

THE BASIS SCOTTSDALE GAZETTE

JUNIOR-SENIOR ELIMINATIONS: BY CALISTA WILK AN ELECTRIFYING EXPERIENCE

Backpack? Check. Lunch? Check. Keys? Check. Floatie? Check. Tabasco sauce? Check.

Making sure you have your safeties and ammunition ready each day is only the first step to surviving the BASIS Scottsdale Junior Senior Elimination Game. Each year, a group of seniors crafts a set of rules for the juniors or seniors hoping to earn the grand prize of over \$800.

The game’s basic premise is for teams to eliminate their randomly assigned targets (another team). Elimination techniques include squirting the targets with a

water gun, throwing a water balloon at them, poisoning their food or water (adding Tabasco sauce to something they then eat or drink), car bombing them (placing a sticky note on their car before they drive away), or making an alarm go off on their phone. After all the targets for one team have been eliminated, the team gets assigned their previous targets’ targets, creating a suspenseful cycle that continues until there is only one team of victors left standing.

The anticipation for the Elimination Game was immense, and it only escalated when the start date was delayed, heightening stress levels as students scrambled to make last-minute plans. Then, on the evening of September 7th, everyone’s targets were sent out. And the Elimination Game wreaked havoc in the school hallways.

“My team member [got] out on the very first day when the people targeting us *camped* outside of her house and squirted her with water guns,” said Parisa Y. (11). This unprecedented attack quickly shaped the intensity of the game, making everyone double-check, triple-check, then even quadruple-check that they were wearing their safety items.

CONTINUED
ON PAGE 2



An unfortunate elimination.
Source: BASIS Scottsdale Assassins Instagram

FEATURED

- Master Society..... Page 3
- New College Counselors..... Page 6
- Monthly Awareness..... Page 10
- In Honor of the Humanities.....Page 11

SAVE THE DATE

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Sep 2:
VJ Day | Sep 15:
Yom Kippur |
| Sep 11:
9/11 Remembrance | Sep 22:
Autumn Equinox |

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FROM PAGE 1

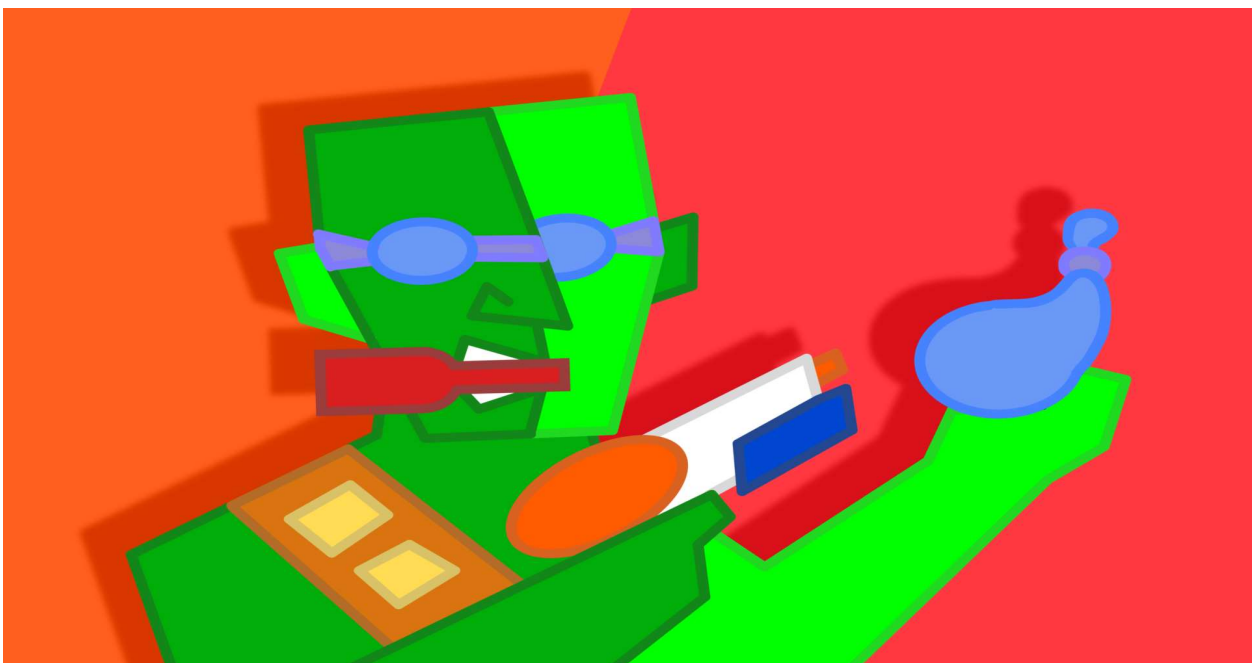
With the looming thought of someone unexpectedly jumping out to eliminate you crystallizing into reality, people started to realize they needed to get their targets out. Fast. Players stopped simply waiting for their target to become vulnerable and instead started becoming more aggressive, testing their ability to work rapidly under intense, high-stress situations as they poisoned someone's water in the few seconds when they're not looking. This competitive vigor surged even more when the players learned what day and time the judges were planning to host the first purge (an event during which teams can try to eliminate anyone) only a few hours before the purge started. "It was pretty intense," Bhavyasri S. (12) noted. "Because like anyone can attack you, and so you can never let your guard down."

