An Interview with the New School Principal
with Nathan Wang and Mr. Affeldt

What are some of the biggest changes coming to Memorial?

“One of the most significant things students will notice in classrooms is the approach from staff. A focus group last spring found that students felt they were just doing stuff in class, and it didn’t apply to real life. I then followed up by asking other groups of students and found most agreed with this statement, that we could do a better job of being clear with why we’re doing what we’re doing in class. It shouldn’t just be teachers thinking about how you can apply this information. They should get students thinking about it by using student friendly language. This will be in three parts: Content, what students should know and be able to do at the end of class; Literacy, the literacy skills used to get there; and a Check for Understanding, to make sure students got there. This is responding to a student request, and not just an administrative change. I understand this will take time, especially when teachers are learning how to do this at the beginning of the year. Research shows this is one of the most fundamental components of high quality education and we are trying to work together to accomplish this.”

You mentioned a check for understanding, does that mean more quizzes?

“No, these checks will be more informal because teachers can’t make quizzes and grade them everyday and students wouldn’t want to take them. These checks could be as simple as holding your fingers out on a scale from 1 to 5 of how much you understand, or trying a problem by yourself on a mini-whiteboard and holding it up. This could mean that there might be more informal checks that won’t go in the grade book which will hopefully give teachers an idea of where to head without stressing students out”

As far as content learning targets, what does that mean for skill-based classes like photography or woodworking?

“With these classes, it shifts from content to skills. For example a teacher might say, ‘At the end of the day I’d like you to be able to analyze this photo and tell me how light and exposure affects the quality of the photo. Then by the end of the week take 3 photos that use different exposure levels to take good photos.”

What are some of your goals as Principal?

“I want everyone to feel safe, welcome, respected, and included at school. I want this for students first and foremost, as well as families and staff. The school has a very long history of being very interconnected and almost feels like a family. I want to maintain that and extend that to others so they feel welcome when they come here everyday. I also want better communication so everyone will be more in the loop of what’s going on in the school and I want their opinions to be heard and acted upon. The ultimate goal is to create an environment where all students can be successful.”

What are you looking forward to this year?

“The conversations staff will have around what they want students to know and be able to do, and getting to know incoming freshman. I love noticing subtle but important interactions between upperclassmen and freshman to help them find their way here at Memorial. I’m hopeful I can live up to everyone’s expectations, and I want people to know I’ll try my best to maintain and grow the reputation of school. I’ll make some mistakes and hope people will understand. I’m also looking forward to reconnecting with Student Voice and having the every week conversations about how things are going for students.”

Can you tell us a bit about yourself for the students who have never met you before?

“This is my 16th year working at the school. Before that I was a science teacher for 9 years, a school improvement coordinator for 3 years, and an assistant principal for 3 years. I graduated from Memorial in 1991 and also student taught here during college. I attended UW-Madison and earned a Bachelor’s in Education and Secondary Science. I also received a Master’s in Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis, and Education Psychology. I’m married to my wife, Sarah, and we have 9 year old twins, Bryn and Henry. I was also the girls’ cross country head coach for years and the assistant boys’ cross country coach for a couple seasons when I student taught. I was part of a group of staff that wrote the grant that created the neighborhoods. Not many people know this because I don’t seem like a tattoo guy but I have a tattoo for my kids on my wrist that reads HB.”

The conversations staff will have around what they want students to know and be able to do, and getting to know incoming freshman. I love noticing subtle but important interactions between upperclassmen and freshman to help them find their way here at Memorial. I’m hopeful I can live up to everyone’s expectations, and I want people to know I’ll try my best to maintain and grow the reputation of school. I’ll make some mistakes and hope people will understand. I’m also looking forward to reconnecting with Student Voice and having the every week conversations about how things are going for students.”

Any last words you want students to know for this coming year?

“Beyond instructional purpose and all the different communication stuff I’m trying to put together, I have a tattoo for my kids on my wrist that reads HB. It’s a cross country coach for a couple seasons when I student taught. I was part of a group of staff that wrote the grant that created the neighborhoods. Not many people know this because I don’t seem like a tattoo guy but I have a tattoo for my kids on my wrist that reads HB.”

Welcome, Freshmen! Advice from Upperclassmen
High School: Pursuing college, Life Skills, and Fun
By Brian Luo
Welcome, freshmen! Your short time in high school will arguably be some of the most important years in your life. At this point, you’re stuck for the next few years sucking up your grades, bad grades — all gone. Most of your accomplishments and grades before high school will no longer be recognized. Many of your old friends will become distant and will make way for a wealth of new friends. I know that’s scary, but it can also be relieving. It’s a fresh, blank slate; a new you, with new opportunities.

But this time, your slate is permanent. And near the end of this four year road, you’ll have to show this slate—whatever’s ingrained in it—to colleges. I want you to understand what lies ahead of you these next few years, because you can have an incredibly successful time if you follow some simple guidelines that others will overlook. If you take some time to read these tips, you’ll have a huge advantage just by selectively absorbing advice from someone who’s gone through most of what you’re about to go through. There will be overlap between advices, but they’re all still distinct enough to be individual tips.

1. Whatever you do, always be conscious of college. I know you just got into high school. But whether you like it or not, you are born into a small part of a system where colleges use these next 4 years of your life, turn them into a few pieces of paper with some numbers, and decide who will move on and go where. You can try and fight this almost-Darwinian system, but you’ll probably have much more success doing that when you become a politician or get a degree in education policy which obviously, you’d have to get through high school first. So regardless, you’re stuck for a few years sucking up to people you don’t know sitting behind desks at colleges hundreds of miles away. It sucks, but it also sucks for me, your friends, millions of other people, and it sure sucked for the billions of alumni who survived this system. The good news is, it doesn’t have to ruin your high school experience at all.

The point of this tip is not to scare you. It is to give you a head start mindset, so that you don’t come into your junior or senior year with almost nothing good for college, because by then it will be too late. But what does being conscious of college really mean? It means to be constantly aware of any opportunities to boost your chances of getting into a good college, while still weighing the costs. Colleges look at a number of things: standardized test scores (sigh), grades, leadership, extracurriculars...
Meet Mrs. Weselek, the New Rock Neighborhood Principal!

with Nathan Wang and Mrs. Weselek

A Little Background Info: Mrs. Weselek used to teach at West High School as a social studies teacher for 18 years. During her time at West she also taught AVID in addition to social studies for the last 4 years and was on the AVID site team for five years. She also served as her Department chair for 3 years. As a teacher, she slowly took up more administrative duties and thought the shift from teacher to administrator would be good.

She feels very excited to work as an administrator and looks forward to building a different type of relation with students as an assistant principal.

What are some of the things you’ll be doing around school?

