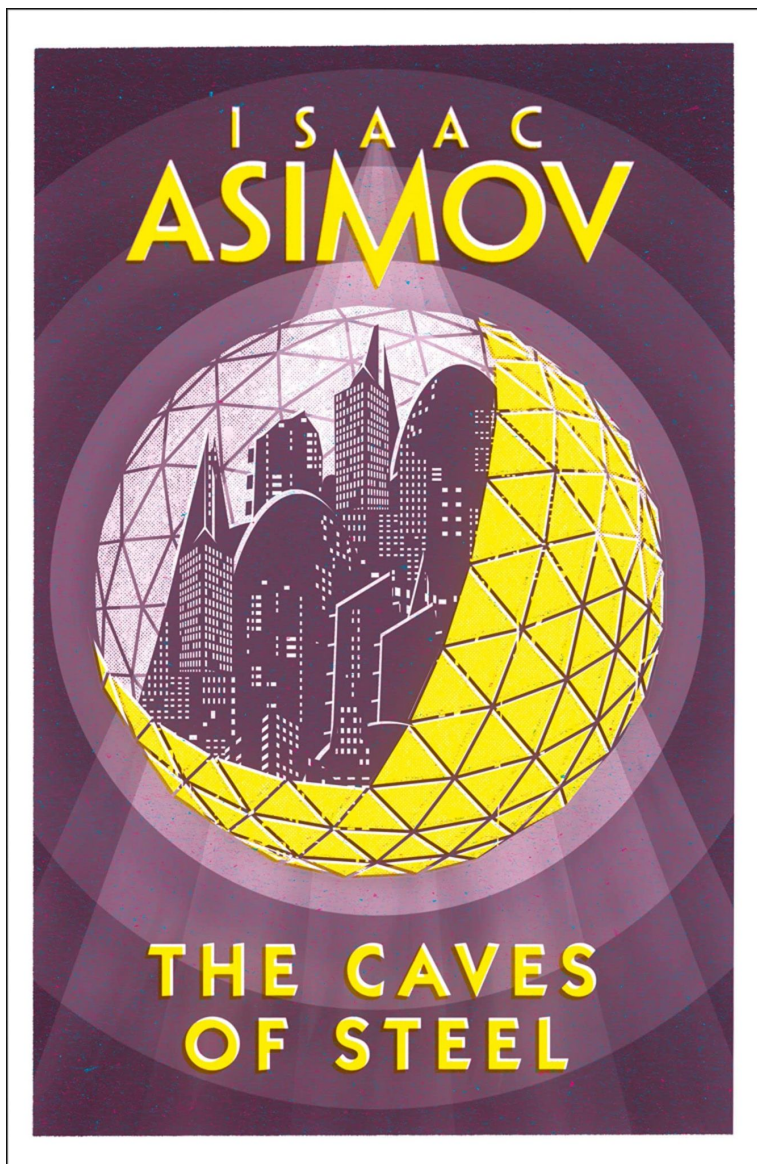
Within the first few pages, the majority of the world-building is established, guaranteeing a lack of necessity for in-depth familiarity with Asimov's worlds. Furthermore, the absence of technical and tedious language accustomed to the science-fiction genre makes this work much more accessible. Rather than promoting confusing jargon and complex concepts, Asimov chose to blend a mystery novel with science fiction, putting the futuristic world as the background rather than in the forefront.

As we follow our protagonists, human detective Elijah Baley and robot R. Daneel Olivaw, through the twists in their investigation of the murder of a scientist, we learn more about this conflicting world of steel the Earth has shrunk to and the universe outside we have expanded to.

While Asimov's writing is rather unobtrusive and unembellished, if not plain, occasional pieces of vivid and distinct descriptions provide a sort of underlying criticism of the caves of steel. One particular description compares the underground highways to a writhing mass of concrete worms, as if moving around under your very own skin.