As people tried to find new ways to eliminate their targets, some loopholes were discovered and unsurprisingly exploited. This year's judges told me that they "had to answer more questions than expected and deal with conflicting stories" because of these issues, leading them "to tweak the rules not only for clarification but also to evolve the game in a more interesting way." With confusion about the rules starting to clear up and new twists spicing up the game, players became eager

again to seize as many eliminations as possible. Increased efforts at eliminations, however, often came with increasingly obvious failed attempts.

"I'll always remember my team's first failed attempt at an elimination," Harsha K. (11) told me. "Our target had a clear water bottle, but we still ended up putting Sriracha sauce in his water." She started laughing, "but you could so tell -- it turned completely yellow."

The pressure to get an elimination and stay active in the game can become overwhelming and sometimes cloud lighthearted, humorous moments like these that remind us of what truly makes the game enjoyable. Beyond the pure thrill of getting a successful elimination, the real excitement comes from being able to celebrate "as a team," Daryl D. (11) noted. The core of an elimination isn't all about "the planning.... It [instead] really comes down to teamwork." Although this year's game had conflicts with the clarity of the rules that created some heated debates, nearly everyone is itching to work together with their team and play again next year, with even more ambitious plans, inspired fervor, and comical fiascos to come.



An artist's interpretation of the average Junior-Senior Elimination participant.
Artist: Tristan Clarke

MASTER SOCIETY: THE NEW SCHOOL CONGRESS?

BY ALLISON LI

With in-person experiences becoming possible again, club organization is crucial to ensure a smooth transition back into face-to-face events. The full effect of the Master Society can finally be seen after a full year of online school. This “congress” aims to facilitate communication and school spirit between all clubs, sports, and honor societies within BASIS Scottsdale, especially when it comes to advertising events and fundraisers. So, how does it operate? The Master Society is split into three committees, each pertaining to one of the key factors that run a club at our school: Communication, Competitions, and Technology. These three committees are student-run and help with smooth interactions between clubs to ensure events are scheduled without confusion.

The Communications Committee oversees advertising for clubs and making sure that students are updated regarding school events and new clubs. The committee members work closely with elected club representatives, who are usually decided by each club, to create engaging flyers and effective advertisements for the student body. The Competitions Committee provides the school spirit of the society by working closely with sports

and competition clubs-- such as Speech and Debate or Quiz Bowl --to boost student participation as well as advertise outside of the school for future BASIS students and parents. Finally, the Technology Committee is involved in making sure the technology used during school events runs smoothly. From piano concerts to Leadership movie nights, they ensure that mics, projectors, or lights don't encounter any problems when needed.

Currently, the Competitions Committee is working on a “universal” guidebook for all club competitions or performances, while still in the development period, it is believed that the first draft has been completed and further edits will be added to it in the following months. Additionally, the Technology Committee has already developed a Master Calendar gathering all club and school events into one place for all students and parents. This calendar can be found in the Bulldog Blast and although it is currently down for a couple of minor updates it will return by the end of October. With so much progress already seen, we look forward to the school spirit events that the Master Society will hold this year.

A blue banner with yellow and white decorative elements. The text reads: "BASIS Scottsdale Master Society" in large yellow letters, "View The Fliers!" in white text on a blue button, and "Upcoming Events" in white text at the bottom.

BASIS Scottsdale
Master Society

[View The Fliers!](#)

Upcoming Events

Source: Master Society Website

THE ART OF APHORISMS

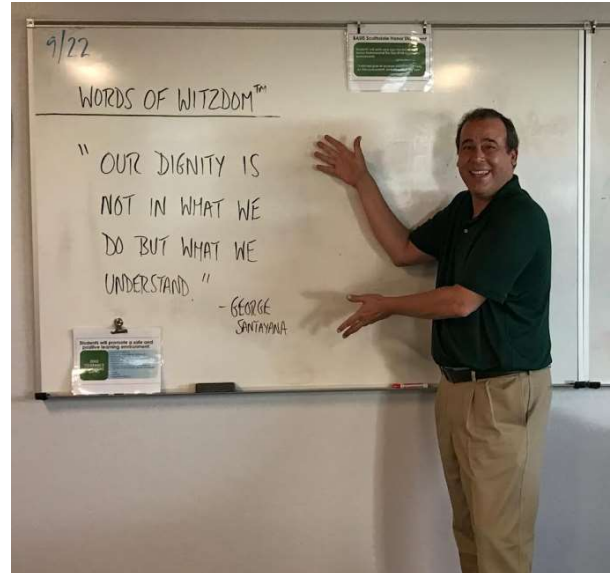
BY RAHUL JASTHI

According to the Merriam-Webster Dictionary, aphorisms are simply “a concise statement of a principle” or “a terse formulation of the truth or sentiment”. In fact, that definition is an aphorism. They can be almost anything: a phrase, a pun, a joke, a quote, and plenty more. We use aphorisms all the time in our lives without even realizing. Quips, quotes, and comments are great for beginning a day, or a class for that matter. In my opinion, classes with these interesting little bits of information are always better than those without. They offer an insight to the past, a glimpse into the future, and the agenda of today.

