

# Eagle Times



Volume 39    Number 3    April 2022    Bonny Eagle High School    Standish, Maine 04084

## Familiar face becoming new school district head



Mr. Clay Gleason.  
MSAD6 photo

By Amelia McAvoy  
On March 21, Mr. Clay Gleason, the current principal of both Hollis Elementary and George E. Jack schools, was unanimously approved by the MSAD 6 Board of Directors as the district's next superintendent.

After six years as superintendent, Mr. Penna has decided to step down at the end of this school year. Mr. Gleason will take over effective July 1.

In a statement posted on the district's website, Mr. Gleason said that his number one focus will continue to be on the students and how every decision

impacts them, but he has also set a goal of getting the rest of Maine to "see the Bonny Eagle School District as [he] see[s] it."

In his eyes, Bonny Eagle is a "school system with a supportive community and dedicated staff in all departments who work hard to create high quality experiences for our amazing students," and he strives to create that reputation for the school.

Mr. Gleason taught for seven years at the middle and elementary school levels, so he has first-hand knowledge of classroom teaching. He has received a Bachelor's degree in Secondary Education, a Master's degree in Educational Leadership, and has completed an internship in Superintendency.

In the coming months, Mr. Gleason will begin reaching out throughout the community, strengthening and forging relationships, and working with Mr. Penna to ensure a seamless transition of leadership for the next year.

"Mr. Gleason's care for students, expertise in public school administration, and communication abilities are traits that will serve him well in this role as Superintendent," said Nathan Carlow, chair of the school board's search committee.



Colored sunflowers and colors of Ukraine's flag adorn school walls.    Macey Cabral photo

## Schools rally support for Ukraine

By Ava Mae Hymer  
In recent weeks, the news has been overrun with stories of the violent conflict between Russia and Ukraine. After Ukraine began having talks with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), Russian President Vladimir Putin ordered an invasion of Ukraine that began on Feb. 24.

Ukraine was expected to surrender quickly given the vastness of Russian forces. However, many Ukrainians stayed in Ukraine to defend their country and proved their determination to remain free from Russian control.

The world has rallied around the valiant efforts of Ukraine to remain free and, in a show of support, the BEHS Student Council recently

led three activities to honor Ukraine. The three activities included a Ukraine day on March 11, where students were encouraged to wear blue and yellow. Sunflowers, which are the national flower of Ukraine, were also colored and posted around the school. The student council also raised money by selling blue and yellow ribbons.

Ms. Dawna Cyr, the student council advisor, said, "I wanted to give people a chance to help in what seems like such a helpless situation ... I also had our Ukrainian exchange student in one of my classes and wanted to have the school show her our support for her and her country."

*Ukraine continued on page 3*

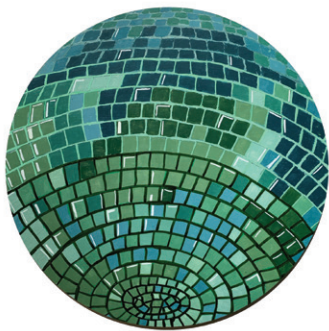
## BEHS art students come down with "disco fever"

From staff reports  
Art students literally had a ball practicing color mixing in this "Disco Fever" project.

According to art teacher Ms. Hannah Tauroney, students used only red, yellow, and blue paint with the addition of white. "Our goal was to make this 2D flat object appear 3D with the use of line and color! We used acrylic paint on wood," explained Ms. Tauroney.

The disco balls displayed here were created by: Olivia Noonan (top left), Malayna Hawxwell, (bottom left), Vi Gouzie, (top, center), Paige Adriance, (bottom center), Sydney Sotir, (top right), and Sophia Gaudiano, (bottom right).

You can see more of the class's disco balls on the newspaper's website: behsnews.com.



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## BE chess team carries on, and shines, despite pandemic

By Abigail Cormier

In March, the Bonny Eagle Chess team secured a second place win in the Scholastic Grand Prix (SGP) to finish off their season. The SGP is a series of 10 tournaments from October to March. To determine the winners, total points are tallied from the top five scorers of each team for each tournament.

“Our team did very well, I’m proud of our performance,” said team captain Maximilian Matthews. While Max was unable to accompany the team to its most recent tournament, he has been a vital part of the team all year.

According to Max, this season’s success can be chalked up to consistent performance at a high level from all

members of the team. At game time when everyone is getting focused and serious, each player is alone, but the minute that match is over, the support of the team is there, no matter the result.

Despite the pandemic struggles over the past two years and the toll that it has taken on the chess program, the high school team managed to remain running with both a championship and a reserve team. The middle school team was not so lucky, but Coach Oisín O’Searcoid shares his hopes for the middle school program’s rejuvenation in the near future.

