



THE **JAGUAR**  
*Journal*



**BACK TO BACK... AGAIN!**



**CJ GROUP IV CHAMPIONS**



# CLASS OF 2016 MR. JMHS

Jill Parinello  
Editor-in-Chief



Bottom Left to Right: Josephine Janssen, Jessica O'Leary, Marley Endee. Top Left to Right: Allison Woods, Susie Odonnell, Stefanie Traeger, Daniel Kaba, Andrew Eisenschmied, Jennifer Lewis, Jillian Parinello

The class of 2016 capitalized on the annual tradition of “Mr. JMHS,” making it one of the best shows in years. Highlighting the various talents of our contestants, this year’s Mr. JMHS combined musical performances, ventriloquism, cranial challenges, athletic feats, and comedy acts. It certainly spoke to the diverse skills of the senior class.

The performance commenced with the introduction of the contestants and their escorts. This included Ali Hayrula as Mr. Swish, escorted by Brittany Riggs, Patrick Byrnes as Mr. Fantastic, escorted by Sarah Sharpe, Malcolm Johnson as Mr. Cocoa, escorted by Lauren Guzman, Joe Giglio as Mr. Uncle

Sam, escorted by Jill Parinello, John Moss as Mr. AP, escorted by Mikayla Schultz, Dan Kaba as Mr. UPS, escorted by Stefanie Traeger, Rob Knauf as Mr. What, escorted by Megan Fonseca, Christian Galassi as Mr. Music, escorted by Katey Loftus, Dylan Glaser as Mr. Legend, escorted by Alexis Schuldes, and Rocco Nicosia, as Mr. Wrestler, escorted by Becky Beecher.

The Mr. JMHS pageant was a series of rounds that allowed contestants to show off their talents, swimwear, pickup lines, formal attire, and ability to answer complex questions.

Unofficially sweeping every round of the competition, Dan Kaba, or “Mr. UPS” captivated the audience to lock up the “Mr. JMHS” title. Dan struck a chord

of nostalgia with the audience in the first round by unexpectedly bringing back his Irish jig as “Kyle” in Legally Blonde, accompanied by his girlfriend, Stefanie, in the midst of his Darth Vader presentation.

In a very timely manner, the fading tradition of Mr. JMHS was brought back to life by the eccentric talents of this year’s senior boys. It was a remarkable effort by Ms. Holm and her team of Drew Jacobs, Suzie O’Donnell, Rachel Northrup, Jordyn Abela, Karyssa Niedt, Zoe Baicher, Lindsey Thompson, and Marley Endee, who worked relentlessly to bring this show to life. It is now up to the class of 2017 to keep up the excitement surrounding Mr. JMHS next year!

## TOP 10 MOVIE MUST-SEES OF 2016

Kaitlyn Sauickie  
Staff Writer

(These films have NOT been rated)



**Deadpool**

Release Date: February 12, 2016



**Independence Day: Resurgence**

Release Date: June 24, 2016



**The Divergent Series: Allegiant Part 1**

Release Date: March 18, 2016



**Star Trek Beyond**

Release Date: July 8, 2016



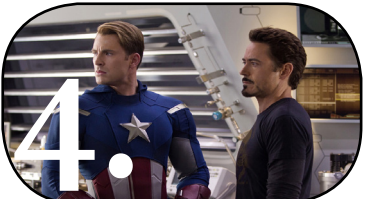
**Batman vs. Superman: Dawn of Justice**

Release Date: March 25, 2016



**Ghostbusters (2016)**

Release Date: July 22, 2016



**Captain America: Civil War**

Release Date: May 6, 2016



**Suicide Squad**

Release Date: August 5, 2016



**X-Men: Apocalypse**

Release Date: May 27, 2016



**Assassin's Creed**

Release Date: December 21, 2016

Photos from Google Images

## HAMILTON REVIEW

Dylan Miller  
Staff Writer

The Broadway world has been turned upside down by the latest smash hit Hamilton. This amazing blend of hip-hop, pop, rap, RnB, rock, jazz, and soul tells the story of Alexander Hamilton. Written by the Tony, Emmy, and Grammy award winner Lin-Manuel Miranda (In the Heights), the show is fun, smart, entertaining, and engaging. In the words of Miranda himself, Hamilton (the character) “embodies hip-hop [because] he caught beef with every other founding father.” Inspired by the biography Alexander Hamilton by Ron Chernow and his love of musicals and hip-hop, Miranda and the cast of the show have delivered a fantastic piece of truly modern theatre that has (and is likely to continue to) captivated audiences not only in America, but around the world.