The job is changing with the new teacher evaluation system in the state so I’ll be helping out with that. I’ll also be supervising AVID, the social studies and world languages departments so I will be involved in observing their practice and providing teachers support where needed. Some of my other responsibilities are helping students and family, I will be supervising fieldtrips that happen in the school, I help with professional development for teachers and also adjust how to manage the school.

What’s something you want to do this year?

“I want to support growth, the AVID program using my 5 years of experience from when I did AVID at West. I have some goals for the program but most importantly I want to support the teachers already involved with AVID.

What are some fun facts about you?

>>Used to cross country ski race at the national level for 5 years!!!
>>Was sponsored by Rossignol
>>Would be interested in being connected/supporting the ski club at our school (Memorial CC skiers might see her around?)
>>Has a 7 year old daughter
>>Her and her husband have rescued greyhounds for 13 years
>>Used to be adoption coordinator for Madison area where she would place former race hounds and foster dogs before being adopted.
>>Have had a total of 7 greyhounds over the years and 2 currently meet Thursdays after school.

BadgerBOTS: BadgerBOTS is a non-profit organization that sponsors various high school robotic teams the students informally known as Robotics club. The prime focus of the club is to expose students to STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) through “...teaching, learning, creating, inspiring, and growing”, all while giving them a unique opportunity to not only meet professionals in related fields, but also receive access to scholarships for college. If interested you can email Mr. Ben Kenson at bsenson@madison.k12.wi.us, visit the BadgerBOTS website, or even come by 7615 Discovery Drive on Tuesdays from 6:30pm to 9pm (free of charge) to get a firsthand experience.

This is just a taste of the kinds of clubs you find at Memorial, and with over 40 clubs, various athletics, and opportunity to start your own clubs, JMM offers its students more than enough chances to get involved!

Sword & Shield Staff

Editor-in-chief: Nathan Wang
Asst. Editor-in-chief: Vishal Narayanaswamy
Arts & Entertainment Editor: Caroline Zhu
Copy Editor: Leon Pan
News Editor: Amol Rajesh
Opinions Editor: Ryan Das
Photography Editor: Carlins Perez
Sports Editor: Joe Venuta
Student Life Editor: Hamayail Ansari
Student Contributors: JMM HOSA 2014-2015

Sword & Shield: The newspaper you’re reading right now! It was written by JMM’s Sword & Shield Newspaper! The school newspaper focuses on bringing news, events, and popular topics to students and teachers. Get sports updates, horoscopes, opinion articles, and much more through the newspaper. New members are welcomed with open arms and can contribute articles, stories, pictures, etc., and can join the Facebook page Sword and Shield Newspaper. We meet every Thursday after school in the photolab, room 521.

Women’s Club: Although a newer club at memorial, the Women’s club has already expanded to more than a hundred members. The purpose of the club to have “A place to openly share experience as women, build awareness of women’s issues, share feminist media, and make our school and world a better place”. Membership to the club is open to both boys and girls, and meetings are usually held in the Wisconsin Neighborhood Center on Friday mornings. Join the Facebook page to get updates and share news with other members: JMM Women’s Club.

DDAF: This club consists of three main parts, Drama, Debate, and Forensics. The Drama club is responsible for three productions a year (including a fall play, a musical, and a spring play), along with the help of JMM’s Stage Crew and Technical Theater. Debate and Forensics focuses on competitive public speaking, and each of these groups forms a very strong team bond. DDAF is always looking for new members, with meetings every Tuesday after school in the Fox Neighborhood Center (aka the Fishbowl) and throughout the year, they put together the annual “Olympian” to document each unique year. Members select sections to work on and throughout the year, they take parliamentary, sentence, fill quotes, and organize cherished memories from the year into another edition of The Olympian. This year the yearbook will be working with the Sword & Shield after school on Thursdays in the photolab, room 521.

HOSA: Health Occupations Students of America is a club dedicated to providing opportunities for students to become more knowledgeable about enhancing the quality of health care in the community. The club usually meets every other week to plan fundraisers, and organize volunteer activities. The club also attends a yearly leadership lab, and competes at the leadership conference at the state and national level. The club’s meetings are updated on the Facebook page: JMM HOSA 2014-2015.

SYS: The Spartan Youth Service Club is JMM’s largest volunteer club consisting of more than 200 members! SYS makes a huge difference in the community by providing volunteer opportunities to students at JMM. The club meets every Wednesday after school in the Fox Neighborhood Center (aka the Fishbowl) and

Yearbook: JMM’s yearbook club is responsible for putting together the annual “Olympian” to document each unique year. Members select sections to work on and throughout the year, they take parliamentary, sentence, fill quotes, and organize cherished memories from the year into another edition of The Olympian. This year the yearbook will be working with the Sword & Shield after school on Thursdays in the photolab, room 521.

Spanish Club: The purpose of Spanish Club is to help students interested in improving their Spanish speaking and writing through conversations in Spanish with other group members, as well as watching some great movies in Spanish. The club’s meetings are updated on the Facebook page (JMM Spanish Club), but normally meet Thursdays after school.

Link Crew: Behind the Scenes

By Maryann Rehani

Being in 8th grade is a blast! You’re at the top of the food chain. You’ve worked for this for the last few years and you’re finally here! Then, freshmen hit the junior high school (Wisconsin Neighborhood School) and you’re back at the bottom with circa 2000 new kids. What if there was a way that freshman year could be the best years of your life? There’s it! A couple of words. 8 letters. No, not I love you, but Link Crew! Link Crew is a leadership program whose goal is to let freshmen have a great year! Each group has 4 Link Crew leaders and around 20 freshmen and meeting during PCT time.

We are here to help make the transition easier. We show freshmen the ropes of Memorial! Link Crew leaders are here to act as models, friends, and teachers for incoming freshmen. We get it; Memorial is a huge school, no matter what middle school you came from. Whether your 8th grade graduating class was 30 or 300, Memorial is a pretty big difference! Link Crew is here to help enhance the freshman high school experience! Our goal is to set the freshmen up for success.

Studies have shown that if students have a good year their freshman year, they’re more likely to succeed in their next three years in high school. Link Crew is centered on the idea that students can help their peers succeed. Since next year is the last year before you decide where you’ll be spending the next 4 years, take a look at Link Crew; you might find it a great fit for you.
The ‘ALS Ice Bucket Challenge’ – What You Need to Know to Avoid Going in Cold

By David Luzzio

In the latest of seemingly ridiculous Internet dares, last spring’s ‘Cold Water Challenge’ has been taken to a whole new level through the new and improved ‘ALS Ice Bucket Challenge’. This time, instead of jumping in cold water, participants are, shockingly, dumping it on themselves, and they have a mere 24 hours to do so before being obligated to donate 100 dollars to the ALS Association. While looking purely at the rarity of this trend, one must stop and think—there is a point to all this, besides gleefully watching friends and family drench themselves in hypothermia-inducing liquid for fear of emptying their pockets?