Max has been playing chess for 10 years and has been a part of the BE chess community since he was in 6th grade. In



Oisín O’Searcoid is leaving behind a successful chess program. Staff photo

this time he and his teammate Kevin Lin have worked together to help lead the team to greatness throughout the season.

Unlike other sports, the achievements of these players go much more unnoticed. Kevin Lin and Sam Coldwell tied for third at the Maine Individual Championships. This is the highest placing of a high schooler at BEHS.

When not playing chess the team is full of a bunch of fun-loving jokesters. This allows for a trusting and productive environment for the team as a whole and makes the sport that much more enjoyable.

Chess continued on page 3

## Getting to know our new administrator

**Editor’s Note:** Mrs. Sue Sydnor joined the Bonny Eagle administrative team in January. Eagle Times co-editor Macey Cabral interviewed her recently.

**Where did you work before coming to BEHS?**

“I was the Student Services Coordinator at Biddeford Middle School for 3 1/2 years. I started out as a high school English teacher, then became a Dean of Students, then an Assistant Principal. Then I ended up staying home with my kids for about 10 years, and I started a jam company locally. I sold jam products at local stores and farmers’ markets during that time. When my kids entered middle school, I decided to go back to working in schools. I missed working with students and being in a school setting.”

**What drew you to work at Bonny Eagle?**

“Bonny Eagle is local to me, as I live in Dayton. While my own kids don’t come to school here, many of my extended family members and family friends have been a part of this community for a long time. I wanted to be a part of my extended community.”

**What made you want to be assistant principal?**

“Being an assistant principal is rewarding because I end up being able to work with kids who need sup-

port, as well as to help put programs in place that also support students.”

**What do you enjoy about the job?**

“It is different every day! I think it would be so boring to come to work, sit in the same place, and do the same things all the time. Being an assistant principal is fun because it includes working with all kinds of people-- people with all kinds of backgrounds and experiences. I can learn something from everyone around me, and hopefully the people around me can learn from me as well.”

**What has been hard about your new position here?**

“I am terrible at remembering names, but I’m working hard to get into classrooms and make sure I’ve said hello to everyone.”

**What do you hope to accomplish here?**

**How do you think you’ll do this?**

“I hope to help make a difference in how kids see themselves. Everyone can learn, everyone has strengths, and everyone can do good in the world. These are the important things.

I am a very positive person and a very direct person. I think understanding perspective is important in figuring out where people stand, what they believe,



Ms. Sydnor says communication is key.

and how to support what they want to do. Communication is key with these things in mind.”

**Any other thoughts?**

“Not really-- well, the staff here is awesome, and they work endlessly to support kids and each other to create a positive environment at Bonny Eagle. I feel very lucky to work here!”

## For these exchange students, the adventures continue



Our exchange students have made it through two-thirds of the school year, but there’s still plenty to see and do, as shown in these photos from a recent field trip to New York City. From left to right in the photo above are: top row: Johann Riebschlager, Minjae Kim, Yussef Ahmed, Nurik Yermekov, Maja Modzelewska, and Piotr Wojcik. In front are: Anu Purevtogtokh, Abigail Cormier, Emily Bell, and Bebars Mahasneh.

Photos by Emily Bell and Abigail Cormier



Maja Modzelewska and Emily Bell at the Statue of Liberty.



Left to right, in back: Nurik, Abigail, Yussef, Piotr, Maja, and Johann, In front, Minjae and Bebars pose outside Central Park.



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The *Eagle Times* is the student voice of Bonny Eagle High School, published regularly with a circulation of an estimated 800 copies

The purpose of the *Eagle Times* is to:

a.) Present the news, as it pertains to the student body, in a non-biased and tasteful fashion,

b.) Provide a forum, wherein ideas and options, concepts and concerns may be freely and openly discussed,

c.) Provide the student body, faculty, and administration with a circulated medium in which letters, notices of recognition, and other submissions may be published.

The *Eagle Times* welcomes submissions from students, faculty, staff and community members. All submissions MUST be signed by their respective authors. The *Eagle Times* reserves the right to edit submissions based on length, language, or clarity. The *Eagle Times* reserves the right to reject submissions which are found to be libelous. By-lined columns or opinions do not reflect those of the *Eagle Times*. All photos not the property of the *Eagle Times* have been obtained through Creative Commons searches, according to the federal rules governing fair use.

**Bonny Eagle High School**  
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## A long, strange trip back to Bonny Eagle

By Amelia McAvoy

After almost four years as an assistant principal, Mr. Thomas Noonan has returned to his true passion: teaching English.

Mr. Noonan has been shaping young minds since the 90s, where he began his career teaching English and social studies at Lake Region High School. From 2000-2018, he went on to teach American Literature and AP Language at Bonny Eagle and Windham High Schools.