The musical opens with the most well-known song from the show “Alexander Hamilton”, a version of which was first heard at “An Evening of Poetry, Music, & The Spoken Word” held at the White House in 2009. Following this is Hamilton’s journey from “young, scrappy, and hungry” in 1776 to George Washington’s “right hand man” (and the first Secretary of the Treasury) in 1789; well, during the first act of the show that is. The second half picks up with Hamilton and the other founding fathers right where it left off, but this time is the polar opposite of its earlier counterpart. Instead of rising to new heights, Hamilton sinks to new lows as he is caught up in a scandal and “go[es] through the unimaginable.” Intertwined throughout both acts is the evolution of Hamilton and Aaron

Burr’s rivalry from friendly to bitter to ruthless. Completing the emotional rollercoaster of a show is the infamous duel between the two. Don’t be fooled, however: this synopsis barely scratches the surface of the complexity, undertones, references, and more packed into every word of the show.

I would be remiss if I did not discuss the interesting and stellar cast of Hamilton! First and foremost, the aforementioned Lin-Manuel Miranda plays the man himself, Alexander Hamilton, everyday but Sunday (which was coincidentally the day I saw the show for myself!). On Sundays Hamilton is played by Javier Muñoz, who did an amazing job nonetheless. Leslie Odom Jr. plays the meticulous, “calm,” and collected Aaron Burr, who starts the show with a whisper and ends it with a bang. George Washington is played by Christopher Jackson, who delivers a moving performance as the “father figure” for both Hamilton and the show. One of the other most well-known Broadway stars in the musical is Renée Elise Goldsberry, who plays Angelica Schuyler (a sister-in-law of Hamilton). Not only is her character powerful, as a performer and a feminist, Goldsberry has one of the most difficult raps in the entire show.

I could gush about the rest of the cast for ages, but I don’t have enough pages! Instead, I will talk about them through the modern casting decisions made during the pre-production of the musical. Because of the genres of the music, Miranda felt it only natural to cast nearly all people-of-color for the leads. In fact, the only character who’s casting-call description spe-

cifically included “white” was King George (currently played by Andrew Rannells). It fills me with hope to see that “the most exciting and significant musical of the decade”, according to Terry Teachout, The Wall Street Journal, has a wonderfully diverse cast. Besides the relatively incredible progressiveness of the casting decisions made by the creative team, another intriguing decision made was to double-cast the show. For instance, Daveed Diggs, who has the other most difficult rap in the show, plays Marquis de Lafayette in the first act and Thomas Jefferson in the second. The other double-cast characters include: Jasmine Cephas Jones (Peggy Schuyler/Maria Reynolds), Okieriete Onaodowan (Hercules Mulligan/James Madison), and Anthony Ramos (John Laurens/Philip Hamilton). Finally, the ensemble round out the already impeccable cast adding to the electric atmosphere of the show and making it truly come alive.

Already and soon-to-be beloved by history nerds, theatre geeks, and rap aficionados alike, this historic, revolutionary, and exhilarating musical has “rewrote the game.” By using contemporary-style music to convey historical themes (of which some are still echoed today), Hamilton is truly a masterpiece and rightfully deserves a spot in modern-theatrical history. But besides all of that, and more importantly, it is my favorite musical, and I don’t see that changing anytime soon! (Also, good luck getting a ticket. As of writing this the show is sold out until at least June! Maybe next year, Social Studies Honor Society, am I right?)