Mr. Flores’s “Today in History” is a perfect example of these aphorisms in our school. Each day we learn more about the various historical events that have occurred throughout our history. They act as transitions between the “Do Now” and our lecture for that day, but they can also refresh our memories of topics that we learned previously that happened to occur on that day. The slide also is entertaining for the students, since at the very end of the page we realize that each day has some significance. For example, September 14, 2021, was “Ants on a Log Day.” If you do not know what that is, don’t worry, not many people did until Mr. Flores explained it. It is a day that celebrates a dish on which people put peanut butter on celery and put raisins on top, making it look like a line of ants traveling across a log. There are also practical applications for these aphorisms. A recent example of this was while we were learning about the Revolutionary War. It was September 15, which just happened to be the day the British captured New York from the colonists--a major occurrence during the American Revolution.

For Mr. Witz’s class, his famous “Words of Witzdom” always have some pertinence to the day’s lecture. If the topic for the lecture is fallacies, there may be a quote that describes the faulty logic common in advertisements. They might also refer to the previous day’s lecture, providing an example of aphorisms being used as recap.

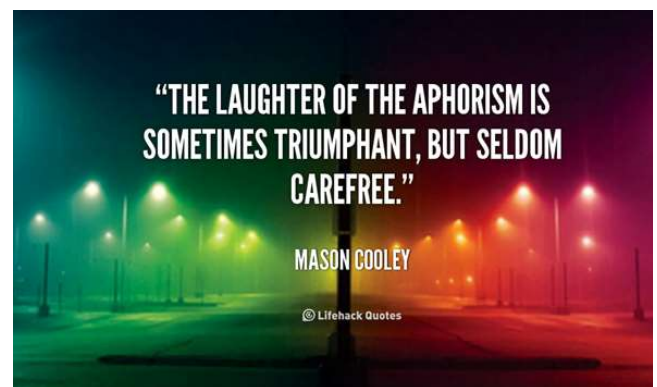
Some teachers choose to incorporate the aphorisms directly into their curriculum. Ms. De Blas uses quotes weekly as part of their daily bellwork assignments. Every day, the Honors Language class is given a quote and is required to analyze it.



Mr. Witz presents his Words of Witzdom.
Source: Rahul Jasthi

Other times, classes don’t even verbally mention such quips, but this does not take away from their appeal. The first one that comes to mind is Ms. Yanashima’s class. Each day there is always an inspirational quote towards the bottom to hopefully cheer everyone up from either the upcoming quiz or their last class.

Aphorisms come in all shapes, sizes, fonts, and formats. Whether it be entertaining, informing, or introducing, they all serve the common goal of education which is why our teachers enjoy using them for our classes.



Source: Quote Master

A SMALL SOLUTION TO THE PLASTIC PROBLEM

BY ANDREW KANG

Plastics have continued to pose a threat to all living things along with their environments. They are found almost everywhere in the world, ranging from the sidewalks of a busy street to Mount Everest in the Himalayas Mountain range. The plastics then gradually pile up if uncared for which could lead to further complications for both wildlife and the ecosystem. Animals could potentially get stuck in the plastic, suffocate, or consume the plastic which leads to many health problems.

According to Forbes, plastic is present inside more than 90% of the world's sea birds, in more than 50% of the world's sea turtles, and in many whales. At the rate that plastics are accumulating in the ocean, it is predicted that the total mass of plastic in the oceans will surpass the mass of all fish in oceans by 2050. Littered plastic also damages plant life because it can change soil chemistry by drying out or intoxicating the soil. In addition to these negatives, plastic takes a considerably long time to decompose (around 25-500 years). To combat this problem, scientists have searched for a solution and may have found one in the form of a new bacterium called *Pseudomonas putida* that consumes polyurethane, a type of plastic that is difficult to recycle or destroy, to solve plastic's decomposing issue.

This bacterium, *Pseudomonas putida*, could be utilized to greatly reduce the hard-to-recycle plastics



Volunteers help clean up plastic waste washed up on the shore.
Source: Agence France-Presse

that are filling up the landfills and polluting the ocean. Feeding on polyurethane diol, a plastic used in many different products, this bacterium was identified by a team from the Helmholtz Center for Environmental Research in Leipzig, Germany, in an area that contained vast amounts of plastic waste. The bacteria contain enzymes that allow them to break down the polyurethanes. Another discovery of plastic-eating bacteria is *Ideonella sakaiensis* which was found outside a bottle recycling facility in Osaka, Japan. The bacteria were able to digest a specific type of plastic called PET, which bottles are commonly made from.

With the discovery of plastic-eating bacteria, a German study noted that the plastic-eating bacteria could be easily controlled and be used for industrial use, but many other researchers are trying to gain more information on how bacterial enzymes break down polyurethane and are learning the relationships between plastics and the marine ecosystem before the plastic-eating bacteria can be safely deposited into the ocean and later into other parts of the ecosystem.

The plastic-eating bacteria has the potential to solve the long-standing problem of plastic's decomposition and can improve the environments and conditions of all living things. However, many still caution that releasing plastic-eating microorganisms into the ecosystems could cause more issues than it solves. Some experts say that the best way to reduce the plastic crisis is to switch to reusable alternatives such as using seaweed-derived materials instead of plastics for packaging. Considering these objections, it seems that using plastic-eating bacteria to cleanse the oceans of plastic still has a long way to go.

DEAR COURAGEOUS COLLEGE COUNSELORS, PLEASE STAY

BY ZAINA JASSER

With the many transfers and confusion surrounding our college counselors for this school year, it's been hard for us to get to know our new teachers well. And it's of even more importance as they'll be guiding us through college applications and writing our recommendation letters after meeting us just months ago. So, after the very unfortunate departure of the kind Ms. Carrero-- who we got to know for nearly a month--, she is now succeeded by the very modest Ms. Ellico to work alongside Mr. Granberry-- who started with us in the middle of the summer.