During his first stint teaching at Bonny Eagle, Mr. Noonan worked closely with Mr. Dan Murphy, one of his fellow English teachers and the head of the English department, who is thrilled to have him back as a teacher.

Mr. Murphy admires the different literature and topics that Mr. Noonan has covered in his classroom over the years, such as the Harlem Renaissance and the novel *Their Eyes Were Watching God* by Zora Neale Hurston.

He also appreciates the way in which Mr. Noonan is not afraid to try new things and incorporate his own love of running and the outdoors into the classroom.

Speaking of running, Mr. Noonan has run eight marathons over the years, including the Boston Marathon three times. He has logged more than 30,000 miles as a runner.

"I may set my sights on Boston again to say I've run it in my 50s," Mr. Noonan says. "Running always has been and still is my therapy and sanity."

Education was not Mr. Noonan's original career path. He majored in psychology at Assumption College in Massachusetts with his mind set on being a



When he's not shaping young minds, Mr. Noonan is probably enjoying the outdoors. Amelia McAvoy photo

family therapist. He eventually decided not to go on to get his PhD, though, and instead went to the University of Southern Maine to become a teacher. He spent a lot of time in college, earning his bachelor's in English, Masters in Education, and another degree in American and New England Studies, on top of later taking classes to become certified as an assistant principal.

While Mr. Noonan admits it would have actually been quicker to get his PhD in psychology, he remarks, "you never know where you're going to end up."

Ironically, Mr. Noonan has ended up right where he began: teaching English. Following Mr. Phillips' departure, he stepped into the vacant position, teaching English 11 and Creative Writing classes.

Nicholas Freeman, a student in one of Mr. Noonan's English 11 classes, describes the classroom as being "a re-

laxed environment." Students begin the block by journaling for 10 minutes before they transition into a class discussion. Then, for the last portion of class, they are given time to work independently on their reading and writing.

Nicholas describes Mr. Noonan as "laid back," which he believes helps Mr. Noonan's ability to "be open minded with every student in the classroom."

Mr. Murphy corroborates this image of Mr. Noonan, saying that Mr. Noonan taught him "patience and the importance of connecting with the kids." It is this ability to interact with students that made Mr. Noonan not only a good teacher but also a good administrator.

There were many things about being an assistant principal that he loved, like the administrative team that he described as, "amazing humans" who are, "so smart and so passionate and so committed to Bonny Eagle."

But Mr. Noonan missed the positive interactions with the students. Being an assistant principal and having to constantly discipline students could be grating at times, especially for someone who loves "being able to positively influence someone's day."

Teaching English however, gives him the opportunity to build more positive relationships with students.

For Mr. Noonan, English isn't just about reading and writing, it also teaches kids to think critically, make informed decisions, and communicate effectively, all important skills for the real world.

So, although he may feel isolated sometimes and miss the global scope of the building he had as assistant principal, he prefers teaching the next generation, "how to live and how to be."

## Chess continued from page 2

Mr. O'Searcoid has coached both the middle and high school programs. He has been playing chess since before elementary school. This helped him develop a real love and dedication to the sport.

After a rewarding six years, however, the Bonny Eagle Chess team is saying goodbye to their dedicated and passionate chess coach. At the end of this school year, he is moving on to pur-

sue another path in his life. He hopes the chess program will continue to thrive.

Finding his replacement won't be easy because it is significantly more difficult to find a coach willing and able to teach the complex game. As he has since the program began, Mr. O'Searcoid is already advocating for more attention to be paid to the chess program.

"It would be a massive

failure for this district if the entire chess program dissolved like it did at the middle school right after they won the state championship!" Mr. O'Searcoid stated.

To Mr. Searcoid and his team, chess is not just another club. It is a sport of the mind and a program that has provided hope and success to those who otherwise had nothing. It is truly vital to the BE community.

In the words of Mr. O'Searcoid, "Invest in your chess program!"



Trophies from the chess team's season. Staff photo

## Ukraine continued from page 1

The money raised, over \$1,600 in just a week, was sent to the United Nations Children's Fund, UNICEF, which has a history of supporting Ukraine. Over the years, UNICEF has sent \$130 million in aid to help develop more schools, clean water, and healthcare. Recently, UNICEF has been helping receive Ukrainian refugees.

Ms. Cyr mentioned that the middle school is planning ways to support Ukraine as well, which may include t-shirts and a walk-a-thon. Bonny Eagle's support of Ukraine is far from over!



Source: Institute for the Study of War (as of 23:00 GMT, 2 March)

BBC



## *Lost in the Woods: a fairy tale by Macey Cabral*

One night, a little girl was left all alone in the old cabin her grandfather built. It was winter time, and a bitter storm was rolling in faster than anyone had anticipated. Her father had gone out to get some supplies before they were snowed in, but he did not know if there would be matches at the market, so he told the little girl to keep the fire going until he got back.

