

# The Oracle

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## Shaler Area bids final farewell to Jeffery building

by Maura Fisher

Students and faculty of the past and present said their final goodbyes to Jeffery Primary School on May 2nd. The school will be closing at the end of the 2018 school year and merging with Rogers Primary at the new Scott Primary School for the upcoming school year in August.

To honor the school and all of the years that it gave to students of the Shaler/Etna area, the school held a farewell party where past students and faculty could come back and revisit the building one final time before it closed.

Attendees ranged from people who were students at Jeffery over 20 years ago to people who will be back tomorrow for another day of school. Present day and long retired faculty alike came back to reflect on the memories that the primary school holds.

It was a reunion between old friends and students and teachers. The event proved how strong the connections between people who have gone in and out of Jeffery's doors are. First grade classmates talked to each other for the first time in 10 years, and teachers who no longer teach at Jeffery reminisced together on their days together at the school.

"As a Jeffery grad, it was sad for me to see that it was going to be closing. So when I heard about the farewell, I knew I wanted to visit one last time. I got to see old teachers, old friends, and look through old yearbooks (my 5th grade year was the first year for their yearbook). I walked through each of my old classrooms (which were so small!) and memories came flooding back. It was a great experience, and

**"When I heard about the farewell, I knew I wanted to visit one last time. I got to see old teachers, old friends. I walked through each of my old classrooms and memories came flooding back. It was a great experience!"**

**-- Ms. Kristen Susany,  
high school teacher**

I am really glad I went!" Shaler Area Teacher Ms. Kristen Susany said.

At the event, practically the whole school was on display which allowed its old students and teachers to remember every little memory they have from Jeffery. Along with a line of food trucks outside the school, there were many activities to participate in inside the building.

In the art room, people were encouraged to leave their fingerprints on trees painted on canvases to connect Jeffery's past and present. In the library, a picture show containing pictures from years past played on a projector. There were also postcards on the tables for people to write their best Jeffery memories on. There was a table of year books in the hallway spanning

from the 1990s to last year for people to look through and find their old school pictures. The all purpose room was lined with benches and chairs for people to watch a montage of pictures from Jeffrey Primary and listen to speeches from past and present principals and administrators.

People roamed the halls and mingled with old friends for over the expected hour that the event was supposed to last. Everybody had so many people to talk to and so many memories to share that an hour simply wasn't enough. The evening was filled with laughs and memories that were kept in people's heads for so long it's a miracle they weren't forgotten. People who have not spoken to each other in years talked as if it was only yesterday they were sitting next to each other in class 3C.

What the future holds for the building is still unclear. There has been talk in the area to turn the building into a community center. Also, Mt. Alvernia is looking into buying it as well and use it as

"A decision has not been made yet but we are making progress towards a decision. We recently have had the property appraised and surveyed," Superintendent Sean Aiken said.

Though the school is not closed yet, this event provided a nice, final goodbye to Jeffery. People who haven't entered the school in years could all walk out through the doors one last time, together. The school is responsible for too many friendships and stories to count, and when those doors close for the final time, those friendships and memories won't be forgotten.

## Titans take part in one of longest scoreless games ever

by Jake Newport and  
Tanner Nowakowski

The boys varsity baseball team put its stamp in the national high school record books by playing a 17-inning game against North Allegheny. Both teams were held scoreless throughout the game, making it the third longest high school game to go without any score.

In his first start of the season, North Allegheny pitcher, Colin Cain, threw a perfect game through seven innings, finishing with nine innings of a no-hitter. Senior pitcher Patrick Gumto went toe to toe with Cain pitching a shutout of his own.

"It was fun to pitch against someone else who was doing well. I didn't focus too much on him though, I focused on executing my pitches," Gumto said.

On April 23, the scheduled day of the game, the teams went 14 innings before officials eventually stopped the game at 10:45 p.m.

"I wanted to finish, finish what we started, but that was their rule and it was out of our control," Head Coach Brian Junker said.

Both sides were feeling equally frustrated and amazed at the game.

"I was enjoying the game, but I wasn't enjoying it that much," North Allegheny Head Coach Andrew Heck said in an interview with the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette. "I was just saying, 'Can we please score a run.'"

After the completion of the first 14 innings, the game was stopped and it was scheduled to be finished three days later on Thursday, April 26, where the game would reach 17 innings. Keeping your players in check for a game this long is a tough task for any coach, but Junker attributed the players level of focus to themselves.

