



The Emerald Press



December 3rd, 2021

Volume V Issue I

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HCS News and Upcoming Events

By Brooke Speer

With Thanksgiving break coming and going, Hamilton Central has many exciting events in the near future. One such event is the arrival of the long awaited basketball season. After having playoffs concluded prematurely in 2020 due to the pandemic and then only having a limited number of games last season, players were eager to begin their seasons this year with a title on the line. On November 15th, both boys and girls basketball started their seasons, each already having had several scrimmages. The first girls JV and Varsity games are scheduled for Thursday, December 2nd, when they host West Canada Valley. The boys teams have a later start, with the regular season commencing when they travel to Morrisville-Eaton on December 7th.

Transitioning to the academic side of things, free SAT prep classes are being offered at Colgate University starting in January. If this is something you may be interested in, make sure to have your application completed and turned in by the December 6th deadline. A link to this application can be found on the HCS MS/HS google classroom page. For seniors or juniors interested in getting a head start on the college search process, Mohawk Valley

Community College will be hosting a open house this Friday, December 3rd, from 10:00am to 1:00pm. This information session will be located in the Jorgensen Athletic and Events Center on their Utica campus. Students planning on attending are strongly encouraged to pre-register using the MVCC link on our schools google classroom. However, same day registration will be permitted if the open house happens your mind.

Masquers is back after the brief hiatus following the conclusion of Baskerville, the fall play they presented in late November. The Hamilton Masquers program will be presenting "Seussical" this upcoming March. Audition sign up sheets are posted outside Mrs. Morens door for those who are interested. Musical auditions will be held on December 7th, and 8th, with individual acting and vocal auditions on the 7th, from 3:15pm to 7:00pm. The group dance audition will be held on December 8th, from 3:15pm to 7:00pm, in the auditorium. Make sure to sign up outside Mrs. Morens door, in order to select a time slot suitable for you.



The Emerald Press

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Rittenhouse Trial, a Case that Lives in Infamy

By Ian Skinner

The Kyle Rittenhouse case was one that lived in headlines, clouded in controversy, with some people finding problems with the prosecution, and others directing the blame at the judge. The reality is that Kyle was acquitted of all charges and is walking free, whether you agree with it or not. Rittenhouse was found not guilty on all five charges: first degree intentional homicide, first-degree reckless homicide, first-degree attempted homicide, and two counts of first-degree reckless endangerment.

Despite the obvious tragedy of the situation, the Rittenhouse case captured national attention due to the broader issues being addressed. For some, this case drew attention because of the racial issues that are everlasting in this nation, while for others it was a matter of defending the second amendment. I'm not saying that Kyle is inherently racist, or at all for that matter, but the connotations that follow a white male carrying an AR-15 at a black lives matter protest raise some eyebrows. However, any individual of any gender or ethnicity could openly carry a weapon at the same time and event that Kyle did on that fateful night in Kenosha. However, this is all assuming that the individual is 18, per the requirement of Kenosha law, which Kyle was not at the time of the occurrence. Disregarding the

morality of this situation, Kenosha's law states that individuals who are not 18 cannot carry an AR-15. Opinions tend to sway facts, but in this sense Kyle was in the wrong plain as day. In a different light, Kyle did act in accordance with self defense laws. He feared for his life, appropriately, and used deadly force to defend himself. Defense of yourself in this manner is deeply rooted in our constitution, and rightfully so. The rest of the controversy lied within the actual legal progressions of the case.

Thomas Binger, whose title is Kenosha County assistant district attorney, represented one of 15 people filling this position. During the trial, Binger had two transgressions highlighted by the Judge. One was when he commented on Kyle's right to remain silent prior to the commencement of the trial, and the other being when Binger brought up evidence in the trial that had already been ruled as off limits. In wake of the prosecution's missteps the defense called for a mistrial with prejudice, citing that he imparted "Prosecutorial Overreach". It also seemed at times that Binger was unprofessional in his approach, and some have questioned whether he had an ulterior motive. All that said, the Judge presiding over the case drew some media attention as well. Most notably, prior to the trial he decided that the victims of this horrible night were to be called anything but that term. Schroeder had decided calling them victims was "A loaded, loaded word".