Not long after he left, the fire began to burn low, and the girl had already fed it the rest of the remaining wood. She knew the storm would be coming soon, but she also knew that it was her responsibility to keep the fire going, and if she failed at that, she didn't know what she would do.

So, the little girl bundled up in her thick jacket and wool gloves and warm purple hat that went over her ears, and headed out the door to find some sticks. There wasn't much to gather around the cabin, so she pulled her sled further into the woods.

It wasn't long before the little girl had gathered a hefty pile of wood. Turning around, she went to head back home, but she realized that she had lost track of what direction she had been heading in. She had wandered so far into the woods that she no longer recognized what was around her, and to top it off, she was sure she heard the wind of the storm howling closer than before.

The girl considered going further, in hopes of stumbling out of the woods on her own, but she realized that that would only get her more lost. So, the girl found a small hollow in a tree and used her sled and the sticks she had gathered to shield herself from the wind and snow that was already howling through the trees.

Sitting in silence only seemed to accentuate the bare creaking treetops, and the girl shivered from the cold. She yanked her wool hat down over her ears and pulled her mittens further up her arms. She felt certain that her father would find her, that he would be back soon and realize what had happened.

But, as the wind howled on, and the snow began falling harder and harder, she worried that she would never be found, and so she tried to think of a way to get home. Her footprints were probably gone by now, and the clouds were blocking out the sun.

As the girl reached into her pockets to warm her hands, she realized that she had a single match left in the emergency box her father had given her and a bag of crackers in the other. She let out a relieved breath, but still shivered from the cold. The snow piled up around her, so she used the sled to pack it down, creating a low wall that could block the wind and hide her from predators.

Try as she might, though, she still could not get warm. The temperature dropped faster than she had ever felt before, and the girl trembled in her little hollow.

Her eyelids drooped, but she knew she mustn't fall asleep, for those who fall asleep in the snow tend not to wake up. She pinched herself to stay awake, but the heavier her head grew, the less her methods worked. It wasn't long before she closed her eyes.

What must have been a couple of hours later (for the woods had grown so dark the girl could barely see her own hand before her face), the child awoke to the sound of crackling. It sounded as if...the ground was freezing. The girl's head shot up, for she realized that under those pops and crackles, there were footsteps. She didn't know where they were coming from, but she knew that nobody should have been out there besides her father.

The footsteps were light, lighter even than her own, as if whoever was stepping wasn't really stepping, but floating and pushing off the ground like an astronaut.

In fact, when the girl turned around, she realized this is exactly what the sound was. A boy, fifteen or



*Illustration  
by Mariah  
Huntley*

sixteen years old, was hopping around the tree as she turned to look. Tufts of his white hair were frozen together, and his skin was almost as pale as the snow that covered the girl's numb feet.

"Who are you?" She asked softly, believing she was dreaming. "Are you an angel? Am I dead?"

The boy shook his head and smiled down concernedly. He swung both feet into the air and crossed his legs before floating down next to her on the ground. The snow crunched between his bare toes.

"No, on both accounts. My name is Jack. What's yours?"

"I'm Caroline," she said.

"What are you doing way out here? You could freeze!"

"I had to— to get wood for the fire."

"Oh... did you get lost?"

"Yeah. I had to go deeper into the woods to find more sticks, but then I forgot which way I came from, and now I'm lost. It's really cold." She puffed a breath of hot air, watching it dissipate into the night.

"It is." He traced a line in the snow with his finger.

"Aren't you cold?"

"I don't get cold," he explained, "I'm Jack Frost."

"Oh. Are you warm?"

"Well, I'm not really warm either. I'm cold, but I'm not cold, if that makes sense."

Caroline nodded, but she still didn't understand. "Where are you from?" She asked.

"I don't know. I've always just sort of *been* here. Well, not *here*, otherwise I'd know how to get out of here."

He started gathering up snow and packing it in his hands. Caroline still wondered how he could not be cold—the boy wasn't even wearing any shoes, let alone gloves or a jacket!

He stuck the snowball onto the ground, then started working on another ball. Caroline pushed further into the hollow, sticking her hands in her pockets again.

"Hey! I have a match," she said, pulling out the box.

"You do? Why didn't you start a fire?!" Asked Jack, setting a third, smaller snowball on top of the first two. He moved to grab some of the sticks she had gathered, then arranged them into a teepee shape.

"I'll find some rocks!" He told her, then bounded into the air again.