Further on, Asimov packs numerous prominent themes into this story. He questions the vitality of replacing simple mundane tasks with robots, whether the gained efficiency is worth the fear that grips people on a minute level. He asks how human our robots can become, whether they can empathize and exist in a society with us. He examines the value of the "advanced" future he sees, whether this progress to other planets with new technology justifies our pathetic existence in metal supercities, terrified of the outdoors and open air.

Although Asimov fails to provide a concrete answer, these open-ended questions about an imaginary society relate, in some ways, to our own world today. Asimov combines his own creative ideas, straightforward writing, and fascinating subjects to prove, once again, how captivating science fiction can be.



Source: Amazon

MONTHLY MUNCHIES

Groundhog Doughnuts

by Rahul Jasthi

Ever wonder why we have a tradition to determine seasonal and weather patterns based on whether a brown, fluffy rodent looks at its own shadow? If you weren't aware, the US observes a tradition called Groundhog Day on February 2. This tradition originates from a Pennsylvania Dutch superstition around a legendary groundhog; however, the lore regarding this tradition seems to have some influence from the German concept that badgers are the forecasting animals and the Christian tradition that clear skies on Candlemas indicating a prolonged winter. If this groundhog sees its shadow and retreats in fear, winter will continue for 6 weeks. This tradition isn't entirely just superstitious. In order for the groundhog to see its shadow, the sky must be clear, indicating an improvement in the weather. Despite having some minor scientific backing, there is no definitive proof associating improvements in weather with the movements of the groundhog.

The actual groundhog for Groundhog Day resides in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania, and, conveniently, this fabled groundhog is named Punxsutawney Phil. Crowds on average of 2,000 people showed annually until 1993, when the film Groundhog Day released. Afterwards, the average attendance rose to 10,000, and today this traditional ceremony hosts 40,000 people. Last fun fact: 2023 will be the 137th time the event will be held.

Although I predict this will be my final article, I will try to keep your winter warm with a recipe for my favorite dessert: doughnuts (and they're Groundhog Day inspired).

Ingredients:

1. For about 1 dozen doughnuts:
2. 1¼ cups milk
3. 2¼ teaspoons (one package) active dry yeast
4. 2 eggs
5. 8 tablespoons (1 stick) butter, melted and cooled
6. ¼ cup granulated sugar
7. 1 teaspoon salt
8. 4¼ cups all-purpose flour, plus more for rolling out the dough
9. 2 quarts neutral oil, for frying, plus more for the bowl.
- 10.
11. Per doughnut:
12. ¼ cup Betty Crocker™ Rich & Creamy chocolate frosting
13. 1 Oreo cookie, finely crushed
14. 1 Milano™ cookie
15. 1 brown M&M's® minis chocolate candy
16. 2 almond slices
17. 1 black edible marker
18. 1 white heart sprinkles



Source:
Clipart

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Steps:

1. Heat the milk until it is warm (~90°F).
2. In a large bowl, combine it with the yeast. Stir lightly, and let sit until the mixture is foamy, about 5 minutes.
3. Using a mixer fitted with a dough hook, beat the eggs, butter, sugar and salt into the yeast mixture.
4. Add half of the flour (2 cups plus 2 tablespoons), and mix until combined
5. Mix in the rest of the flour until the dough pulls away from the sides of the bowl. Add more flour, about 2 tablespoons at a time, if the dough is too wet. If you're using an electric mixer, the dough will probably become too thick to beat; when it does, transfer it to a floured surface, and gently knead it until smooth. Grease a large bowl with a little oil. Transfer the dough to the bowl, and cover. Let rise at room temperature until it doubles in size, about 1 hour.
6. Turn the dough out onto a well-floured surface, and roll it to ½-inch thickness. Cut out the doughnuts with a doughnut cutter, concentric cookie cutters, or different-sized drinking glasses, flouring the cutters as you go. (Reserve the doughnut holes. If you're making filled doughnuts, don't cut out the middle. Knead any scraps together, being careful not to overwork, and let rest for a few minutes before repeating the process.)
7. Put the doughnuts on two floured baking sheets so that there is plenty of room between each one. Cover with a kitchen towel, and let rise in a warm place until they are slightly puffed up and delicate, about 45 minutes.
8. If your kitchen isn't warm, heat the oven to 200°F at the beginning of this step, then turn off the heat, put the baking sheets in the oven and leave the door ajar.
9. About 15 minutes before the doughnuts are done rising, put the oil in a heavy-bottomed pot or Dutch oven over medium heat, and heat it to 375°F.
10. Line cooling racks, baking sheets or plates with paper towels.
11. Carefully add the doughnuts to the oil, a few at a time, using a metal spatula to pick them up and slide them into the oil. When the bottoms are deep golden, after 45 seconds to a minute, use a slotted spoon to flip; cook until they're deep golden all over.
12. Transfer the doughnuts to the prepared plates or racks, and repeat with the rest of the dough, adjusting the heat as needed to keep the oil at 375°F.
13. Frost the top of the donut with chocolate frosting, and then sprinkle frosting with crushed Oreo™.
14. On one end of the cookie, push the almond slices into the filling of the cookie for the ears. Draw eyes and mouth onto the cookie with the black edible marker.
15. Attach mini M&M™ with frosting for the nose. Turn the white heart sprinkle upside down and attach with frosting for the teeth.
16. Push the cookie in the middle of the donut hole. Decorate with the chocolate rock candy around the donut.



Source: Tablespoon.com

PUZZLES

El Wordo

by Payton Dymek

D	A	N	C	E
A	L	P	H	A
P	R	O	N	G
C	U	M	I	N



DEDICATION

Our incredible senior editors, Derrick Kang and Calista Wilk, are graduating! After years of dedication and leadership in the BASIS Gazette, we'd like to say thank you again with a spread of photos and some brief messages from some of our writers.

Mr. Witz: I want to thank Calista, Derrick, and Tristan very much for their hard work, creativity, good humor, willingness to listen and learn, and dedication to improving our paper. I do not thank them at all for their Dill Pickle Kettle Chips and Choco Pies.

SriVarun: Derrick Kang is mysterious and loves wearing monochrome— and he's always scheming about Something. Calista spends her time watching Korean reality tv and studying physics. She is a hard worker and a wonderful runner in Track and field. Tristan is so tall, and a rising volleyball athlete, said to become the next Michael Jordan of volleyball. However, all of this is topped by their creativity and passion for writing. I wish them the best in the next chapter of their lives (a rather dull one, as they will soon leave the gazette.)

Stephanie: Calista and Derrick were, and continue to be, such an inspiration for me— both as writers, and as leaders. And Tristan is an incredible artist and writer as well, with a real talent for debate. I wish them all the best in their next steps in life. Thank you!

Anastasia: The editors did an amazing job, not only putting the gazette articles together, but also leading the club as a whole. They took the necessary actions as leaders of the club with a patient and understanding hearts.



Payton: Thank you all so much for everything you've done for The Gazette! Tristan, I know your comics and El Wordos will be missed, and Calista and Derek, your editing was beyond comparison. We are excited to take over for you guys, but we know we have big shoes to fill— and it's an exciting feeling. Thank you all!

Abhinav: A great thank you to Calista and Derrick for their incredible leadership skills as editors for this year in Gazette. Tristan, as usual, put in a great amount of effort in his comics and "El Wordo". All in all, I wish all of them the best of luck for the future!

Aanvi: The seniors in Gazette have gone above and beyond publishing and editing, but what many don't see is that they stay long hours after school helping us edit articles and help us grow as writers. I hope whatever life has in store for them next treats them as nicely as they treated us!

PRESIDENTIAL PARTY



CREDITS:

A FINAL THANK YOU AND GOODBYE TO OUR 22-23 EDITORS, DERRICK WANG AND CALISTA WILK, AND OUR CREATIVE DIRECTOR, TRISTAN CLARKE.

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