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NEWSPRINT

RAISING FEMALE VOICES:

Newsprint staff explores the rise of female-led podcasts.

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PHOTO | Megan Sullivan

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Mercy Newsprint Editorial Policy:

As Mercy Newsprint staff we promise to keep you entertained and informed with accurate and unbiased information. Our goal is to provide timely news while promoting diversity and representing the entirety of the Mercy community. We encourage letters to the editors and any other feedback you may have. You may reach out to us through our email (newsprint@mhsmi.org), our Instagram ([@mercy.newsprint](https://www.instagram.com/mercy.newsprint)), or through any of our staff members.

Mercy celebrates National Reading Month

STORY AND GRAPHICS: PEYTON CALDWELL, SOPHOMORE REPORTER

From Mar. 11 to Mar. 21, Mercy has been putting on a book drive. This book's purpose was to honor National Reading Month which started on Mar. 2, and its purpose is to promote reading. This book drive was to benefit Gesu and Holy Spirit Trinity and support their learning environments, especially elementary schools.

This drive was intended for elementary school students, in hopes that this would encourage them to read or start enjoying reading. Izzy VanHoof, the planner of this drive, highlights the importance of this.

"As someone who used to struggle with reading skills, I find that it is really important to have access to a wide range of books to choose from. Running this drive will hopefully

encourage some younger students to develop a love for reading—no matter their interests," VanHoof said.

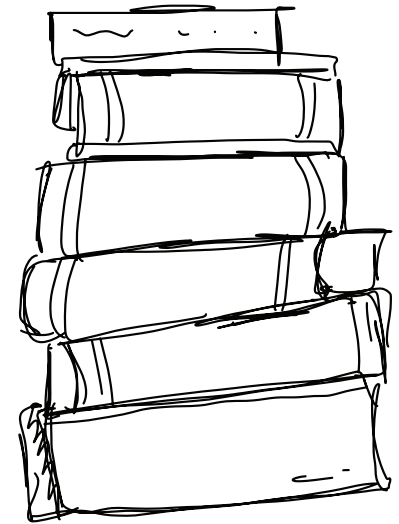
Donating to the drive not only benefits the students who are receiving the books, but also makes the donator feel accomplished, too. It is always good to give back, especially when you know the change and effect it will make.

"Yes, I am glad I decided to donate, Senior Kate Samulak said. "I'm happy to help out kids who like to read."

On Tuesday, Mar. 25, Mercy went to Holy Trinity to put the books into action. Students from all different grades went to read the books our school donated to the elementary students.

"I chose to go on the field trip because I love

working with kids and I hope that I can be a role model to them," sophomore Addi Collins said.



Mercy seniors embrace unity and learning at One Love workshop

STORY: REESE KIZY, WEB EDITOR

As one of Mercy's many events to integrate seniors into new experiences before they graduate, the One Love workshop takes place each spring. This past Tuesday, March 25, the Mercy and University of Detroit Jesuit senior classes gathered to participate in a workshop about healthy relationships and date rape.

The One Love Foundation is a national non-profit organization established in 2010. This workshop has been in place for Mercy seniors to participate in since 2019, led by student leaders and moderators of the One Love club. The organization's main goal is to end relationship violence. They were first founded in light of the death of Yeardley Love, who was abused by her significant other. Through their many outreach and education efforts, One Love empowers young people to change societal attitudes about relationships and gain more knowledge of how to build a healthy relationship.

"I think the One Love workshop is super important because it prepares us to go into college because these abuse situations out there in the real world," senior and One Love leader Maddie Linton said. "It's important to make sure that everyone who will be attending college and meeting new people knows how to recog-

nize unhealthy relationships and abuse."

While the workshop may seem like it dwells only on what to avoid, and the reality of unhealthy relationships, it also teaches the signs of what should occur in a flourishing relationship.

The 10 key terms that the One Love Foundation uses to describe healthy relationships on many of their teaching platforms are:

1. Honesty
2. Trust
3. Comfortable pace
4. Independence
5. Respect
6. Equality
7. Kindness

8. Fun

9. Healthy conflict

10. Taking responsibility

"I thought the film was interesting and it felt relatable because the characters were in college," senior Addison Cervenak said. "It made me see that abuse isn't always through big things, but also small things too."

The Mercy and U of D students gathered together in the auditorium to watch this film about an example of relationship abuse.

"I hope all of the Mercy girls took a lot from the workshop and embraced the opportunity to connect with the U of D boys because it is a great opportunity to learn the material from both sides," Linton said.

According to studies from One Love, over 1 in 3 women experience relationship abuse in their lifetime. As young women leaving high school soon, an experience such as this workshop has been crucial to provide many healthy and safe relationships in the future.

"The workshop gave me lots of insight and I'm glad we got the opportunity to learn these important things about relationships," senior Jada Roberts said.



Spotlight: Student businesses

STORY AND GRAPHICS: **ISA PORTILLO, SENIOR REPORTER**

As part from juggling grades, extracurriculars and a social life, a few Mercy girls have taken on something else—running their own businesses. These girls make their own products, market them, and package and ship them all themselves.

Junior Shaile Cranson is one of these girls, having owned her own Cricut business since before she came to Mercy.

“My business is called Sha’s Shirts,” Cranson said. “I sell custom printed shirts, mugs, sweatshirts, hoodies, etc. I was prompted to start my business in 8th grade when I had already had my Cricut for about a year and I was seeing so many influencers making money by selling the things that they were making on their Cricut.”