# JMHS FIELD HOCKEY GOES THE DISTANCE

Jillian Parinello  
Editor-in-Chief



Bottom Left to Right: Erin Sheeran, Rebekah Chin, Kaitlyn Oxx, Kerry Walsh, Heather Devaney, Emily Lasko. Middle Left to Right: Amanda McKeegan, Amanda Miller, Taryn Wilkins, Morgan Novak, Jillian Shchultz, Maddie Anasiewicz. Top Left to Right: Allison Young, Jesse Hoefler, Kayla Skodmin, Jenny McNamara, Chloe Daum, Jill McGuiness, Abbey Reist

Certainly one of the most close-knit teams here at Jackson Memorial, the field hockey team used their camaraderie and roster depth to shock the shore. With a 15-3-2-season record, the girls posted one of the most successful seasons in years. Dominated by strong upperclassmen, including nine pivotal seniors, and additional young talent, the 2015 field hockey team will undoubtedly be remembered at Jackson Memorial High School.

Beginning the season with the always-anticipated win over Jackson Liberty, the field hockey team made it all the way to the Central Jersey Group IV State Championship on our home turf, facing the Patriots of Freehold Township. In a heartbreaking, valiant effort in overtime, our Jags fell to the Patriots by one goal. However, our field hockey athletes here at Memorial feel that they have gained much more than a ring over the course of this season.

Senior defender, Kaitlyn Oxx spoke to the indispensable lessons the girls learned from the beloved coaching staff comprised of Mrs. Rosenfeld, Ms. Cairone, Mrs. Williams, and Ms. Manara “Our coaches are a big factor [of our success] because they gave so much to us over the season and they prepared us with everything we needed to be successful, she said.”

Oxx went on to speak enthusiastically about the impeccable team atmosphere. “We are truly like a family and always have each other’s backs and that has helped us on the field,” she said. The field hockey girls have truly illustrated the vitality of a united group in sports.

Senior leadership was provided specifically by Allison Young and Jenny McNamara, who never failed to motivate their teammates. The dominant senior class also included leading goal scorer Kayla Skodmin with twenty goals, followed by Amanda Miller with sixteen goals, and then junior, Taryn Wilkins with fifteen goals. Not only did the girls excel offensively, but they dominated defensively as well. Senior goalie, Morgan Novak made 113 saves over twenty games.

While the field hockey team will lose nine unforgettable seniors, the underclassmen look to step up next year to capitalize on this year’s championship run. Bringing back a large group of athletes who have experienced the pressure of the post-season will be crucial for the success of the Jaguars in the 2016 season. The 2015 field hockey team set a precedent for team chemistry at Jackson Memorial, which will hopefully inspire the rest of our teams to succeed all year long.

## WHERE DID IT GO?

Maggie Varrelmann  
Staff Writer

Did you ever notice the wooden engraved sign above the Clayton Nurse’s office? If the answer is no, either you have been fortunate enough not to visit the nurse lately or you passed by at a time when it was not there. Before our current nurse, Mrs. Delfin, arrived at Jackson Memorial, the sign was hanging proudly above the door. The previous nurse was very outstanding. She did everything she possibly could to help out her students and anybody she saw that needed medical care. Who would want to take away her beautiful sign? Several years before Mrs. Delfin came to our school to take care of all of us, the sign magically disappeared!

Nobody knows what happened to the sign exactly, but there have been some theories about who took it and why. A great deal of people who knew that the sign was missing believed that it was a senior prank. Even though these silly and sometimes destructive jokes are not conducted so much anymore, back in the day they were a pretty big deal. These pranks are usually very organized and done at the end of the school year by the senior class. They are intended to cause a sense of chaos within the school and serve as traditions. Luckily for our school, if this was a senior prank it did not cause disorder. If anything, it only created confusion. If this was a senior prank, why did the seniors believe that it had any significant meaning to leaving behind a legacy? What did they think they would accomplish by doing this?