To make our new two counselors feel a little more welcome in our fast-paced school and allow the students to get to know them better, I've asked them some questions about their professional histories and general interests. Here's hoping Mr. Granberry will appreciate the thought and write all of the seniors' letters of rec with greater mercy:

Is there anything specific that drew you to the work of college counseling?

Ms. Ellico: I took a career guidance class in community college as a first-generation college student. I enrolled in a college guidance class, during which I took a Myers-Briggs test that told me to pursue college counseling. Although I was intrigued in other avenues, I think I wasted some time in not pursuing my true passion of college counseling. I shadowed counselors and went to graduate school to be an advocate and support for students in entering college.

Mr. Granberry: A few things, really. I've always been interested in education, in general, and the career has always been up my alley since I was a kid. Also, I did everything wrong when it came to applying for college, like researching programs, financial aid, and student life. I wanted to better explain college to students, so they avoid the mistakes I made. A part of me wants to live the college dreams I never got through the students, as well.

How did you end up working at BASIS Scottsdale?



Ms. Ellico
Source: BASIS Scottsdale

Ms. Ellico: I heard great things about BASIS in my job out in California. Just word-of-mouth marketing drew me here.

Mr. Granberry: After my last teaching job, I took a break from education, especially because of the pandemic. I stepped back and analyzed whether teaching was something I wanted to do for the rest of my life. I started working at a bookstore last year, but left and decided that education was still my calling. I was drawn to BASIS's curriculum. It uniquely prepares high schoolers to be equipped with experience and skills for college and beyond. The soft skills and the ability to write, communicate, and think efficiently are essential tools the students learn well at BASIS.

What do you enjoy most about working at BASIS Scottsdale?

Ms. Ellico: In my short two weeks here, I really enjoy offering the students support and resources before they leave for college and their future educational journeys.

Mr. Granberry: The students. I enjoy this atmosphere of personally getting to know them and more intimately than in other high schools. I love the ability to understand the students as individuals and

CONTINUED
ON PAGE 7

CONTINUED
FROM PAGE 6

friends, which really helps with guiding them to college. I'm really excited for them all.

Ms. Ellico, how has the process of jumping into new work in the middle of the school year been for you?

Ms. Ellico: Full transparency, it's been pretty challenging. Keeping up with specific procedures and requirements as well as getting to know all the students at the same time has been difficult. Still, it's rewarding to see the end results, and that really makes up for the difficulties.

Mr. Granberry, why do you like to teach with a metal rod in hand?

Mr. Granberry: What a funny question. When I was 8 I asked for a filing cabinet for Christmas. I used to steal my teachers' papers in grade school to use for my own nonexistent students. The stick becomes part of my "teacher costume" and lets me assume my teacher role. It

gives me a unique authority. I used to use it as a prop while we read books to make the story more immersive, but it has now become a staple for my teaching.

What are your favorite pastimes during your time off?

Ms. Ellico: I love finding new shows and I have a bad habit of binge-watching shows. I love to read anything, as well, so please reach out with any book suggestions, I'm always open to reading new things. There are so many opportunities here to hike and do things outdoors here in Arizona since fitness is so important to me.

Mr. Granberry: As boring as it sounds, I like watching TV, mostly Netflix, and just give myself a moment to relax and catch up on my shows. I love going out for brunch, too. Also, I've recently gotten into hiking when the weather isn't so hot. Although, one weird thing I like to do is organize my bookshelf. It's oddly calming.



Parents and Students will agree: Much of what makes BASIS Scottsdale one of the best high schools in the nation are its dedicated faculty – and especially its knowledgeable college counselors.

Source: Basis.ed

GROUP PROJECT QUIZ: VOLLEYBALL EDITION

BY ALLISON LI

The Volleyball season has officially started! And because of the Varsity and Junior Varsity's excellent performance at the beginning of their season, here's a little quiz dedicated to deciding which player you are on the team!

1. Are you short?
 1. Yes, I think I am (4 pts)
 2. I'm not short but I'm not tall either (3 pts)
 3. I'm tall kinda but not the tallest (1 pt)
 4. I'm tall, like VERY tall (2 pts)
2. How high can you jump?
 1. 20 in (2 pts)
 2. 10 in (3 pts)
 3. 15 in (1 pt)
 4. 5 in (4 pts)
3. Are you afraid of the ball?
 1. Yes (3 pts)
 2. No (4 pts)
 3. Not really, but I haven't really played it before so idk (1 pt)
 4. It depends on my mood (2 pts)
4. When hitting a ball, what part of the body is legal to use?
 1. Forearms and hands only (1 pt)
 2. Any part so long as you are not catching, throwing, or holding the ball (4 pts)
 3. You are not allowed to touch the ball (3 pts)
 4. There is a ball? (2 pts)
5. Can you touch the net?
 1. Yes, but only if the ball has not been served yet (1 pt)
 2. No unless it touches your body (4 pts)
 3. You must always be in contact with the net (3 pts)
 4. There is no net that can be touched? (2 pts)
6. How many people can play on the court at the same time?
 1. 12 players (1 pt)
 2. 6 players (4 pts)
 3. 2 players (3 pts)
 4. 21 players (2 pts)



Source: BASIS Scottsdale Photography Class

7. How many times can a player touch the ball in a row?
 1. Three (1 pt)
 2. Twice (2 pts)
 3. Once (4 pts)
 4. Any amount is okay so long as it is with a legal part of the body (4 pts)
8. Should you dive without knee pads on?
 1. No, that would destroy my skin!! (3 pts)
 2. YOLO, right? (4 pts)
 3. I mean you *can* (1 pt)
 4. I have dove without knee pads, it didn't feel too great (2 pts)

The Hitter (4 - 15 pts): Because of your ambitious responses, you have earned the position of the hitter. As a hitter, you are the main offensive position of the team. When it comes to team projects, you usually like to take over and do all the work allowing your group to ride on your coattail.