The ALS ice bucket challenge has served its purpose though. Numerous philanthropists and ice bucket challengers alike have stepped forward. According to the ALS Association, a grand total of 306,598 donors, including celebrities such as Jim Parsons, Chris Hemsworth, Bill Gates, and Kermit the Frog have poured themselves this far. In short, this challenge has performed nothing short of a miracle for the ALS Association, having raised nearly 41.8 million dollars so far. However, as far as the ALS community is concerned, this challenge may initially seem similar to other viral childish feats, such as chugging gallons of milk and chokping down spoonfuls of cinnamon, it has served a powerful cause. With this money, the ALS Association can continue to raise awareness for and contribute to research of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), commonly known as Lou Gehrig’s Disease for the famous New York Yankees’ first baseman who was stricken with it.

ALS, a neurodegenerative disease, influences muscle stiffness, progressiveness, disabilities in movement, swallowing, and breathing. Approximately 30,000 Americans suffer from this disease today, preventing them from performing numerous physical activities. Later stages of the disease lead to abnormalities such as severe breathing function, and even respiratory failure. Although many have dubbed the challenge a joke and often complete it as though donating were simply a time penalty, the ‘ALS Ice Bucket Challenge’ is anything but. By promoting ALS donations and other charitable contributions, the challenge has the potential to improve the lives of thousands stricken with ALS and other diseases. So grab a bucket, get a video camera, and head to the ALS Association website, because I not only care about you looking silly and schnozzing your head with gallons of freezing water, but also to make a contribution you won’t regret.

Photo: Jacob Gonring accepts the ice challenge on Facebook

A Note From the Editor

By Nathan Wang

It’s an exciting time for Freshmen. You’re all in new surroundings, meeting new people, and experiencing new things. As you adjust to your new school, though, do not forget to use the resources that are available to you. Take advantage of the club fair and opportunities that are presented for you. Join a club, make new friends, and have a blast!

Life at Memorial Then and Now

By Hamayail Ansari

From the first day Memorial opened its doors to the community, students have referred to us as a second home that was our family. MEM is a school that many of us consider ‘home’. By Hamayail Ansari

Welcome Freshmen

Remember that classroom conversations are not just for your friends, teachers, or parents. Like I said earlier: if you want help, everyone is more than happy to help you. But we can’t read your mind, you have to let us know what you want. We are here to help you with anything that you need. Don’t just wait around passively and hope that your grades will come up, or hope that the teacher will change your grades, or hope that people will start to recognize you. If you miss a good opportunity, it may not be gone forever. So start taking the initiative early and come out good when your junior or senior years near.

Good luck, Class of 2018!

Link Crew: Behind the Scenes Continued from pg 1

freshmen are all in the same boat, juniors and seniors are the only students able to facilitate Link Crew. We do our best to help freshmen that their first year at Memorial isn’t that bad! If you’re given the right tools, you can do amazing things!

In the last few years, Link Crew has been a completely successful program. Panchoe, Link Crew leader and senior says “In retrospect, I wish I had senior friends that shared their insight on school achievement, be it teacher prejudices or even the politics of class. I decided to get a head start in high school.” This basically sums up the opinions of the class of 2015, as they didn’t have Link Crew yet. Many members of this class have told me that Link Crew would have been very helpful and that the freshmen who have the opportunity to go through the program are very lucky! My class, the class of 2016, was the first year to go through the Link Crew program at Memorial. So, if you’re a junior and you’re considering joining Link Crew, apply for next year! It’s a nationwide organization. The Link Crew program includes applications, it’s a really fun group, and the people in it are so great! If you’re a freshman, make sure you make use of your Link Crew leaders! We’re here to help you succeed! Whether you’re coming from a smaller school or a school of 2000, it really helps to have your Link Crew leaders there for you. To sum it all up, Link Crew is made up of juniors and seniors helping freshmen succeed during their first year of high school.
Summertime in Seoul
By Caroline Zhou

Over this summer, I traveled to Seoul, South Korea, as a study abroad student through the NSLI-Y program. Participating in an intensive language-learning program proved to be one of the best experiences I’ve ever had. Sogang University, one of the most prestigious universities in South Korea, provided a learning environment where forty-nine other scholarship recipients and I learned Korean for four hours a day. For the rest of the time, we were allowed to venture into Seoul and explore. Seoul, the capital of South Korea, displays the extraordinary historical and modern aspects of Korean culture. We furthered our understanding of Korean culture by living with a Korean host family. By the end of the program, it was extremely difficult to leave after becoming very attached to my Korean family. Overall, I was very fortunate to have been able to participate in the NSLI-Y program, and am thankful for all the wonderful memories I have taken from it. If you’re interested in a merit-based scholarship for learning Arabic, Chinese (Mandarin), Hindi, Korean, Persian (Tajiki), Russian, or Turkish, in locations around the world, I strongly advise for you to apply! The National Security Language Initiative for Youth (NSLI-Y) program, sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, provides merit-based scholarships for eligible high school students and recent high school graduates to learn less commonly taught languages in summer and academic-year overseas immersion programs. (taken from http://www.nsliforyouth.org)

The trip’s itinerary contained a 3-day stay in Beijing, an 11-day host family stay in Zunyi, and another 3 days in Beijing. Unfortunately, a day of the trip was lost from the 12-hour flight, but after resting in the 5-star Hotel Otani Chang Fu Gong, the travelers were up and ready to go.

While in Beijing, the travelers toured the city on foot and by bus, seeing everything from the Temple of Heaven (pictured here) to the Great Wall to Beihai Park.

While in Zunyi, the students stayed with host families all related to Zunyi No.1 High School; the chaperones stayed together in a nearby hotel. Each day was filled with sight-seeing, exchange activities with No.1 High School, and having fun with friends and locals.

For more pictures, videos and info about the trip, check out this blog: http://jmm-middletonchinatrip2014.tumblr.com/
Summer News

By Amol Rajesh

For those of you who have been sleeping for most of the summer, here are some important news stories that you may have missed:

1.) 2014 FIFA World Cup in Brazil

This year’s world cup took effect in the excitement and full of events. The returning champions and favorites, Spain, were stunned in the opener by the eventual world champion Germany 1-0. Spain later got eliminated against Chile in the group stage. Spain wasn’t the only good team to perform in Brazil. Italy, England, and Portugal were eliminated in the group stage as well. On the other hand, the less experienced Team USA surprisingly managed to prevent themselves from being eliminated. Brazil also persevered in even the face of soccer heavy weights, Portugal and Germany, America’s win over Ghana, draw with Portugal and loss against Germany was just enough for Team USA to advance. Brazil, which historically has been a top team at World Cup (5 time champions) didn’t live up to expectations despite having home field advantage. Brazil initially looked strong, but by the time they got to the semi-finals, Germany they looked very shaky. To top it all off, they also had to play the semifinal without its 2 star players: Neymar (Injured), and Silva (Suspended). Even then, the destruction that followed shocked the world. Germany scored early and late in the 11th minute, causing Brazil to lose confidence that led them to concede 4 goals in the span of 6 minutes! Germany added to the pain by scoring twice more resulting in a 7-0 loss. In the last minute Brazil scored a symbolic goal leaving the final score at 7-1. This was the worst performance ever seen in all of Brazil’s history in World Cup. The World Cup Final was more enjoyable as it was between equally matched Argentina and Germany. The game was very thrilling because no one side seemed to dominate the field of play. At the end of 90 minutes, the score was still 0-0, which led the match into extra time. In extra-time Germany seemed to have the upper hand and it wasn’t too soon before Mario Götze scored a goal in the 113th minute, which led to Germany’s 1-0 win. Germany became the first European team to win the World Cup in South America.

