

The University School News

The Voice of the Student Since 1898

Monday, December 10th, 2018 The Oldest High School Newspaper in Ohio 2018-2019 Print Edition

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US's Newest Club: The Sports Debate Club

By Seth Melamed '20, Staff Writer

University School offers many clubs, each with their own unique identities. Some clubs promote diversity and equity in the community, such as the L'Chaim Society, the Pembroke Society, and FOCUS. Others bring students together in order to give back to the community, such as the Aurelian Society and the LoPresti Philanthropic Board. A select few clubs exist for the sole purpose of making our college applications that much more interesting, such as the US News (Sorry, Arnold). The Sports Debate Club, however, does not fall in any of the

above-mentioned categories. A spinoff of the popular Society of Skeptics (SOS), Sports Debate Club functions much like the SOS except that their topics pertain to issues of the utmost importance: namely, sports. This year, the Sports Debate Club has held two discussions, matching their total from last year. Fortunately, Nate Mayor hopes to make sure the club can meet on a more regular basis than last year. The first discussion of the year, which pertained to Colin Kaepernick, was a good example of a robust Sports Debate Club discussion. Many students came to vigorously defend their *See US's Newest Club page 2*



California Schools in the Face of Wildfires

By Ryan Cvelbar '19, Staff Writer

A few weeks ago, California schools were forced to take action in the face of engulfing flames. From restricting activities to the indoors, to having “fire days” (the equivalent of a snow day), all the way to having school burnt down entirely, it is evident that California's schools have taken a hit from these fires. As of November 11, the 2018 wildfire season is the most destructive wildfire season on record in California, with a total of 7,579 fires burning an area of 1,667,855 acres. This is the largest amount of burned acreage recorded in a fire season, according to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. The fires have caused more than \$2.975 billion in damages, including \$1.366 billion in fire suppression costs.

Sarah Ravani of the San Francisco Chronicle reported that nearly 90 percent of school districts in

Sonoma County shut down due to smoky air from the deadly Camp Fire (as these fires are being called) in Paradise, California. Moreover, NPR writer Carl Boisornd reported that the wildfires in Northern California cut across a wide swath of the state; including dozens of school districts, hundreds of schools and hundreds of thousands of students. At one point, classes were canceled for a shocking 260,000 students in 600 schools.

In response to Boisornd, Jill Ruzicka, the head of one of the school districts affected by the fires, stated her reason for canceling school: “One of the main concerns is the poor air quality, and that makes sense, considering that the smoke from the wildfires is equivalent to the pollution created by all of the state's cars.” Additionally, according to reporter Emma Whitford, the statement that the California air is dangerous is true. *See Wildfires page 2*

Useless Clubs: A Growing Epidemic

Opinion Section

By Sai Karnati '20, Staff Writer

The University School News aspires to be the voice of the student. As such, we almost always refrain from commenting on issues that are not of direct relevance to the US community.

However, on some occasions, events are so earth shatteringly important that every community will be affected, and as a matter of clear conscience, it would be wrong of us not to voice our perspective as students and citizens.

At University School, we enjoy a vast number of school clubs. Whether you're interested in a specific subject, culture, sport, or hobby, there is most likely a club that encompasses your passions. Our school encourages students to advance their interests by letting them create their own clubs. Students have capitalized on this opportunity and, as a result, clubs have become more diverse. However, more often than not, students create clubs that either never takeoff or rarely meet.

These “one-and-done” clubs are now more prevalent and a serious problem plaguing our extracurricular life.

Clubs are so enjoyable because we can do things we enjoy during their meetings. When clubs never meet, this enjoyment withers. For instance, a student interested in photography could never exercise his passion because, like many other clubs, the photography club hasn't had its first meeting this year. What is the purpose of creating clubs that do nothing if all it does is create false hopes for students?

“I just hate how there are some really cool ideas for clubs, but they're never expanded on,” Junior Jack Miranda emphasized. “Sometimes I wish that I could lead the clubs or at least try to get them running.”