The Setter (16 - 26 pts): Because of your interesting answer choices, you are the setter! As a setter, you contribute greatly to the offense, setting the ball to the hitter although they always take the credit. When it comes to projects, you'll likely present the project.

The Blocker (27 - 40 pts): Because of your rebellious responses, you are the blocker! As a blocker, you are in charge of stopping the other team from attacking your own. In group projects, you'll likely do your own share of the work.

THE BULLDOGS ARE READY TO BITE

BY MIKYLE HAMIDI

Marking the start of September, clubs and teams have begun on campus. Specifically, girls' volleyball season and cross country have started, which means many students are now participating more in athletic extracurricular activities at BASIS Scottsdale. With this large responsibility comes many late nights, hard work, and multitasking to no end for the student athletes at our school. To highlight this difficult but exciting transition for our student athletes, I interviewed a member of the Bulldog volleyball team and asked her about her experiences managing athletics, school, and social activities.

Interview with Zina Agha, Outsider on the Girls' Varsity Volleyball Team at BASIS Scottsdale

What's it like being a student athlete here at BASIS Scottsdale?

Zina: It is kinda like being a celebrity. You feel important. But it's a balance of sports and academics here.

What's most important to you about volleyball?

Z: The crowd. They're just so supportive. You feel so "powerful," I guess.

What's the most stressful part about it all?

Z: Balancing my academic and sports life.



Source: BASIS Scottsdale Photography Class

What parts of academics can be improved at BASIS?

Z: Getting a bus for away games, definitely. It's super important that we get there together on time.

What's your least favorite part of being a student athlete at BASIS?

Z: The number of late practices I come home from.

What are some of your biggest accomplishments on the team?

Z: I got more friends, I developed a relationship with my coach, and I improved my hits.

How was your most recent game?

Z: It went really well. We'd versed this team before and we did 5 sets this time.

How did you do personally?

Z: I think I did really well last game, too. I got all my serves over and got 8 points for our team.

Any final thoughts on being a student athlete at BASIS?

Z: It's rough with late practices, and I have to catch up on everything after practice.

Truly, being a member of a BASIS sports team easily doubles the workload that one already has as a BASIS student. Not only does one have to balance coursework with practices, but there is also pressure to do well and score points as part of a team. But despite this large responsibility, our student athletes have not only proven themselves capable of managing their classes effectively, but they have also done incredibly well thus far in the opening seasons of BASIS athletics. So our dear readers, please go support our student athletes when you can! Go Bulldogs!

MONTHLY AWARENESS

HISPANIC MONTH

BY DERRICK KANG AND ALEX ZOU

From September 15 to October 15, Americans observe National Hispanic Heritage Month and celebrate the rich history and culture of citizens whose ancestry originates from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, or Central and South America. Under the presidency of Lyndon B. Johnson in 1968, the observation started as National Hispanic Heritage Week but soon expanded under the presidency of Ronald Reagan to the 30-day period that it is today. September 15 is an important day to many as the anniversary of the independence of various Latin American countries like Costa Rica and Guatemala. Moreover, Mexico's independence is observed on September 16 and Chile's independence on September 18. Día de la Raza is also observed in this 30-day period on October 12, celebrating racial diversity in South America and beyond.

To celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month outside of school, there are a variety of institutions that offer various activities and celebrations. Some include the Smithsonian Latino Center, which celebrates the Latino/a communities' contributions to science and the arts while also offering a variety of educational programs that are centered on Hispanic culture. The National Association of Latino Arts

and Culture (NALAC) has programs and resources to celebrate the Latino/a people and their culture.

Every year, it is important to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month in light of our close proximity to Central and South America. Arizona, in particular, is unique in that Hispanic culture has intermarried with western ideals to produce shared traditions. In recent years, various pundits and political participants have downplayed the importance of Hispanic influences and heritage throughout the southern United States, however, we reject this viewpoint and instead promote another, that we become strong through diversity and celebration of all peoples that compose the United States.

As the U.S. Department of Education put it, "Observing Hispanic Heritage Month allows our country to show its recognition and support for the work Latinos are doing in helping this country grow." Hispanic Heritage Month reflects on how through the power of diversity and synergy, we can lead the United States into a brighter future where all cultures are celebrated, all united under the common goal of creating a truly global and inclusive society.



Source: Charity Navigator

RECOVERY AND RECONNECTION

BY MINTRA
WARAM

Last year, when COVID-19 struck, most of us became physically isolated and went to online schooling amid an atmosphere of fear and upheaval of what had been considered “normal” all our lives. This year, most of us have come back to in-person schooling, but it is not really the same “normal” that school used to be. Now, students might need to spend a whole 8-hour day masked up, worrying not only about school homework and grades, but also COVID-19 exposure alerts and changed friendship dynamics after last year. It's a rough transition. It means that we're going back to the grind, but now a grind of 8-hour daily hypoxia, trying to perform your best at school--all the while not having addressed all the upheaval in our world that occurred from Covid that might never be resolved - mask or not.