2.) Ebola Outbreak in West Africa

Thousands have died due to deadly diseases known as theEbola. Ebola is a rare virus that causes internal and external bleeding. The virus is extremely deadly, as the fatality rate can be 90%. The Ebola virus in West Africa originally came from the Democratic Republic of Congo and it has come in contact with animals or humans exhibiting Ebola like symptoms, the virus rapidly spreads. Even though there is no known medicine or vaccine for Ebola, its spread can be prevented with the use of proper procedures. The number of the deaths in West Africa from Ebola are a result of healthcare and burial workers being in frequent contact with infected bodies. It is unfortunate that in West Africa, many hospitals and communities do not have enough medical supplies. The government must take action to help Ebola patients. As a result, many brave doctors from around the world are coming to West Africa to treat patients, knowing well that the journey to help others may cost them their own lives.

3.) Iraqi Crises

The crisis in Syria has crossed over the border, thanks in part to the instability and lack of the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS). ISIS has been declared the conflict in Iraq. The Islamic State tries to take over the main Iraq. ISIS has proven to have strong support and military advisors to the Iraqi army. Starting in Syria as an affiliate of al-Qaeda (terrorist group responsible for 11/9/11), the group has been aggressively advancing against western democracies throughout the Middle East and the West. ISIS is known for its violent tactics, that range from beheadings, crucifixions and torture of enemies and civilians, the organization has been deemed too extreme even for al-Qaeda, who recently cut their support for ISIS. ISIS has launched a huge offensive and has so far captured about one-fourth of the Iraq. The advances have led to an Iraqi army retreat from some military bases, resulting in ISIS getting access to their own weapons. The United States, France, and other countries have started taking measures to stop the ISIS advances.

4.) Downing of Flight MH 17

The explosion and falling impact 4.) Downing of flight MH 17, a Malaysian Airlines flight traveling from Amsterdam to Kuala Lumpur, killed 298 people. The crash was caused by a surface-to-air missile fired by pro-Russian separatists. The explosion and falling impact killed all 298 passengers on board. The board had been flying over Ukraine, when it suddenly went into the ground. The board had been flying over Ukrainian airspace. The explosion and falling impact killed all 298 passengers on board. The separatists initially believed that they had downed a Ukrainian cargo plane, but later understood that their missile had met the most innocent of people. The Malaysia Airlines jet took off from Amsterdam, Netherlands and was flying over eastern Ukraine to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia—when it was hit by a surface-to-air missile fired by pro-Russian separatists. The explosion and falling impact killed all 298 passengers on board. The separatists initially believed that they had downed a Ukrainian cargo plane, but later understood that their missile had met the most innocent of people. The Malaysia Airlines jet took off from Amsterdam, Netherlands and was flying over eastern Ukraine to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia—when it was hit by a surface-to-air missile fired by pro-Russian separatists. The explosion and falling impact killed all 298 passengers on board. The separatists initially believed that they had downed a Ukrainian cargo plane, but later understood that their missile had met the most innocent of people. The Malaysia Airlines jet took off from Amsterdam, Netherlands and was flying over eastern Ukraine to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia—when it was hit by a surface-to-air missile fired by pro-Russian separatists. The explosion and falling impact killed all 298 passengers on board. The separatists initially believed that they had downed a Ukrainian cargo plane, but later understood that their missile had met the most innocent of people. The Malaysia Airlines jet took off from Amsterdam, Netherlands and was flying over eastern Ukraine to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia—when it was hit by a surface-to-air missile fired by pro-Russian separatists.
Movie Reviews

By Jack Harrington
This summer I, like many of my burned-out classmates, went to the theater to catch the newest films. Here is a collection of the best and worst movies of the summer. To qualify as a “summer movie”, these films had to have been released either after June 13th or before August 1st.

The best:
#1 - Begin Again
Charming, funny, well-written, wonderfully paced, beautifully filmed, and terrifically cast, Begin Again is a film that stays true to its heart while also avoiding cinematic clichés. The characters are relatable and likable, and Keira Knightley and Mark Ruffalo have great on-screen chemistry with a very believable friendship. On top of the excellent acting, the film’s music is instrumental in progressing the story and is incredibly well written.

#2 - 22 Jump Street
Funny, on-point, and happy to make fun of itself as well as sequels in general, 22 Jump Street is hilarious and entertaining. Only two shortcomings hamper this film, one being Jonah Hill, who seems bored for most of the film. Often, it feels as if Hill is merely reading his lines rather than acting them. The other problem is the presence of some painfully immature jokes in the movie, which luckily don’t detract from the overall enjoyment of the film.

#3 - Dawn of the Planet of the Apes
While beautiful and very well paced, the general plot of Dawn of the Planet of the Apes is incredibly unoriginal. If the apes in the film were replaced by aliens or even another group of apes, this story would feel like a repeat of countless movies, books, and screenplays. To be fair, Apes’ story is strong enough to carry your focus and interest from beginning to end, and aside from some awkward and occasionally poorly written dialogue, there’s very little wrong with the movie.

The worst
#3 - Deliver Us From Evil
While not a horrible film by any means, Deliver Us From Evil tends to fall flat and add nothing to either cop or horror films. Moreover, it cannot seem to pull itself above repeating all of the tried and true aspects of horror and buddy-cop films: the “laid back cop” in the film makes jokes at inappropriate times, the lead Neglects his family for his job, and scary music precedes the reveal of a mere housecat.

To quote Father Mendoza “Do you have any more stereotypes you’d like to throw at me?”

#2 - The Purge: Anarchy
While the first Purge film merely toyed with the idea of legalizing crime for 12 hours and examining its effect on society, The Purge: Anarchy takes this concept into full swing. But instead of using its premise for subtle social commentary (the rich “killing” the poor) like the first did, Purge 2 takes off the mask and screams its allegory in your face while simultaneously throwing a few unoriginal jokes at the audience.

While not a horrible film by any means, Deliver Us From Evil tends to fall flat and add nothing to either cop or horror films. Moreover, it cannot seem to pull itself above repeating all of the tried and true aspects of horror and buddy-cop films: the “laid back cop” in the film makes jokes at inappropriate times, the lead Neglects his family for his job, and scary music precedes the reveal of a mere housecat.