"Wait!" Caroline cried, but he was already gone, leaving her alone again. She fingered the edge of the box, wondering if he'd come back. Sure enough, he came stumbling back a few minutes later, an arm-

load of small rocks gathered in his shirt. He piled them onto the ground, then arranged them around the sticks.

"Do you have anything to start it with?" he asked.

"Umm... we could use the box. This is the last match."

She handed it to him, and he took the match out and lit it. Then, he placed the box under the sticks and held the flame against it until it caught on fire. He held the box against the wood until the rest of the pile lit as well, ensuring that it didn't go out.

"That's a— that's a little better," Caroline stuttered through her chattering teeth.

She put her mittens in her lap and held her hands over the fire. Jack took some pebbles he had gathered with the other rocks and stuck them into the little snowman's face and down its front. Then, he took two twigs from the pile of extra wood and gave it arms. Caroline giggled.

"His face is lopsided."

Jack took another look at it. "I guess it is," he laughed.

Caroline put her mittens on and began making her own little snowmen, while Jack left to gather more pebbles and sticks. When he came back, he handed her a few dried leaves and showed her how to fashion them into hats and mittens. Soon they had an army of little snowmen, and the pile of sticks for the fire was only half the size it was before.

Hours passed like this, and when they had used all of the snow on the ground within Caroline's wall, and given a name to every snowman, Jack told jokes and stories and kept her laughing all through the night. He showed her how to make shadow puppets with the light from the fire, but her little fingers could only make half of the animals he could.

Although the wind still howled, and the snow still fell, Caroline wasn't so cold anymore, and the more she talked and laughed the better she felt.

By morning the fire had used up all of the wood Caroline had gathered the previous night, but it didn't matter, because she was warm enough to feel her toes again, and the sun felt nice on her face. Jack looked around now, and, being able to see again, he was able to figure out where they were. Caroline pulled her mittens back on and grabbed her sled. When he saw it, Jack's eyes widened and he smiled.

"What?" Jack stuck a finger in his mouth and tested the air.

"I have an idea," he said. He closed his eyes and concentrated hard, then swept an arm through the air. Caroline felt the wind pick up again, and rubbed her nose against the chill. Jack grabbed the reins of the sled and motioned for her to get on.

*Lost in the Woods cont. on pg.5*



## This writer nails short-form prose

By Macey Cabral

Senior Veronica Shore's short story "Ground Beer for the Dogs" was recently published in the online literary magazine *No Contact*. Inspired by true events in Ronnie's own life, this story provides a succinct glimpse into the life of a resilient teenager.

It's a big deal to get published in *No Contact*. The magazine was created by two Columbia University MFA writers who had seen their classes suddenly morph into "Zoominars" in 2020.

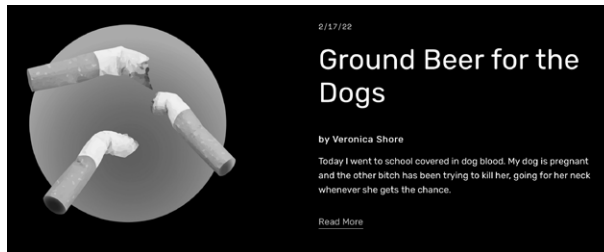
*No Contact* publishes short-form prose, poetry, and hybrid works (according to their 'about' page), and they have also won several awards.

One of the founders, Elliot Alpern, explained in a recent blog that "as we cast lines out to our friends and peers in isolation, we realized that so many of us were just sitting on our thumbs, waiting for the next step to open up. All this artistic energy just, percolating, with so few reliable places to spill out. We began reaching out, collecting work — and even then, it was selfish to some degree. We were giving ourselves an outlet, too. And it's expanded rapidly from there!"

In each piece of writing, they look for ingenuity of context, strong control of detail, and a sense of play. Ronnie explained that she appreciates how well the magazine promotes each individual author on multiple platforms. She also really enjoys the little drawings that the magazine pairs with each story, as well.

"I really wanted to see what mine was going to be," she added.

In her story (which is six minutes long if you



listen to her read it), the main character's dog gives birth, but the runt of the litter is extremely weak. The story follows the narrator through their daily life until the puppy finally passes away.

Like most of her stories, she describes the genre as "creative nonfiction prose," which is part of the reason she chose to submit to *No Contact* in the first place.

Publishing this story was a big step up for her, because unlike her last two stories, she did not already have a connection with somebody that works for the magazine. Her first two stories were published in a smaller magazine called *Malasaña*, in her freshman and sophomore years. She said that although she will probably submit to this magazine again, she'd prefer to start branching out to other magazines in order to "build up [her] resume" and work her way "up the totem pole".

Ronnie often chooses magazines to submit to by scouring Wigleaf's Top 50 (a yearly review of the 50 best literary magazines). She looks for journals that



Published author, senior Ronnie Shore.