For Cranson, her business is not only a means of making money—it’s also a valuable learning experience. “Owning my business has taught me how really any new product or special talent you have can be monetized,” Cranson said. “If you like the thing that you create then there is always other people out there who would probably like and want your product as well. It also taught me better communication skills when talking to other adults.”

But Cranson isn’t the only one making her mark. Senior Grace de Klerk also sells self-made products. “I have a 3D printing and laser

cutting business called Printer Farm Co. with my brother and we sell a variety of pre-made and custom products,” de Klerk said. “We started it during Covid by making an Etsy shop, website, and Instagram.”

For both girls, social media has been a strong tool in marketing their products. “I created an Instagram and Facebook page and just occasionally will post stuff on there,” Cranson said. “Also, whenever I give customers their order I package it with a tag that has my company name on it along with my phone number and email in hopes to expand my business.”

Throughout the years, these tools have helped Cranson grow her company. “[In] total I have probably made around \$500,” Cranson said. “A lot of my orders were from people I knew but I did get a couple of orders from people I didn’t know from my Facebook account.”

For Mercy girls looking to follow in their footsteps, the two entrepreneurs had some advice—just do it. “There’s a saying that goes, ‘Ready, fire, aim’ meaning that you should just get started because you’ll learn and adapt along the way,” de Klerk said.

“I know it seems scary and difficult and hard, but once you start it will only get easier,” Cranson said. “Also, in the end it is worth it.”



Olivia Kazak, Maddie Kazak, and Evelyn Miller pose with their awards following the BPA state conference. They placed 4th in the state in the category of Team Broadcast News Production. Photo courtesy of Ev Miller.

BPA: Taking care of business

STORY: **TESS O'DONNELL, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**

At Mercy, students are given the opportunity to join a club focused entirely on business, that provides them with the skills and professional connections to pursue a future career in various business profession. The Business Professionals of America club offers participating students the chance to learn, compete and test in various aspects of business in order to prepare for a later profession.

Mercy students Olivia Kazak, Evelyn Miller, Seeley Bell and Maddie Kazak recently attended BPA states in Grand Rapids, Michigan. At the BPA State Leadership Conference students compete by presenting a project to a panel of judges or taking a test on a business related topic. However, students begin their journey to States at the BPA Regional Leadership Conference.

“You choose what event that you’re doing and you create a project, or if it’s a test you study for the test,” sophomore Maddie Kazak said. “Then you go to regionals where you present your project or do your test and if you place at regionals, then you’re able to revise your project and then present it again in front of the judges.”

Mercy High School’s BPA regional took place in Taylor this year. Following regionals, depending on an individual or team’s performance, they will qualify to go on and compete at States. The criteria of the event chosen determines how many people or teams are able to qualify for states.

“Each section has a different number of how many people go,” senior BPA leader Olivia Kazak said. “If it’s a team event then the top three people go and if it’s an individual event then the top 6 will go.”

BPA leadership conferences helps attendees learn how to respond to questions and think quickly under pressure.

“The judges will ask you questions but you should know your topic well enough that you are able to improvise stuff,” Maddie Kazak said.

BPA is a learning driven club that assists its members in learning valuable skills that can be used in the professional world and beyond.

“I think I have learned how to network myself better and I definitely go into the competitions looking to meet new people,” Olivia Kazak said.

Support Mercy Businesses!



The Power of Packaging:

How does the outside appearance of a product make consumers more likely to buy it?

STORY AND GRAPHICS: REESE KIZY, WEB EDITOR

In a survey according to Meyers Sustainable US Manufacturer, 72% of American consumers stated that a product's packaging design impacted their purchase choices. Additionally, 81% of consumers reported trying new products because the packaging caught their eye. Have you ever been influenced to buy something because the packaging is cool?

Whether it's food or makeup, the designs on the outside of a product can make or break the driving of its sales. But what makes that packaging intriguing? Major factors that gain more attention from consumers are vibrant colors on a package and the look of cheap vs. expensive.

The vibrant colors that appear on many company's products speak to how they want the consumer to feel when they use a product. The deep pinks and oranges on the cans of Alani Nu energy drinks paint the illusion the consumer will feel energized and vibrant after they drink the beverage. Simple fonts and minimalistic design on Native deodorant will tell you that the product is clean, effective, and made with

simple ingredients. These, along with countless other brands, use the packaging of their products as foreshadowing to what they want the consumer to feel when they use the product.

When a product is wrapped in something that looks like it brings up the value, consumers are typically drawn to that expensive appearance.

"I love Tanologist tanning drops because it comes in a glass bottle with iridescence on it so it looks super expensive," senior Jenna Matigian said.

As companies market their products to fit their target consumers, this also involves marketing their products to look nice and expensive. Although you may not be spending tons of money on something, the packaging of a product can make it seem that way.

"The outside appearance of something can definitely make a person more likely to buy it," psychology teacher Mrs. Lisa Robinet said. "It's called the peripheral route to persuasion which has more to do with whether something looks attractive, not always based on facts."

Our minds will always choose the shinier object—the one that looks "better," over something that may be more functional, but lacks a pretty appearance. Companies market their goods to appeal to this favor of beauty and outside appearance.

"The central route to persuasion has to do with facts, but the peripheral route often is used when something is trying to be sold because it has to do more with appeal to the eye," Robinet said. "iPhones often use both routes to persuasion because it shows technical things like how many gigabytes the new phone can have, but it also shows pretty images that the phones can take, and it shows the sleekness and simplicity of the design of the phone, for example."