"Well, we have a great group of boys they are going to be into it no mat-



Senior Patrick Gumto pitched scoreless baseball in the Titans 17-inning, 1-0 loss to North Allegheny last month. (Twitter)

ter what. That's who they are. That's how we train. So we just had to trust our process and our training," Junker said.

A late foul ball called hit down the third base line after the play had developed and North Allegheny had a runner at second and third changed the direction of the game.

Both teams faced questionable calls as the game continued late into the night.

North Allegheny thought it had runners at second and third after a hit down the left field line, but after the play the umpires called the hit a foul ball and NA was unable to score.

The Titans also were subject to some questionable calls.

"There was one call that stands out to me, it was at 3rd base. Evan Donovan tried stealing third (base) and was clearly safe, but was called out. It changed the whole inning and the rest of the game," Gumto said.

On top of the umpires, harsh winds also played a pivotal role in the duration of the game.

"The wind was the biggest factor, many balls that were hit didn't travel as far because the wind

brought it in," Gumto said.

After the game the team was overwhelmed with amazement at the length of the game, but also relieved that it was finally over.

"It was a great experience and I am proud to be a part of something like this, but it was cool to do once, not twice," Sophomore Jake Bredl said.

Although the team fell short by a score of 1-0, Coach Junker is proud of his player's character and the way they carried themselves through all 17 innings.

"The final score was not what we wanted, but I was very proud of the boys. It shows you a lot of what they are all about. We may not win every game, but we will never let up," Junker said.

# OPINIONS

## Kendrick Lamar's Pulitzer Prize good for music, society

by Gabi Girton

Kendrick Lamar, a prominent hip-hop artist, won the 2018 Pulitzer Prize in Music for his 2017 album 'DAMN.', his fourth album which was certified double platinum in July of last year.

The album features several well known artists, and was one of the most streamed albums last year. It was also the Billboard Year-End number one album, and won Best Rap Album at the Grammys.

Winners of the Pulitzer Prize for music in previous years were mainly classical composers and classical music, with brief interruptions for jazz music in 1997 and 2007. 'DAMN.' made headlines by being the first of its genre to win the prize.

The judges considered 'DAMN.' a work similar to a political anthem, highlighting the struggles of African-Americans in modern society.

A lot of people seem to think that all 'Hip-Hop' music is the same, just rapping about sex, drugs, money and alcohol. However, Lamar breaks that stereotype by rapping about social issues like racial issues, faith, police brutality and struggles that come along with being a successful figure in the music industry.

The 30 judges voted unanimously for Lamar, stating that the album was "a virtuosic song collection unified by its vernacular authenticity and rhythmic dynamism that offers affecting vignettes capturing the complexity of modern African-American life."

Translation: an album consisting of songs that shed light on struggles of African-Americans in America, that uses language spoken by ordinary people, and is paired with beats that accentuate the meaning of his lyrics.

The Pulitzer board members said

that they considered more than 100 compositions, including "some pieces of classical music that drew upon hip-hop as a resource," which led to a conversation opening up the award floor to music types that had not yet been considered, including 'DAMN.'

It was not without some apprehensive feedback from the general public.

For example, a classical composer commented on his Facebook that Lamar receiving the Pulitzer Prize was 'insulting'. This just continues the stereotype that all 'Hip Hop' music has no meaning. Did the composer actually listen to the album? Or is he just making a judgement based on other people's opinions about the entire genre of music?

Others commented that they were worried the introduction of 'Hip Hop' into the competition would make it more difficult for classical composers to be recognized for the award, but honestly, after 80 plus years of almost only classical music winning the award, it's time for a change.

In the time where racial prejudice is high, recognizing an album that highlights the struggles of African Americans, especially one that does so in a beautiful way is appropriate.

The fact that 'DAMN.' won the award is a huge step for the Pulitzer Prize. Hopefully this will lead people to respecting the musical legitimacy of 'Hip Hop' instead of assuming that it is just 'meaningless garbage'.

The album tells a moving story full of anthems that are relatable to thousands of people across the globe, and the Pulitzer recognizes that. This makes the album comparable to the work of the renowned artists who have won the award in years previous, and completely deserving of the award.

## Being a famous athlete should not put you above everyone else

by Tanner Nowakowski

The Milwaukee Bucks were down 2 games to 1 in the first round of the playoffs against the Boston Celtics. In a late game thriller, Bucks star player, Giannis Antetokounmpo tips in the ball to give his team the lead with only a few seconds left. The Bucks held off the Celtics in the final seconds and won the game to tie up the series at 2-2.