Continued on page A3

Resolving the Great Resignation

By Simon Klepeis

Europe has set a new precedent by avoiding the labor participation crisis that has plagued the United States in recent months and establishing more successful solutions than their American counterparts. This widespread lack of workforce participation has been labeled as the Great Resignation. U.S politicians have largely attributed the occurrence of the Great Resignation to unemployment benefits introduced in response to COVID-19 lockdown. Despite the severity of this issue within America, it has not had a universal effect, with European nations rebounding nicely from their own COVID-19 related unemployment. In fact, many nations in Europe have experienced levels of labor force participation which match their pre-pandemic state. France even saw this category exceed its rates from before the onset of the coronavirus disease. These results demonstrate a clear difference in tactics regarding how unemployment issues are dealt with. This poses an interesting question. What can America stand to learn from Europe in regard to handling the labor participation crisis?

There are many contributing factors which have allowed for Europe to transition employment rates seamlessly into the new COVID-19 area. Instead of establishing

unemployment benefits as in the United States, many European governments provided financial aid to employers. These policies are called job retention schemes, intended to ensure workers maintained their employment status throughout periods of lockdown. While the U.S did give some support to businesses attempting to survive, the main priority was supporting workers displaced by the pandemic. Despite these apparent miscues by the government, much of the variation in labor force participation between Europe and America can be explained by fundamental differences in social structure and normalities. For example, the United States saw a drastic drop in the labor force of citizens over the age of 55 years old. However, in Europe it is common for people to retire much earlier than in America. Similar differences in the functioning of the economy also had an effect on the ability of nations to weather the job crisis.

When attempting to implement successful European institutions and economic methods, the American public is quick to make declarations of socialism. This often has the effect of inhibiting the ability of the United States to make progress in solving societal issues, such as the Great Resignation. By recognizing our own failures as a country, and being willing to accept alternative solutions, the U.S may be better prepared to solve the problem in question. If America is able to harness the pro-worker policies which have been so effective in Europe, in addition to

propping up small businesses, it will be possible to bolster the economy on a local and national level. In turn, this will incentivize the large-scale filling of empty job positions. This may not be an easy task, but by applying European methods that have been proven successful, it may provide the United States with a leg up on how to approach the Great Resignation.

Rittenhouse cont.

With that in mind it would have made sense for the judge to bar all emotion evoking words, such as victim. In spite of this, Schroeder allowed the defense to use the terms arsonist and looters at free will, words that carry heavy connotations just like victim. This led to some thinking that the judge was acting unfairly towards the prosecution, but nevertheless the trial proceeded.

Overall, the trial was probably one of the most publicized in recent memory. Bringing with it a divisive force that tore the nation apart. Regardless of the outcome and what you believe, the jury found Kyle not guilty, and the only thing to come his way now are civil lawsuits from the victims.



Oxford High School Grieves the Loss of 4 Students

By Kyleigh Pearson

On November 30th, there was a fatal shooting at Oxford High school in Michigan, resulting in four dead and seven injured. The gunman was a 15 year old sophomore who attended the school. He used a semiautomatic handgun that was bought by his father four days prior to the fatal shooting. Within five minutes of the first gunshot, the gunmen had shot 11 people.

The authorities identified the four dead as Hana St. Juliana (14), Madisyn Baldwin (17), Justin Shilling (17), and Tate Myre (16). The injured students' ages ranged from 14 to 17. The only adult that was shot was a 47-year old teacher, who has just been discharged from the hospital. There were two injured students in critical condition, and another seriously wounded. The injured students have yet to be identified and/or do not wish their names to be disclosed.

Tate Myre, who died in the back of a police car after he was shot, was a linebacker and tight end for the school's football team. On Wednesday night, over 67,000 people signed a petition to name the schools stadium after him.

"I was in my biology room, just like laughing with a couple of my friends, and, just like a normal day. And then I hear gunshots coming from close by — and my mood just switched. I went from laughing to

crying in about a second."

"We just got in the corner, and sat down exactly how we were supposed to — like we followed the protocols that we practiced, and everyone followed. No one talked, we didn't scream or anything, we were just silent."

- Alysse Avey

"If you weren't hit by a bullet, it doesn't mean you weren't terrorized that day and won't have nightmares about it the rest of your life,"

- Sheriff Bouchard

The firearm was a nine-millimeter Sig Sauer pistol. The gun was confirmed by photos from the suspects social media.

On Wednesday, the suspect, Ethan Crumbley, was charged as an adult with four counts of first-degree murder and one count of terrorism causing death. He is also charged with seven counts of assault with intent to murder and 12 counts of illegal possession of a firearm.

Ethan is being held in juvenile jail, but will soon be moved to an ordinary jail and held in isolation.

Ethan's parents might also face charges against them, prosecutors say. The parents of the sophomore walked in to talk with school officials about their son's behavior in the classroom three hours prior to the incident.

Ms. McDonald, an elected democrat, hopes the shooting will prompt changes in Michigan's gun laws.