The Grim Reaper has been roaming the halls of Jackson Memorial for several years. While this project is intended to inform students about the eminent dangers of drunk and distracted driving and how it effects family and friends, could the scary Grim Reaper have had other plans up his sleeve? Nobody would ever suspect him of taking a sign when he is supposed to be warning

students about the effects of losing a life. In his defense, he was probably trying to send out a message to the students at JMHS; that is if he committed the sign fatality. The Grim Reaper was most likely attempting to say that no nurse nor doctor can save a victim of a drunk driver. The only people who can prevent or even keep these casualties from happening, are the ones who decide to drive while intoxicated. They are able to do this by not getting behind the wheel. This is what the Grim Reaper was making an effort to say. While this is only the writer’s assumption and there is no proof to back it up, there is still a good chance that this sign trickery could have been committed by the Grim Reaper.

Those of you who are reading this may be thinking that this story is invalid since people get to see the beautiful wooden sign hanging rightfully in its place as they pass by the Clayton nurse. However, this is not a hoax. Almost everybody knows that over the past summer, construction workers were installing air conditioners into the school. Well one of these men became a hero in the nurse’s eyes. One day while putting a unit into the ceiling, one of the workers found something stuck all the way up in a corner of the roof. It was the Nurse’s sign! The worker was very kind and decided to give it back to the school where it rightfully belonged. In the end, the sign had been stolen and missing and now it is back where it is meant to be. Nobody knows what happened to it or who took it, but the nurse surely appreciates the fact that it has returned. Will you be the one to solve the case of the missing nurse’s sign or will the mystery still linger on?



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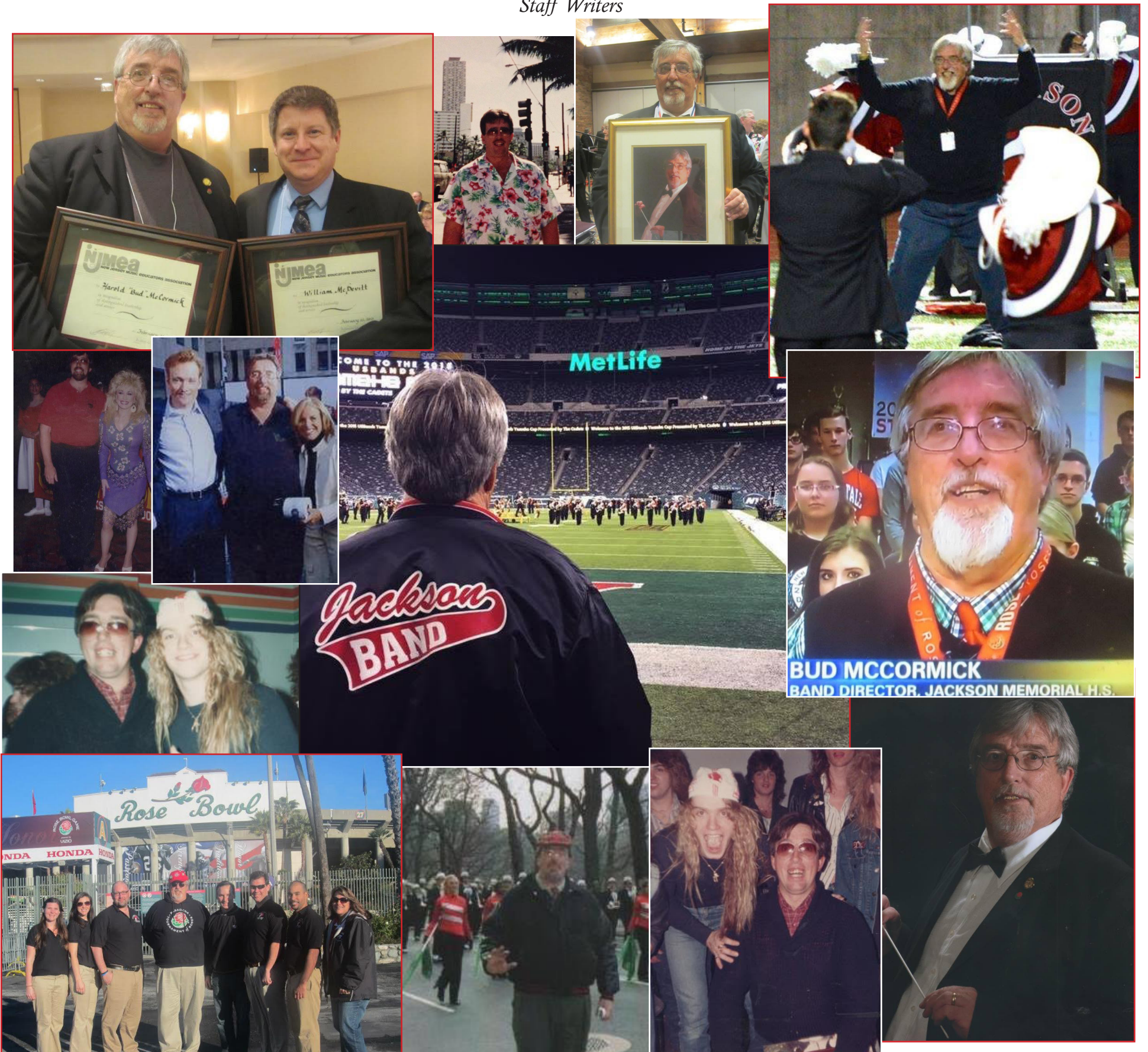
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# YOU'LL NEVER WALK ALONE