After this amazing game winning performance from Antetokounmpo, he decided to go to a popular taco spot in Milwaukee for their \$2 taco special. There was a line that stretched out of the door, as it normally does during this taco special.

Giannis got in line with everyone else trying to take advantage of the cheap deal. He waited for about 10 minutes and is not seated or taken to the front of the line, so he leaves. A close fan sees this happen and goes to twitter about his disgust.

"At (Bel Air Cantina) on water street and just watched (Antetokounmpo) wait for a table for 10 minutes and no one helped him so he left... Dude just won Milwaukee a playoff game! Get him some service," said the outraged fan on Twitter.

This tweet went viral around the sports world and the restaurant publicly apologized to the Bucks star for not giving him special treatment.

"We are very sorry we weren't able to seat Giannis Antetokounmpo in as timely manner as we would have hoped, The Milwaukee Bucks' big win, thanks to his tip in and the team's great play, combined with today's spring weather had people turn out in droves to celebrate and we had quite a wait. We were honored he came in for a celebratory meal, and wish we would have accommodated him right away," Manager of the BelAir Cantina said in an ESPN interview.

All of this attention to the situation began with a tweet, and led Antetokounmpo to respond with another tweet saying, "I did not find it a big deal...it was a beautiful day, there were a lot of people enjoying their Sunday brunch. I've been in the restaurant a lot of times. They are good people."

Now this begs the questions of, are professional athletes better than everyone else? Do they deserve to cut all lines and get treated as if they are on some pedestal? I think not.

This should not have even reached the public or caused the restaurant to publicly apologize. I understand that Antetokounmpo is a star player in the NBA, he's a big deal to Milwaukee sports, and he just made a game winning play to tie the playoff series, but that doesn't mean that he should be allowed to cut everyone that has been waiting in the restaurant before him.

Also, the report stated that Antetokounmpo only waited for 10 minutes before he became impatient and left the restaurant. A 10 minute wait is a normal wait for many restaurants and is nothing for a fan to tweet about and cause a commotion.

However, Antetokounmpo was fairly cool about the entire situation, later saying it wasn't a big deal and the restaurant was full of good people. The fact that people reacted the way they did is just wrong. If the fan that tweeted thought Giannis was so special that he should have been seated right away, then he should have given up his table. Right?

Of course not, nobody wants to be sent to the back of the line for anyone else. People expected Antetokounmpo to be treated differently than everyone else in line just because of his name and athletic ability. The restaurant basically bowed down to him when his "inconvenience" was expressed through Twitter.

Antetokounmpo is 6 foot 11 inches tall with a 7 foot wingspan and gets paid millions of dollars to dunk on a 10 foot hoop. I understand that being an NBA star has its downs too, but come on. He can wait for a table like everyone else.

## Feminism is about promoting women, not tearing down men

by Alexa Stewart

Recently I wrote a piece on Doritos feminine chips and how everyone gets upset over the gendering of a chip. While I poked fun at the idea, these chips and the people that it upset brought up an underlying issue that is prevalent in today's society. The fact that people have to find a problem in almost everything that happens.

People in our society have to get over finding a problem in virtually anything that is said. It does make it easier due to social media spreading the word and allowing you to share your voice. And hey, I'm all for people having their own opinions. Feminists are an important part to our society because it's true that men aren't better than women or that women are inferior, but I think people are misidentifying the term "feminist".

A feminist is someone that supports feminism which is by Wikipedia's definition, "a range of political movements, ideologies, and social movements that

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# Heather Abraham: from SATV to KDKA

by Brandon Kurzawski

After graduating from high school, many students go on to pursue their careers and live out their dreams. While some will know what they would like to do career-wise throughout high school, others aren't quite as sure about their future. With KDKA-TV morning news anchor Heather Abraham, her dreams were realized later on in high school.

Abraham graduated from Shaler Area High School with the class of 2002. Her senior year was the first year of the SATV Morning Announcements show. Originally, she wasn't involved with the program, but an anchor of SATV asked Abraham if she wanted to help out with the current sports program, so Abraham agreed to help out.

"I wasn't involved in any after school activities; I wasn't writing for the paper, I wasn't involved in any sports; I was doing nothing except hanging out with my friends, so when he asked me I was like, 'yeah sure I'm not really doing anything,'" Abraham said.

SATV was where Abraham found her interest for the Television Production industry. Prior to the program, Abraham had no interest in the broadcast journalism field.