Packaging is so important in business now that it is an area of study in many colleges. Senior Audrey Callaghan plans to attend Michigan State University next year and major in Packaging.

"I always wanted to study art and design because I've always been drawn to it, so when I first heard about the major I felt like it would be a great way to do that,"

Callaghan said. "Also, since taking AP Environmental Science, I think it is very important to start making packaging more sustainable because we use way too much plastic in packaging."

Whether it is glass or plastic, or vibrant or simple designs, packaging has the power to draw in consumers. Packaging on all your favorite products is designed to tell you more about the good and evoke feelings that will coincide with how the product will be useful in your life, all while persuading you to buy it.

"When people say don't judge a book by its cover, it's definitely not the same as judging the packaging of a product, because that's exactly what people do when they are in stores," Callaghan said.



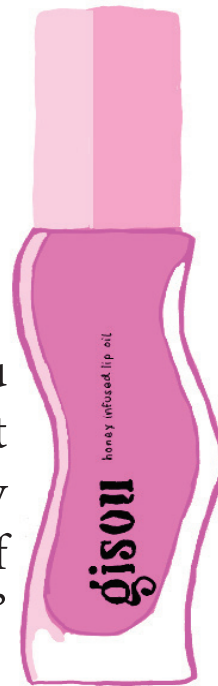
"All of my products are Laneige because I like how they look on my shelves." - Lara Wadowski '27

"I love the Rare Beauty blush because it comes in a nice glass bottle." - Hazel Syke '26

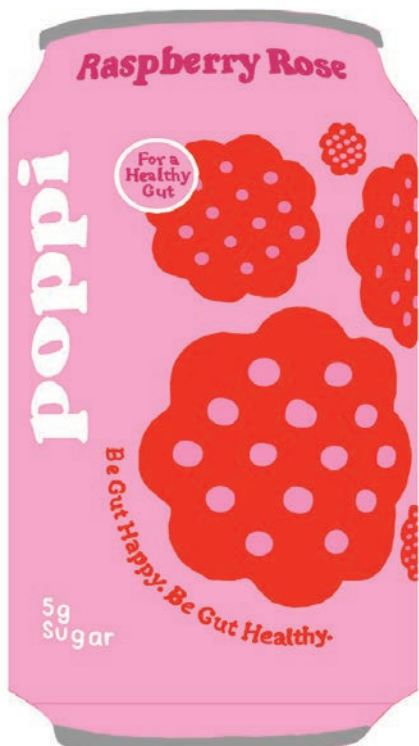


"I am drawn to Poppis because of the cute design and vibrant colors on the can." - Jill Collins '25

"I love the Gisou lip oil, to be honest though, I only really bought it because of the packaging." - Kayla Kilano '25



"I like Chobani Creamer packaging because it has cute images of what the flavor is." - Lauren Smith '25



Breaking barriers: Women in male-dominated fields

STORY AND PHOTOS: **ZAARA AHMED, COPY EDITOR**

March marks Women's History Month, a time dedicated to honoring the achievements, struggles and contributions of women throughout history. Established in 1987, Women's History Month serves as a reminder of all the resilient women who have paved the way for future generations. While society has made significant progress toward gender equality, there are still disparities in many industries, particularly in STEM fields, sports, politics, and corporate leadership. Women in these areas face systemic barriers like unequal pay, lack of representation, and biases that set back career advancements. However, lots of women have risen above these obstacles. Women scientists and engineers are driving groundbreaking innovations, female athletes are breaking records and redefining their

sports, and women in business and government are reshaping leadership structures worldwide. Women are making strides in spaces where they have been historically underrepresented. This month is not just about looking back, but instead, it's about recognizing the women of today who continue to make a difference in the world.

CEO Lotte Rosenberg

The energy industry has historically seen underrepresentation of women, especially in leadership roles. Lotte Rosenberg is a woman who is changing this norm. She is the current CEO of Carbon Recycling International, an Icelandic company that transforms carbon dioxide into renewable e-methanol. Rosenberg believes that innovation is driven by having teams with diverse perspectives, which means hiring people with different backgrounds and educations, as well as more women. Despite facing challenges and biases, Rosenberg shares her story to empower other women in the energy industry.

Source: <https://www.reuters.com/sustainability/climate-energy/inna-braverman-lotte-rosenberg-two-women-making-waves-energy-industry-2025-03-10/>



Coach Esperanza Lara

In the sports world, coaching has long been dominated by men. Coach Esperanza Lara, however, is changing that narrative. She is currently in her first season at United South High School as head coach of the girls' soccer team. Coach Esperanza brings passion and dedication to her role. She continues to emphasize the importance of breaking barriers in male-dominated sports. Despite facing challenges like gender bias and limited resources, she remains committed to her athletes and aims to be a role model, encouraging young female players to pursue their dreams.

Source: <https://www.lmtonline.com/sports/article/esperanza-lara-womens-history-month-20205700.php>



F1 Race Engineer Laura Mueller

Laura Mueller has made history as Formula 1's first female race engineer. Her journey is a significant milestone in a sport and industry historically dominated by men. Mueller joined the Hass team as a performance engineer three years ago, specifically because of her experience in the World Endurance Championship and European Le Mans Series. Now, she is promoted to a race engineer, one of the most senior trackside roles as they are the main link between a driver and the team. Her promotion shows the increasing female representation in F1 technical roles.