This tragic event was the biggest school shooting this year.



Madisyn Baldwin



Tate Myre



Hana St. Juliana

Tier List of the Week

S	New York Knicks, Thanksgiving, Hanging with college friends, Pinchin 3rd Floor, Orchestra concert
A	Macy's Day Parade, Hamilton boys basketball beats Oneida 122-45
B	Jazz band rhythm section, the Catcher in the Rye
C	Addison Schoonmaker's stream, Christmas Music, Byron
D	Upcoming Colgate finals
E	No snow yet, Mariah Carey's "All I Want For Christmas is You"
F	Sami's weekend run in



Boys Basketball

By Ian Skinner

The boys basketball team, coming off two scrimmages against Canastota and Oneida, are ready for the season to commence. The first game on the schedule is December 7th against Morrisville-Eaton. Until then, Coach Blackford has been installing his stingy 1-3-1 defense and his fast moving offense. With the addition of some rising underclassmen and new students, the roster this year is looking more and more complete as time goes on. That being said, the outcome of Hamilton's season is entirely in their own hands, and nothing is predetermined. Ultimately, the team decides how this season goes with the work they put in from now to the end of the season. Blackford is now coaching in his 40th year of high school basketball, and knows that if he doesn't instill the bug for competition and winning in his team now, that later on the team will face difficulties. Overall, this years team will be more than exciting to watch than ever. Hope to see you there and in the green mile. GO KNIGHTS

Girls Basketball

By Kyleigh Pearson

The girls basketball team started off their season with two scrimmages. They played their first scrimmage at Brookfield on November 30th. While the scores and statistics were not documented the girls played hard and worked on cleaning up their defense and offense. The same logic applied when they played their second scrimmage at New Hartford. During the scrimmage, guard Lindsey Speer suffered a sprained ankle by stepping on another girl's

foot. While the scrimmages didn't result in victory, the girls learned new and important skills that they wouldn't get just playing against each other. The girls began their season yesterday playing West Canada Valley. The girls next game will be at Sauquoit Valley. This will be Kyleigh Pearson's first game after breaking her foot.

King Richard Movie Review

By Brooke Speer

If you haven't seen King Richard in theaters yet, it isn't too late to see the blockbuster film. King Richard is a American biographical drama film, directed by Reinaldo Marcus Green and written by Zach Baylin, which follows the life of Richard Williams. Played by Will Smith, he is best known as the father and coach of the two most decorated female tennis players, Serena and Venus Williams. Both served as executive producers of this film. This film was produced to show an inside perspective into the lives of Serena and Venus, and their rise to the upper echelon of the tennis world. Serena and Venus Williams grew up in Compton LA, where they mastered the game under their father's watchful eye at the local tennis courts. It wasn't until Venus and Serena were 12 and 11 years old, respectively, that they realized their special talent in the game of tennis. Around the same time their father had insisted Venus work with a top tier coach and play in junior tennis leagues to get the experience of facing superior competition.

At this point, their father had seen more talent in Venus than Serena,

leading to Venus being given extra attention, and private coaching lessons. Meanwhile, Serena hit balls with her mother in her backyard, waiting for her father to realize what she had to offer. After multiple lessons, King Richard decided to take Venus out of competition. He planned for her to practice with a decorated coach by the name of Rick Macci. The family packed their bags and all moved out to Florida, where Macci's headquarters were located. Several months passed, while both Venus and Serena were working to elevate their game to the top level.

Nearing the end of the film, Venus is put up to the ultimate test. She was selected to play against the top player in the world at the time, Arantxa Sanchez Vicario. She was just 14 years old at the time. In this moment, Venus realized tennis is what she wanted to be doing for the rest of her life, as Serena continued to follow in her sisters footsteps. Today, Venus has four Olympic gold medals, and one silver medal. Serena is crowned as the most decorated women's tennis player, with the most grand slam titles of all time during her career (23). She also beat her sister Venus in the 2017 Australian Open final. King Richard is an amazing story, and a film that is definitely worth watching.