"I loved all the people that were involved in the programming, I loved hanging out with them, it was so much fun, so it just snowballed into me getting involved in TV," Abraham said.

After High School, Abraham went to West Virginia University where she got her degree in Broadcasting Journalism.

College can teach and prepare you for some of the broadcasting journalism field, but Abraham is quick to point out that college will not prepare you for every aspect of the career someone may want to go into.

"Going to college prepared me a little bit, but I don't know if you can ever really be prepared, but you don't really learn everything until you start doing any job; it's not just TV or journalism," Abraham said.

After college, she found herself working at News 12 in Brooklyn where she experienced every angle involved with broadcast journalism.

"We were taught at WVU that we were going to be one man bands; that we were going to have to do it all. Sure enough, when I got up to the station in Brooklyn, I was carrying around my own camera, tripod, getting back to the station, rushing back in traffic in New York City trying to get back to the station to make deadlines," Abraham said.

Abraham had covered many stories in Brooklyn, but there is one story she was assigned to cover that she won't forget. While assigned to cover a protest in Brooklyn, Abraham had thought the protest was on the Brooklyn Bridge. However, the protest was actually over in Manhattan.

"I went to cover this protest; I thought it was on the Brooklyn Bridge, it was not, it was on the other side of the Brooklyn bridge in Manhattan. And I had on heels, and a bag, and a tripod, and a camera, and it was August and 95 degrees and I had to lug all that stuff across the Brooklyn bridge," Abraham said.

Her job at Brooklyn allowed her to have an appreciation for the aspects of the job with intense pressure and deadlines. However, she didn't make much money in Brooklyn. Abraham decided it was time to start looking elsewhere.

Abraham missed Pittsburgh and wanted to return to her hometown, so she started to inquire about open positions available around Pittsburgh. Finally, a position opened up at KDKA where she got her foot in the door in December 2010.

Abraham started out as a morning reporter at KDKA where she had to wake up every morning at 2:45 to get into work. Once she would get her assignment, she'd proceed to the scene and try to figure out as much as possible in a short amount of time before going live on air. In between reports, Abraham figured out more details as the morning progressed.



Heather Abraham, Shaler Area class of 2002

Though Abraham has reported on many different assignments throughout her years of working at KDKA, some are more memorable than others. One day while on her way back to the station, she received a call from the assignment desk about a bank robbery in Squirrel Hill. She and her photographer had parked the news truck when suddenly a bunch of police cars went flying by.

"All of the sudden, we see all these cops come flying up and parking in the middle street so you know things are going down. They [the police] start getting out of their cars and start running, so my photographer throws his tripod, takes his camera on his shoulder. [The bank robber] was hiding right up the street. He starts running down the street; everything was happening so quick," Abraham said.

Abraham has had other opportunities to experience events happening around Pittsburgh. When "The Dark Knight Rises" was being filmed in Pittsburgh, Abraham was able to be on the set and see one of the fight scenes.

As a reporter, safety is not always promised. While covering a story in the Hill District, a situation endured which caused the police to have to set up a perimeter to detain a suspect accused of a crime. The police had thought the suspect was on the roof of a building. While Abraham could not recall the exact situation, she remembered feeling uneasy about the scenario.

"I remember thinking in that moment when you hear about all this crazy stuff on the news, I thought, 'God this guy could be up on the roof somewhere and just start shooting,' you really have no idea what could happen in any situation; there is no force field around us, things can happen," Abraham said.

Being part of the KDKA-TV means Abraham is a part of the Pittsburgh community. As a public figure, others will pay attention to what she is doing regardless of what it is. Going anywhere, her personal life and work life are always blended.

"People watch me every morning, so they feel like they know me. It's rewarding in so many ways, but you never expect it. I'm just doing my job every

morning and I love my job, but when you get stopped, you think, 'Wow, people are really watching!' which really is neat to think about," Abraham said.

Abraham has recently become the morning news anchor of KDKA-TV morning news. In her experience with reporting, she's been nominated for several Emmy's, one for looking deeper into the work of the Pittsburgh Police Vice Squad. She also won a Golden Quill award for her reporting on a 7-alarm fire in Homestead.

Abraham also does a 9 a.m. community show called 'Pittsburgh Today Live.' In the show, she gets to interview local figures doing different events and fundraisers as well as discuss other things happening in Western Pennsylvania.

Since Abraham has started her career, the business of journalism has evolved with the rise of technology and social media outlets like Facebook or Twitter. Some may see this as a negative thing, but Abraham reminds others to look at things more in a positive way.