Macey Cabral photo

best fit her style, adding them to her list for future submissions, as well as watching social media to see where other writers are submitting their work.

She always submits to other online journals such as *Wigleaf* and *SmokeLong*, and hopes to submit to the *Jellyfish Review* in the future. *SmokeLong*, which reads submissions blindly (meaning they don't look at the authors' biographical statements or personal information) would be "a step up," she said, but her dream magazines are *Storm Cellar* and *Had*, *Hobart After Dark*.

"*Storm Cellar* is insane," she says, while *Had* has random submission periods, and is sometimes only open for 24 hours at a time. The odd submission periods can be kind of annoying, she admits, "but if [she] ever did get in, it would feel so good."

As she branches out to other magazines, Ronnie is also "trying to branch out a little more into poetry," too. Specifically, she "really [wants] to get good at prose poetry as well."

"It's just the coolest genre," she adds, referencing the work of writers such as Amy Hempel and Paige Ackerson-Kiely.

With prose, her short stories usually run up to three pages long, and her longest is about seven or eight pages. She finds that "it's easier to reach an audience" through shorter stories because if a piece is too long, "significantly [fewer] people will read it."

She believes "that the shorter something is... from a reader's perspective, the more impactful it can be." Most people don't have a long attention span, or the patience to read longer pieces.

"You can write the best story in the world," she explains, but "if it's like twelve pages long, significantly [fewer] people will read it."

Ronnie notes that "it's very easy to get 'preachy'" and to cheapen a story by implying a specific message, so she usually tries to pick a feeling or an experience and portray it as best she can. It's more effective to get a point across by making the reader feel it rather than explain it directly to them.

For her next story, Ronnie wants to write a poem about her mother. "My mother and Selkies," to be precise. "Those are my two major topics right now."

After high school, Ronnie plans to attend New England College in New Hampshire, to major in creative writing.

You can read or listen to "Ground Beer for the Dogs" at <https://www.nocontactmag.com/twenty-eight/ground-beer-for-the-dogs>

## Two poems by Hayleigh Newsome

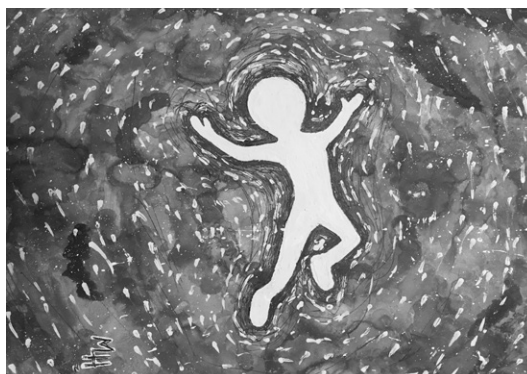
Illustrations by Mariah Huntley

### Mother Nature

Words roar and cloud the mind  
Those clouds brush her face to sleep  
Sun arises when tide is high and grass is green  
Anchors keep tides low  
And muddy beaches grow no grass  
Until then, it's moons time  
While sky's raining on mother's cheeks  
Moon shares its company  
And the wind dances with mother's dress  
It pours harder with fathers thunder  
Lacking petals of apology, selling withered posies  
Though we retreat to lightnings landscape  
Because the storm is her home

### Infinite Home

I want so badly to be free  
To extract my eyes from what this world shows me  
And when I run miles to the edge of the earth  
I so blindly jump into the universe  
And be graced with forgiveness  
Where love is my nourishment  
Where the atmosphere is laced with star dust  
And consciousness is kind  
Where judgment is gentle  
And I wander into galaxies that recognize me  
I want so badly to look forward into the cosmos



## Lost in the Woods continued from page 4

"Hold on tight," he told her, "this is going to be bumpy." She giggled and hopped onto the sled, grabbing hold of the board where she usually put her feet while Jack's feet began to float a few inches over the ground again.

The earth crackled and popped underneath the sled, and a sudden gust of wind swept it across the snow. They flew through the woods faster than Caroline had ever sledded before. It was as if the rails

were gliding across ice. Jack weaved through the trees, glancing back often to make sure she was still holding on. They laughed as they darted through the woods, and Caroline barely noticed the wind still pushing them forward.

Finally, they broke through the woods and into Caroline's backyard. The sun shone warmly over their heads, and Caroline shielded her face to the light. Jack led her sled all the way to the front door

of the cabin, then knocked on the door. Footsteps came running from inside, and as the door opened, Jack tapped on her shoulder. Caroline turned around just in time to see him wink, then he disappeared in a whirl of snow. Caroline waved, watching the snow swirl away into the air. A thin layer of ice traced their path out of the woods; it was already melting in the warmth of the sun.