To quote Father Mendoza “Do you have any more stereotypes you’d like to throw at me?”

#1 - Tammy
Do you want to hear Melissa McCarthy and Susan Sarandon make uncomfortable sex jokes and have the most out-of-place rendition of Thrift Shop of all time? Yeah, me neither.

Robin Williams: The Man of a Thousand Characters and Voices
1951-2014
By David Cao

Over the summer, we were all shaken when we learned that genius actor, comedian, film producer, and screenwriter Robin Williams passed away. He was indeed one-of-a-kind and probably considered one of the best, funniest comedians of all time.

Williams, ironically, was completely unlike the comedian he became when he was younger. Born in Chicago in 1951 to a modeling mother and a father who was a senior executive at Ford Motor Company, he was unusually quiet and probably considered one of the best, funniest comedians of all time.

But sure enough, he developed a very successful career as a comedian. He attended Claremont Men’s College and later got a full scholarship to study at New York's premier arts school Juilliard. That year, he was one of only two freshman students to be accepted by John Houseman into the Juilliard Advanced Program; the other freshman was Christopher Reeve. After learning all he could from John Houseman, he left Juilliard to pursue his career as a comedian. He started off doing stand-up comedy shows in the San Francisco Bay Area and soon moving to Los Angeles. His talents and fame as a comedian accrued as he performed around Los Angeles. Williams’ career flourished after his appearance as the high, nasal voiced alien Mork in a 1978 episode of the TV series Happy Days. His character was so popular with the viewers that it led to the starting of a hit television sitcom, Mork & Mindy, which ran for 4 years from 1978 to 1982.

His fame continued, as he was featured in various TV talk shows and films. His work and humor in his films was soon known nationwide. Some awards Williams has won include the Academy Award for Best Supporting Actor, two Emmy Awards, four Golden Globe Awards and five Grammy Awards. He’s been in 36 movies; some of his most famous include Popeye (1980), Good Morning, Vietnam (1987), Hook (1991), Aladdin (1992), Mrs. Doubtfire (1993), Jumanji (1995), and the two Night at the Museum films (2006 & 2009). His talent, his brilliant mind, his fast and quirky jokes, his voice, and his impersonations will surely be missed for years to come.

September 2014
Horoscopes
By Joanna Pauline Martinez

Aries (Mar 21 - Apr 19)
Your independent nature will give way to many opportunities at the beginning of the school year!
You’re not one to run away from risks, so don’t hesitate!

Taurus (April 20 - May 20)
Indulge in some much needed back to school shopping with some of your buddies, Taurus! This will give you a chance to relax and catch up with your friends!

Gemini (May 21 - June 20)
The sociable atmosphere that comes along with a new school year will bring out your talkative personality! This quality will help you get to know everyone in your classes!

Cancer (June 21 - Jul 22)
You’ll be happy and healthy at the beginning of the year and you’ll also be drawn to joining nearly all of the clubs! Let go of any shyness you have and you’ll reap all the benefits!

Leo (July 23 - Aug 22)
You feel energetic and fresh at the beginning of the year! Show you school spirit, and head down to any social/sporting events at school!

Virgo (Aug 23 - Sept 22)
A new year may seem scary, but will be able to handle whatever comes your way like a pro! Don’t forget to re-wind when you get home to end the day stress-free!

Libra (Sept 23 - Oct 22)
With a balancing scale as your symbol, Libra, it’s no wonder that you are able to balance your schedule at the start of the year! Any spur of the moment events won’t take you by surprise!

Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)
Join some art classes this year, Scorpio! You are quite talented when it comes to the arts. Your creative character will give you an advantage!

Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)
Embrace your adventurous nature and let it take you places! Go out for those sports or clubs that you’ve always wanted to join. Now is the time!

Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)
The start of the school year may be hectic, Capricorn, but your hardworking nature will get you through your busy schedule! Don’t forget to have fun though!

Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)
The new school year will bring plenty of new faces, as well as give you an opportunity to reconnect with some old ones! Make the most of your vibrant energy!

Pisces (Feb 19 - Mar 20)
You are on a path that will boost your confidence, Pisces! Be as outgoing as you can because you won’t regret it!
On August 1st, 2014 at 8:00 o’clock in the morning the Common App opened its doors to the incoming Class of 2015. That same day, hundreds of thousands of upcoming high school seniors could be heard across the country having meltdowns: some crying, some screaming, but what’s so bad about applying to college anyway? If you get accepted, you go. If you don’t, you move on. There’s a reason why your counselor makes you choose safety schools in the first place. After all, it’s not a life or death decision. It’s just choosing another school to attend for the next four years.

Though that thought may hold a grain of truth in it, in reality there are actually a number of strong reasons why applying to college is one of the most stressful times of senior year. Transcripts, standardized tests, recommendations, extra-curriculars, awards, scholarships, internships, and not to mention essays and theCommon App. And yet, the school doesn’t stop there. With little to no notice, even the top of juggling classes, sports, clubs, and a social life. That kind of stress is enough to make anybody go insane. Yet out of all the different things to be stressed about, college essays are definitely the worst of all.

Just like there are a number of good reasons as to why applying to college is stressful, there are probably yet a hundred more as to why writing college essays are a huge stinker. For one, seniors are defined as a major factor of the life admissions process. After all, they’re the only thing that projects your voice, and your thoughts out of everything in the application. The grades are just numbers, and the awards and extra-curriculars are often just qualifications. Most colleges look at applications holistically anyway so that they can accept a diverse group of students from a plethora of backgrounds, rather than all admit the 4.0’s, class presidents, and valedictorians. In the 21st world of college admissions, just excelling academically often doesn’t make the cut when applying to prestigious institutions, and having average grades often doesn’t mean a death sentence. More often than not, it’s the admissions officers who are on the look-out for an individual voice heard—let that be the only thing that projects your voice, and not your friend’s, not your teacher’s, and not your parents’. This is your essay, not your friend’s, not your teacher’s, and definitely not your parents’. This is the one time in your college application where you are allowed to have your individual voice heard—let that be the only thing shining through.