Source: <https://www.formula1.com/en/latest/article/laura-mueller-becomes-f1s-first-female-race-engineer-as-haas-confirm-key.3gFdZ46OphTELHNKnGAIM6>



Dr. Cynthia Breazeal

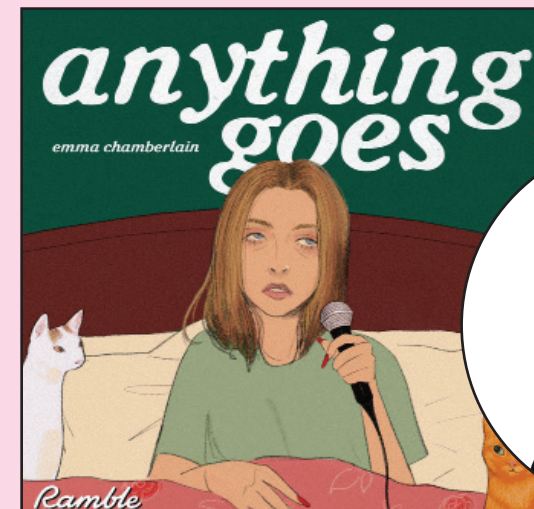
Dr. Cynthia Breazeal is a roboticist and computer scientist whose work has advanced the field of robotics. She is the founder and director of the Personal Robots Group at the MIT Media Lab and has been working to develop robots capable of human interaction. Dr. Breazeal is an advocate for diversity in STEM. She actively mentors young women and underrepresented minorities, encouraging them to pursue careers in science and engineering. Her work continues to inspire future generation of scientists and engineers.

Source: <https://themosh.org/pioneering-women-in-stem-fields/>



Review: The rise of women in podcasting

STORY, PHOTOS, AND GRAPHICS: **STELLA COE, JUNIOR REPORTER**



Everyone knows Emma and everyone loves Emma. After a YouTube rise to fame in 2017 Emma Chamberlain's following grew rapidly for her relatable vlogs about the life of a teenage girl. She ranted about funny occurrences in her daily life to deep topics like depression and social anxiety that many teenage girls relate to. Her stark honesty led her to gain a following of millions who looked to her not just as a role model, but as someone who they could learn from and relate to. Emma Chamberlain harnessed this idea into her podcast "Anything Goes." This podcast is an unexpected space where she uses her voice to inform her viewers about her life, give words of wisdom about mistakes made in the past, and speak about difficult topics most people would fear bringing up, yet alone posting online. New episodes air every Thursday and Saturday.



Hannah Berner and Paige DeSorbo present the Giggly Squad: A comedic podcast that will have you giggling through the series of episodes. The podcast features content ranging from drama in the girls' lives and newest trends circulating the internet to talks surrounding empowering women and addressing mental health concerns of the generation. According to the Giggly Squad, it is the #1 TV and Film podcast in America, while receiving awards as a high ranking comedic podcast as well. Berner and DeSorbo even tour and present live shows to fans across America. Giggly Squad has grown tremendously since its first airing in 2020, now with 44 million downloads according to Eleanor Tolbert. The podcast keeps watchers on their toes with weekly updates and new drama to spill.



Alix Earle, started her podcast in September of 2023 after having a TikTok rise to fame. Earle's popularity grew as she started sharing her college experience as a senior at the University of Miami. She harnessed her following and entertaining lifestyle to inspire her podcast "Hot Mess." This podcast highlights the highs and lows of Alix's life from embarrassing experiences to advice on how to navigate the World after college. She often hosts guests and features her younger sister, Ashtin Earle. Together these girls dive right in to tell you about the "hot mess" of their lives as women facing young adulthood.



"Call Her Daddy" the name is just about as surprising as the podcast itself— with an unexpected title comes unexpected content. Alix Cooper began this podcast in 2018 and its popularity has led it to be the most-listened podcast by women, according to YouTube. Cooper uses this platform to discuss a range of topics, but most importantly highlights women with growing influence or people who have had a growing influence on women. This empowering channel airs each week with a new star to dive into their life details and lessons learned. Will you listen to Millie Bobby Brown, Robert Raush, Ellen Pompeo, or Kamala Harris? The list goes on because Call her Daddy highlights all the differences women are making in the world with their influence and power.

Caffeine Consumption: Greater benefits or consequences?

Almost everyone consumes a caffeinated drink everyday, but are the benefits really worth the potential health consequences caffeine poses?

STORY AND GRAPHICS: **TESS O'DONNELL, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, AND ANNA MCGAVIN, SOPHOMORE REPORTER**

Pro: Energy boost, worth it

By: Anna McGavin

Energy drinks, morning coffee, starbucks drinks. All of these have one thing in common. Caffeine. The benefits of caffeine are what make people want to drink it.

As highschool students, having a busy schedule is inevitable. Staying up late to do homework is a way of life.

“Caffeine is good, because it gets me through the day whenever I don’t get enough sleep the night before. It also helps me have more productive workouts,” sophomore Kennadi Ankrah said.

The caffeine in the drinks students often drink increases focus and reaction time. This helps students to be more productive while doing work.

Not only does it help your brain become sharper, it also helps your body. Pre Workout is one of the common caffeine-containing products people often use. According to health.clevelandclinic.org, pre-workout helps to increase: muscular endurance, strength, performance, blood flow, energy production, and muscle growth and repair.

Not only is caffeine beneficial, it’s just overall a fun concept.

“It’s so good. It’s fun. It’s a nice crisp beverage in the morning. There’s so many flavors. It just makes my day,” senior Meghan Kowalyk said.