Zachary Noguera & Ben Singleton  
Staff Writers



Harold “Bud” McCormick, director of the Jackson Memorial Jaguar Band for the past thirty-two years, is retiring in early 2016. Since arriving at JMHS in 1983, Mr. McCormick has brought the band to march in everything from Presidential Inauguration Parade to the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade. He has lead the marching band to victory in two National Championships, several State Championships, and countless local competitions.

Ever since Mr. McCormick assumed leadership, the band has changed more than anyone could have imagined. When he first came here the marching band had no more than thirty kids and their uniforms consisted of straw hats; today the band has more than two-hundred members who are professionally attired. Of course, keeping this many students in check is no easy task, and luckily Bud is helped by assistant band director Jason Diaz.

Mr. McCormick grew up in a very musical family. With his father and grandfather both playing trumpet, it seemed tradition for him to take up the same instrument in the fourth grade. He joined the Harmony Senior Drum Corps of Boonton in 1963 and played with them for eight years, leaving in 1971 to join the Monarchs of Wayne. He stayed with the Monarchs only a single year and at the end of the season he joined the Blessed Sacrament Golden Knights of Union. He considered this to be his favorite corps, so he was disappointed when they disbanded in 1973, right before competition season. Once again changing bands, Mr. McCormick joined the Hawthorne Caballeros, but would stay with them for only a short time before switching to the

Hawthorne Muchachos. In this group he met Gail Royer, the director of a California marching band. Ms. Royer gave Mr. McCormick his famous nickname, “Bud,” and it stuck with him wherever he went. Mr. McCormick admired Ms. Royer’s passion and enthusiasm, and thus moved to California to join her band, The Santa Clara Vanguard. At nineteen years old, Mr. McCormick was

expecting a baby by then, Mr. McCormick found that he was no longer able to travel and march. It was soon after leaving the Buccaneers that he would be hired at Jackson Memorial High School, becoming only the second band director our school has ever had.

It was not an easy feat to get the band to the caliber it is at now; it took blood, sweat and tears from directors

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*“It has required hard work and patience to organize the band, and Mr. McCormick deserves all the recognition and praise that he has garnered throughout his career.”*

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living the dream of a drum corps nomad: travelling and performing all throughout the US and Canada. During his tenure, the bands would earn perfect scores in three general effect sub-captions and win the DCI World Championship in Ithaca, N.Y. Mr. McCormick headed back to Boonton in 1975 and begin arranging for the Harmony Senior Corps.