Writing the perfect college essay is definitely a stressful event. However, with these tips, I hope that you feel that some of the pressure has been reduced, and instead of being lost, you now have a sense of direction in the topics you choose. That being said, I would like to have you share another sassy quote by Hemingway to conclude: “It is none of their business that you have to learn how to write in that way.” Show the admissions officers who the real boss is by rocking that college essay. Believe in yourself, and believe that you can do great. Do your best and the admissions officers are not. Not only will they assume that your college essay is your best piece of work, but they will also use it as a representation of your true self. That being said, like the quote mentioned above, they’ll be seeing your words for the first time. For the first time, they’ll be making a decision based on something they have acknowledged for the first time. So what does that mean? That means that you yourself will have to be reading your essay as if it was for the first time—and that is no easy feat. Too often we read over things so many times that we get tired of reading them. When we get tired, we get lazy, and as a result might not catch the mistakes we would have if we had seen them for the first time. In dire times like these, it is important to get another opinion on your essay. The world is full of parents, teachers, counselors, and friends—use them! Don’t be afraid of showing them your true thoughts—in fact, they’d be more than happy to oblige. However, don’t let them change your essay to the point where you can’t recognize it as your own ideals shining through. This is your essay, not your friend’s, not your teacher’s, and definitely not your parents’. This is the one time in your college application where you are allowed to have your individual voice heard—let that be the only thing shining through. Writing the perfect college essay is definitely a stressful event. However, with these tips, I hope that you

S&S meets in room 521, the photo lab Thursdays after school 3:45 to 4:15 pm. First meeting is 9/11/14.
Organized by Leon Pan

Were you a couch potato this past summer? Well, these Amigos de las Américas volunteers weren’t. Between traveling to Latin America, teaching communities, conducting interviews, and learning in Spanish linguistics, JMM Seniors Maya Arora, Emily Hubbard, Changning Shao, and Maddie Randel exhibited the qualities contrary to the classic “bum.” Here’s what they had to say:

1. Where was your AMIGOS volunteer site?
MA: Bahoruco in the Dominican Republic. *Maya also volunteered in Madriz, Nicaragua the summer before.*
EH: Coche, Panama
MR: Madriz, Nicaragua, in a beautiful community in the mountains called Chaguíte.
CS: Madriz, Nicaragua. My community is called “Las Cruces de Yalaquíu.”

2. What kind of projects did you do with your community?
MA: Within Vista del Lago—my community and work area—my partner and I worked to extend the community’s water system. We also held daily campamentos, or extracurricular activities, with the local children about themes such as health, the environment, and caring for one another.
EH: Our focus was on renovating the community park’s playground which wasn’t being used because it was overgrown with grass, full of garbage, and falling apart. But we were able clean-up, replace the broken elements, and repaint the playground.
CS: We renovated 4 drinking wells. We also facilitated daily camps with the youth and had weekly themes around which we planned educational lectures, activities, and games.
MR: After having numerous meetings…we came to the conclusion of building an awning outside of the school for graduations and cultural dances (social events) to be held there. We were also in charge of painting their central building where they hold community meetings and fiestas.

3. Your most uncomfortable/disturbing experience?
MA: There’s a lot of racism between the Dominicans and the Haitians, especially in the area I was in, since it was so close to the border between the two countries. I had one man, for example, tell me that Haiti’s economic problems and the earthquake of 2010 were a result of the Haitians and cannibals. There was a very present Haitian population in the area, so the tension was definitely uncomfortable.
EH: I was thanking an older lady for lunch and saying goodbye, so I went to give her a hug. However, people typically give each other a kiss on the cheek in that case, so she gave me a kiss and just stood there while I hugged her. We were both laughing, though, so it was funny.
CS: Waking up your entire host family because you need to use the latrine at 2am and can’t get the door open…then actually sitting on the latrine as flies, ants, cockroaches and who knows what else fly, crawl, and buzz in a 20-foot-deep pit under your naked butt.
MR: Everyone in Las Cruces was very welcoming. For me, it was very hard to start the Spanish process. I found that the only way to get better is to mess up. I had to break my fear of speech and practice my Spanish. In all, I am very proud of how I improved my speaking abilities this summer.

4. Do you feel like you formed a strong connection to your host family and/or community? If yes, what was the hardest part about leaving?
MA: My host family was amazing. I had three little host sisters who were always nearby, and my host mom was not only an incredibly helpful resource in the work we did but also such a kind, loving, and energetic human being. Despite this, I love the opportunity that AMIGOS provides for volunteers to connect with another community and another culture at such a deep level. It was really hard leaving. As cheesy as it sounds, I have a second family and a second home there. I miss them every day.
EH: Definitely; the hardest part about leaving was being asked when my partner and I would come back and not knowing the answer.
CS: I formed a really strong bond with my host family, which made it all the harder to say goodbye. I feel lucky to have spent the 6 weeks with a family that really cared about me—some volunteers don’t connect well with their host families. The hardest part is not knowing when I’m going to see these people again.
MR: I made a forever lasting bond with Las Cruces. My host family is just like real family. I keep in contact with my mom and dad often. My little sisters love to talk to me on the phone all the time. Aside from my family in Las Cruces, I made a ton of friends. The hardest part about leaving was saying goodbye to my friends Anthony and Dimar. I can’t begin to describe how it feels to be able to speak your thoughts in a different language. The friendships become more real and unforgettable.

5. In terms of reading, writing, speaking, and listening, how much has your Spanish improved AND/OR how prepared do you feel for the AP Spanish Language Test?
Girls and Boys Cross
Boys Volleyball kicks off
Girls Swimming has a meet
Girls Tennis competes against
your fellow Spartans.
make time to go out and support
matter what you're doing in the fall,
in these upcoming seasons. No
Good luck to all the teams competing
school year starts:
first “home” games/meets after the
watch your friends.
there's always room to go out and
playing or watching these sports,
can go spectate. Whether you're
Fall sports are right around the
Preview
Fall Sports

• Girls and Boys Cross
  Country have a meet in
  September 6th
• Football has a game @
  Mansfield Stadium
  September 5th against Sun
  Prairie
• Boys Soccer takes on Sun
  Prairie @Mansfield Stadium
  September 9th
• Girls Swimming has a meet
  against Sun Prairie @Home
  September 5th
• Girls Tennis competes against
  Beloit @Home September 4th
• Girls Golf has an invitational
  September 6th @Pleasant
  View Golf Course
• Boys Volleyball kicks off
  their season against Beloit @
  Home in the Main Gym

Good luck to all the teams competing in these upcoming seasons. No matter what you’re doing in the fall, make time to go out and support your fellow Spartans.

Prep Profiles
By Ryan Morgan
Fall Sports are right around the corner and there are many that you can go spectate. Whether you’re playing or watching these sports, there’s always room to go out and watch your friends. Here are the first “home” games/meets after the school year starts:

- Girls and Boys Cross
- Country have a meet in Verona September 6th
- Football has a game @ Mansfield Stadium September 5th against Sun Prairie
- Boys Soccer takes on Sun Prairie @Mansfield Stadium September 9th
- Girls Swimming has a meet against Sun Prairie @Home September 5th
- Girls Tennis competes against Beloit @Home September 4th
- Girls Golf has an invitational September 6th @Pleasant View Golf Course
- Boys Volleyball kicks off their season against Beloit @ Home in the Main Gym

Good luck to all the teams competing in these upcoming seasons. No matter what you’re doing in the fall, make time to go out and support your fellow Spartans.