While most pioneers of these groups won't say it outright, one reason for starting these types of clubs is obvious: the college application. Founding a club for the sake of your application might seem impressive to colleges, but should

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An Argument for Kyrie

Sports Section

By Abem Fetene '22, Staff Writer

Kyrie Irving is the best point guard to play the game. Other than the crazy handles that can get him past defenders every time he has the ball and his unstoppable finishing ability, Kyrie has many more strengths that make him a unique and difficult player to defend. One of these aspects is his three-point shot. This season, Kyrie Irving's three-point percentage of thirty-eight percent is better than both Damian Lillard and Klay Thompson, two of the top shooters in the game today. Additionally, Kyrie Irving has an excellent field goal percentage (percentage of shots made in total), which this season is forty-eight percent. Through the start of the season, Kyrie is scoring much more than his competition, having more points per game than Jimmy Butler, Damar DeRozan, and John Wall. Overall, Kyrie is a scoring point guard who is demolishing all of his competition.

Moreover, Kyrie is one of the most clutch players in basket-

ball. This aspect of his game was most notably seen through his game-clinching shot in game 7 of the 2016 NBA finals. According to Justin Kubatko, the former consultant for the Trailblazers NBA stats and the current Chief Data Officer for Stat Muse, “@Cavs Kyrie Irving has a scoring average of 6.9 PPG in 18 overtime games, 1.5 PPG higher than any other player in the last 17 seasons.”

See KYRIE page 3



Midterm Studying Tips

By Akhil Medarametla '20,
Staff Writer

Around this time of year, when the cold starts to set in, you're forced to stay inside and find a way to entertain yourself. You desperately search around the house, looking for anything interesting after having exhausted all of the shows on Netflix. As time passes, you realize that you accomplished nothing and yet another boring, snowy cold day has gone by. Fear not, as there is only one perfect solution to the boredom crisis: it's called midterm prep! It is never too early to start the daunting task of preparing for the end of semester exams. During this time of year, teachers begin to assign less schoolwork, leaving plenty of time in the evening to organize and plan out an exam schedule. There is, however, the dilemma of actually studying, which makes many students get worried and confused. Fortunately, some of the most effective study tips are laid out in this article to give you a few ideas about reviewing and getting ready for exams. The first tip to follow would be to organize your schoolwork. Get together all the tests, quizzes, homework assignments, study guides, and any other materials that could be on the midterm, and organize them into separate sections for each subject you take. This makes life a lot easier when covering a vast number of chapters and sections. Another helpful idea would be to consult your teacher immediately when an

issue arises while studying. As long as it is not immediately before your midterm, your teacher will be willing to answer any question you may present! Redoing past quizzes and tests may also be more beneficial than it seems. Start by going through each assessment and redoing the problems which you missed. Write them on another sheet of paper, and work through the questions again. Then go back and redo even the problems you may have gotten correct on the test, for extra practice. Flashcards have also been quite a reliable source for many students to study terms for vocabulary-based classes. You can make paper flashcards or go to Quizlet and make some sets. It would help with courses like history and language class, where dates, terminology, and vocabulary would pile up as time goes on in the school year and they become cluttered in your folder. Organizing seemingly small aspects of the class could make or break a challenging midterm. Finally, a small but helpful tip would be to rewrite notes and read them out loud to yourself. Unsurprisingly, writing content over and over again helps you commit it to memory, and reading notes out loud can help process ideas and events chronologically. Remember that these are only a few of the more effective study tips that can help not only with midterms but also on final exams! Try out some of your own methods, see what's best for you, and you will be successful. Good luck!

the Thanksgiving holiday. Also, the University of California at Berkeley canceled classes and shut down all but essential operations. In response to this disaster, Carl Boisrond notes that action is being taken. He states that "Around the affected region, schools and communities are working to ensure that students have the things they need to come back to school: clothing, backpacks, school supplies, hygiene kits, bicycles and, crucially, access to trauma-informed care and counseling." Yet, there are still people concerned that the state is not doing enough to get students back in school fast enough. With all of this chaos going on in California, we should be lucky that we are in a place that doesn't stand the immediate threat of devastation by fire. We should be grateful that we are where we are, and that we are in a community where these types of internal conflicts do not occur.