"If you resist change, then it's going to be a negative thing for you, but if you say, 'Okay, there's no way to avoid this, how can we do it in the best way possible,' then it's a good thing," Abraham said.

Though, it's become harder for people to believe everything they see in the news. With the recent outbreak of 'Fake News,' it often does get frustrating for journalists. In the modern day era, anyone could create a website and say whatever they believe, but it does get frustrating when trying to report on an actual story which makes things to be more difficult.

"To me, it's always really frustrating and you have to bite your tongue a lot. There's no winning when some people just believe that it's all fake; it's frustrating because you know what you're doing, you know what you're putting out there," Abraham said.

Even with the spread of fake news, whether people believe her or not, Abraham still enjoys what she does every day.

"The thrill of this job is that every single day it's something different; there's something new happening," Abraham said.

# SA ready for “A Night on the Town”

by Maleesa Reese

As students count down the days left in the school year, many turned their time and attention to preparing for the prom. Prom is a tradition in almost every school and it gives seniors the opportunity to have one last dance as a high school student.

Because of its importance, the student body of Shaler Area and the Activities office work really hard to make sure that it's a night to remember. From a perfectly planned theme complete with favors and decorations, there is much planning that has to take place.

This year's theme will be “A Night On the Town”, which was voted on by the seniors back in January.

Pertaining to the safety for the night, there will be four Pittsburgh police officers the school will hire, and two of the school's own security guards to have an eye on the event and help organize and protect the students and faculty.

“There are breathalyzers on site because the Pittsburgh police officers will carry them with them, but we are not breathalyzing everyone that comes in the door,” activities director Mrs. Thiel said.

Homecoming has had a huge impact on this prom's policy. The complications that came with that dance made the school change its plan of security for dances. Sadies was the first dance to enforce the new policy, where seniors and their parents have to sign a dance agreement form.

The school hopes that students will care more about the policy and know what is allowed and what is not. With knowing the consequences, students might not be rebellious and the school would probably be able to prevent another mess like the one created at the Homecoming dance.

Still, the school fears the new policy will chase away many students because they don't want to sign it. It would a big problem for when not enough people show up, there will be a chance of the prom getting canceled.

Yet, after the school started selling the prom tickets, there was no issue at all and the same amount of students as last year will attend prom even with the new policy.

A favorite part of many students is After Prom, which will be held on the Gateway Clipper again this year. Students have the opportunity to relax. The boys can get rid of their ties, the girls will not have to suffer from high heels. And when you get tired of dancing, there are already many activities planned, such as airbrush tattoo artists, balloon artists and more. Of course, snacks will be present, which is an underrated part of any event.

“I'm most excited about the boat, and the snacks,” said senior Tanner Nowakowski, “I'm also happy to graduate and leave high school.”

As already mentioned, the prom is an important dance to not only say goodbye to the high school, but also to your friends if you take different paths, teachers and your high school student life.

## Feminism is about promoting women

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share a common goal: to define, establish, and achieve political, economic, personal, and social equality of sexes”

Many women call themselves feminists and yet repeatedly put down men or boys and try and get their point across that men are inferior and women should be held higher than men. And that is not feminism, that's misandry.

According to Wikipedia, “misandry is the hatred of, contempt for, or prejudice against men or boys.”

Misandry is a serious thing. It leads to the sexual discrimination of men, hating on them and in every case finding them the one to blame or attempting to make them the inferior sex. Men are people, too! Women shouldn't shame men just because Doritos makes chips “just for women” or bic makes pens pink for women. Just because it says for women doesn't mean that only women have to use them.

Brands take their products and market them to a certain group in our society and in this case it's women that they are trying to reach. Just because they market it to a certain type of person doesn't mean they are the only ones that can use it. I know plenty of girls that use men's deodorant or use men's razors. They work just as well for either sex.

The packaging doesn't matter but yes, usually it is more girls or women who buy brightly colored products than men. And no it's not because of the color it's basically because guys don't focus on the presentation of a product they just grab whatever is closest to them. Guys in this school use pink pencils, they use pink pens, they use whatever it is they can get. They don't use something because the packaging says men or shy away from the packaging that says women.

The same thing goes for women. Women don't have to use the products that say “for women”, they can go to the store and find whatever works for them whether it's made for the male audience or the female audience. They don't have to listen to the social stigma that girls can only use pink products and can't purchase and use products made for men.

Most of the products aren't even different, it's just different coloring. So what if they make packaging pink for women or blue for men. There are more important things happening in the world than worrying if your razor's box is blue and says women or pink and says for men. It's what sells.