The Nerd Word: How Will We Get to Mars? [Part 1]
By Ryan Das (Not Satire)
Any science enthusiast has probably heard about plans to send people to Mars. We’ve been “20 years away” from Mars since the ’70s, yet 40 years later there still aren’t any humans taking vacations on the red planet. Numerous plans have been in order, but none so far have panned out. However, NASA still has hope in executing a manned mission to Mars. Today, NASA is developing a new rocket, the Space Launch System, which may send the first humans to the surface of Mars. Meanwhile, in the private sector, entrepreneur Elon Musk plans to set up the first Mars Colony and make humans “multiplanetary.”

Space exploration kicked off in the late ’50s and early ’60s and was fuelled by the intensity of the Cold War. After the successful launch of the Soviet satellite Sputnik, both the United States and Soviet Union saw the potential military applications of space travel like powerful spy satellites and raced each other to develop the technologies first. In 1969, the United States triumphantly climbed victory in the “Space Race” by sending the first man to the moon, only seven years after President Kennedy challenged the country to do so. Many enthusiasts presumed that a manned moon mission meant that humans could be on Mars within another seven years. However, when the US realized that the Soviet Union had largely folded their hand after losing the Space Race, the US followed suit. From 1966 to 1976 NASA’s budget plummeted 80%, and NASA has struggled with funding and approval of their projects ever since.

In the second half of the 20th century, NASA and other foreign space agencies discussed all sorts of different plans to eventually send humans to Mars, none of which made much progress. Work stalled at NASA because they faced the great challenge of keeping projects between presidents. Each president would set goals for space exploration, and NASA would begin work, only to have the next president cancel the current plans in place of their own goals. Bill Clinton’s administration cancelled Bush’s Space Exploration Initiative in favor of robotic exploration, followed by George W. Bush proposing the Constellation project to return to the moon, only for Barack Obama to cancel Constellation in favor of the Space Launch System. NASA made little progress on each program, and has been stuck in this cycle since the ’80s.

Currently, NASA is developing the Space Launch System, a Super Heavy Launch Vehicle. The design of the rocket uses hardware from the Space Shuttle program to save money and time. It uses the same fuel tank design, same main engines, and similar boosters to send giant payloads into space. The Obama administration hopes that by using old hardware, they can speed development and cut costs to avoid cancellation. Beyond the first manned flight of SLS, NASA plans to keep options open for missions such as a manned mission to Mars, the Moon, or to a near Earth Asteroid.

Many critics claim that SLS, and NASA’s approach to space costs too much and will never pan out, favoring government cooperation with private companies. Though SLS is currently on schedule and under budget, many doubt whether or not the rocket will ever fly before the next administration cancel it. Though the future for NASA looks somewhat bleak, a private California Based company, SpaceX, plans to start a colony on Mars within the next 20 years or so, and they might just have the most promising plan yet, but that’s for Part 2.

Link Crew

Name: Ben Schlunker
Favorite Class: probably German 3
I love the language, and the classroom environment was not only productive but creative and fun.
Current Sport: My current (and only) sport is cross country.
Career Highlights: hosting the cross country sleepover. Not many people do it, and it makes you cooler I think.
I love cross country because: I can just explore my emotions while putting my body on autopilot. No other sport allows such extensive self exploration while both exercising and competing simultaneously.
Season Goal: to make new friends and be as helpful of a person as possible.
Other Sports: I don’t know what this prompt means but other sports are fun also. I like watching them and playing them.
I love being a Spartan because: I love being a Spartan because I can identify with a community like no other. The companionship between spartans is unmatched. Spartans are also ferocious warriors which I am.
Most memorable moment in sports: The most memorable moment in sports is when Austin Wilson and I bought a macaroni at a garage sale during cross country practice.
Most embarrassing moment in sports: We played against theVenata scored a lame touchdown against Sun Prairie for the first football game of the season.
Everyone on the team knows me as: the guy who...will love his team mates. As if they were all my brothers. I’m the guy that eat, sleeps, and bleeds cross country.
Pregame music playlist: consists of Chief Keef, Tyga, Drake, Macklemore, Nas, G-Eazy, and Big K.R.I.T. These are the major rappers of our generation and I love running to their music.
Pregame Fuel: usually a capuccino followed by half a bottle of water. As for food? I consume hummus on a daily basis.
Most inspirational teammate: Jonas Bietz. This man is a true runner. He possesses the determination of a bald eagle accompanied by the physique of a white tiger.
Favorite Athlete: Joe Hoffman.
Favorite Opponent:every opponent. I love the spirit of the game, and this is the mindset necessary to fully experience what is cross country.
I wish I could compete against: Phil Sorge in an arm wrestle. He still won’t accept the challenge.
Favorite Movie: Bat Thumb.
Favorite TV show: sports.
I describe myself as: a determined young adult to take on the world and show everyone what I am made of.
I look up to: every single one of my teammates. Respect is key in my sport and we all look up to each other.
I can’t live without: my band, Clocksafe. Music is what keeps my soul alive and vibrant.
I wish I could meet: the guy from Cash Cab.
During the Olympics I watched: skate edits.
Did you know…: I’m a pretty shy guy but I’m crazy around my friends!!
Post High School plans: basically following my heart.
On the bucket list: basically a secret.
Spartan cards sold: 2
More profiles on page 10.
Prep Profiles