So, how have lifestyles changed for our students at BASIS Scottsdale? This was the question posed to multiple students.

One senior expressed how last year, she was able to spend more time on exercise and self-care as well as with her family. “I was able to set aside more time for myself and other hobbies. I had time after school to watch a movie and at the same time, do skin care and spend time with my sister, and even go to work...” There was much more time for her at home because the time that had previously been spent in transit between school and home could be devoted to other things.

She also said that she made many new friends online from MUN conferences, and that she would never have kept in contact with them unless they were online again. However, even while making friends online, there were changed dynamics among her normal school friend group, as they all went through last year online. This year, her in-person friend groups have divided into many subdivisions, and she says it's harder to contact them as now she works after school to help her finances, saying that they have divided from a larger group into 2-3 groups now. She says, “we're all over the place” and that, “we just kinda message each other on a group chat and it goes back and forth continuing, but I feel bad because when the chat is usually blowing up, I am at work.” A lot of long-term deeper friendships had changed in dynamics, leading to much less socializing – even when at school, amongst them. So, in terms of self-care and family time, the pandemic helped her a lot, while online schooling made her friend groups more concise and smaller, to the people that she shares a lot with.

An eighth grader had a very different view from the 12th grader. She had said she had the same amount of family time and self-care as before online schooling, but she had time to learn a lot of new things. She said she developed her passion for drawing, and learned how to ride a bike, and to this day she is very happy that she did that. She also decided to practice some of the sports that she liked, and now she is amazing at badminton. With the online schooling and a lot of time to herself, in that time she also became very organized. She would constantly bind all the notes she took in class, and made her own charts for studying purposes, before online schooling she would never do this. She also noted that there had been sudden changes amongst her normal friendships, and now felt there had been lost friendships from 2020.

It appears that COVID-19 and the 2020 school year led to more online and less in person presence for students. There may have also been altered financial situations at home, with the need to work this year.

The result was in changing the continuum of time spent with friends bonding over “normal” school issues. Many students felt they lost friendships and were more isolated when returning to in person schooling. This was a double-edged sword, in that students seem disappointed about those in person friendship dynamics changing, but they also acknowledge that due to doing more online activities, they did meet more people – whom they would have never met before. They could do more online and in the extra free time at home, to develop their hobbies, passions, and interests. Many students also found time to reconnect to family and do things that they may not have had time for in the past.



Online Schooling
Source: India Today

FANTASY FOOTBALL FOR BEGINNERS

BY SAHIL SUD

An Important Note This Season: Keep Track of Player Vaccinations when evaluating your Decisions.

The NFL has announced that it will be enforcing its COVID-19 protocols more strictly this year. Last year, many games were delayed due to coronavirus outbreaks threatening the health of the team. Fans will remember the Ravens-Steelers match that was originally intended to be played on Thanksgiving that was delayed to the second week of December due to a COVID outbreak on the Baltimore team. In order to avoid repeated instances like this, and to reduce the spread of COVID-19, the NFL has implemented safety measures. For example, unvaccinated players are required to wear masks around team facilities, while vaccinated players are not.

It is important to note for fantasy football in particular, that unvaccinated players may be forced to miss games. While vaccinated, asymptomatic players only have to return two negative tests 24 hours apart, unvaccinated asymptomatic players have to be isolated for 10 days and then return two negative tests 24 hours apart. Additionally, instead of simply being postponed, games will be canceled and the team with the outbreak would be forced to forfeit. This would be disastrous for managers with unvaccinated players, as they would lose out on many weeks of production. Therefore, players like Adam Thielen and Cole Beasley, both of whom are unvaccinated, should be evaluated carefully when the extra risk of isolation due to a positive test is considered.

Players to Buy Low: Be patient if you have these players, and if you do not, try to trade for them for low value

Saquon Barkley: Even after being drafted high in the first round of the majority of drafts this season, Barkley has been greatly disappointing. He has struggled to put up any significant number of yards behind the New York offensive line. Barkley has had 3 receptions over his first two games, as he and Daniel Jones cannot create a rhythm. It's important to recognize, however, that Barkley is uber-talented, and there are many reasons for him to be a first round pick. He has been the focal point of the Giants' offense for several years, as New York waits for Daniel Jones to mature. It is also important to note that some of Barkley's struggles can be attributed to the difficult Denver and Washington defenses he has faced. He may not be worth his draft position, but he can still be a valuable RB2 (Tier-2 Running Back) with high upside.



Source: Los Angeles Times

Antonio Gibson: Gibson has had a difficult start to the season, failing to score a touchdown or top 100 yards in either of his two opening games. JD McKissic, his co-running back, has been heavily involved in the passing game, taking away opportunities from Gibson. Remember, however, that the Washington coaching staff wanted to use Gibson in a similar role to Christian McCaffrey. If this materializes, Gibson could be a powerful asset.

Justin Herbert: Herbert has struggled mightily to open the season, even though he was one of the highest drafted quarterbacks. This is primarily due to a lack of touchdown passes, as he has only thrown 2 touchdowns, with 3 interceptions. It is likely that these numbers are just an aberration, however, since Herbert was one of the best quarterbacks in the league at avoiding turnovers last year. Additionally, the Chargers have had many red zone opportunities in which they have not scored a touchdown. As the season progresses, Herbert will become more comfortable in new offensive coordinator Joe Lombardi's offense, allowing his numbers to regress to the mean.