Caffeine is very helpful when it comes to getting an energy boost, but it can become dangerous when abused.

“I think that caffeine depends on how you use it. I don’t mind using it as an energy boost, but I don’t think it should be used as a substitute for sleep,” sophomore Mira Kolbusz said.

Not only is keeping a balance between helpfulness and overuse important, the fun drinks also bring about fun memories.

“I think caffeine can be very useful for students with busy schedules. Sometimes they don’t get home till very late and still need to do their homework, and caffeine can be very useful the next day as long as it is used responsibly and in moderation. I also really enjoy going to Starbucks with my friends. It’s really nice to spend time with them and relate about our classes and what is happening in our lives. The comforting atmosphere of Starbucks really helps my friends and I get closer,” sophomore Maria Heilman said.

Con: The spike isn’t worthy

By: Tess O’Donnell

If there is one thing it is hard to see a Mercy girl without, it would be a caffeinated drink. Most girls can be seen with a coffee, or a starbucks refresher, or an energy drink in hand at any time throughout the day. While moderate caffeine on occasion is not bad, the overconsumption of caffeine within Mercy, and within society in all is extremely harmful.

Caffeine is a known addictive substance and drug. It has such a powerful effect on the body that if a caffeine drinker abruptly stops drinking caffeine they will experience withdrawal symptoms and caffeine craving, (addiction center). Caffeine works as a stimulant, increasing chemical neurotransmitters in the brain and exciting the central nervous system, (cleveland clinic). Caffeine takes normal, natural processes in your body and advances and disrupts them.

“If you are caffeine free then you are using other measures to be able to function throughout the day so you aren’t relying on a substance to give you energy,” health teacher Brandi Lavelly said. “So when you drink caffeine you get the surge of energy but then you also have the crash of it afterwards. So if you’re not using caffeine, you are doing the activities that help you get the energy you need naturally.”

Caffeine has many troubling side effects that young caffeine drinkers may not realize they are putting their bodies at risk to. Following an overconsumption of caffeine, it can be known to cause anxiety, heartburn, digestive issues, dizziness and irritability.

Many Mercy students have recognized the negative effects of caffeine and made the beneficial choice for their lives.

“I don’t drink caffeine because I’m honestly scared about the impact of caffeine on my health,” senior Sophia Johnson said. “I don’t want to become dependent on caffeine if I start drinking it. I would rather generate energy levels from food.”

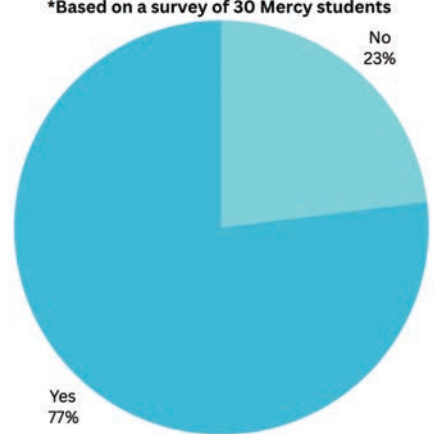
Mrs. Andrea Kowalyk, who drinks around 2 diet cokes a day, understands the effects of caffeine computation on her body as she reflects on her body’s reactions to giving up diet coke for the lenten season.

“I feel less spikey,” religious teacher Mrs. Andrea Kowalyk said. “I think with my diet coke I do more of the ups and the downs and without it I am a little more even. But I like the spike. I seek the fake energy, quick energy. But I think it is better for me to be even.”

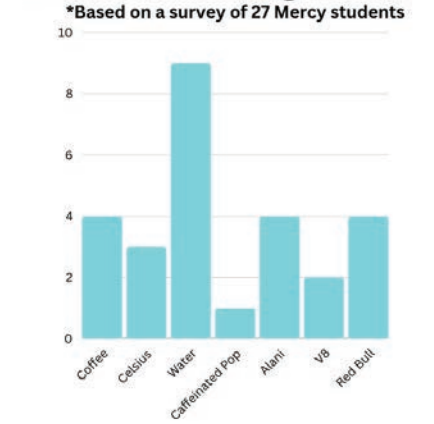
Caffeine is harmful substance and regular caffeine drinkers need to be conscious of the effects on their bodies.

“The one time I did try a energy drink my hands were shaking really badly,” senior Marie Schueneman said. “I was more anxious and less focused.”

Do you drink a caffeinated drink daily?



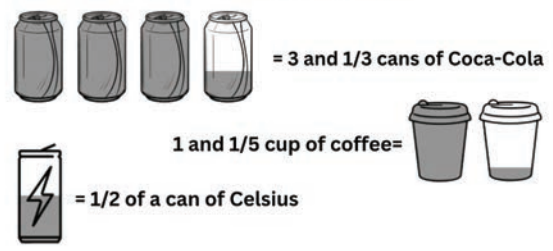
What is the most popular drink to consume during school?



What is the average amount of caffeine drank by Mercy students daily?

*Based on the average of a survey of 20 Mercy students

111 milligrams



Review: Disney's Controversial Take on Snow White

REVIEW: **ANEESA SYED, SENIOR REPORTER**

Disney's most recent live action adaptation and release has both audience members and fans in a frenzy. Snow White has faced nothing but criticism and controversy since its announcement, as it hoped to bring life to Disney's first animated film released in 1937. Rachel Zegler portrays Disney's first princess, while Gal Gadot stars opposite of her as the Evil Queen. Disney has faced controversy in the past, as do many films, but the issues revolving around Snow White have only widened the conversation about politics, casting choices, and representation.