Richard Williams with his daughters

Facebook: Meta

By Sami Cigeroglu

Meta is Facebook's new grandiose idea. Last month, Mark Zuckerberg (CEO of Facebook) revealed plans to completely change the course of his company. Meta is going to follow the idea of the metaverse, a completely virtual world that he wants to make people's second life. In the metaverse, people can own land and real estate, visit others, and even do their jobs. In fact, one of Mr. Zuckerberg's biggest goals is to gain the ability for businesses to be operated completely virtually. Because we already live in a time where many already work virtually due to the pandemic, if Meta can get these businesses to meet and work together in this virtual world, it will improve many virtual businesses and save companies a lot of money. As an investment, I think Meta will be very successful. Even though the transition of Facebook is very sudden and different from anything we've ever seen, with the amount of money and impact that the company has, it will be successful in any direction they choose to go. Additionally, with this generation of kids who have been raised on and glued to screens, it is certain to be a hit since these kids already spend a majority of their time in a virtual world. However, there is also a scary side to this idea. A large media industry is making an immersive and eventually indistinguishable world that will appeal to people more than their current lives. With the current trajectory of advancements in virtual reality, in the next century we will probably have more than

just identical visuals in virtual reality. At the end of the day, once Meta has accomplished their goals there will be very few people who want to maintain the world we have now. Those excluded will be the very religious and the poor who can't afford the technology. This idea of a second life in the metaverse is interesting, but also scary when you think about how much it could impact future society.



Tech Review: New Cod vs. Battlefield

By Sami Cigeroglu

As winter continues to deliver many new games, two leading fps titles, Call of Duty (cod) Vanguard and Battlefield 2042, released at about the same time. This places them in direct competition. My goal was to find which one is better. Before I go into detail about both games, I want to say that they are very fun games and are worth the cost. Vanguard was the first of the two to release. This was a big step up from the previous cod (Cold War), with its multiplayer option being the biggest improvement. It had fixed many upsetting things about the previous releases such as campy maps, overall quality of servers, and consumer requests being answered. I asked my goated cod partner, Ben Coddington, his opinion on the new release,

"Definitely an improvement on Cold War, which felt like a downgrade from Modern Warfare (2019) in pretty much every way. Also, it's nice to play regular cod multiplayer again after being stuck with nothing to play for a year other than Warzone due to cod Cold War's poor quality. All in all probably just as fun as Modern Warfare if not more."

Although many were upset with the franchise for its previous release, Vanguard does an amazing job of once again lifting of the name. Battlefield 2042, Battlefield's first futuristic release. Although my overall opinion of 2042 is positive, like many, I do have some resounding issues with the game. The maps were made much larger to better represent an actual battlefield. I like the idea but the execution was very butchered, it takes three minutes of just running to each point on the map. Battlefield has many more minute issues, but the best part about the new game is the fact that it has a lot of potential. A large majority of its issues can be fixed in future updates. Overall, at present my vote would go to Vanguard however that could very much change in the next year.



Apple Muffin Recipe

By Simon Klepeis

My mother has had a deep love of baking since I was a small child. She always was writing in cook books, preserving family favorite recipes for the next generation. My families home was constantly filled with the aroma of cookies, brownies, scones, and a multitude of other baked treats. However, the one snack that always reigned supreme was apple muffins. My sisters and I treasured these muffins and they soon became a mainstay during the holidays and at family gatherings. In this spirit of the upcoming holiday season, my mother agreed to share her secret apple muffin recipe with the Hamilton Central School community. These muffins are easy to make and sure to be a hit among younger siblings and parents alike. I hope this recipe brings your family as much joy as mine.

My Favorite Recipe for
Apple Muffins

From _____

Comments _____

Prep Time: _____ Serves **10**

Ingredients

- 1 1/2 cups flour
- 2/3 cup sugar
- 2 tsp baking powder
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- 1/4 cup butter, softened
- 1 egg
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1 cup peeled + grated apple

Preparation

Mix flour, sugar, baking powder, salt + cinnamon in a large bowl. Add the butter, egg and milk and mix long enough to moisten the dry ingredients. Stir in the apple. Spoon into pan + cook at 400° for 17-21 minutes or until done.

Cooking Method: ☐ Stove ☐ Oven ☐ Microwave
Temperature: **400°** Time: _____
Instructions _____



College Pen Pals: Henry Crespi

By Sami Cigeroglu



Henry graduated HCS with the class of 2021 where he was a sectional champion for tennis, a member of NHS, a goated member of Hamilton esports, and many more things. He is currently a freshman at the University of Rochester and is majoring in Japanese.

What's been your best experience at college so far?

"I'd have to say meeting the homies from esports club."

What's been your worst experience in college so far?

"The food is so garbo."

What's your favorite class and why?

"Japanese language and culture because my teacher is really fun and also good at teaching."

What extracurricular activities are you involved in?

"Esports and kendo."

What's your favorite thing to do on campus?

"Getting picked up by Jules Fravil."