US's Newest Club

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positions. While some argued that Kaepernick is simply not good enough to play in the NFL, others posited that his talent is not sufficient to make up for the commotion he would cause. Most of the room agreed that Kaepernick no longer was a top-tier NFL quarterback that many considered him early in his career. However, many others argued that the fact that he has taken a stand on civil rights for African-Americans should not deter teams from signing him, claiming that he should be judged based off his talent alone. The discussion then shifted to talking about the Nike campaign involving Kaepernick. Two weeks ago the members of the Sports Debate Club asked a different question: is Duke the best team in college basketball, and do they possess the three best players in college basketball

(Zion Williamson, RJ Barrett and Cam Reddish)? Prior to their loss to Gonzaga, it was hard for people to deny that Duke looked like the best team in the country following their rout of basketball powerhouse Kentucky. The topics in this meeting reflected a typical discussion on sports. Over time, it shifted to debating who should be the number one pick in the draft, as there is a strong possibility the Cavs will have it. Many of the members claimed that their selection for a player was the best with a lack of evidence, directing attacks at their opponents' physical appearance (sound familiar?). Some of these claims included that Zion Williamson, standing at 6'7 and 285 pounds, is not big enough for the NBA. While the Sports Debate Club may not get you into Harvard, it is a fun place to spend a lunch period. The discussions are fun to listen to, and the club provides free pizza. If you have the chance, I would recommend checking out the club's next meeting.

Upcoming US Concerts

By Zach Keum '19, Staff Writer

As the first semester comes to a close, all of the music ensembles (University Singers, US Males, Glee Club, Orchestra, and Jazz Ensemble) will be having their annual holiday concerts. Each ensemble has put in many hours of preparation, both inside and outside of school, for the upcoming concerts. The music department would appreciate your support for your fellow peers by coming to one of the concerts. At the Holiday Concert on December 11, at 7:30 pm, the University Singers, Glee Club, US Males, and the Orchestra will be performing. This is the first concert for the University Singers. The University Singers is a group comprised of 9th grade singers. They will be performing "Light" from Next to Normal with support from the Glee Club and instrumentalists from the Orchestra. The US Singers will also perform "Come, Ye Sons of Art" by Henry Purcell (1659-1695) with the principal string players from the Orchestra. The Glee Club, comprised of 10th to 12th graders will be performing "Noel," an African Christmas song, and "Dúlamán," an Irish folk song. The US Males will be performing "Jesse's Girl" by Rick Springfield, and Billy Joel's "Lullaby." The US Orchestra will perform Pyoter Tchaikovsky's "Romeo and Juliet Overture" and "Holst's Second Suite in F" (III. Song of the Blacksmith and IV. Fantasia on the Dargason). As an extra incentive to come, there will be cookies and juice provided after the concert.

The music ensembles will also be performing at the installation of Headmaster Gallagher on December 7th. Mr. Gallagher requested for students to perform at his installation, so the Glee Club, Orchestra, Jazz Band, University Singers, and middle school ensembles will be performing (High Tops Choral Ensemble and Junior Choir).

The Orchestra will be playing Holst and Tchaikovsky. The Glee Club, US Singers, and Orchestra will be performing Come, Ye Sons of Art written by Henry Purcell (1659-1695). Cellist Henry Shapard, US Alum, will be performing Gustav Holst's Invocation.

The Upper and Lower school choruses will be performing "I've Got Peace Like a River," an African-American Spiritual arranged

by Rollo Dilworth. Regarding the Jazz Ensemble, Mr. Kay provided the following:

The US Jazz Ensemble, under the direction of Mr. Kay (teaching at US for the 31st year), will be playing their Holiday Jingle Jam (their annual holiday concert) Thursday night December 6 at 7 PM in the HV Upper Commons. They'll be playing the music of Miles Davis (one of the most important musicians even in jazz), Horace Silver (one of the great composer/pianists in jazz) and Dave Brubeck featuring changing time signatures (Brubeck was one of the most popular jazz musicians ever in the history of jazz) Also, we will be lifting up senior Ben Chao, as he will be featured soloist on John Coltrane's 'Central Park West' – and the Ensemble will be playing the first ever jazz ensemble arrangement written by Ben; a version of the great jazz trumpet player Clifford Brown's piece, 'Sandu'. Additionally, an original tune by senior bassist Kees Austin will be played by the Jazz Combo, an improvisation-oriented smaller group drawn from the larger Ensemble. And – the Ensemble will be performing an arrangement of 'Little Drummer Boy' by ear, using no music. This approach to performing without written music is a key aspect of the tradition of jazz as well as most music around the world.