In the end we need to focus more on the bigger picture and not make a huge deal over everything that happens, there's no need to be so dramatic. We can't blame men for everything because that isn't being a feminist.

Feminists want equality, not to put down anyone or anything that goes against what they believe in. These modern day “feminists” as they call themselves have put themselves on a pedestal and almost make themselves out to be the better sex and are denouncing men as inferior. They're doing to men what women didn't want done to them and that isn't right. They don't have the “all should be equal” in mind anymore. What they focus on is putting women on top and basically shaming men and all that they do.

So where is equal? Is it bringing women up to where men are in society or bringing men down to where women themselves have been placed in society? That's the question that I don't think many people take into mind when they're going on huge public rants about how men shouldn't be held to such high standards and how it's disgusting for men to be treated to such a standard. *And yet we're fighting for ourselves to get to those standards that we're publicly disagreeing with.*

There are plenty of ways of getting things done without putting down the opposite sex. These modern day feminists are no longer concerned about equality, they have turned themselves into a man-hating club and it's something that you can count me out of.

# School district addresses opioid crisis

by Jake Newport

For years now, opioid abuse has become a growing issue in both the Pittsburgh area and the country as a whole. With this issue growing into an epidemic, Superintendent Dr. Sean Aiken organized a town hall meeting as well as a school assembly to address the topic.

“We need to be very concerned about this epidemic and students need to understand the importance of each decision they make,” Aiken said.

On Thursday April 19th, the district held its second annual town hall meeting intended to address and inform people of this growing issue. Additionally, an assembly was held in the auditorium for all students in which the keynote speaker, Dr. Thomas Brophy spoke. He, along with Mr. Joe Demore, a warden in the Butler County Prison System, are both Shaler graduates who spoke at the event and the assembly. Their being Shaler graduates brought the point that this is a real issue that can touch people in our area.

Dr. Brophy is a medical doctor who has seen the crippling effects in many of his patients. He spoke about those experiences while explaining the changes and damage our brains receive when using opioids.

Mr. Demore brought a more personal side to the issue. He lost his brother to an overdose several years ago. His position as a warden also emphasized how important an issue this is to police, corrections officers, and any person with an official position in our government.

While everyone was heartfelt for Mr. Demore, Ms. Michelle Schwartzmier delivered a passionate address to the students at the assembly about the tragic loss of her daughter. Her message was clear and obvious to anyone who was listening: opioid abuse and overdoses can happen to anyone. She is a real person with a real story who has dealt with the worst of opioid addiction. The authenticity and urgency in her words resonated throughout the building.

Overall, the assembly and town hall were both effective in touching the minds and hearts of students and community members alike. All three of the speakers brought a different perspective on opioid addiction and why it is an issue that must be tackled as soon as possible. It was a successful event that delivered the message that it was trying to send to both students and community members.

“We are pleased with the reactions of the students. They want relevant information and they don't want anything watered down. The students want information that is direct and to the point. Judging by the attention of the students, we feel as though this was accomplished. For the community, we'd always hope for a better turnout. Our mission is to keep this going and stay committed to helping our community,” Aiken said.

# Spoiler Alert: Infinity War much better than I expected

by Cece Robinson

Spoiler Alert: If you haven't seen Avengers Infinity Wars do not read this. If you have a big mouth and don't know how to keep a secret, don't read this. If you don't like the Marvel Universe and think DC is better, don't read this.

Okay, now that all the clerical work is out of the way let's get into it. I have to say when I heard there was going to be a Marvel movie in which all the characters are involved I was a little mad. That is too many movies, too many characters, and although they all have the same underlying plot of infinity stones and Thanos, I didn't think the relation was strong enough to make a movie.

Another disclaimer, I am not a fan a The Guardians of the Galaxy so I will be slightly biased in reviewing their part in this movie.

So all I have to say was that I was wrong. This was a beautifully crafted film with even screen time from a large cast of characters and a palatable execution of a seemingly complex plot.

Within the first 10 minutes of the film, Loki, a major character is already dead and Thanos has successfully intimidated Thor and definitely the audience. Then another major character Gamora dies when her dad, Thanos, sacrifices her in place for the soul stone! Whether you saw their deaths coming or not and whether you are a fan of their characters or not these deaths were pivotal and necessary.