It was not long before Mr. McCormick had the urge to march again, as the task of creating music was not enough for him. Thus, he traveled to Reading, PA, and marched with the Buccaneers. In 1979, Mr. McCormick graduated from Kean University with a degree in music and became engaged to his girlfriend. He went back to the Buccaneers in 1980 and the band would go on to win the DCA championships, making Mr. McCormick the first person to be in a band that has won both DCI and DCA championships. Because he and his wife were

and students. Band members sacrifice two weeks of summer vacation and countless Tuesdays and Thursdays all throughout the fall season just for rehearsals, but it is worth every second in their eyes. It has required hard work and patience to organize the band, and Mr. McCormick deserves all the recognition and praise that he has garnered throughout his career.

Mr. McCormick is an amazing band director and amazing man. It is indisputable that he loves what he does, leading the band with the passion that only he himself can achieve. The band works hard, lead by the legend we call Bud, motivated by the raw passion he presents. For so many he is more than a teacher; he is a friend, he is family. Bud, you will never walk alone.



# THE WOODSMAN AND HIS RETIREMENT PLANS

Maggie Varrelmann  
Staff Writer



*Mr. Mitchell, the woodshop teacher, poses by his woodshop tools as he reflects on his time spent teaching at JMHS.*

There are not many people who have been in the hallway in the back of A Wing Memorial or even know about it, but for Mr. Mitchell it has become a second home. Mr. Mitchell has been teaching for forty years with about twenty eight of them being right here at Jackson Memorial. To let you in on a little secret, he said that he likes JMHS the best.

Mr. Mitchell's teaching career all started when he was sitting in a United States History class. His teacher would always make the lessons fun and easy to learn. For example, one day the class was discussing the famous Gettysburg Address and without saying anything, the teacher opened up the door to a man dressed as Abraham Lincoln. This "Honest Abe" lookalike walked in, stood at the podium, took out several notecards from his coat pocket, and began the oral speech that changed the people's mindset towards the Civil War. This presentation left the young Mr. Mitchell in awe and fascination. It was then that he realized he wanted to be a teacher. His history teacher showed him all of the things that made teaching special and left his imagination spinning with all the opportunities that he could have if he became a teacher. As he made his way to college with a major in teaching, Mr. Mitchell had dreams of becoming an elementary school teacher. Even when his sister told him that finding a job in the elementary profession was hard to come by, Mr. Mitchell was not going to give up on his goals for the future. Since he took different shop classes in middle school and high school, he decided that he was going to teach wood shop. When he first got to JMHS, Mr. Mitchell began teaching Tech Problem Solve. As of now, he is teaching Introduction to Wood Tech and Advanced Wood Design.

There has been a great deal of change since Mr. Mitchell first stepped through the doors. He still remembers a time when there was no Fine Arts and you could take all the kids from the Memorial and Clayton sides, stick them in the memorial gym, and still have empty seats. The memories of the old bus ramp in the back of the building, split sessions, and smaller staffs still float around in his mind. He also remembers having a metal shop and an auto garage when the wood shop was located in Clayton where the science rooms are now. Mr. Mitchell likes to think back to the times when he participated in what he called the Coffee Clutch. This group consisted of several teachers who would walk out with headaches due to mass amounts of laughter. This is one of the things that Mr. Mitchell is going to miss the most about his time at Jackson Memorial. He will always miss the students and seeing their idea of responsibility

grow, as well as just the class overall. He will also miss the friends he has made with the teachers who started around the same time that he did. His favorite part about teaching has been his interaction with students and the hands-on experience. When Mr. Mitchell first started teaching here, he gradually became involved in as much as he could. Thinking back to his skiing days, Mr. Mitchell took up the leadership role in the school's ski club. He also became involved in sports when he began coaching both the girls and boys soccer teams. Wow! Mr. Mitchell has done a lot for our school and continues to do so even as he looks towards retirement. Right now he feels as though he is doing what he calls "government jobs". People have been asking him to make as much stuff as he can before he retires. For example, he is busy making large wooden keys for the chrome book carts as well as ROTC picture frames. Even though it may seem like there is a lot on his plate right now, Mr. Mitchell is happy to do it because he is doing what he loves.

plans on showing him the ropes and where everything belongs in the classroom. When he sat down for an interview with this writer, he left some words of advice behind for the incoming wood shop teacher. He said that it is important to have an open mind and know that all students are different individuals and work at different paces. It is also good to have a sense of humor without taking away discipline since safety is key. Having patience and being able to accept changes is very imperative as well.