There are many students that are part of these music ensembles, and Mr. Singer, Mr. Kay, and all of the musicians hope that you come support all of the music programs.

Major Concert Days:
Jazz Ensemble – December 6 at 7pm in the HV Upper Commons

Glee Club, University Singers, Orchestra, High Tops Choral Ensemble, Junior Choir – December 7 for Installation Ceremony.



US Orchestra

Wildfires

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She analyzes statistics from PurpleAir, an air quality monitoring network, and claims that California's air is among the worst in the world, and is a breeding ground for potential fires. Furthermore, Ravani stated that schools including Santa Rosa, Petaluma, Healdsburg, Sebastopol, Geyserville, and elsewhere were shut down. Also, Sacramento State University and UC Davis, Universities nearly 80 miles away from the fires, also had days off due to the poor air quality. Additionally, Stanford University canceled class and outdoor activities for a number of days in response to the air getting more dangerous. In addition, California State University, Chico suspended classes on Nov. 9 through the Thanksgiving holiday. Likewise, Pepperdine University's Malibu and Calabasas campuses remained closed through



Sports



Tiger v. Phil: A Thanksgiving Clash

By Charles Brennan '20,
Staff Writer

The Match took place this Friday; a battle between two rivals who have faced off countless times before, however, this time it didn't end with the Tiger fist pump. Lefty took home the \$9 million from the PPV televised round of golf broadcasted by Bleacher Report. It certainly was a tense match, with emotions being shown hole after hole. The competitive spirits that are usually shown from Tiger Woods, who is still trying to show the world that he is indeed back, and Phil Mickelson, who is attempting to finally get one up on his counterpart, is what the golf community

was craving. Though Phil did, in fact, beat Tiger after extra holes, the match itself was quite underwhelming. Both golfers looked sluggish, reflecting their play from the Ryder Cup. Their lazy play resulted in only 11 birdies all day on a course that is not exactly Augusta. While both played below themselves, Phil did outplay Tiger. He was in the lead for most of the match, only giving it up for a single hole. Throughout the match, they also competed in side bets, both betting on who would have the longest drive or get the ball closest to the pin. Both of their winnings from the betting (800k) was donated to the charity of their choice.

It all came down to the 17th, with Phil given a chance to win the hole and the match with a birdie. He shot a par and gave Tiger a chance to stay in it. One shot back, Tiger chipped in from the fringe to tie it up going into the 18th, displaying his poise and his classic fist pump. Both, still square after the 18th, went into a playoff. After replaying the 18th hole and staying squared, they headed over to the lit up makeshift par 3, designed in the event the round went on into the night. And into the night it went, as it took three more attempts until finally, Phil edged out Tiger on the 22nd. While both golfers provided a suspenseful performance down the stretch,

KYRIE

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Aside from his overtime performances, Kyrie is also a key player in important games, especially in the playoffs. According to Stat Muse, Kyrie averaged an outstanding 28 points in the last two finals he played in. To see if anyone shared this opinion of Kyrie and whether or not he is the best guard in the NBA, I asked US student Richard Clark, a member of the freshman basketball team. Richard agreed saying, "Kyrie has the best handles in the game, hit a game-winner in the finals, and is also one of the best players in the game right now and still hasn't hit his prime yet." Kyrie Irving is playing at a higher level of basketball every game and has been doing this ever since he entered the NBA in 2011. Kyrie won the rookie of the year, beating current all-star and

star defender Kawahi Leonard for the title. Additionally, Kyrie has been in 5 all-star games, won the three-point contest, and won the all-star game MVP in 2014.