Along with major character deaths, the team takes you across the universe to "Nowhere", Vimomir, Titan, Earth and many other planets. Lasting almost 150 min, you are left entertained and on the edge of your seat as to what dangers each planet will bring. The imagination that was required to think of such landscapes was mind blowing and the use of the reality stone made you second guess everything that you saw.

One of my favorite parts of the movie was the introduction of Thor to The Guardians. How they were going to seamlessly integrate the characters from two completely different groups was something I was worried about. I saw it ruining the movie because The Avengers and Guardians seem completely different. When they took Thor onto their ship after finding him floating in space after Thanos destroyed Asgard's ship, the following scene was filled with nothing but laughs.

Another witty pair that were placed together are Dr.Strange and Tony Stark. Two insanely powerful and intelligent men along with Spiderman are tasked to take down Thanos' minion and protect the time stone. With Dr.Strange's agenda of protecting the time stone above the lives of Spiderman and Tony, I was afraid that he wasn't as "team oriented" as we would of hoped. His point of saving the lives of the universe over two people also seemed reasonable.

The fan favorites of Captain America (technically Nomad now that he doesn't have his shield) and Black Panther are epically reunited with the help of Black Widow and Falcon to take down the thousands of four armed creatures that attack Wakanda. This scene is action packed and tense and soon the efforts of the superheroes begin to fail.

While the war between space and earth is going on outside the Wakandan medical building, inside Shuri is attempting to reconnect all the nerve endings that are connected to Visions mind stone to run as a circular system. (I could be wrong but that is my understanding) The team is attempting to destroy the stone while saving vision so Thanos cannot complete the gauntlet and Earth will be saved.

In the end, the Avengers and Guardians fail, thanks to Starlord. When he finds out Gamora dies he goes rogue right when Tony and Spiderman get the gauntlet off and no one is mad at him. All of this was literally all his fault and somehow there is no falling

out scene or team breaking up no one says anything about it. This pissed me off. I mean yeah he's cute and funny and has a good heart, but lost his stuff and all these people died because of him. Is anyone else mad about this? Because I am.

Thanos snaps his fingers, and characters such as Black Panther, Dr. Strange, Star Lord, Drax, Mantis, White Wolf and Spiderman all fade away because of the powers of Thanos' gauntlet. It's definitely a sad moment for the Marvel universe fans, bonding with all these characters and their stories and watching all their efforts go to waste because they lost.

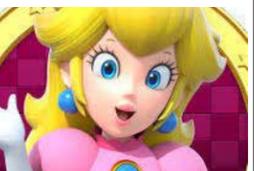
It was a bit fun to see the bad guy win for a chance I have to say. Now, don't take this the wrong way and think I'm team Thanos because that's just not true. There was just something about the tension that was held this entire movie because you really didn't know what was going to happen.