Even if you have never taken a wood shop class or got to know Mr. Mitchell, it is very easy to see how much he cares about his students. For example, he is not wishing for any snow days so that he can be there for his first semester students in order to help them finish up their projects and complete their final grades. Just to be sure that he will be there, Mr. Mitchell has encouraged his students to do their best to get their projects done at least a week before the semester comes to an end. This

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*“Even if you have never taken a wood shop class or got to know Mr. Mitchell, it is very easy to see how much he cares about his students.”*

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When asked what project was his favorite, Mr. Mitchell said that he could not choose just one. Instead, he gave a detailed description of each of the classes and how proud he is of his students when they complete their projects. In Introduction to Wood Tech students get to learn the basics of creating projects out of wood and understand all the safety techniques that go along with it. After passing this class with a C average or better, students have the opportunity to continue their wood-working careers by taking Advanced Wood Design. In this class, students are given more responsibility and a little more freedom. In the beginning of the semester, they are asked to think about and design their own projects. As the class continues on, the students are expected to vigorously work on their creations so that they will be completed by the end of the semester. Some of the projects that students come up with exceed Mr. Mitchell's expectations and leave him in amazement. In the past, some students have gone home with desks with sliding drawers and microwave cabinets. This is just one of the reasons why he always looks forward to the ArtTech Expo in May.

Mr. Mitchell is looking forward to meeting the new wood shop teacher from Freehold after winter break. He

reporter has only met Mr. Mitchell one time and already knows that he is a very happy man and does his best to make students reach their highest potential. He comes off very encouraging and willing to do whatever he can to help out anybody that comes knocking on his door. This reporter also felt very honored when Mr. Mitchell said that he wishes there were more ladies in his classes. Anybody would be lucky to have him as a teacher.

Mr. Mitchell said that "You know you have to retire when you start teaching the children of your previous students and before the grandchildren come". He has even taught some of his current colleagues as well, such as Mr. Opdyke and Mr. Bado. Mr. Mitchell has enjoyed every minute of his teaching career and has had a good run. On February 1st, he is looking forward to just sitting on the couch during the cold months and once the flowers start sprouting, he will be working on his "honey do" list. And to quote Frank Sinatra, Mr. Mitchell went on to say "Regrets, I've had a few, but then again, too few to mention".

Thank you Mr. Mitchell for all that you have done! We are honored to have you here with us and want to wish you a happy retirement!