**Name:** Ryan Murphy  
**Favorite Class:** Mammalia  
**Current Sport:** Football  
**Career Highlights:** beating Middleton to start my junior season, being a part of the longest kick return in Wisconsin state history, 10 tackles and a touchdown in the junior year homecoming game  
**I love football because:** it takes so much complexity to reach such a simple goal  
**Season goal:** grow a beard like Isaac Kysely  
**Other sports:** basketball with Academy, baseball, recreational sports  
**I love being a Spartan because:** green highlights my skin tone  
**Most memorable moment in sports:** hitting a grand slam in tee ball once  
**Most embarrassing moment in sports:** not embarrassed  
**Favorite Opponent:** Naners (Bananas)  
**Favorite Athlete:** Ibrahimović  
**Most inspirational teammate:** Leo Mendoza  
**Favorite Movie:** Frozen  
**Favorite TV show:** The Office  
**Pregame fuel:** Work remix, Rolling, Lose Yourself  
**Favorite Athlete:** Mr. Raabe  
**Favorite Opponent:** Belost  
**Favorite Movie:** Frozen  
**Favorite TV show:** Blue Mountain State  
**I describe myself as:** Effulgent, jovular, and heuristic  
**I look up to:** Henry Houden  
**I can’t live without:** my little bro’s 7th grade spartan youth team  
**I wish I could compete against:** Enrique Iglesias  
**During the Olympics I watched:** Netflix  
**Did you know…:** 7.  
**I love being a Spartan because:** it’s the best school in Wisconsin  
**Most memorable moment in sports:** either scoring a hat trick against Verona, or bashing Middleton, the #2 team in the state in playoffs  
**Most embarrassing moment in sports:** Missing the pk in the alumni game with my brother and all his friends watching  
**Favorite Opponent:** Ryan Henry  
**Favorite Athlete:** Michael Owen  
**Favorite Opponent:** West/ Middleton because they always talk smack  
**Favorite movie:** Any Transformers movie  
**Favorite TV show:** The office  
**I describe myself as:** Powerful, wise, warm  
**I look up to:** Ryan Henry  
**I can’t live without:** Ryan Henry  
**I wish I could meet:** Steven Gerrard  
**During the Olympics I watched:** Ping Pong  
**I love soccer because:** it’s the only sport I don’t suck at  
**Season Goal:** to win state and go 9-0 in conference  
**Other Sports:** No  
**I wish I could compete against:** Ibrahimovic  
**Favorite Opponent:** Self  
**Favorite Athlete:** Mathew  
**Favorite Opponent:** Self  
**Favorite TV show:** Blue Mountain State  
**Favorite Movie:** Frozen  
**Favorite Athlete:** Mr. Raabe  
**Favorite Opponent:** Belost  
**Favorite Movie:** Frozen  
**Favorite TV show:** The Office  
**Pregame fuel:** Work remix, Rolling, Lose Yourself  
**Favorite Athlete:** Mr. Raabe  
**Favorite Opponent:** Belost  
**Favorite Movie:** Frozen  
**Favorite TV show:** Blue Mountain State  
**I describe myself as:** Effulgent, jovular, and heuristic  
**I look up to:** Henry Houden  
**I can’t live without:** my little bro’s 7th grade spartan youth team  
**I wish I could compete against:** Enrique Iglesias  
**During the Olympics I watched:** Netflix  
**Did you know…:** 7.  
**I love being a Spartan because:** it’s the best school in Wisconsin  
**Most memorable moment in sports:** either scoring a hat trick against Verona, or bashing Middleton, the #2 team in the state in playoffs  

---

**Spartan cards sold:** 7.

**Country in the world?**
**Post High School plans:** More school  
**On the bucket list:** Run across the country  

Indie Sports Monthly

with Ben Schlenker

Mahalo! Summer concludes with an eventful first installment of Indie Sports Monthly (ISM). Where to begin? I’ll tell ya where. I met the most radical guy this summer. He is a GoPro sponsored surfer, and gnarly skateboarder. The one and only Nathanial. I don’t know his last name. He is my friend’s cousin from Cali. He came to WI with his family this summer, and skated with us in Madison. He is pretty young, only 12 or something. We took him all over. He is so much better than us at everything. He is the real face of indie sports around America. He also left a little bit of his individual Cali style in all of us, acting as a perfect segue for my next topic. My other friend got a carver board. This brand was introduced to us by the one and only Nathanial. We all loved his board. The dual bushing truck system is wild, giving the board a unique ride, similar to surfing. Man, can this thing rip. Take it to bowls, vert, or just the streets for an unforgettable experience. Lastly, the world of indie sports suffered a great loss this summer. Jay Adams, an original Z-Boy passed away August 14th due to a heart attack at the ripe age of 53. This man influenced skate style, and likely the previously mentioned carver boards were influenced by him. To Jay, I grant the Indie Sports Image of the Month. Until next month fam.

---

**Name:** Sean Surtees  
**Favorite Class:** CAMM  
**Current Sport:** soccer  
**Favorite Opponent:** Derek Hubbard  
**Favorite Athlete:** Mendoza  
**Most inspirational teammate:** Leo Mendoza  
**Favorite Movie:** Frozen  
**Favorite TV show:** Blue Mountain State  
**I describe myself as:** Effulgent, jovular, and heuristic  
**I look up to:** Henry Houden  
**I can’t live without:** my little bro’s 7th grade spartan youth team  
**I wish I could compete against:** Enrique Iglesias  
**During the Olympics I watched:** Netflix  
**Did you know…:** 7.  
**I love being a Spartan because:** it’s the best school in Wisconsin  
**Most memorable moment in sports:** either scoring a hat trick against Verona, or bashing Middleton, the #2 team in the state in playoffs  
**Most embarrassing moment in sports:** Missing the pk in the alumni game with my brother and all his friends watching  
**Favorite Opponent:** Ryan Henry  
**Favorite Athlete:** Michael Owen  
**Favorite Opponent:** West/ Middleton because they always talk smack  
**Favorite movie:** Any Transformers movie  
**Favorite TV show:** The office  
**I describe myself as:** Powerful, wise, warm  
**I look up to:** Ryan Henry  
**I can’t live without:** Ryan Henry  
**I wish I could meet:** Steven Gerrard  
**During the Olympics I watched:** Ping Pong  
**I love soccer because:** it’s the only sport I don’t suck at  
**Season Goal:** to win state and go 9-0 in conference  
**Other Sports:** No  
**I wish I could compete against:** Ibrahimovic  
**Favorite Opponent:** Self  
**Favorite Athlete:** Mathew  
**Favorite Opponent:** Self  
**Favorite TV show:** Blue Mountain State  
**Favorite Movie:** Frozen  
**Favorite Athlete:** Mr. Raabe  
**Favorite Opponent:** Belost  
**Favorite Movie:** Frozen  
**Favorite TV show:** The Office  
**Pregame fuel:** Work remix, Rolling, Lose Yourself  
**Favorite Athlete:** Mr. Raabe  
**Favorite Opponent:** Belost  
**Favorite Movie:** Frozen  
**Favorite TV show:** Blue Mountain State  
**I describe myself as:** Effulgent, jovular, and heuristic  
**I look up to:** Henry Houden  
**I can’t live without:** my little bro’s 7th grade spartan youth team  
**I wish I could compete against:** Enrique Iglesias  
**During the Olympics I watched:** Netflix  
**Did you know…:** 7.  
**I love being a Spartan because:** it’s the best school in Wisconsin  
**Most memorable moment in sports:** either scoring a hat trick against Verona, or bashing Middleton, the #2 team in the state in playoffs  
**Most embarrassing moment in sports:** Missing the pk in the alumni game with my brother and all his friends watching  
**Favorite Opponent:** Ryan Henry  
**Favorite Athlete:** Michael Owen  
**Favorite Opponent:** West/ Middleton because they always talk smack  
**Favorite movie:** Any Transformers movie  
**Favorite TV show:** The office  
**I describe myself as:** Powerful, wise, warm  
**I look up to:** Ryan Henry  
**I can’t live without:** Ryan Henry  
**I wish I could meet:** Steven Gerrard  
**During the Olympics I watched:** Ping Pong  
**Did you know…:** You use 100% of your brain  

**Post High School plans:** Wait for Kismann to give me the call  
**On the bucket list:** Go to a England world cup game  
**Spartan cards sold:** 7.