Back in 2023, fans were outraged to learn about Zegler's casting as Snow White, as she made comments about the original film and how it was "scary" and about a "guy that literally stalks her".

"She's not gonna be saved by the prince this time," Zegler said at the 2023 Disney Expo alongside Gadot. Gal Gadot, on the other hand, has been noticeably distant from her co-star due to their conflicting political stances regarding Israel and Palestine, as Gadot was formerly an IDF soldier while Zegler is a constant advocate for Palestine. Still, the two remain professional and even posed for a picture at the latest red carpet premiere in Los Angeles.

However, as months went by from the troublesome interview at the 2023 Disney Expo, Rachel Zegler has seemingly made up for her controversial comments regarding the original. If you get a chance to watch the film, absolutely take it.

It opens with an upbeat musical number and a young Snow White with her parents, as it transitions to Zegler and quickly establishes the conflict between her and the Evil Queen. Zegler sings "Waiting on a Wish", a new original song and is soon on the run from the Queen when she is met by the seven dwarfs- who are CGI'd, another controversial aspect. Instead of being rescued by the prince, she is saved by a group of bandits, particularly Jonathan, who sings "Princess Problems" another new song to highlight the independence of the princess rather than relying on a prince.

The Evil Queen even sang "All is Fair", a villainous tune about her vengeful intentions and desire for power.

All seems well until she takes a bite of the infamous poison apple given by a queen in disguise, then is awoken by a true love's kiss by Jonathan, overtakes the queen with the power of kindness and lives happily ever after. "I haven't watched Snow White yet, but since I heard a preview of one of the songs it made me want to give it a try," senior Kimora Porter said.

The songs were vocally uplifting, and sounded even better with Rachel Zegler's impressive vocal ability. The visuals were beautiful, and the costumes and Snow White's iconic red yellow and blue dress was authentic and true to the original film. The set design was majestic and fairytale-like, while the magic and Disney spark never left the audience's side. The film teaches kids about showing kindness and believing who you are truly meant to be in this world.

Snow White is in theaters now, so don't miss your chance to see it!



Disney's Snow White movie poster. Courtesy of Walt Disney.

Opinion: Are Live Action movies any good?

When you think of live action, what movies come to mind? I think of 2015's Cinderella starring Lily James, or 2024's Wicked with Ariana Grande and Cynthia Erivo.

"I just feel like nowadays live action movies aren't as good as they were when we were younger," senior Alex Knapp said. "There are a few but it's pretty rare for it to be something really memorable."

She may be onto something. With recent live-action film adaptations like Disney's Pinocchio (2022), Maleficent: Mistress of Evil (2019), and more, the Tomatometer- the official professional critic review, has generously given these adaptations just below sixty percent—in case you didn't know, that isn't necessarily an Oscar-winning score. But why? Is Hollywood losing its spark? Is it "falling off"? Let's take a look.

"The biggest complaint I think a lot of people have is that we don't want a live action version of certain movies," senior Emma O'Donnell said. "Some things are just better off untouched because they are so sacred to the people who grew up watching the originals."

Other major companies like Marvel recently got criticism for their 2024 adaptation of Madam Web starring Dakota Johnson. It landed with an eleven percent on rotten tomatoes and is a "clunky, poorly-written, messy, and

sloppy movie packed with some mediocre editing and performances," according to an IMDB review.

Even HBO Max is facing criticism for adapting a television show reboot of Harry Potter. Audience members and fans are skeptical about the countless announcements of these "new projects", because in reality, they aren't new. Like all of our beloved, animated films, not one has been left alone: not when there's money on the table.

Live action films tend to carry less risk than a completely new story. The issue is this: it doesn't feel like a movie made with originality, and most of the times it just seems like a money grab. For example, when writers tend to add their own "twist" to a fairytale, it takes away from the original story that you and millions of other little kids grew up watching, and caters more towards the expectations of today's society rather than just creating an authentic story and putting it out. It's a double edged sword: audience members criticize a movie for being too inclusive, then will complain about a movie not being "inclusive enough". Furthermore, the original was meant to be unrealistic, fun, creative, and crazy. When adapting to to a live action version, the story ends up being "dulled" in a way to make it seem more realistic since it isn't animated anymore.

There's many opinions on this subject, and if you

were to ask me, I would tell you that really, it depends. It depends on the film, and it depends on how the live action adaptation is executed. For example, Disney's Snow White just recently released in theaters on March twenty first, with extreme controversy surrounding it and thousands of empty seats during its release week. On the other hand, Lilo and Stitch has fans around the world anxiously awaiting its release in May due to its successful promo and loyalty to its original film from 2002.

"I think that the live action remakes are good as long as they choose an actor that fits the role," junior Hazel Skye said.

That doesn't mean that we can't look forward to future projects, like Dreamworks' live action adaptation of How to Train Your Dragon releasing this summer, and Marvel's Fantastic Four.

These are among the many future projects that are planned, so don't miss out!



Mime Mania:

A look into the 2024-2025 Mercy Mimes

STORY AND GRAPHICS: **MEGAN SULLIVAN, DESIGN EDITOR**

Under a thick coating of white face paint, red suspenders, and a beret to match, the Mercy Mime uniform is easily recognized at any school event. The extracurricular activity, though unique from many other schools, has been a staple to Mercy school culture for 34 years, beginning in 1991.