Lock of the Month: Cooper Kupp

Cooper Kupp has been the most highly producing receiver in fantasy football this season. Kupp has already scored 3 touchdowns and was within half a yard of a fourth. He has quickly formed a strong connection with Matthew Stafford, becoming his favorite target, amounting to a combined 16 receptions for 268 yards over just the first two games, against strong defenses of the Bears and Colts. As Stafford becomes more acclimated to the offense, their connection will only deepen and Kupp's fantasy production will increase.

HISTORY REVIEW: THE WAR OF THE BUCKET

BY TRISTAN CLARKE

Throughout history there have been certain moments in which the actions of a few great men and women would forever change the course of mankind: where emotion would seize the reigns of time and ride forth on the backs of great empires and armies. These are the moments which we celebrate to this day in museums and monuments that keep memories alive as physical mementos of what humanity can achieve. This, sadly, is not one such moment. Instead, we will be exploring one of the most truly bizarre events in recorded history, with an even more bizarre name: the War of the Bucket.

You see, the war's been on my mind ever since I encountered a link to its Wikipedia article in the Instagram Bio of one of my friends. Immediately thousands of pictures sprung forth within my curious subconscious as I pondered the bizarre event. A million questions burst through the floodgates of my head, and I knew my only venue left was you lovely people. And fear not, I will not simply pass on my questions to you in some sick imitation of the Cheese Touch from hit 2010 blockbuster *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*, but instead I will satiate your thirst in the oasis of my newly acquired knowledge.

The outset of the war was typical considering Europe at the time. Let me paint you a picture: the year is 1300 CE; Italy is divided into a score of city states vying for control of as much land as they could manage; power was fleeting and true authority? - unheard of. But despite all of this, two dominant powers loomed over much of Europe along with ol' Bel Paese: the Holy Roman Empire and the Papacy. The two powers had feuded over political control since the 1100s and to some they seemed to be locked in an eternal conflict much like Invincible and his father Omni-man from the breakout Amazon series, *Invincible*, but what had originally begun as a feud and series of small slights and skirmishes, would eventually boil over.

Before we jump into the war, I think it's finally time to meet our two players.

While the two grand powers of the HRE and the Papacy did feud, conflict was carried out through proxies. In this case, the two poor saps were the cities of Modena and Bologna (which supported the HRE and the Papacy respectively). The two cities were neighbors and relatively peaceful until the one day in 1325 they didn't.

In the July before the War, Bolognese forces swept through the Modenese countryside, and the next month the Modenese repaid the favor. By this point the Bolognese had had enough. They mustered their forces and prepared for war. In total, 32,000 troops began to march on Modena. But in the ultimate uno reverse card move, the Modenese assembled their own force of 7,000 men and met the Bolognese before their army could even leave Bolognese territory. Despite their superior numbers, somehow, the Bolognese were still able to snatch defeat from the jaws of victory on that day, forever cementing their status in the halls of the greatest tacticians of History right behind General McClellan and Napoleon Bonaparte after his gigatrillion IQ invasion of Russia.

Allow me once again to paint you a picture of what it was to be a Modense on that fateful day. All around you the men of Bologna flee, routed. You chase after them, finally victorious against your one true rival. You reach the gates of their city and behold the splendor of the wealthy state. You turn and look around taking in the scenery and then you stop. There it is, a lone well sitting outside the city gates. In it a new bucket hangs, beckoning you forward with Valhalla's call. And you take your spoils of war.

In total 2,000 men died in this bizarre conflict: 1500 Bolognese and 500 Modenese. But despite this number, the true casualties of conflict are far higher. Centuries of conflict take its toll: throughout Northern Italy, miles of countryside lay in ruin; hundreds of families no doubt were torn apart through violence and cruelty. And all alone, outside the walls of Bologna, a well is missing its bucket.

IN HONOR OF THE HUMANITIES

BY STEPHANIE
LOBODANESCU

The beginning of the school year brings excitement and anticipation for all of us students, especially with the release of the extracurricular catalog. Perhaps in your search for clubs to join this year, you've noticed the addition of two new societies -- National English Honor Society (NEHS) and National Social Studies Honor Society (NSSHS) -- both of which are advised by our very own Honors Language and Creative Writing teacher Ms. de Blas. Below is an interview with Ms. de Blas, detailing everything from the introduction of these humanities-based organizations to her experience with BASIS' ever-changing curriculum focus.

You're the faculty advisor for both NEHS and NSSHS. What can you tell us about their purpose in our community?

Ms. de Blas: The purpose of these two societies is to further the development of humanities at BASIS, as well as to make as many opportunities available as possible for students who plan on choosing a career path in humanities fields, or even those who just enjoy it as a hobby!

What about the societies' organization?

Ms. de Blas: Well, the societies themselves are student-run, meaning that the students themselves can come up with a lot of their own original event ideas. Some of them are already planning to bring in guest speakers to give lectures on their experience in the humanities fields; others are in the process of developing a book club and piquing the interests of students at BASIS Scottsdale who love literature in all forms.

Are these societies nationally recognized, or are they BASIS only?

Ms. de Blas: They're nationally recognized! Just like any other honor society, we have inductions, formal meetings, and specific requirements to join.



Source: National Council for the Social Studies



NEHS

NATIONAL ENGLISH
HONOR SOCIETY
for High Schools

Source: National English Honor Society

When did you realize your passion for all things literature and language? Were you involved in any societies similar to NEHS and NSSHS in high school or college?