Despite all of his achievements while in the NBA, Kyrie was also an outstanding college basketball player at Duke University. Unfortunately, while at Duke, Kyrie injured his toe, and he was out for most of his freshman season, only having the chance to play in 12 games. Aside from the fact that he was unable to show off his true potential in college, he was drafted first overall in the 2011 NBA draft. In conclusion, Kyrie Irving is an outstanding player, and because of his razzle-dazzle spin moves and his up and under finishes, he is one of the most exciting players to watch.



US Basketball Team

Season Previews

Basketball

By Grant Paulikosky '19, Staff Writer

The basketball season will be underway this upcoming December, and there are a few things you should know first. The team has a strong group of seniors who plan to guide the younger players and lead the team to victory every time they step on the court. The players have been preparing since June, showing up for lifts, attending pre-season practices, and even competing in daylong tournaments all around Cleveland. With many of the members of the team being underclassmen, this preparation was crucial. The Preppers have many threats on both sides of the ball this year, which should cause problems for opposing teams down the road. Look for Sophomore Ricky Radtke to dominate the glass and pick up some key baskets for the Preppers this season. Captains Jack Voudouris and TJ Kelly are very optimistic about the group. "We have a close-knit group this year, and we like to play with each other a lot, resulting in a very enthusiastic team. I think this will play a big role in the outcomes of our games this season," said Voudouris. The Preppers first game will be Friday, November 30th at Lakeside High School at 7:00pm, where they look to bring in the first win of the season. Make sure to support this year's basketball team as they are loaded with talent and hope to avenge last year's devastating loss against SOM Center Road Rival, Gilmour Academy.

Hockey

By Pearce Richer '19, Staff Writer

The University School Hockey team is looking to make a statement this year as the team has a big chip on their shoulder from last season. The US hockey team fell to Toledo St. Francis in last year's state semi-final game, and this year the team is looking to make the frozen four once again. First-year coach Andy Gerow '10, and senior captains Jack Henry Muha, Henry Saada, and George Brinn lead this year's varsity team. This season, the team also welcomes the return of senior defenseman Peter Lehmann. The team is excited to have Lehmann back on the roster, as he was on the varsity squad his sophomore year but chose to play club hockey for the Cleveland Barons this past season. The top goal scorer this season is sophomore Nick Flowers, tallying a total of three goals. Since the season recently started, US has played mostly non-conference games, competing in the Padua Thanksgiving Tournament and the Jamestown Tournament in Pennsylvania. Moreover, US kicked off their Great Lakes Hockey League play on Thursday against SOM Center-rival Gilmour Academy. The Preppers fell to the Lancers 4-3, but there was a lot of controversy regarding the officiating. For example, senior Henry Thomas' rebound goal in the third period was called off due to what was considered a dislodged net. Nonetheless, as the season progresses, US will climb the rankings in the GLHL standings as well as the Ohio hockey standings. Make sure to support this year's hockey team as they are filled with talent and hope to make a far run in the state tournament.

CBA 2018-2019: The Best Yet

By Daniel Leonard '19, Staff Writer

The CBA season has finally arrived. The Class Basketball Association is by far the most popular sports club on campus. With over 150 students competing on a record 24 teams, it has quickly become one of the most liked activities offered at University School. CBA takes playing basketball during break or extensions to a new level. With actual teams and rivalries, things get competitive on the court. Players and referees take games very seriously as everyone is competing for one common goal: playing in the game gym and competing for the CBA Championship. It is rumored that Varsity Basketball players from Gilmour Academy have asked the CBA commissioner, Nate Mayor, if there are any more spots left in the tournament. When we asked Nate Mayor about these rumors, he had no comment.

The two teams two that are expected to make a splash in this year's season are the Hunting Valley Kings and Team Ignant Wet EuroClip. As both of these teams are made up of seniors, it will be exciting to watch them face off for one last year in hopes of graduating as champions. These two teams faced off multiple times last year, and their games were by far the most entertaining to watch. Whether it was Chase Snyder and Henry Saada having a shoot-out from behind the arc, or Jake Kapp and Paul Marotta battling it out in the post, there is never a dull mo-

ment when these two teams face off.