The legacy continues strong today through the 2024-2025 crew. Under the guidance of their director and Mercy Mime alumna Lucia Wylie-Eggert, the mimes rehearse new scenes, movements, and gestures during their Friday practices.

“Typically, practices revolve around either learning new skits or practicing old skits for upcoming shows,” senior Sophia Bishop said. “Sometimes more complicated scenes will



Beatrice Lapuz presents the next scene at last year's Spring Performance. Photo courtesy of Maura McSweeney.



The Mercy Mimes strike a pose as they finish their 2024 Spring Performance. Photo courtesy of Maura McSweeney.

need to be run through a couple times or if there's people we need to fill in new roles.”

At these practices, the mimes prepare for their variety of events throughout the year like “A Silent Night” at the Christmas assembly, or their Christmas showcase. The mimes also take a yearly trip to the seniors living at Beaumont Commons in Dearborn, whom they have been visiting for 15 years.

“We always do a bunch of Christmas stuff,” senior Jaylen Pecora said. “There's no Christmas like a mime Christmas. It's a magical time to be a mime at Christmas time.”

Outside of their Christmas festivities, the mimes have several additional activities as they are present at Mercy open houses as well as the silent auction. Their next upcoming activity is their April Fool's Show taking place on April 1st in the drama studio.

Part of the mime's allure is the uniqueness of their craft which allows for a wide variety of students to join the crew. While most have a background in the performing arts, the mimes allow for any student with interest to join, and are holding auditions for next year on April 4 in the Drama Studio.

“I would say being a mime has made me way more open to new experiences and putting myself out there,” Bishop said. “I think it's a really unique fun activity and it taught me to be open to anything.”

Above all, through performance, the mimes bring joy to their audiences with comedy and crowd interactions, reaching out and helping those even outside the mercy community.

“My favorite part is interacting with different age groups and making their day because it never fails to put a smile on someone's face,” Pecora said. “It's nice to be able to make someone feel seen even if it is in silence.”



Spring Sports

STORY AND GRAPHICS BY: **OLIVIA LORELLI, SENIOR REPORTER**

What are the Spring Sport's Goals for this Season?

“To defend our Catholic League title and hopefully win states.”

- Mackenzie Conway (Lacrosse Captain)

“To see the underclassmen improve throughout the season and to see everyone hopefully get new PR's”

- Skye Clark (Track and Field Captain)

“To win Catholic Leagues again but also hoping to get a district title this season”

- Maddie Linton (Soccer Captain)

“Last season we placed third so I am hoping to improve and hopefully win states this season.”

- Sophia Bishop (Tennis Captain)

“Definetly make another appearence in states at Michigan State but also to grow as a team.”

- Evelyn Miller (Softball Captain)

Opinion: Why Mercy High School Needs a Turf Field

At Mercy High School, we pride ourselves on fostering a strong athletic program and a sense of school spirit. However, one thing is noticeably missing—a turf field. While natural grass fields have long been the standard, upgrading to turf would significantly benefit our athletes, school community, and overall experience. It's time for Mercy to invest in the future by making the switch.

One of the most compelling reasons for installing a turf field is the consistency and durability it offers. Unlike grass, which becomes patchy, muddy, and uneven after heavy use or rain, turf provides a stable and uniform surface. This consistency reduces the risk of injuries caused by slipping or tripping on uneven ground. For athletes, especially in sports like soccer, field hockey, and lacrosse, a predictable playing surface means more accurate movements and fewer accidents.

Additionally, turf fields are designed with shock-absorbing technology, which can help minimize the impact on players' joints, preventing long-term wear and tear injuries. In a school committed to both excellence and student safety, having a surface that reduces injuries is a major win.

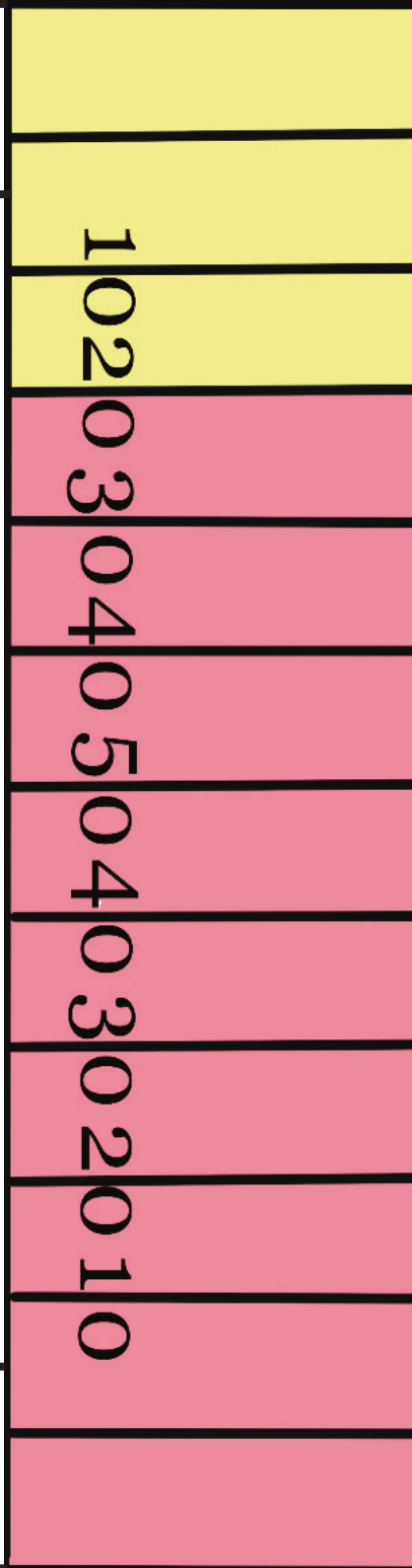
Although the initial cost of installing turf is higher, it is ultimately more cost-effective in the long run. Grass fields require constant maintenance—mowing, fertilizing, watering, and repairing worn-out patches. A turf field, on the other hand, requires minimal upkeep. No more costly watering systems or constant reseeding. This means that over time, the school will save money on field maintenance, making it a smart investment.