Lily Woods in the Knight Light

By Simon Klepeis

Favorites:

Movie: *Ferris Bueller's Day Off*

Book: *The Water Castle*

Actor: Harrison Ford

Artist: Taylor Swift

Song: "Nothing New" by Taylor Swift

Food: Chicken nuggets

Condiment: BBQ sauce

Season: Summer

Color: Carolina Blue

Place: Wrightsville Beach, North Carolina

Ice Cream: Chocolate Peanut Butter

Phrase: "Okay, so..."

Store: Dicks Sporting Goods

Article of Clothing: Sweatshirt

Sport: Gymnastics

Long Answers:

Deserted Island: A boat

Biggest Pet Peeve: The sound of people chewing

Awkward High School Memory: Tripping up the stairs and breaking my binder

VS:

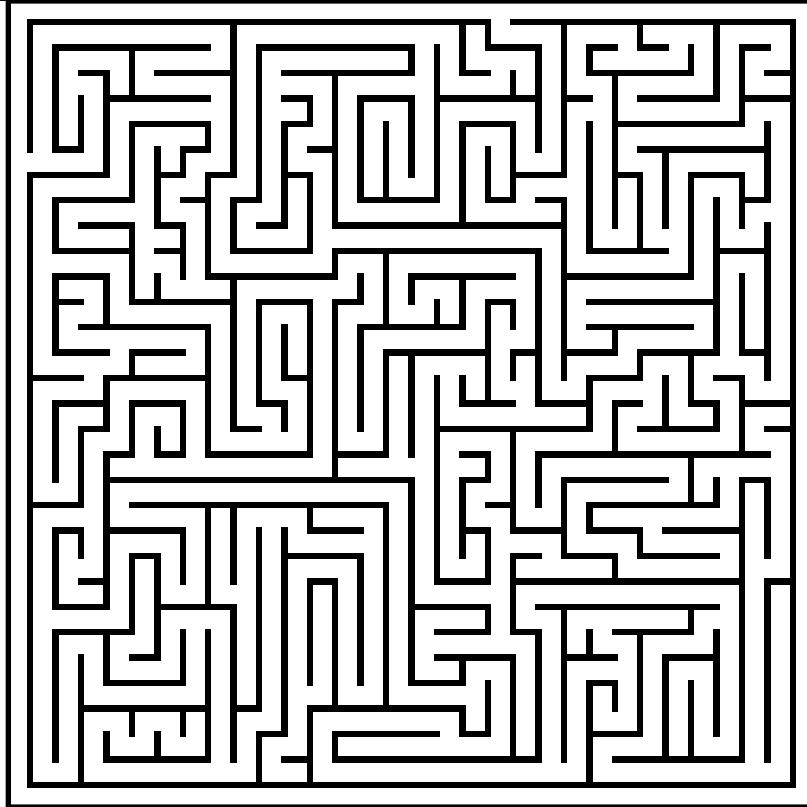
Nike vs. Adidas: Nike

Slices vs. Oliveri's vs. Pub: Oliveri's

Coke vs. Pepsi: Neither

PERSONAL LIFE:

Lily has been a member of band and orchestra throughout high school. She played on the tennis and volleyball teams, while also serving as treasurer for both student council and National Honor Society. After graduation, Lily plans to attend college for health and exercise science.



Design your own Jordan



Question of the Week

December 3rd, 2021



"Special K" - Ian Skinner



"Reese's Puffs" - Taylor Basher



"Honey Bunches of Oats" - Nick Bondi



"Cornflakes" - Mrs. Shaul

What is your
favorite type of
cereal?

By Brooke Speer



"Chocolate Krave" - Andres
Cardelus-Watkins



"Cinnamon Toast Crunch" - Lexi
Lapp



"Cinnamon Toast Crunch" - Brady Foster



"Pops" - Camille Kenyon

Bulletin Board

SAT

Test Tomorrow

December 4th

DON'T SLEEP IN



The annual **Night of Lights** returns to the Village Green in Hamilton at 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3. There will be caroling, horse-drawn carriage rides and the arrival of Santa Claus.

Ray Brothers BBQ and Deli-licious will be onsite for dinner, and there will be free treats donated by the Colgate Inn, the Hamilton Eatery and Flour and Salt Bakery. The Village Green is located cross from Broad Street in downtown Hamilton.

~Mike Jaquays, Mid-York Weekly
Nov. 30, 2021

Night of Lights: Hamilton for the Holidays

Colgate's a capella groups, including the Resolutions, Swinging Gates, and Dischords will be caroling at the official tree lighting in the village by Mayor McVaugh and honored guests, the Kuiper Family at 6p.m. Santa will arrive at 6:05 on the fire truck, and there will be a smores pit, cookies, and hot chocolate.

~Colgate.edu