## Bonny Eagle Unified team is a life-changing experience



The BEHS unified team was undefeated this season winning seven of its eight games, and tying one (due to no overtime option). “I am beyond proud of this team and their connections with each other,” said Coach Paula Pettersen. “My favorite quote is ‘Find a group of people who challenge and inspire you, spend a lot of time with them, and it will change your life.’ Unified basketball has done that for us as coaches, the kids on our team, and their families. Photos courtesy of Ms. Pettersen.



Matt Chamberland, left, and Gabby Sawyer, right, give direction to Audrey Guillemette, center.



Kaylie Parker, left, and Cadence Whitehouse, right, line up a shot at the basket.



Teagan McGlone dribbles downcourt.

## Who has been the NBA’s Most Valuable Player?

By Zachary Myers

It has been a wild NBA season, with star players such as Kevin Durant and Chris Paul suffering devastating injuries, along with the unlikely emergence of such teams as the Memphis Grizzlies and the Chicago Bulls.

There was also that blockbuster Brooklyn Nets-Philadelphia 76ers trade, in which James Harden went to Philadelphia and Ben Simmons went to the Nets.

But through all this, three players have shone with their teams: Ja Morant of the Grizzlies, Joel Embiid of the 76ers, and DeMar DeRozan of the Bulls. These are my top three Most Valuable Player candidates, and I can make a good case for any one of them.

**Joel Embiid:** Based on betting odds, Joel Embiid is the most likely to win the award. Embiid has always been known

as a star, having had five all-star seasons in a row, including this season. But this year, he’s stepped his game up to a new level.

With Ben Simmons not playing, Embiid has had to carry a load he hadn’t had to carry before, and he’s succeeding. As of March 22, Embiid was averaging 29.8 points, 11.1 rebounds and one steal per game.

Granted, he has put up these kinds of stats before, but this season he is under more pressure being the only star the 76ers have and having to carry the load in a rising Eastern Conference with solid finals contenders in the Milwaukee Bucks and the Miami Heat.

Embiid has done a great job, and now, with James Harden on his team, some of the pressure will be lifted off of him and he can continue putting up impressive stats.

**Ja Morant:** Ja Morant pres-



The Grizzlies depend on Ja Morant.

NYTimes.com

ents a stronger case for MVP than most people may think. First, his numbers don’t lie. He is averaging 27.6 points, 5.8 rebounds, and 6.6 assists. The other factor is how much his improvement has affected the success of the team. Last year, even though Morant had respectable stats, the Grizzlies

finished 38-34 and were eliminated in the first round. Now, Morant is a full fledged superstar, and with a supporting cast that includes Steven Adams and Jaren Jackson Jr, the Grizzlies are 54-23 and second in the West.

This makes Morant an MVP candidate because as he is

growing as a player, he is making his team better and shows tremendous leadership and humility, which are great qualities in an MVP.

**DeMar DeRozan:** At the beginning of the season, DeMar DeRozan had 250-1 odds to win the NBA MVP. Now his odds are 12-1, the fifth best odds in the league. A jump this radical could only mean that he is putting up impressive numbers.

While his last three years with the Spurs have been decent, people have pegged him as a washed-up version of his all-star self in Toronto.

He has certainly proved everyone wrong this season. While he has the support of Zach Lavine, DeRozan himself has done some historic things. He is averaging 28 points, 5.4 rebounds, and 5.1 assists while leading the Bulls to 5th in the East with a 44-32 record.

He also had a historic streak, during which he became the

MVP continued on page 7





## BE Drama wins awards

From staff reports

It was a joyous return to the stage for Bonny Eagle's actors and stage hands last weekend.

Competing in person, without masks, for the first time since 2019, Bonny Eagle's entry, *12 Angry Jurors*, was the runner-up at the regional Maine one-act Drama Festival in Gorham.

BE was competing against Gorham HS, Fryeburg Academy, Windham HS and Portland HS. Gorham's entry, *White Room of My Remembering*, placed first.

Bonny Eagle also earned some individual awards at the competition. Audrey Ricker and Veronica Shore were among the 11 actors selected as part of the All Festival cast for their roles as Jurors #8 and #9. Juror #8 is the protagonist of the play and the only one to

vote not guilty the first time the jurors vote. Juror #9 is a pregnant woman who takes care of her elderly father who has Alzheimers.

Two BE students also earned special commendations. Molly Turnbull was commended for her period costume designs and Taylor Farwell and Hannah Hall earned recognition for their set decoration.

*12 Angry Jurors* is a classic play in which the jurors bring their own histories and biases to the jury room as they clash over the fate of a young man accused of murder.

Students from more than 55 high schools performed at eight regional sites. Each group raced against the clock to get their sets on and off the stage in the time allotted to them.