# SENIORS OF THE MONTH



Gabrielle Wilson, December

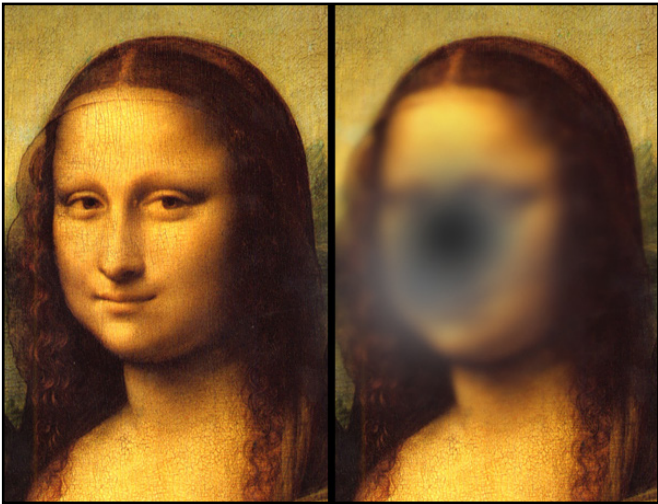
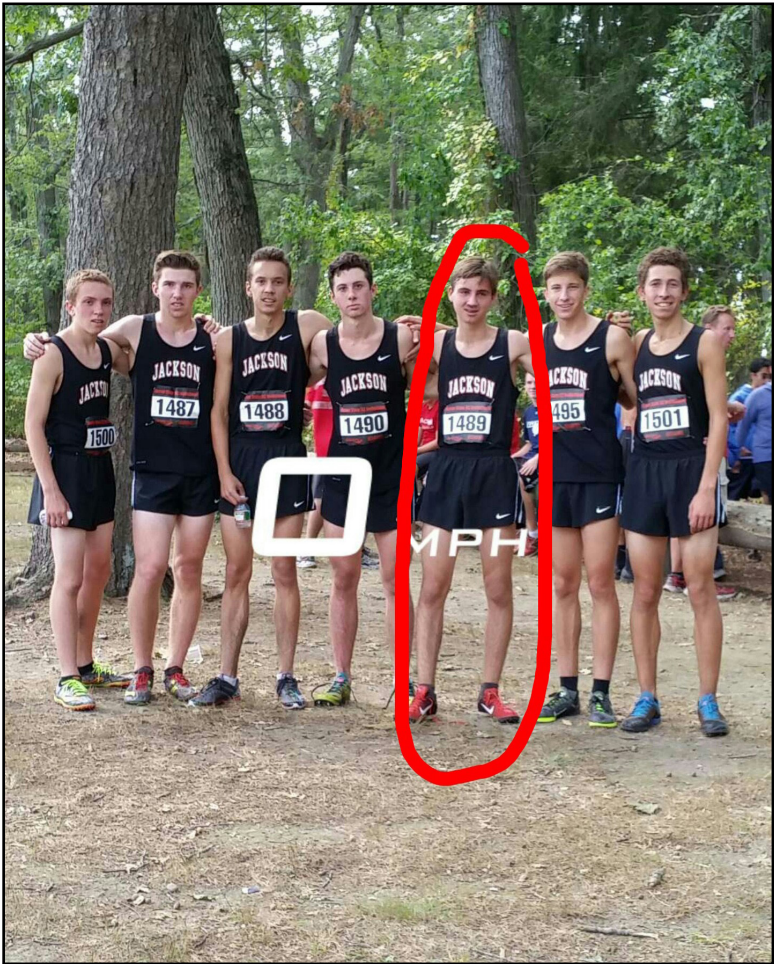
If I could have a superpower it would be to control time. There are too many instances in my life where I wish I could go back in time to see an old friend, to relieve a memory, to visit another country again. Likewise, the days passed by so quickly; there never seems to be enough hours in the day to do the things I want to or need to, be it homework, reading a book, or spending time with friends and family. The future will always hold mystery, and I've always been a bit impatient. I guess no matter which possibility you look at, there's a plus side to being able to control time.



Nick Papandrea, December

My advice for other students at JMHS is to enjoy every second of high school. It's crazy to think that in a few months I will be walking on Jack Munley Field to receive my high school diploma. I would rewind to freshmen year in a heartbeat. Stepping into high school freshmen year was like an adventure as I was brought into a whole new world. There have been lots of ups and downs throughout my years here and there will be some failures but what truly matters is how you respond to them. Pick yourself up and persevere through the bumps in the road. Success will come with failure I promise. Make some quality friends that will experience the adventure with you during high school and even in the years after you graduate as you go on with the journey of life. Become active with different events, clubs, or sports in JMHS as this school offers so much to you! I've made such great friends while playing for the football team. High school may only be four years but it has such a great effect on the rest of your life. My question to you is how do you want to be remembered, and what do you want your legacy to be at JMHS?

## HELP CLAYTON SEE AGAIN



Ever since elementary school Clayton has been gradually losing his vision. As a high school student, Clayton runs both cross country and track. Currently, he only has peripheral vision. By the mere fact of sun exposure his vision gets worse each and every day. After contacting stargardt's disease, Clayton's central vision has turned black. The picture of Mona Lisa on the left is what someone without the disease can see. The picture on the right is what Clayton sees. Fortunately enough there is a solution, but unfortunately the solution is very expensive. Clayton needs your help to raise any penny we can to help pay for special glasses that will help him see.

You can donate now at their Go Fund Me account titled, "Help Clayton See Again".

(Credit to: "Help Clayton See Again" Go Fund Me page)