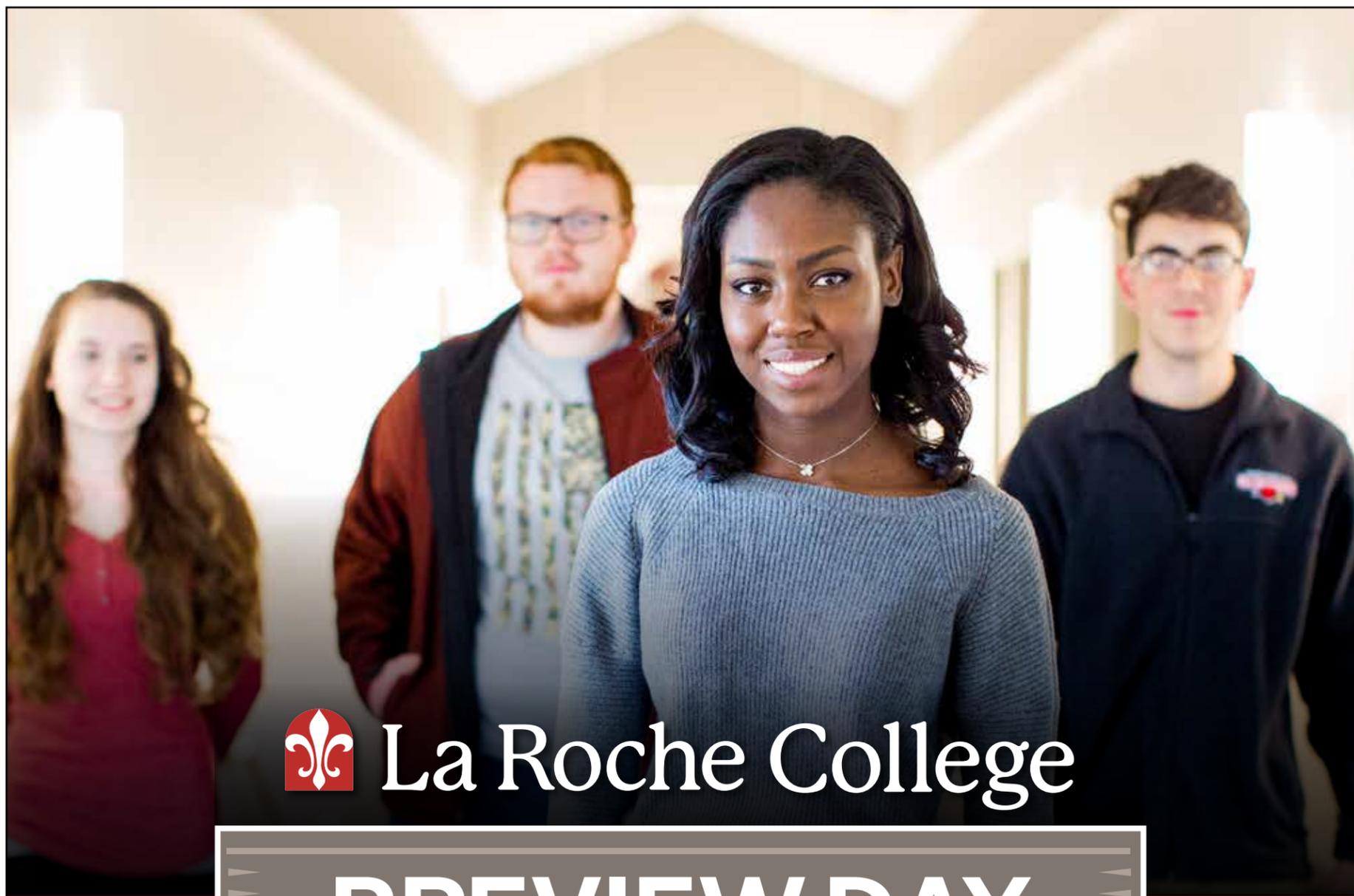
I was not that mad that all those characters faded away because I don't think they're dead. I don't think Gamora is dead too seeing as she is linked to the soul stone because Thanos Sacrificed her life. The Red Skull (I was so happy and surprised that they sprinkled him in there) said that the soul stone is wise and is special in terms or the other infinity stones.

The movie did not explore this too much, but why would they if there is a chance a hit a resurrection of the other characters could be leaked. Along with Gamora, I believe the other superheroes who died on Earth and on Titan are still alive somehow through there would being kept in the soul stone.

I'm excited to see how they bring some of the favorite characters back and how the original avengers handle Thanos on their own.

P.S. I will say I am not excited about the new Captain Marvel movie, but it's Marvel so I expect good things.

<b>SR.GRID</b>	<b>Food you've never tried but want to?</b>	<b>Favorite Vine...</b>	<b>Fictional Character Crush</b>	<b>Useless fact you know for no reason..</b>	<b>What character do you use in Mario Kart?</b>
<b>Cece Robinson</b>	<b>Oysters</b> 	"Can I have some sprite? Umm we only have sietta mist." *Nick Collettie Aggresivly rips off jacket" 	<b>Elio Perlman</b>	<b>No facts are useless. Thats a fact.</b>	
<b>Maura Fisher</b>	<b>White Chocolate</b> 	"Ralph... did you eat my tater tots..." 	<b>James Potter (book)</b>	<b>You have the same birthday as at least 9 million people</b>	
<b>Gabi Girton</b>	<b>Truffles (mushroom)</b>	<b>*Dog coughes up spaghetti*</b>	<b>Percy Jackson</b>	<b>In Portland, Oregon, it rains 154 days a year.</b>	
<b>Tanner Nowakowski</b>	<b>Dragon Fruit</b>	"WTF is up Kyle" 	<b>Lola from Looney Toons</b> 	<b>A fortnight is two weeks</b>	
<b>Jake Newport</b>	<b>Calamari</b>	"Welcome back to the Jesus Christ Hotline..." 	<b>Patricia</b>	<b>A 3lbs bag of Halos is \$5.99 at Shop 'n Save</b>	
<b>Alexa Stewart</b>	<b>Passion Fruit</b>	"Miss Keisha.. Miss Keisha..." 	<b>Aladdin</b>	<b>Walt Disney World is about the size of San Francisco</b>	



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