In the photo at the top of the page, jurors watch as Juror #4 (Lucy Reiss, at the door) and #7 (Declan Lynch, on the ground) reenact the murder. In the photo above, Juror #3 (Molly Turnbull, darker shirt) lunges at Juror #8 (Audrey Ricker), as other jurors look on. Courtesy photos

## For fans of horror, the *Scream* movies have not lost appeal

By Amelia McAvoy

The beloved characters of the *Scream* franchise returned to Woodsboro in January for the fifth installment in the series. The film marked the first *Scream* movie to be directed by someone other than Wes Craven, following his death in 2015, but it continued to carry out the meta-slasher schtick for which the series is known. Along with new directors, the film also brought in new characters, shifting the focus off of the series' 'final girl,' Sidney Prescott, and her friends, to a new cast.

*Scream* (2022) follows Sam, played by Melissa Barrera, who is forced to return to Woodsboro after her younger sister is attacked by a new Ghostface. In Woodsboro she teams up with our beloved heroes from the original movie, along with her sisters' friends, to solve the mystery of who is behind the Ghostface mask this time around.



Ghostface is at it again in the latest *Scream* movie. Screenrant.com

Quickly, the characters realize that all of Ghostface's targets are related somehow to characters from the previous movies. While this is a creative way to blend past and present, and it does allow for some amazing scenes paying homage to the original, it also seemed to be a stretch in many cases. It created continuity errors and many of the connections felt forced.

In some cases, it even resulted in the film's new characters acting like copies

of the character they were related to, rather than having their own personality.

The ending was also a let down. Returning to where it all began for the climax, the house where the original 1996 film ended, had viewers expecting a dramatic twist connecting the past and present, but the ending was very typical as far as *Scream* films go.

The killer reveal was fairly predictable and the motive foolish. That is not to say it wasn't entertaining, but it didn't bring anything new to the table like the advertising suggested.

However, while lackluster in some aspects, the film did a good job of re-vamping an old franchise for a new generation. The new cast kept up with the older cast, proving themselves quite capable in the horror genre. In particular, Jenna Ortega was a standout. Like Drew Barrymore years before her, her acting managed to steal the show from

the opening scene.

Along with strong acting performances, *Scream* (2022) upped the gore factor from its predecessors. Without being too disgusting like some newer horror movies, the film appealed to its new, more desensitized audience with creative and shocking kills. It also raised the stakes in terms of who was killed off, proving no one was safe.

Despite its flaws, I had a good time watching this movie. As a big fan of the *Scream* movies, I enjoyed myself and am excited to see where they take the franchise next.

I do, however, wish movie producers could be more creative and focus more on making new concepts, rather than continuously reviving old franchises.

After all, there are only so many times the same characters can be attacked; it might be time to give them a break.

## MVP continued from page 6

first player ever to average 35 points while also having a 50% field goal percentage in a seven-game streak.

He was also a team leader during that streak, with the Bulls winning five of those seven games. He has also had a scorching scoring streak throughout the season, scoring 30 or more points 23 times, which is his most since 2016.

His success is important to the Bulls because when he scored less than 30 points during a recent four-game stretch, the team lost all four games.

After seeing these players and their

teams perform, I'm ready to make a prediction for NBA MVP. I think it will be Joel Embiid of the 76ers.

Embiid has been consistent throughout the last couple weeks, and even with the rise of teams such as the Heat, the Bucks, and the Boston Celtics, the 76ers are still in contention for a top spot in the East.

With James Harden at his side and with the contributions of Tyrese Maxey and Tobias Harris, the 76ers could win the East, and Embiid should be the MVP.



DeMar DeRozan makes the Bulls better. Yardbarker.com



Joel Embiid is the 76ers go-to leader. Skysports.com



## How do you feel about lifting the mask mandate?

*Photos by the Eagle Times staff*



*"I feel like it's a personal choice. At some point society has got to move on. ... Some people are comfortable with them, some people aren't, which is fine." Mr. Ronan*



*"I feel good as a senior having my last trimester be more normal. However, I don't judge anyone who chooses to wear the mask still, especially because they might have someone vulnerable at home." - Senior Hope Higgins with junior Elora Larrive*



*"It's definitely weird because it's been so long wearing a mask, but I enjoy not wearing them and also how respectful everyone has been about people making their own choice." Senior Tessa Frazzita with senior Cameron Frost*



*"We love it!" Freshmen Elise Finley, Chloe Warren, and Alyssa Ward*



*"It's very nice to see everyone after two years of wearing masks. It's just easier; you don't have to worry about the mask every time." Soph. Maja Modzelewska*



*"I'm comfortable with it. For me, I was worried about the mental health toll that the masks had. I think the fact that most students are choosing to go maskless (shows that)...for them it's a sense of relief."*

*Mr. Meuiner*