Despite the ferocity of these two senior teams, anything can happen this season. In past years multiple teams lead by underclassmen have made it far into the playoffs, upsetting much higher seeds and making big statements. With stricter rules being enforced this year, specifically the rule forbidding players not on the original roster to join a team mid-season, it is even more likely that younger teams will have an unexpected impact this season.

Even if you are not on a team this year, simply showing up and watching a game is almost as exciting as playing in one. Being a spectator allows you to stand courtside, watching the same kids that sit next to you in the classroom compete against each other on the court. You will quickly find yourself so invested in the games being played that you will completely forget about anything else going on in your life. Hying up players after they make crucial shots during the game is just as exhilarating as making those shots yourself.

Nate Mayor has worked tirelessly to make this season the best one yet. He even sacrificed playing this year in order to remain unbiased in the decisions he makes while refereeing the games and creating the schedule. With his team of referees and cooperation from the participating players, this CBA season is turning out to be one of the greatest in school history.

Useless Clubs: A Growing Epidemic

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be heavily frowned upon in our community. A student is looking at his own interests first when creating these types of clubs at the expense of his peers, who probably would have enjoyed the club otherwise. If we ever want to fix the broken system, we must attack this reason for creating useless clubs.

Before I propose a solution, we should evaluate the current system for creating clubs. First, a student needs to talk to a teacher who would be interested in sponsoring the group. Second, a student then must talk to Dr. Daughtery who either approves or vetoes the club idea. If approved, the student can schedule an assembly announcement and be done with the process. The major problem with this system is the lack of accountability. You do not need any proof or evidence that you are willing or able to manage a club. Although the teacher sponsor is meant to keep you respon-

sible, most of the time teachers are occupied with their already busy schedules. At the end of the day, it is the student’s responsibility to lead the club.

The solution I propose is a more accountable vetting process for clubs. When you have an idea for a club, you will need to plan out your meetings before you make it. Making sure students provide proof that they are willing to undertake the struggles of managing a club goes a long way in keeping clubs more active. Moreover, after a club’s initial meetings, the school should monitor its activity and progress.

Although some would say that this new system would deter people from bringing up club ideas, I would argue that now students have the certainty that the clubs they are interested in will serve them. Further, this process would only deter the uncommitted students from creating clubs, allowing more dedicated students to shine. Clubs are something to cherish, so we should make the best of them.

Red Dead Redemption 2 Review

By Isaac Haught ‘22, Staff Writer

Red Dead Redemption 2 is a video game that has been heavily anticipated since it was announced in 2016. After the first game in the series, Red Dead Redemption, became a massive hit in 2010, developer Rockstar Games immediately started working on a second game. Both of these games are western style, mission-oriented games. The one thing you probably notice right away is the huge gap between release dates. 2010 to 2018. Rockstar Games spent 8 years creating this game—painstakingly adding the smallest of details to every part of the game. These details can range from almost unnoticeable things, such as your body being covered in mud if you fall on the ground, to much more visible things, such as the fact that your character will grow a beard over time if you do not shave. Not only did this game require a lot of attention from the developer, but it also demands a lot of attention from the player. Players have to keep track of their hunger, cleanliness, and appearance, as people in the game will react differently to you depending on these factors. If you go many days without a bath, people in town will comment on how you smell, and will stay away from you. It’s these small but noticeable details that make the game feel like you’re actually in the Wild West. There is no lack of things to do in the game, even after the primary story has been completed. There is a multitude of side quests. They range from becoming an 1899 Uber driver to pushing people in barrels off of waterfalls. There are also hundreds of random encounters that can happen as you travel through the world. From saving a

man bitten by an alligator to giving money to a homeless veteran, the game constantly introduces you to new people and stories as you travel through the Wild West. The game also includes many realistic factors. The horses, for example, actually behave like real horses. If you ride them too fast for too long, they will retaliate and throw you off of them. If you keep them clean and show them enough attention, you will grow a bond with them and will unlock more abilities.