Believe it or not, turf fields can also be more environmentally friendly. They require no pesticides, fertilizers, or large amounts of water to maintain. With water conservation becoming increasingly important, switching to a turf field is a sustainable choice that reduces the school's ecological footprint.

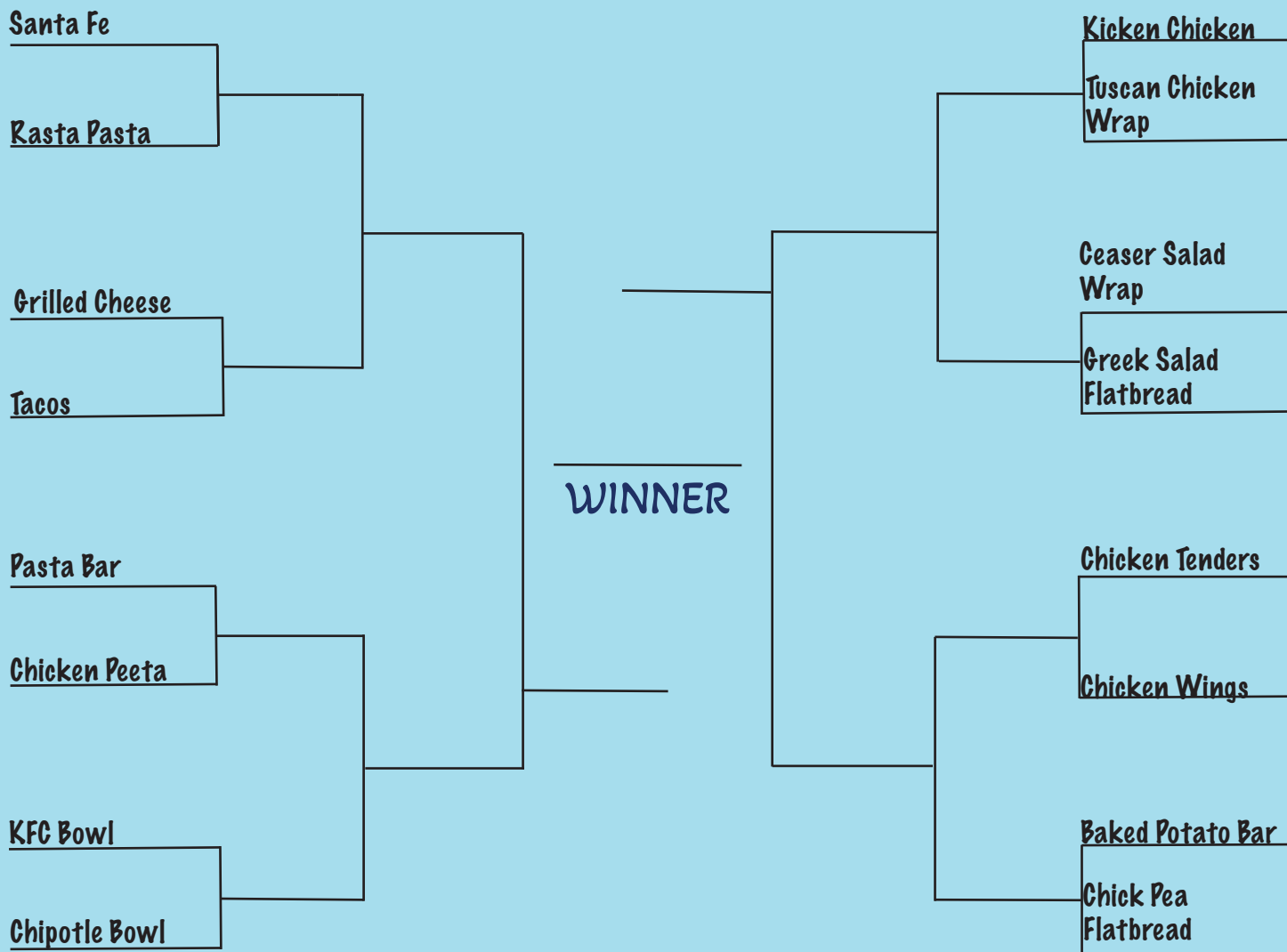
Mercy High School has a tradition of striving for excellence, and it's time our facilities reflect that. A turf field is more than just an aesthetic upgrade—it's a practical, cost-effective, and safety-enhancing improvement that would benefit current and future students alike. With better playing conditions, fewer injuries, and year-round usability, a turf field would elevate our athletic program and strengthen school pride.

Twenty percent of students voted to keep the current Mercy fields.

Eighty percent of students voted to make the change to turf fields.



Mercy Madness!!!



In honor of March Madness, Newsprint is hosting a cafe bracket featuring the fan favorite cafe lunches at Mercy. Vote for your favorite Mercy lunch to help it win Mercy Madness. The winning lunch will be served after spring break!