Ms. de Blas: In high school, I was a part of the National Honor Society (as are many students here at BASIS), and I was able to qualify as a National Merit Scholar.

I was also involved in Phi Beta Kappa in college, an honor society that nationally recognizes students with determination and talent in the liberal arts. I would say I was less involved in specific clubs and committees, and more so surrounding myself with people who were just as attracted to the study of the humanities as I was.

You've also established Creative Writing, a new course that's been very popular amongst this year's students. Why have it as an elective instead of a club?

Ms. de Blas: After reading through so many of my 9th and 10th grade students' compositions, I realized how talented these students were with their words, whether they were given more academic or creative tasks. Even their selections of poetry for PoetryOutLoud recitations showed me how thoughtful they were with their approach to writing. I believed that these students needed to have a class where they were able to focus on learning and developing as writers.

CONTINUED
ON PAGE 15

CONTINUED
FROM PAGE 14

As a member of the English department, what are your opinions on BASIS Scottsdale’s focus on STEM programs over humanities programs?

Ms. de Blas: I think it's always switched around a bit. When I first started teaching here, there was certainly more focus on humanities. It seems like it's slowly starting to turn away from STEM and back to the humanities again.

Already, we’ve seen the change that these additions to our curriculum have furthered in our BASIS Scottsdale community.

Students are sharing their compositions, exploring their career paths, and encouraging one another to be as innovative as they can. In the years to come, I know we all hope to see as many insightful and passionate additions to these outlets of creativity as possible.

So, to the avid writers and the eager pursuers of the humanities, a word of advice from Ms. de Blas: Read! Read as much as you can! Go down the rabbit hole, interest yourself with whatever topics you can, and broaden your horizons!

ANSWERS FOR WORD SEARCH ON PAGE 16

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PUZZLE PAGE

ELIMINATION WORD SEARCH

WORD SEARCH
ANSWERS ON
PAGE 15

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Words:

Assassins

Capitalists

Carbombs

Chocolate

Juniors

Poison

Seniors

Waterbottle

Tabasco

Targets

Waterbombs

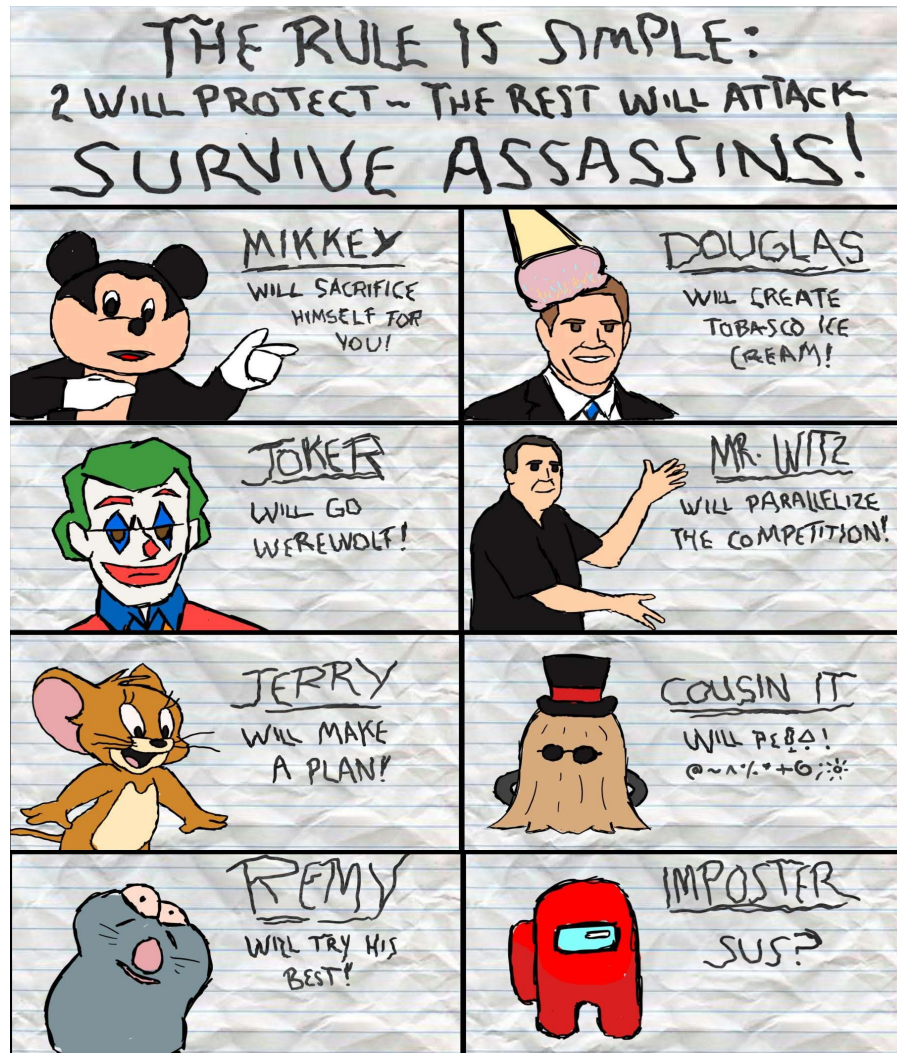
Floaties

Goggles

Waterguns

ASSASSIN ROULETTE

BY TRISTAN CLARKE



BASIS GAZETTE STAFF

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