RDR2 has received top-notch reviews all around the board. It has a 97 on Metacritic and a 10/10 on IGN. The game is extremely playable and fun. Whether you are into games such as Madden or Call of Duty, there’s no doubt that you will have fun here. The only issue that I have with this game is that I was able to breeze through it. While the game does take around 50 to 60 hours to beat, it offered me little challenge. I would think that 8 years of development would have produced a more complex and varied storyline. I give the game a 9.5/10 because this flaw, though singular, was also difficult to ignore; in every other respect, the game is excellent.



Still My Moment Review

By Jack Robey ‘19, Staff Writer

Tee Grizzly, the hottest gangster off the block, is back with his new project Still My Moment, but his loyal fans and listeners have one question for the popular rapper, Has the money made him soft? Tee Grizzly answers this query with a resounding no.

Straight from the title track Tee dives headfirst into his traditional thug flow accompanied by his signature piano beats. He hits you with powerful anecdotes and references to his life growing up in Detroit such as the classic line “Gas station game, pull up, let them pumps hit.” TG has a way of being visceral in his details and shockingly blunt and open about his past life as a criminal, a life that he only recently stepped past. While some might doubt the legitimacy of the gang stories told by most rappers, much like Tony the Frosted Flakes Tiger, Mr. Grizzly has the stripes to prove it. Our man Timothy Grizzwald actually served substantial jail time and only got off parole just after his new album released. T-Grizz brings his realness off the streets straight to the listener’s drums. The album is loaded front to back with hit after hit driven by Twizzly’s impactful and powerful lyrics.

The weakest point of the album has to be the features from other rappers that

mostly miss in comparison to the bottled heat of Tha’Grizzer’s verses. The album has multiple high points, one of which is the final track titled Babies to Men. This track is about how the Grizzard of Oz found his way into a life of crime at a very young age. With bars such as “Why they let us get our hands on them pistols? Why we ain’t get a book on all the stuff that came with it?” Little Tee strikes at the heart of a life that is a reality for many kids growing up in underprivileged areas. The Grizz man’s new album doesn’t just live up to his first My Moment project that put him on, he surpassed it. Still My Moment is an album that is successful on many levels that is, by my estimation, the #1 rap album of 2018.



On the ALICE Program

By Tate Flack ‘20, Staff Writer

With the dramatic proliferation of mass shootings in recent years, University School administration decided to reduce this threat by implementing the ALICE policy. ALICE, an acronym for Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate, provides an alternative to the “lockdown only” approach. This modernized strategy allows the given staff the autonomy to decide what to do in a given situation whether it be countermeasures, evacuation, or even lockdown.

At University School, faculty and staff were trained according to this method, and it sparked varied responses from students. Junior Sai Karnati noted that “I feel like this system only adds more confusion. I, myself, don’t understand why it is needed or why it is so different than the system already there.” He later noted that “I don’t know what I would do in such a trying situation... there are just too

many variables for me even to be able to follow this system.” Sai indicated that there is not just one type of violent attack, that the attack can come unexpectedly and in ways unpredicted. He thinks that systemizing this unpredictability is not useful.

However, this system is intentionally vague. The vagueness comes from the ways and means by which the individual chooses to counter and evacuate. This is entirely unpredictable, and the ALICE system only attempts to establish a clear line of thought when one is in the frantic situation of an active shooting.

Junior John DeSantis had a dissenting opinion noting, “I think that being prepared for a difficult situation is always a good thing. Although I would agree that there is no perfect way to predict exactly what would happen, knowing a basic course of action couldn’t hurt.” DeSantis, showing optimism for the new system, helps to provide evidence for why it was enacted in the first

place.

The administration felt a need for a system that helped to provide security and clarity when responding to an active shooter. Additionally, the ALICE program doesn’t claim to wholly suppress or altogether avoid the actions or effects of a school shooter. Rather, the program provides student and faculty a means to safety. Noting that no single response can fit all active shooter situations, the ALICE management team claims that making sure each individual knows his or her options could save valuable time.

The ALICE program finds its roots in the Jefferson administration’s promise of safe education for all the citizens of the United States. With over 300 “mass shootings” occurring in 2018 so far, teachers and administrators have a responsibility to anticipate potential dangers and to take precautions to protect their students. ALICE is a much-needed step.

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